

JANUARY 1, 2020

# WATERCOLOR WEST TRANSPARENCY STATEMENT

Governing our International Juried Exhibitions.

- ALL ENTRIES must be **transparent watercolor** applied on a single piece of rag or wood pulp paper that is free of pigment and embedded materials. Graphite pencil may be used only for planning marks.
- The following grounds, treatments and media are excluded:
  - **NO Opaque white paint** of any kind, such as titanium white, Chinese white, and any transparent watercolor with opaque white added to it. Transparent watercolor paint includes pigments such as the cadmiums which are classified as 'opaque'. The cadmiums and transparent pigments are acceptable as long as they are applied as a transparent wash when covering most of the paper surface. Small touches of opaque cadmiums and other watercolor pigments can be used for accents.  
Transparency in a watercolor painting occurs when watercolor pigments are made more transparent with the addition of water to create a wash. That allows light to penetrate the layers of glazes and reflect back through the pigments from the paper below. White areas are the result of leaving the white paper unpainted and are not painted with opaque white.
  - Gesso, matte medium or any other priming material or exterior surface treatment.
  - Gouache, acrylics or water-soluble oils.
  - Ink, metallic or iridescent paint or products that leave a graphite-like sheen.
  - Watercolor crayon, colored pencil, watercolor colored pencils, charcoal, pastel, Conte sticks or Conte crayon.
  - Varnish, wax, wax crayon, oil sticks or oil pastel.
  - Collage or surface constructions, impasto, embossing.
  - Watercolor resist, such as Frisket, that is not completely removed from the final painting.
  - Paper that is pigmented or has embedded materials.
  - Yupo or similar papers.
  - Canvas or canvas paper.
  - Use of digital images or enhancements printed on the paper.
  - All other grounds, treatments, additives, media or art materials that do not conform to the spirit of the Exhibition.