

STUDIOS ON THE PARK FOUNDER: ANNE LADDON BIOGRAPHY

Vibrant! Lustrous! Alive! Bright!. These are words used by most people to describe the paintings by artist Anne Laddon. One woman who has several in her home says they make her feel happy; they add “singing” colors to her life.

Ms. Laddon graduated in 1966 from Occidental College in Los Angeles with a bachelor’s degree in art history and philosophy. She continued her studies in the master’s program in art history and aesthetics at UCLA in 1968.

Her early career included Art Director for a San Francisco based advertising agency, a freelance artist in advertising and copy before establishing her own graphics firm specializing in silk screen.

Ms. Laddon has traveled throughout the world, including an eight month safari in Africa, and photographic and painting excursions to South America, Europe, Canada Greece, Thailand, Laos and Mexico, her favorite location. She has also participated in a myriad of plein air festivals and competitions across the United States.

In 1974, Ms. Laddon became a founding member of the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Alexandria, Virginia and designed both the interior and exterior graphics for the building. Today, over 30 years later, the Torpedo Factory houses over 160 working artists and has become a successful magnet for the one million locals and tourists who visit there each year.

Ms. Laddon moved to San Luis Obispo County 24 years ago, married local rancher Jim Irving and together they have two grown children.”.

She relates that for a few years, her art took a backseat to her family. “As I raised our two children in a fairly remote location, dragging them back and forth to school, I often painted outside from the back of my car at the local middle school.”

“About 14 years ago, I came up with the idea that I needed to start painting ‘the neighborhood’, meaning the beautiful rolling hills, the vineyards and the hay fields that were on the road between our ranch and the kid’s schools. I’ve fallen in love with the North County landscape and architecture. I’ve painted most of the old classic buildings: Templeton Feed and Grain, the old Tribune Building, the bathhouse in downtown Paso, the Fremont Theatre in San Luis Obispo and may of our local restaurants.”

However, she admits to a certain amount of frustration. "I have thought over the last several years that Paso Robles and the North County have an incredible number of talented accomplished artists but there was no place for us to share our passion for the arts with the community."

Ms. Laddon long dreamed of using her experience and knowledge from the success of The Torpedo Factory to spearhead a similar art venue on the Central Coast.

In May of 2007, while sitting on a bench in the downtown park, she lifted her head and spied a "For Lease" sign in the old Pioneer Auto Parts building and knew that this was the ideal and only location that could make her dream of an artist workshop/art gallery come to fruition.

Local real estate developer Newlin Hastings comments that "many of us in the real estate business had been anxious to do something with this building on the park for over 25 years but owner Steve Encell wasn't motivated by any of the offers."

For seven months, Ms. Laddon and Mr. Encell talked and he became increasingly interested in leasing his building to the non profit organization "Studios on the Park" that Anne had described to him with her trademark enthusiasm and the pent up passion of years. "We were both laughing about this very idea that I was just an artist and he was just an auto parts salesman and here we were trying to come together on a complex agreement for his property, this choice location in downtown Paso Robles." In December of 2007, a deal was completed. At last, the arts community will have a major presence in Paso Robles.

The one story existing building is currently being renovated and will result in what is being called Prelude: Studios On the Park. It will open in late Spring 2009 at 1130 Pine Street. In addition to artists' workshops, it will contain classrooms and exhibits. Future plans include a complete rebuilding of the structure as a two story art center.

In an exciting move, Studios on the Park has also entered into a partnership with the City of Paso Robles resulting in the Festival of the Arts, taking place over Memorial Day weekend.

Studios on the Park, Inc. is a non profit organization dedicated to providing a creative, educational and transformational experience to enhance the understanding and appreciation of the visual arts. It has a commitment to make the creative process available to the public and offers its visitors a unique open studio environment.

Studios features artists working in a variety of media. It offers educational programs for children and adults and quality exhibitions by regional, national and international artists

For more information:

www.studiosonthepark

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<http://www.anneladdon.com>

Personal Born: August 9, 1944, Dayton, Ohio Married, 2 Children

Education:

1995-2006 Studied Painting with Ann Templeton, Skip Whitcomb, Kim English, Bill Hosner, Ken Auster, Elaine Badgley Arnoux

1980-1983 Studied Painting, Drawing Corcoran School of Art, Washington D.C.

1975-1978 Studied Printmaking with Krystina Marek, independent study
Photography, Etching, Lithography, Papermaking Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, VA

1968 MA Program Art History/Aesthetics UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

1966 BA Art History/Philosophy, Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA

1965 International Fellowship for Study Abroad, Occidental College, Victoria & Albert Museum and British Museum, London, England

Work Experience:

1990-present Professional Artist Oils & Pastels, Graphic Design

1984-1990 Owner "Out of the Blue" Studio/Gallery, Cambria, CA
Created monotypes, handmade cast paper, lithographs, serigraphs
Panelist "Women in the Arts" Cal Poly University, San Luis Obispo, CA
Featured Artist "Artists in Action" California State Fair, Paso Robles, CA
Partner/Owner "Blueberry Press," Cambria, California
Created limited edition mylar lithographs

1974-1984 Printmaker
Owned Studio/Gallery, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Alexandria, Virginia
Created limited edition serigraphs (over 100 editions)
Taught Serigraphy and Printmaking

Commissioned by City of Alexandria to design interior graphics and logotype for Torpedo Factory Art Center

Commissioned by National Air and Space Museum to create serigraph of P.T.-17 for exhibition and permanent collection.

- 1969-1972 Freelance Graphic Designer, San Francisco, California
 1969 Art Director, Hoefer, Dietrich, Brown, San Francisco

Travel: South America, Europe, Japan, Indonesia. Eight month back-packing journey following the Nile through Egypt, Sudan, Uganda. Hiking Mountains of the Moon, Uganda; Kenya, Tanzania, Peru, Brazil. Whitewater rafting: Colorado and San Juan Rivers. Spent four summers in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico painting plein air. Recent travel to Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos.

One Person Exhibitions:

- 1980 Studio Associates Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
 1982 Y.W.C.A. Art Gallery, New York City, NY
 1983 Rammelfabric Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
 1981-1987 New York Art Expo, New York, NY
 1980 Wash Art, Washington DC
 1980 Art 80, Toronto, Canada
 1983 Art Expo 83, Dallas, Texas
 1987 Merritt Gallery, Visalia, CA 1987
 1991 Interior Motives Gallery, Paso Robles, CA
 1991 Kornreich Gleason Gallery, San Luis Obispo, CA
 1998 San Luis Obispo Art Center, San Luis Obispo, CA
 2001-2005 SLO Gallery at The Frameworks, San Luis Obispo, CA
 2002 Gallery on Glassell, Orange, CA
 2005,2006 "Art in the Park" Morro Bay Art Festival, Paso Robles Wine Festival

Group Exhibitions:

- 1977, 1980 Virginia Printmakers, Richmond Museum, VA
 1978 International Print Competition, Miami Graphics Biennial, Metropolitan Museum & Art Center, Miami, FL
 1978 9th Annual Juried Athenaeum Show, Northern Virginia Fine Arts Assoc., Alexandria, VA
 1978 Printmakers Show 78, Washington Women's Art Center, Washington DC
 1979 Artists Equity Area Show, Washington DC
 1979 12th Dulin National Print & Drawing Competition, "P.T.-17" Serigraph, Dulin Art Center, Knoxville, TN
 1979 23rd National Print Exhibition, Hunterdon Art Center, "Club Chief" Serigraph
 1980 Two Person Show, Artworks Gallery, South Bend, IN
 1982 Featured Artist: "Contemporary American Printmakers: USIA USSR "Americas" Magazine

- 1982 Soho South Art Gallery, Massapequa, Long Island, NY
- 1988-1990 Central Coast Printmakers: Art Center of San Luis Obispo
- 1989 Contemporary California Artists, Syntex Gallery, Palo Alto, CA
- 1990 Featured Artist: The Best of Screen Printing Design, Book
- 1990 California Artists in Action, California Mid State Fair, Paso Robles, CA
- 1991 California Poster Designers, Art Center of San Luis Obispo, CA
- 1991 California Printmakers, Allied Arts Association, Cambria, CA
- 1997 OPAG Group Show, San Luis Obispo Art Center, CA
- 1997 "The Color of Autumn", Paso Robles Art Assoc., Paso Robles, CA
- 1998 Alla Prima International, Festa Dell'Europa a Stroncone, Italy
- 1998 Group Show, Paso Robles Art Association, CA
- 1998 Alla Prima International, Contemporary Italian Landscape, Red Brick Gallery, Bryan, TX
- 1998 Alla Prima International: Italian Field Studies, Brazier Gallery, Richmond, VA
- 1998 OPAG Group Exhibition, San Luis Obispo Art Center, CA
- 2001 Alla Prima International Group Show, Bennington Center for the Arts, Bennington, VT
- 2002 California Art Club Paints the LA County Fair, Millard Sheets Gallery, Fairplex, Los Angeles, CA
- 2002 Orange County Plein Air Festival, Orange, CA
- 2002 Alla Prima International Group Show, Argosy Gallery, Bar Harbor, ME
- 2002-2005 San Luis Obispo Plein Air Festivals, San Luis Obispo Art Center, CA
- 2004 Torpedo Factory Art Center Alumni Exhibition, Alexandria, VA
- 2003-2004 Group Exhibits, Snowfire Gallery, Estes Park, CO
- 2004-2006 Group Exhibits, Richland Fine Art, Nashville, TN
- 2003-2004 Rocky Mountain Plein Air Painters Invitational, "Estes Park Plein Air 2003 and 2004, Estes Park, CO
- 2003-2004 3 Person Exhibit, Settler's West, Tucson, AZ (Tolley, Swinney, Laddon)
- 1999-2004 Tucson Plein Air Painters Exhibitions, Tucson & Tubac, AZ
- 2003 Alla Prima International Group Show, Shriver Gallery, Taos, NM
- 2003-2004 La Quinta Plein Air Festivals, La Quinta Fine Arts Assoc., La Quinta, CA
- 2004 Alla Prima International Group Show, Nichols Fine Art, Taos, NM
- 2004,2005 Carmel Plein Air Festival, Carmel Art Association, Carmel, CA
- 2006 "No Empty Walls" Private Collection of Stan & Ginnie Eschner, Bakersfield Museum of Art ("Sunrise over Adelaide" oil)
- 2006 "Carrizo on Canvas" S.L.O.P.E. Friends of the Carrizo, San Luis Obispo ("Slice of Light soda Lake" oil)
- 2006 Inaugural Exhibition "Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters, Pacific Grove, CA ("Barns along Vineyard Drive" oil)
- 2007 MBPAPA Monterey Maritime & History Museum "The Legacy Continues" ("Sunrise on Raymonds Bales) ("Rusty Toolbox")

Awards:

- 1976 Best in Show, Art League of Northern Virginia, Alexandria, VA

- 1977 Certificate of Excellence: Annual Juried Art Exhibition, Northern Virginia Fine Arts Association, Alexandria, VA
- 1978 Purchase Prize: 12th Dulin National Print & Drawing Competition
- 1983 "Exceptional Achievement Award", CASE, Cover Illustration, 1983
- 1988 "Best in Prints" California State Fair Art Exhibition"
- 1990 "First Place, Monotypes" "California State Fair Art Exhibition"
- 1990 "Jurors Award: California Printmakers" Allan Hancock College, CA
- 1998 "Honorable Mention" Festa Della Europa a Stroncone, Italy
("Laundry" oil)
- 1999 "MidState Bank Award" Color of Autumn, Paso Robles Art Assn
("Custom Car Classic" oil)
- 2000 "Best in Show" Color of Autumn, Paso Robles Art Assn
- 2002 "Second Place" California Art Club, Millard Sheets Gallery, Fairplex, Los Angeles, CA ("Lemonade" oil)
- 2002 "Honorable Mention" San Luis Obispo Plein Air Competition ("Sunrise on Templeton Feed" oil)
- 2003 "Third Place Overall" Estes Park Plein Air, Estes Park, CO ("MacGregor's Kitchen" pastel)
- 2005 "Second Place, Pastel" Brushstrokes, San Luis Obispo Art Center ("Desert Devotions" pastel)
- 2006 "Second Place, Oil" San Luis Obispo Plein Air Festival, SLO ("Adelaide Bee Boxes")
- 2007 "Honorable Mention" Brushstrokes Exhibit, San Luis Obispo Art Center (Poppies & Lupine")

Bibliography: (Reviews & Articles)

- May, 1976 "Art Explosion at the Torpedo Factory Art Center" *America Illustrated*
- May 1978 "color Won't Scare this Artist!" *Alexandria Gazette*, Undiscovered Artists
- Feb 1980 "Anne Laddon Design-Silkscreen Printmaker at Torpedo Factory Studio" *Screen Printing Magazine*
- Sept 1981 *Instructor & Teacher Magazine* Cover Illustration "My Cycle"
- May 1983 *Training & Development Magazine*, Cover Illustration "W.P.-V.D.T."
- Jun 1983 *Summer 83* Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY Cover: "My Cycle"
- Jun 1983 "Renovated Torpedo Factory Worth a Visit...Anne Laddon's Silk Screen Designs... *The Washington Post*, by Anne Behrens
- Sept 1983 "Art Expo Has Something for Everyone" *Collectors Mart Magazine*
- June 1984 "Anne Laddon's Bold American Dream" by Paula Smith, *Collector's Mart Magazine*
- March 1985 *Americas Magazine*, cover feature "Coffee Cup" Serigraph
- Aug 1985 "Pop Art Lives on in Anne Laddon's Vibrant Colorful Prints" *Telegram Tribune*, San Luis Obispo
- Aug 1985 "Original Serigraphs on Display" *Waterfront Scenes Magazine*
- Jan 1986 "From City computers to Cambria Lupines: Move gives artist a better perspective" *The Cambrian*, by Tim Parsons
- Apr 1986 "Laddon Retrospective in Visalia", *The Fresno Bee*

- Mar 1987 "Anne Laddon: New Directions in Cambria" by Patricia Koistra, *The Cambrian*
- May 1987 "What's Up in Art", *The Washington Art Marketletter* Anne Duncan...
- Aug 1987 "Anne Laddon: Prints Abloom, Artist works away from the fast lane..."
Telegram Tribune, Focus by Mary Ann Trevathan
- Oct 1987 "Acres of Prints in California" *Screen Printing Magazine* by Ruthe Thompson
- Dec 1988 "Cambrian Anne Laddon: A Printmaker, a Risk Taker" *The Cambrian*,
"Art Matters" by Russ Leadabrand
- Mar 1989 "Anne Laddon Open a New Gallery" *The Cambrian*, Current
- Mar 1989 "New Gallery Opens its Doors" *Los Angeles Times*

Memberships:

Alla Prima International
Monterey Bay Plein Air Painters
Tucson Plein Air Painters
S.L.O.P.E. (San Luis Obispo Painters Enterprise)
Paso Robles Art Association
San Luis Obispo Art Center

Public & Corporate Collections

Smithsonian Institution, National Air & Space Museum, Washington D.C.
Richmond Museum, Richmond, VA
Dulin Gallery of Art, Knoxville, TN
Library of Congress, Washington D.C.
Wichita Falls Art Center, Wichita Falls, TX
Columbia Women's Hospital, Washington D.C.
Medical Center, University of Illinois, Chicago, IL
Stan & Ginnie Eschner, Bakersfield, CA Private Collection

Gallery Representation:

Laylon, Gallery Owner
The Vault Gallery
2289 Main Street, Cambria, CA 93428
805-927-0300
laylon@vaultgallery.com

Owner: Clay Whitelaw
Richland Fine Art,
2131 Bandywood Drive, #203, Nashville, TN 37215
www.richlandfineart.com

Paso Robles Studio:

7070 Angus Ranch Way, Paso Robles, CA 93446

Cambria Studio & Showroom:

251 Kendal Lane, Cambria, CA 93428
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