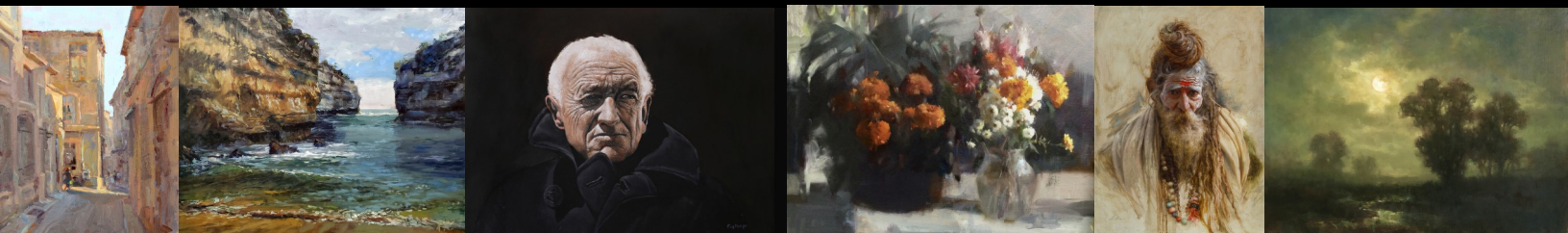


# OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA

2021 NATIONAL SALON SHOW | JUNE 10 THROUGH AUGUST 7

AT THE QUINLAN VISUAL ARTS CENTER



LORI PUTNAM OPA, AIS, AAFCW

## Artist's Statement

*"What interests me is rarely any specific subject unto itself. I am fascinated by color harmony, rhythms, patterns, and strong shapes, weaving in and out, life in a split second. My art engages. Viewers, like passersby stop and move in more closely. The work invites them to find their own answers, like following clues to a mystery, and they can become an artist themselves, even if only for a brief time."*

—Lori Putnam

## Abbreviated Biography

Lori Putnam (b. 1962) began painting professionally in her mid-30s. The feel of the paint immediately ignited her love affair with the medium and she knew there was no turning back. Putnam has studied with the country's best. No stranger to hard work and dedication, she learned sound, foundational principles, which subsequently allowed her to explore her own artistic path. When viewed in a photograph, her work may appear tightly rendered. But upon seeing it in person, viewers are instantly engaged by thick, expressive paint. Putnam is rarely interested in any specific subject. Like a magnet, she is immediately attracted to natural harmonies, rhythms, and patterns. She believes it is important to draw the viewer in, then let them explore her paintings. They become artists themselves for a brief moment, and begin to see the world in a different way.

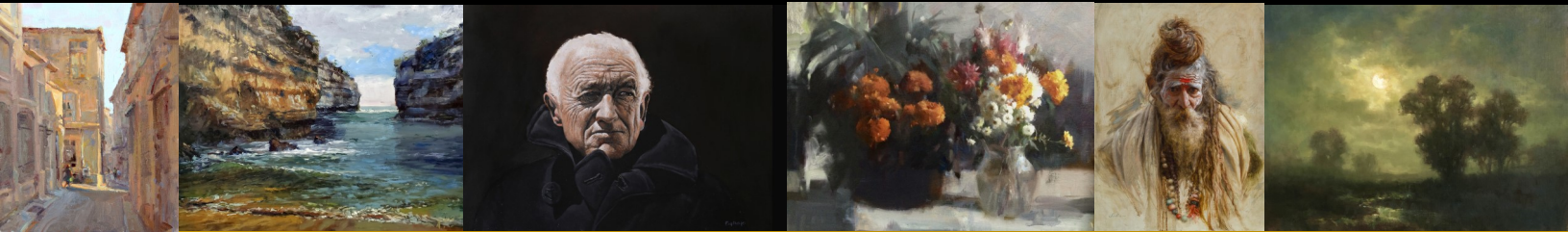
Putnam grew up in the Tennessee countryside. With no neighbors for miles, she credits her love of the outdoors and creative spirit to those many hours spent by herself as a young child. Her high school art classes became one of the first places she recognized an internal spark for drawing and painting. Prior to becoming a full-time, fine artist in 2005, Putnam owned and managed a graphic design company for 13 years. In 2008 and 2009, she and her Mark husband sold their home and belongings and traveled to the Italian countryside to live for more than seven months with the sole purpose of the painter's self-study and artistic experimentation. A catalyst for Putnam's artistic growth, the concentrated work accomplished during that period culminated in an impressive breakthrough.

Putnam has been featured in numerous issues of *Western Art Collector*, *American Art Collector Magazine*, *Plein Air Magazine*, *Southwest Art*, *Fine Art Connoisseur*, and *Art of the West*. She is a member of many respected organizations including the Salmagundi Club in New York City, the Oil Painters of America, the Portrait Society of America, and the California Art Club. Her paintings have received top

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awards in exhibitions associated with each of these organizations, as well as dozens of invitational events and exhibitions. In 2019 she accepted an appointment as Vice President of Art Ambassador for a Colorful World, and travels to work with children in less advantaged areas of the world. These experiences shed light on what it really means to be an artist. Putnam says, "It is finally clear to me, why I am here on the Earth. Bringing joy and laughter in the midst of the most horrific of circumstances is the true reason I have been blessed with such opportunity."

Museums, including The Tucson Museum of Art, The Brinton Museum in Big Horn, Wyoming, The Hockaday Museum of Art in Kalispell, Montana, The High Museum in Atlanta, Georgia, the Irvine Museum in California, and The Academy Art Museum in Easton, Maryland have sought out Putnam's works for awards, exhibitions, and/or permanent collection. The latest to add her work to their collection is the Irvine Museum in California.

Lori Putnam paints small to medium-sized works en plein air and creates large paintings in her studio in Charlotte, Tennessee.