THE BEST OF
Watercolor

Winners of the Splash 25 Art Competition

THE TOP THREE
Technical Excellence + Clarity of Vision

MAKING A SPLASH

124

Paintings to Inspire Creative Discovery

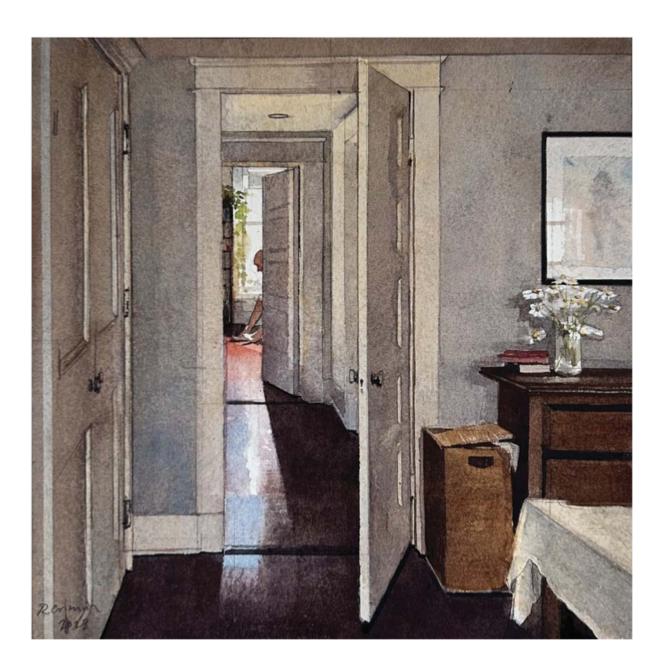## FROM THE JUROR
Celebrating a Medium That Has No Limits

Honorable Mentions

In some ways, these 10 Honorable Mention-winning paintings, selected by Juror of Awards Thomas W Schaller, are like a microcosm of the larger *Splash* showcase. Schaller's selections include still life, landscape, cityscape, interior, abstract and figurative work—in a wide range of expression—making for a collection that's as diverse as it is accomplished. The common thread? A passion for watercolor and the aim for excellence.

SUNDAY MORNING
Rachael Grimm
(watercolor on paper, 8x8)

"Home" has always been my biggest inspiration. I love to paint my family going about their daily lives as I try to capture a fleeting moment in time. The scene captured in *Sunday Morning* looks through my bedroom, down the hall and ends at my husband in his study. It's a scene I look at every day but it's one that's constantly changing; the way the light falls on the walls, moldings and furniture at different times of day can completely change the atmosphere of a room. In this composition, my intention was to capture the feeling of stillness and calm at the beginning of the day. I wanted the light coming from the window and the open doors to contrast with the tight lines and dim-toned walls of the interior and to lead the viewer back outside into the daylight.

INTERIOR WITH TESS
Rachael Grimm
(watercolor on paper, 8x8)

Interior With Tess was specifically painted for a show where all of the paintings had to be 8x8 inches. I don't usually paint on such a small scale, and almost didn't enter the show because of it, but after thinking about the kind of composition that not only would work well on a small scale, but would be enhanced by its size, I decided on an interior. When I was figuring out the composition, I liked the idea of an enclosed space with straight lines and tight geometric shapes leading up to an area of light. The effect of the daylight coming in through the window offsets the tightness of the composition and gives a feeling of expansiveness within a small space.