

# **SILK PAINTERS INTERNATIONAL (SPIN)**

**has created a Signature Membership level that recognizes outstanding artistic achievement in silk painting. Designation as a Signature Member entitles the artist to use the initials “MSP” (Master Silk Painter) after their name.**

## **ELIGIBILITY**

- Applicant must have been a SPIN member in good standing for a year and have exhibited in at least two SPIN sponsored national/international juried exhibitions.
- Fine, functional and wearable art are eligible.
- All artwork submitted must be predominately hand painted silk.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

There will be two selection rounds a year.

All application documents shall be sent electronically to the address on the Signature Membership portion of the SPIN website.

The application shall consist of:

- An application fee of \$10 which can be paid using PayPal on the SPIN website.
- A brief resume
- An electronic portfolio of five silk works of art including title, dimensions and techniques used and the year of completion. One (1) of the paintings submitted may be your best work ever, without regard to the 5 year limitation imposed on the other 4 paintings.

These paintings should be of the highest caliber and demonstrate the applicant's skill and artistic quality. Artist must certify that:

- 4 of the 5 paintings have been completed in the last five years of the application deadline
- Each piece is original and meets all copyright laws.
- No piece submitted has been done in a class or workshop setting.

Artist must submit two photos of each piece of artwork, including one detail shot.

Each image should be in jpeg format, with a resolution of 300 dpi and 1200 pixels on the longest side, 4x6". Images must fill the frame substantially and be in focus. You may send a CD with jpeg images. Contact [suzanne.punch@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne.punch@gmail.com)

Submission of a link to artist's website is optional but the quality of the website itself will be taken into consideration as to whether it represents the best in silk painting.

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

### **Selection Committee Review**

Applicants will be evaluated by other MSPs. Using the Evaluation Criteria (below), each MSP Committee member will objectively judge each individual entry, providing an overall score for each applicant.

In addition, the MSP Committee members need to provide a written statement with specific recommendations or explanations to accompany the score.

MSP Committee members will submit their scores and comments to the Committee Chair.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Paintings will be viewed by each MSP Committee member using the following criteria:

#### **-Technical Skill**

The artist demonstrates evidence of advanced skill in the use and integration of traditional and experimental materials and techniques associated with the silk painting process.

Art works submitted should demonstrate a consistent level of expertise.

#### **-Artistic Merit**

The artist exhibits a significant knowledge of composition, principles of design and color theory.

#### **-Originality and Creative Expression**

The artwork is original in its concept and captures a unique perspective of the subject matter.

#### **-Signature Style/Voice**

The artist is sufficiently proficient in the medium to have developed a signature style. In looking at the pieces together, it must be clear that this artist sings with their own voice.

### **Scoring Mechanism**

The maximum value of each criterion will be 25 points, making the highest score possible 100 points. The minimum total acceptable score will be 75 points.

The MSP Committee Chair will tally all the resulting scores for each applicant and shall convene a telephone meeting of the MSP Committee resulting in an acceptance or rejection vote for each applicant. The vote must be, as stated, 75% in favor in order to designate an applicant as a Signature Member.

When the process is completed, MSP Committee members will destroy all electronic copies of applicants' submissions. Confidentiality of all aspects of the process shall be maintained by the MSP's directly involved.

## **NOTIFICATION OF DECISION**

The MSP Committee Chair will be responsible for notifying each applicant of the outcome of the selection process in writing by US mail.

All decisions of the MSP Committee are final, and are not open to discussion or further review.

The MSP Committee Chair shall notify the SPIN Board of the number of applicants and the names of the successful applicants. All other applicant information shall be held in strictest confidence by the MSP committee.

**An applicant may apply again in a future round after being declined.**

## **SIGNATURE MEMBERSHIP DESIGNATION**

The artist is designated a Signature Member of SPIN and is entitled to use the initials "MSP" (Master Silk Painter) after their name as long as they remain a SPIN member in good standing. If there is a lapse in membership of more than 18 months, the artist will be required to resubmit an MSP application.

The artist's name with a link to their website will be published at [silkpainters.org](http://silkpainters.org) as a Signature Member of SPIN.

The artist will also be recognized in the Silkworm, along with an image(s) of their work and an artist's statement.

We look forward to seeing your work and application!