

Greetings and Welcome all you painterly painters !

This Fall Kathryn and I scouted Southwest Washington and the northern third of the Oregon Coast (Columbia River to Newport) for the second year of our Pacific Coast Lighthouse Project.

In the 39 year history of the Sandgren Coast painting event, we have never done anything quite like this. An older Nelson may have been somewhat challenged by dealing with less familiar places, facilities, organization level and close attention to driving. A younger Nelson would have embraced it all. One of the reasons we undertake these challenges is to share Nelson's interest in painting all of Oregon's lighthouses. He accomplished this over the course of several years in oil and watercolor - none of which succumbed to mere illustration. Many of these pieces were exhibited circa 1980 in a Memorial Union show at Oregon State University.

<http://nelsonsandgren.com>

By the time we meet I may have seen many of you in Salem at one or more of the May and June events scheduled at the Hallie Ford Museum in connection with Nelson's retrospective there and the Roger Hull monograph to be published in May. We are grateful to those who have pre-ordered the book and have made a donation to the project in support of Nelson and all that he represents to you and to the Pacific Northwest as artist and teacher.

<http://willamette.edu/arts/hfma/exhibitions/upcoming.html>

We will re-visit some amazing territory: steeped as it is in history and mantled with ecological diversity from headlands to dune lakes to spruce forests to wetlands, salt marsh beaches, harbors big and small and of course the lighthouses themselves. Of all the amazing things we can hardly imagine how Lewis and Clark could have missed seeing the big Fred Meyer just opposite the turnoff to Fort Clatsop. Goodness knows how little our "founding fathers" were capable of imagining the automobile and how it has changed the face of North America and our access to it. Note the indigenous heritage tends to be embedded in river names. Does anyone know a name for the "Columbia" before 1792?

Punctuating this adventure will be our crossings of landmark waterways: Drift Creek, Fogarty Creek, Cape Creek and the Salmon, Siletz, Dee, Yaquina, Trask, Wilson, Columbia, Kilchis, Nestucca, Tillamook, Nehalem and Miami Rivers - and not in that order unless you become really very lost.

I think you will find that the North Coast painting sites have a different feel about them. You will need your own road maps, park maps and site maps: on-line or hard copy. Keep them handy. The location names listed above are very specific. Parking fees or WA or OR State Park passes will be required nearly EVERYWHERE. More summer traffic and population pressure at these sites demand extra drive time than you may be accustomed to on the southern coast.

We are posting this invitation/description as early as possible this time. You may want to make lodging/camping reservations early. People familiar with the Southern Oregon Coast need to expect greater volume of summer traffic and pressure on accommodations: availability and cost. There are lots of State Parks and commercial RV facilities along our route. Many people may find it advantageous to alternate motels with camping.

<http://oregonstateparks.org>

Keep your painting gear light and focus on your mobility. Dress in layers for weather ranging from relentless sun to wind or rain. We will meet and paint and discuss painting at the designated sites with joyful disregard for inclemencies.

Because our painting site options may be a little more scattered this year, I feel it is all the more important for our cohesion that we try meet at **5pm** every day. Regardless of where you may choose to paint please bring your day's work to the designated review site **PROMPTLY at 5pm** each afternoon to share with fellow painters. After the Review we often remain at the site to make paintings in the raking light of evening.

The daily Review will be the cohesive element of the second "progressive" PaintOut as we move down the coast from Light to Light and the marvelous sites in between. Give yourself plenty of drive time to find the designated Review locations and set up. Not all of our listed painting locations offer enough parking for everyone at one time. Please check the itinerary and be aware of the days for which painting locations and review locations differ.

On **July 12, 13 and 14** of the PaintOut the Embedded Workshop will start at **10am SHARP** - rain or shine. I'll be on site earlier every day. On the afternoons of **July 12, 13 and 14** please note separate times for the Embedded Workshop: Critique at **4:00pm** (Embedded Workshop painters only) and PaintOut Review for ALL painters at **5:00pm**.

To secure your place in the 3-Day Embedded Workshop please post a \$50 non-refundable deposit payable by check to: Erik Sandgren, 811 N. Thornton St., Aberdeen, WA 98520. Workshop enrollment is first come, first served based on postmark date. Class size limited. Total cost of Embedded Workshop is \$280 for 3 days - balance is due first day of class. I would appreciate a separate e-mail notice of your intentions. See additional notes about the 2016 Embedded Workshop below.

The Embedded Workshop will emphasize drawing and watercolor with special attention to the expressive potential of architectural perspective in dramatic spatial settings. Other media are welcomed but demonstrations will be in watercolor. We will convene during the PaintOut on the designated workshop days. Two of the three workshop days will involve lighthouses as the primary subject matter (Cape Disappointment and North Head Light). The third day has the Columbia Lightship docked at Astoria as an option.

Depending on wind and weather conditions - painters may want to move away from the lighthouses to seek out other subject matter after **1:00 PM** on any given day. Onshore summer winds tend to intensify in the late morning or early afternoon. Please bear in mind that lighthouses are sited on salient points; exposure to wind will be a recurring issue.

In any case ALL participants (PaintOut and Embedded Workshop painters) will be encouraged to convene daily at **5:00 PM** at the designated review site. Please note that the review site may be different from the painting site. This daily rendezvous with the lighthouses as centerpieces will provide the glue of our collective experience as we move down the coast.