



GEORGE CHANN was born in 1913 in Guangdong, China, and immigrated with his father to the U.S. at the age of nine. He returned to Guangzhou in 1927 to attend college at Sun Yat-sen University. In 1934, Chann was awarded a full scholarship by Otis Art Institute, where he went on to earn his BFA and MFA. His career boasted dozens of solo shows and prominent group shows at major museums and galleries. During Chann's travels throughout China from 1947-1949, he married, exhibited work, and studied and taught painting at Lingnan University. After teaching at San Francisco's California School of Fine Arts, Chann moved to Los Angeles and experimented with abstraction, calligraphy, Chinese ink and brush painting, and collage. He operated his own gift store and art studio, the Farmers Market Art Gallery, from 1952 up until shortly before his death in 1993.

George Chann, *Rice Paper Calligraphy*, 1970s, sumi ink, watercolor and oil on rice paper, 42 x 24 inches. Courtesy of Janet Chann. Copyright George Chann. Photo credit: Janet Chann



JOHN KWOK was born in Shanghai, China, on March 21, 1920 and immigrated with his family to the United States in 1921. Kwok grew up in Northern California and studied at Sacramento Junior College. He won a full scholarship to study at Chouinard Art Institute and relocated to Los Angeles. Kwok served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II then designed window displays and signage for fine department stores, like I. Magnin and Bullocks Wilshire. His freelance work included design work for clients, such as Max Factor and Santa Fe Railroad, and privately commissioned portraits. Kwok was an active participant in local and national watercolor societies throughout his life. He worked in a figurative abstract mode in his fine art practice, using gouache on illustrator board as his primary medium. Kwok continued to work, exhibit, and travel up until his death in 1983.

John Kwok, *Untitled*, not dated, gouache on paperboard, 40 x 30 inches. Courtesy of The John Kwok Family. Copyright John Kwok.



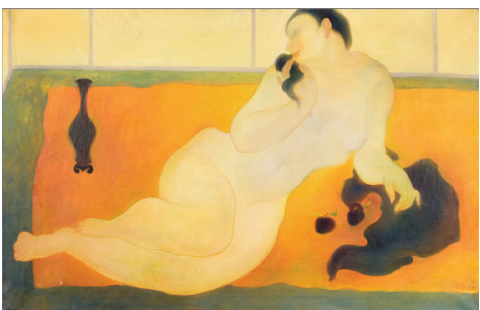
JAKE LEE was born in 1912 and emigrated with his family from Guangdong, China in 1914. He grew up in the Monterey Bay area and went to San Jose State College and San Francisco's California School of Fine Arts (now the San Francisco Art Institute). He continued to study watercolor under Chinese American master watercolorist and friend, Dong Kingman. Lee spent the second half of his life in Los Angeles, working as a professional freelance artist and illustrator for the Auto Club of Southern California, Ren Wicks' and Connors-Joyce art agencies, Alden Scott Greetings, and the U.S. Air Force. Lee taught watercolor at California State University, Long Beach and offered watercolor workshops and instructional videos, under the business name of Jake Lee's Wonderful World of Watercolor, from the 1970s till his death in 1993.

Jake Lee, *Chinatown Alley*, c. 1940, watercolor on paper, 22 x 15 inches. Courtesy of The Michael Johnson Collection, CaliforniaWatercolor.com. Copyright Jake Lee. Photo credit: Chinese American Museum



MILTON QUON was born in 1913 in Los Angeles. He studied at Frank Wiggins Trade School, Los Angeles Junior College, and Chouinard Art Institute. Quon worked at Walt Disney Studios as an inbetweener on *Fantasia* and became first assistant animator on *Dumbo*. He directed a team of artists in creating illustrated parts catalogues for Douglas Aircraft and designed the logo for United China Relief to support the war effort. In 1951, Quon became the first Chinese American art director at a national (now global) advertising firm, Batten, Barton, Durstine, and Osborn (BBDO). He also worked as a freelance commercial artist in addition to his day jobs. Quon went on to work at Sealright Packaging and teach art at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. In his retirement, Quon has enjoyed on-site watercolor painting, travelling, sketching, and working as a film and television extra.

Milton Quon, *Santa Monica Pier*, 2002, watercolor on paper, 10 1/2 x 14 1/2 inches. Courtesy of the artist. Copyright Milton Quon.



TYRUS WONG was born in 1910 in Guangdong, China, and immigrated to the U.S. at the age of nine with his father. Wong attended Otis Art Institute on scholarship after completing middle school. He was a concept artist for Walt Disney Studios' 1942 film, *Bambi*, and went on to work as a preproduction illustrator at Warner Brothers Studios from 1942 to 1968. Wong painted murals, created watercolors and lithographs for the Works Project Administration during World War II, designed dinnerware, and designed Christmas cards for more than 20 years. Wong exhibited actively for much of his career at local and national art institutions. Otis College of Art and Design, the Annie Awards, Disney Studios, and the National Watercolor Society have each bestowed Wong with honors. He has been constructing and flying kites since the late 1970s.

Tyrus Wong, *Reclining Nude*, 1940s, oil on canvas, 29 3/4 x 48 inches. Courtesy of Leslee See Leong. Copyright Tyrus Wong.