

## LESLIE WATKINS

Leslie Watkins is an artistic descendant of the Old Lyme Art Colony, considered the bedrock of American Impressionist landscape painting whose luminaries include Child Hassam, William Metcalf, and Frank Vincent DuMond. At the Art Students League of New York, DuMond taught Georgia O'Keeffe, John Marin, Norman Rockwell, and Frank Mason. Mason later taught at the League, where Watkins studied the prismatic palette, alla prima (wet on wet) painting, and techniques of the Old Masters. Watkins continues in this cherished tradition.

Watkins is a plein-air landscape painter. When a scene attracts her attention, she paints an oil sketch in one session, and sometimes returns for several more studies. In the studio, these studies serve as reference for larger compositions in which she attempts to capture a sense of place, and the quality of the day.

Watkins' botanical watercolors and nature studies have decorated note cards, placemats, textiles, Battersea enamel boxes, and educational materials. Her illustrations have appeared internationally on postage stamps, and in and on books and magazines. Clients include Fine Gardening, Horticulture, Tiffany & Co., Caspari, Disney's Animal Kingdom, and Nickelodeon.

A very popular instructor, she has taught enthusiastic students for over 25 years. Both aspiring and experienced painters benefit from the classes, and have fun learning. Leslie has taught at the Lyme Art Association, the Washington Art Association, the Garrison Art Center in NY, the Berkshire Botanical Garden, the Housatonic Valley Art League, and at Noble Horizons in Salisbury, CT.

Watkins has exhibited at The Columbus Museum, The Lyman Allyn Art Museum, The National Arts Club, The Salmagundi Club, The Union League Club, The Hudson Valley Art Association, The Brooklyn Botanical Gardens, The Lyme Art Association, and elsewhere, including Japan.

Watkins is the founding director of the newly formed NWCT-Berkshire Plein Air Painters and offers plein-air painting and watercolor workshops throughout New England, the Berkshires, and in and around Norfolk, CT. For more information, please visit her website or call (860) 542-3920.

**[www.lesliewatkins.com](http://www.lesliewatkins.com)**