

About the Artist: Gavin Glakas

Gavin Glakas began drawing around the same time he started walking. He grew up in Bethesda, Maryland and he later studied art at Washington University in St. Louis as well as the Slade School of Fine Art in London. Following graduation, Gavin spent a year working as an illustrator in Athens, Greece.

After his return to the United States, Gavin worked as a Senate Staffer on Capitol Hill for a year and a half. He had made plans to attend law school, but after enduring an eight-month illness culminating in the removal of a tumor from his lung at the age of 24, he pursued his lifelong ambition of a having career as an artist.

Gavin began exhibiting his work in galleries almost immediately. He spent five years studying with fellow Principle Gallery artist Robert Liberace, as well as portrait and still life painter Danni Dawson. Glakas has won numerous honors for his artwork, including awards from the Portrait Society of America and the Butler Institute of American Art. He has also had the honor to be commissioned to paint a total of five portraits of five influential individuals. Most notably, the artist was chosen to create the portrait of Senator Harry Reid in 2016, which celebrated Senator Reid's 30 years of service in office. Additionally, in 2017 Gavin was again selected to paint a significant political figure, Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe. The painting was unveiled on Wednesday, January 10th, 2018 at a ceremony held at the Executive Mansion in Richmond, Virginia.

Gavin's paintings have been featured on NBC News, in The Washington Post, The New York Times, American Art Collector, International Artist, The American Scholar, Art Business News, and The Strand Magazine. He has exhibited at museums and galleries throughout the country. His paintings hang in the permanent collections of the United States Senate, the House of Representatives, Georgetown University, The Society of the Four Arts Museum in Palm Beach, the Ratner Museum in Bethesda, and in numerous private collections.

Gavin Glakas paints full-time and teaches figure painting as well as drawing at the Yellow Barn Studio in Glen Echo, Maryland. He also teaches workshops in Tuscany and Palm Beach. The artist is represented by Principle Gallery in Alexandria, Virginia and Principle Gallery Charleston.

Education:

2000 – 2006

The Art League, Alexandria, VA

Studied painting and drawing with Robert Liberace and Danni Dawson

1997

Washington University in St. Louis, B.A. – History Major, Painting

Minor

1996

Slade School of Fine Art, London, England

Advanced Figure Painting

Notable Commissions:

Governor Terry McAuliffe, collection of the Virginia State Capitol

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, collection of the US Senate

Congressman Ike Skelton, Chairman, House Armed Services Committee,

collection of U.S. House of Representatives

Paul Berman, Dean of George Washington University School of Law,

collection of GW Law School

The Hon. George J. Tenet, Director of Central Intelligence, collection of

Georgetown University

Fitz and Edith Dixon, Chairman & Chairwoman of the Board, collection of the

Society of the Four Arts Museum, Palm Beach, FL

The Marriott Family, Potomac, MD

Ervin Duggan, President, Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach, FL

Selected Press:

Washington Post, Article - “Can You Spot the Alligator?,” January 12, 2018

NBC 4 News (WRC-TV) - “Former Hill Staffer Finds New Life In Art,”

March 31, 2012

American Art Collector Magazine, Article, October, 2016

International Artist Magazine, “Master Showcase,” October/November, 2014

Elan Magazine, cover article – “Painting For Life,” October 2014

American Art Collector Magazine, Article, August, 2014

Palm Beach Daily News, Front Page Article, March 11, 2013

American Art Collector Magazine, Article, Sept. 2012

Washington Post, Business Section, p. 1, “From The Cloud to F Street”

American Art Collector Magazine, Sept. 2011

Las Vegas Review Journal, “Art of the Dealmakers: Influential Las Vegas

Share Artworks That Inspire Them,” August 10, 2008

Journal of the Portrait Society of America, 1st Quarter, 2009

Illustrated “Dare to Repair, Restore and Renovate,” published by

HarperCollins, June 2009

International Artist Magazine, April/May, 2008

Illustrated "Dare to Repair Your Car," published by HarperCollins, Sept. 2005

Art Business News, May, 2003

Selected Awards & Exhibitions:

2018

Unveiling Ceremony, Virginia State Capitol, Portrait of Governor Terry McAuliffe

"City Limits," Principle Gallery, Alexandria, VA

2017

Finalist, Portrait Society of America, Members' Competition

Keynote Speaker, Washington Society of Landscape Painters' Annual Banquet

2016

Finalist, Portrait Society of America, Members' Competition

Unveiling Ceremony, US Capitol, Portrait of Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid

Solo Exhibition, Principle Gallery, Alexandria, VA

Certificate of Excellence, Portrait Society of America, International Portrait Competition

2015

"Cityscapes" Group Show, Principle Gallery, Charleston, SC

Portrait Demonstration & Lecture, Vienna Arts Society, Vienna, VA

6" x 9" Mystery Sale, Portrait Society of America, Atlanta, GA

Judge, Rockville Art League Spring Exhibition, Rockville, MD

Judge, Maryland Congressional Art Competition

Work represented by Principle Gallery, Alexandria, VA

2014

Small Works Exhibit, Principle Gallery

Urban Landscapes Exhibit, Principle Gallery

Judge, Leesburg, VA Artful August Show

Exceptional Merit Award – Portrait Society of America, International Portrait Competition

Finalist – Portrait Society of America, Member's Competition

Portrait lecture and demonstration, Olney Art Association

2nd Place, Expressions Portrait Competition, Artspace Herndon

2013

Portrait used on cover of “Achieve the Honorable,” Congressman Ike Skelton’s Autobiography (Southern Illinois University Press)

“Cityscapes” Exhibit, Fraser Gallery, Bethesda, MD

Judge, Olney Art Association Annual Show

Judge, Montgomery Art Association Annual Show

Judge, Bethesda Fine Arts Festival

Jack Richeson Award for Excellence, Salon International, Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art, San Antonio, TX

Finalist, Art Renewal Center 2013 Salon

Artist-in-Resident Exhibit, Society of the Four Arts, Palm Beach, FL

2012

Four Person Exhibit, Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art, San Antonio, TX

Finalist, Bethesda Painting Awards, Gallery B, Bethesda, MD

National Show, Oil Painters of America, Evergreen, CO

Salon International, Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art

Finalist, Art Renewal Center 2012 Salon

Mar. 2012 Unveiling Reception, Portrait of Congressman Ike Skelton, US Capitol

2011

Four Person Exhibit, Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art,

Work represented by Greenhouse Gallery of Art

Judge, DC Area High School Art Show, Landon School, Bethesda, MD.

Jack Richeson Award for Excellence, Salon International, Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art, San Antonio, TX

Fifth Prize, Portrait Society of America, Member’s Competition

2010

Group Exhibition, Zenith Gallery, Chevy Chase, MD

Exhibition at the Ratner Museum of Art, Bethesda, MD

Midyear Exhibition, Butler Institute of American Art

Work represented by Longview Gallery, Washington, DC

Salon International, Greenhouse Gallery of Art, San Antonio, TX

ArtExpo, New York, NY

2009

Art Hamptons Exhibition, Bridgehampton, NY

2008

Solo Exhibition, "Something Different," Discovery Galleries
Jury Top Fifty Award, Salon International, Greenhouse
Honorable Mention, Portrait Society of America, "Taking It Outdoors"

2007

Work Displayed at Marcus Ashley Gallery, Lake Tahoe, NV
Art Expo, Las Vegas, NV
Honorable Mention, Butler Institute of American Art, Midyear
Exhibition
Solo Exhibition, Discovery Galleries

2006

Solo Exhibition, "Cliffs, Castles and Pubs," Discovery Galleries
Excellence in Art Award, National Exhibition, Punta Gorda, FL

2004

Judge –Members Show – The Yellow Barn Gallery, Glen Echo, MD
Distinguished Merit Award – The Art League, Alexandria, VA
Fine Art Forum, NYC

2003

Salon International 2003, Greenhouse Gallery of Fine Art
Work displayed at Images Fine Art, Yountville, CA & Kahn Galleries, Kauai,
HI
Fine Art Forum, NYC
Grand Opening Exhibit, Discovery Galleries, Miami, FL

2002

Solo show, Discovery Galleries, Bethesda, MD