



# *Friends of Sumi-e*

March 2025

Volume 3 | No. 3

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Hi Everyone,

I had a lovely, unexpected telephone conversation with a gentleman who knew Washu (Suzy Reynolds) many years ago and was inspired by her! He has made a donation to Friends of Sumi-e of a copy of his new book entitled Enlightenment of the Eightfold Right Paths. His name is Masataka Idomoto and he met Washu at her gallery while a student at San Diego State University in 1980-1981 (he received his MBA in 1982). I've invited him to attend our 50<sup>th</sup> Washu-Kai Exhibition in November, for sure!

Reminder that our Chinese sister society has an exhibition coming up February 22-23. See flyer in this edition!

Paint On,

Gaye

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## **JANUARY WORKSHOP & FEBRUARY SHINNENKAI**

We had a fun "Snake Painting" workshop and gathering with a nice group-effort product. I think everyone had a good time creating a large piece which we left on the wall in Room 104 for everyone to enjoy. It was removed after the SDBGF meeting where other society representatives had an opportunity to look at it and provide comments.

Shinnenkai, too, was a fun event. Many thanks go to Kathy and her team for providing origami snakes for all and to Joe for saki. Also, HUGE thanks to Kathy and Kurtis for setting up all the tables the day before so upon arrival the room was so welcoming! Food was delicious and generous, and a good time was spent visiting and welcoming the Year of the Wood Snake.

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Letter from Masataka Idomoto to your Editor:

Ms. Gei,

Here are the couple of painting gifts from Master Washu to me and my wife. We treasure these very much. Unfortunately our wedding gift painting frame with glass plate was broken and small soil on the top right hand side appeared without our knowledge. My encounter with the Master started with my curiosity what the gallery was about. I was not into Arts and never took any lessons from the master. It was about 1980, 1981, and 1982. I started dropping in her gallery after my classes at SDSU graduate school of Business. Thanks to her my college life was not boring or monotonous. She had a good Ikebana Master friend who had one young girl from Switzerland as her student. This young girl and I became quickly girl friend and boy friend.

Because of her, I opened my perspective of job search to include Western Europe and I succeeded in finding my first job after I received my MBA degree in 1982. I was not meant to be with this Swiss girl but instead an American girl. We were married in 1984 in the Netherlands. The pair of red-crowned cranes were painted and given to us her wedding gift symbolizing long life and prosperity, I suppose.

We kept in touch here and there after we came back to US. Due to the nature of my occupation, we could not stay in San Diego area because simply not enough Japanese owned and operated companies from Japan. I became the specialist in opening sales opportunity for my employer with those Japanese companies for their corporate insurance and risk management needs.

This is the brief summary of the Sumie master's entanglement with me back then. I hope you can make use some of these for the upcoming Newsletter. I am encouraged by my wife who suggests that I make even small donation to Washu Kai. How about \$1.00 donation from each copy purchased by your members. Please let me know what you think of this idea.

Thank you and earnest regards, *Masataka Idomoto*



Artwork gifts by Washu. You can find his book on Amazon.

## MARCH WORKSHOP MARCH 1, 2024 – 9am TO NOON

**Palm Trees (2025)**  
**Friends of Sumi-e**  
**March 1, 2025**  
**Room 104**  
**Casa del Parado**  
**Balboa Park**  
**Cliff Brown**  
**cliffbrownart@gmail.com**

If you paint San Diego you will need to paint palm trees. Bring photos of San Diego scenes with palm trees for reference. For the workshop bring your normal sumi-e brushes and supplies.

### San Diego Palm Trees

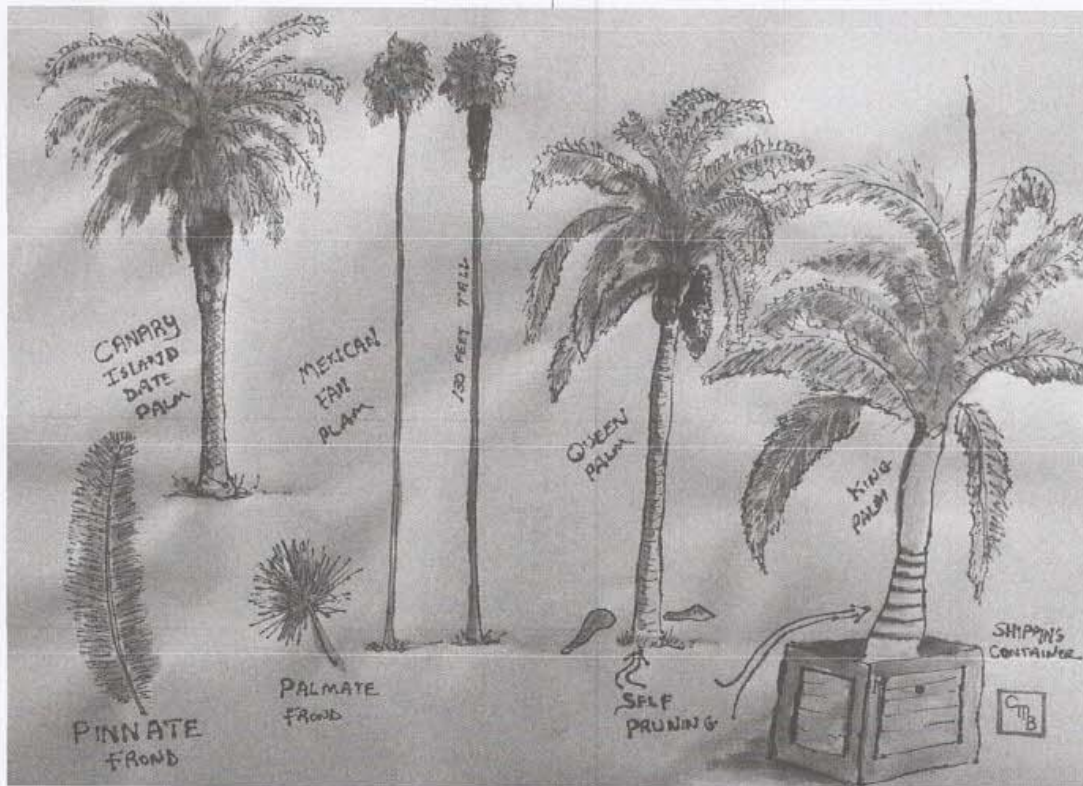
Canary Island Date Palm:  
(*Phoenix canariensis*)

Mexican Fan Palm: (*Washingtonia robusta*)

Queen Palm: (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*)

King Palm: (*Archontophoenix alexandrae*)

C: Palm Trees (2025).PDF







## *Lung Hsiang Exhibit & Sale*

*Featuring original Chinese Brush Paintings  
By members of the Lung Hsiang chapter of the  
American Artists of Chinese Brush Painting*

**Exhibit runs Saturday and Sunday**

**February 22 and 23, 2025**

**11:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Casa del Prado Room 101  
Balboa Park, San Diego 92101**

Admission is free

*Meet the artists  
Painting Demonstrations  
Participate in Brush Painting*

*Framed Paintings  
Matted Paintings  
Hand painted cards, gifts and crafts*



Artwork by Thesa Jolly



Our Ileana fell recently and broke a femur and injured her shoulder. She's had surgery and physical therapy and is now in residential care continuing to heal. She sent us this beautiful drawing she's done while healing. Obviously, she continues to attend class either via ZOOM or Canvas as her rose is gorgeous! You can send her words of encouragement at:

Ileana Tatar  
17627 Pomerado Road #237  
San Diego, CA 92128

Or via email at [ileane.tatar@gmail.com](mailto:ileane.tatar@gmail.com)

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

San Diego Bonsai Club has again invited Friends of Sumi-e to partner with them for their April 26-27 Spring Show. We will have a static table inside with a display, and we will have demos outside at a table. This is a fun time to chat with folks about sumi-e and share little demo paintings with them. The Bonsai Club usually sees 4,000 people during the weekend, so this really gives us an opportunity to share in a very casual way. If you would like to spend some time demoing, please pick a time and let me know.

Time slots are Saturday and Sunday 10-noon, noon-2 and 2-4.

Kathy McMillen | [kathyladyann@gmail.com](mailto:kathyladyann@gmail.com)

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## OFFICER ELECTIONS

Just a friendly reminder that officer elections are upcoming later this Spring! Consider where your talents lie.

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### Upcoming Workshops & Society Events/Activities

<b>March</b>	03/01/2025	Palms of San Diego presented by Cliff Brown
<b>April</b>	04/05/2025	
<b>May</b>	05/03/2025	
<b>June</b>	06/07/2025	Preparation for Friends of Sumi-e 22 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Art Exhibition June 21-22
<b>July</b>	07/05/2025	Origami presented by Vicki Gilmore
<b>August</b>	08/02/2025	
<b>September</b>		ANNUAL GATHERING
<b>October</b>	10/04/2025	
<b>November</b>	11/01/2025	Preparation for Festival of Trees & Art Exhibition Washu-Kai 50 <sup>th</sup> Annual Art Exhibition November 22-23
<b>December</b>		DARK

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- Joe Cross Classes – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 1:00 PM
- Tuesday Painters: Currently on hiatus
- Society monthly Workshop the first Saturday of the month from 9:00am to noon, Room 104.
- Lung Hsiang – Our sister Chinese Brush Painting organization annual art exhibition – February 22-23, 2025
- Art Club – Our sister Japanese Brush Painting organization annual art exhibition – March 29-30, 2025
- TakaSumi-e Society 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Art Exhibition – June 21-22, 2025
- Washu-Kai's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Exhibition – November 22-23, 2025! (**this is a BIG DEAL!!!!**)