



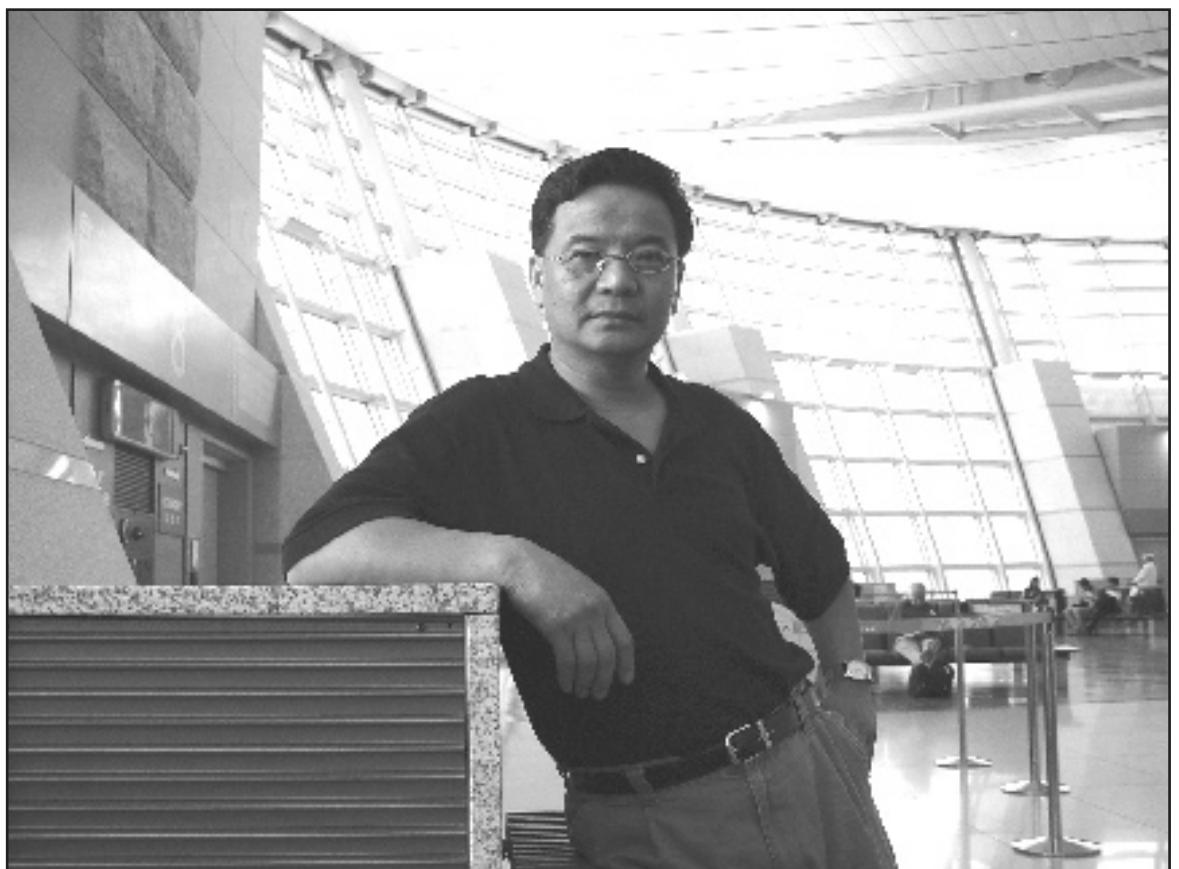
'Summer at Niles'



'The Dancer'



'Cow Boy'



Wu in a gallery

Instructor wins prizes for paintings

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In 2005, Jian "James" Wu, an adjunct professor in the Art Department of Ohlone College and the Academy of Art University San Francisco, won awards in five competitions and a contract with the County of Alameda.

Wu's oil painting "Summer at Niles" won the Best in Lighting and Color for the Best of America 2005 award in the National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society competition. Wu's "The Dance" was awarded the Top 50 award for oil painting in the Salon International competition in San Antonio, Texas.

In pastels, Wu's portrait "Antony" won second place in the Pastel USA competition and will appear on the January 2006 cover of Pastel Journal along with a feature article on Wu. His portrait "Cow Boy" won the Clark Mitchell Award in the Pastel USA 2005 competition. His portrait, "The Old Man," won the West Coast Award in the Pastel Journal's 7th Annual Pastel 100 Competition. Each competition had approximately 1,000 entries.

Wu was one of four Alameda County residents awarded contracts in the Competition Contract of the Alameda County Arts Program. Wu submitted 10 slides of contemporary landscape oil paintings, then, along with nine other artists made presentations with three original paintings. He will produce three or four paintings or murals of Alameda County, which will be temporarily displayed at the new detention center in San Leandro then placed on permanent display in County buildings.

Wu is a graduate of Qing Hua University in Beijing, China where admission is limited to one applicant in 100,000. There were additional screenings for its College of Art, where the top 200 prospective art students took a four-day test, for four hours each day. Applicants were required to create a finished art project daily. The first day required drawing the image depicted on a plaster cast, the next a life model drawing, the third day a still life oil painting and, finally, a concept painting.

Following graduation, Wu worked for the Art Institute in Beijing, China creating commissioned art for public buildings, including China's 5 star hotels. Wu was initially an artist but was promoted to the Art Director of Mural Paintings and Sculpture. He also had shows at China's National Art Exhibitions.

Wu obtained his Master's of Fine Art at the Academy of Art University, where his primary emphasis was to learn the open western style of art and gain concept training. Neither was emphasized in China, as the government dictated the message. In his second semester of graduate school, he joined the Illustration and Fine Art Department as an instructor and was subsequently sponsored for U.S. citizenship.

Wu cherishes what we frequently take for granted, stating proudly, "Artists [in the U.S.] can do freedom paintings. I can do painting any way I want to. They call this FREEDOM." Wu indicated that although China has opened up in recent years, nothing that is controversial or opposing government policy is allowed in art.

Wu's work is displayed at Parkside Gallery in Carmel, Fairhouse Gallery in Sausalito, Gallery Color in San Francisco and on the Internet at JWStudio.net.