

## Ed Gazsi



Mr. Gazsi's remarkable illustration career has spanned forty-eight years from his formative age through formal education in illustration at Cooper Union in NYC and Brooklyn College where he studied under Philip Pearlstein.

The beginning of Ed's illustration career began in 1971. He earned a major commission from National Geographic Magazine where he illustrated eight major articles.

In 1987 a medical advertising agency hired Gazsi to illustrate promotional material for one of the first pregnancy testing kits. Ed painted the Tea Party scene from Alice in Wonderland featuring a rabbit (long used to determine a woman's pregnancy) holding the kit in its hand. The whimsical illustration was entered into the New York Society of Illustrators annual exhibition. From ten thousand entries Gazsi received a gold medal. Then an editor from Harper Collins' children's books saw the piece at the exhibition and the focus of Ed's art shifted from medical to children's illustration. This led him to illustrate three children's books, *Kimbo's Marble*, *The Snow Queen* and *Seven Ravens*. Each book contained about eighteen illustrations and in the years that followed, Ed's work centered on children's art.

In 1997 Ed became a college art instructor. Then he discovered MASF. In 2003 he submitted his first miniature that earned him a first place prize. In 2006 he won a second place in human figure from MASF. He also won two first place prizes in 2006 and 2009 from The MPSGS in Washington, DC. Gazsi retired from college teaching in 2015, but still does some illustration work.

Ed recently published five artistic anatomy books on Amazon Kindle - *Anatomy Sketchbook - Vol. 1-5*. They compile his college lectures on the subject. The volumes are illustrated with hundreds of Ed's figure drawings.

All of Ed's children's artwork is gathered in Kindle books, *Children's Illustrations of Ed Gazsi - Vol. 1-3*. He also wrote and illustrated Kindle children's books, *The Snow Queen: A Tale of Courage*, *Penelope's Pearl*, and *The Costume Party*.

Ed and his wife, Mariela, are both Christians and live in Florida. They recently co-authored a fully-illustrated Kindle book, *An Artist Looks at Heaven - Revelations into the Afterlife*. This unique volume contains one hundred and fifty computer illustrations. Gazsi is also an accomplished 3D artist and animator.

## Judge's Statement

The privilege of judging the premier miniature art exhibition in the world is a very special honor. But the same privilege, considering the quality of the art work, placed this judge (and all previous judges) into a very difficult situation. That was my conundrum. And for those who will view the show, they will understand my unique challenge as they enjoy some seven hundred museum pieces, the works of two hundred talented artists. Guided by Barbara Robertson, a MASF volunteer and collector, I evaluated row upon row of marvelous works in twenty-two different categories.

But behind the scenes, and without fanfare, a group of dedicated MASF members tirelessly processed and arranged the ever-changing flow of works that I reviewed. The commitment of these volunteers was amazing. Some were fellow miniature artists. Others were collectors. Each engaged in this massive effort, all for the purpose of affording the world's best miniaturists an opportunity to showcase their talents. Eight to ten remarkable people transformed my two days of judging into a whirlwind of joy. Why do these volunteers engage in such an immense effort? I believe they do so because of a genuine love for people. While applause deservedly goes to the 2017 award winners and all the other artists featured in the show, a debt of gratitude must be extended to the select few who labored beyond the public view. It is they, and all those before them in MASF, who have made this annual exhibition not only possible, but an international success. From Kay Petryszak, the current MASF President and her husband Mike, to those who physically and monetarily support the society's yearly venture, these wonderful people should be sincerely thanked. I for one have entered the show many times in years past and never realized the extent of their sacrifice. I am humbled and grateful for having been given the opportunity to work with each of them.