

Stella Maurine Vance Geldmacher – Southeast Louisiana branch



The Wailing Wall

Stella Maurine Vance Geldmacher was born in Moberly, Mo. on November 13, 1921. She grew up in Texas and was awarded a four year scholarship to Baylor University. She majored in Psychology with a minor in French and Sociology. She married S/Sgt. Weldon Anthony Geldmacher, U.S. Air Force in Waco, Texas in 1943 and moved to New Orleans, La.

Maurine, as she prefers to be called, is a member of the New Orleans Art Assn., Le Petit Art Guild (past president), Metairie Art Guild (Honorary Life member, past president), Louisiana Art Assn., Louisiana Watercolor Society, Jefferson Art Guild, Lafayette Art Association, and a member of the Southeast Louisiana branch Pen Women since 1995 .

She has exhibited in many shows and received numerous awards over the years in watercolor, oil and mixed media. She received the Le Grand Award from Le Petit Art Guild in New Orleans. She has had many write-ups in the *New Orleans Times Picayune*. She has won best of show in three juried exhibits. In 2008 she traveled to the Holy Land and later had a solo show at the Lafayette Art Gallery displaying 20 scenic paintings from her trip.

She describes her work primarily as realist. “ I like a sense of mystery in my paintings and I was told by a New Orleans art critic that this seems to be shown in my work. I paint landscapes, swamps, flowers, plantations, people, seascapes, etc. I run the gamut. I am fascinated with oil, and other times watercolor calls me. I like the use of light and I especially enjoy painting reflections.”

She admits that Edgar Whitney has influenced her the most. She studied for four years with Whitney at the Madewood Plantation in Louisiana and in Maui, Hawaii. She has also studied with Dom Kingman, Tom Lynch, Connie Coogan, Judi Betts and dozens of other “wonderful” teachers. She has participated in various workshops including Tony Green’s in Venice, Italy, as well as various creative studies and art instructional videos.

“Art is extremely important to me. It is a release, a mentor, a friend, a Blessing. When I am inspired I can paint for hours and immerse myself in the painting. It is therapy and it restores my soul.”

Maurine passed away August 19, 2017 in Lafayette, Louisiana, where she built her new life after losing her home to hurricane Katrina in 2005. She will be dearly missed by the art community, but especially by her Southeast Louisiana pen sisters.