

# **SPIN Distinguished Silk Artist Application Criteria**

## **Eligibility**

Applicants are required to be a member of SPIN for (at least) the full year prior to the date of application to become a Distinguished Silk Artist.

## **Artist's Portfolio and Application Submission Requirements**

1. Select five original pieces of work that represent you as an artist.
  - All art submitted must incorporate hand painted silk as an integral part of the artwork.
  - Do not submit images that infringe a copyright or work that was created during a workshop or under supervision.
  - Presentation counts, i.e. be sure the silk is ironed and wrinkle free. Paintings, wall hangings and scarves should be either cropped to the image (no frames) or photographed on a solid color background. Art to wear should be on a model or manikin.
  - Videos and panoramic images may be submitted for wearable art and other applications that qualify. Please contact the Committee Chair for details on the procedure for submitting a video.

## ***Digital Image Requirements***

- 2D: Submit one full view and one detail.
- 3D: Submit two or three full views and one detail.
- Format – jpg
- Resolution – 300 dpi
- Dimensions– The longest side of the image should be no less than 1200 pixels.

## ***Image File Format***

### ***Examples for 2D and 3D Art:***

#\_ Last Name Title .jpg  
**2D**

1\_Parker\_WinterSunset.jpg  
2\_Parker\_WinterSunset\_detail.jpg

### **3D**

3\_Parker\_Sculpture view1/3.jpg  
4\_Parker\_Sculpture view2/3.jpg  
5\_Parker\_Sculpture view3/3.jpg  
6\_Parker\_Sculpture\_detail.jpg

***Provide a separate document of the following info for each piece:***

- Image file name (as formatted above)
- **2D** length and width (without the frame)
- **3D** sculptural art provide height, width and depth. (not necessary for art to wear)
- Year of completion

## **Supporting Material**

**2. Résumé** (see FAQ section below)

**3. Artist Statement** (see FAQ section below)

## **Evaluation Criteria**

Artwork to be reviewed by the Signature Membership Committee using the following criteria:

### **1. Artistry & Self Expression**

The artist has developed a personal style that exhibits knowledge and creative use of composition, principles of design and color theory.

### **2. Craftsmanship**

Artworks submitted should demonstrate a consistent, advanced level of expertise and skill in the use and integration of traditional and/or experimental materials, techniques and processes associated with silk painting.

### **3. Résumé**

The artist has the ability to form and achieve goals and shows dedication to their medium and their artistic growth.

### **4. Artist Statement**

The artist can reflect on their body of work and express their artistic philosophy.

## **Scoring Mechanism (points in increments of .5)**

Scores will be evaluated as follows:

- The maximum value for criterion 1. Artistry & Self Expression will be 10,
- The maximum value for criterion 2. Craftsmanship will be 10, making the highest score possible for 1 & 2, 20 points.
- The minimum score acceptable for criterion 1 or 2 will be 7.5 points.
- The minimum score acceptable for the total of both criteria 1 & 2 is 16 points (i.e.  $7.5 + 8.5 = 16$ ).
- The point value for criterion 3. Résumé will be minus 1 or plus 1 point. (1 to +1)
- The point value for criterion 4. Artist Statement will be minus 1 or plus 1 point. (1 to +1)
- The minimum score acceptable for the total of all 4 criteria is 17 points.

Example of an acceptable score  $7.5 + 8.5 + .5 + .5 = 17$

Example of a not acceptable score  $7.5 + 8.5 + .5 - .5 = 16.0$

## Agreement for SPIN service

**(This page must be included signed within your application packet.)** (To do this electronically: Print, sign, and then scan back into your Dropbox Folder along with your other electronic documents.)

I, (first and last name), do agree on the \_\_\_\_ day of (month), of the year \_\_\_\_\_, that upon receipt of the DSA designation (date to be determined) to the performance of service to Silk Painters International (SPIN) in the form of one or more of the following tasks:

- Teaching a workshop at the biennial conference on the subject of applying for the Distinguished Silk Painter Program
- Developing exploratory techniques in the painted silk medium to be shared
- Mentoring a SPIN member through the DSA application process
- Researching, interviewing, writing articles for publication in fine art periodicals
- Collaborating with artists in creating fiber installations, etc.
- Agreeing to take a leadership role in Conference planning
  - Hosting an off-year regional conference
  - Leading a Forum Presentation Online
  - Demonstrating in a Webinar Video on the SPIN website
  - Demonstrating in a SPIN approved Webinar Video online
  - Leading a SPIN Service Project created and approved by the SPIN DSA Committee

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Signature of applicant

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Signature of Silk Painters International Board Representative

## **FAQ Section**

### **Artist Résumé**

The Artist Résumé should be customized to meet the needs and expectations of the circumstance in which it was requested.

#### **Formatting Your Résumé** (two pages or less)

Some of the categories may not apply to you so address the categories that do and list your accomplishments in chronological order starting with most recent.

- **Contact information**

Date: (list in header)

Name:

Address:

Phone number(s):

Fax:

Email:

Web site: (if appropriate)

- **Exhibition and Retail Venues**

Examples: Solo exhibitions, juried group exhibitions, commissions, performances (performance art), gallery shops, juried craft shows, and retail settings.

Note: The variety of venues reflects the many applications related to painting on silk. You are welcome to add your own venue. Only address the venue(s) relevant to your application(s).

List venues and location starting with the date of the most recent, i.e. date, title of show or venue if applicable, city, state.

- **Art Competitions and Awards:**

List date, title of show, name of juried competition and awards.

- **Publications** to which you have contributed:

List books, CD titles and videos with title and date.

List name of Journal, title of article and date.

- **Press:**

Where your work is featured or you are mentioned.

List date and venue i.e./e. newspaper, Internet, interview.

- **Professional Affiliations:**

Examples: SPIN, Surface Design Association, American Craft Council, art centers, art guilds.

List date, name of affiliations and of past or current participation if applicable.

- **Art Education:**

Examples: Academic degree, silk painting workshops, art classes.

List degree, date, school/venue, major, and area of concentration/title of workshop or class.

- **Related Employment:**

Examples: professional artist, educator, decorator, surface designer.

List date, employer and short job description.

- **Related Professional Activities:**

Examples: lectures, serving as a juror/curator, panels, volunteer positions, committees, boards.

List date, venue, activity and short description.

- **Collections:**

List prestigious private, corporate and museum collections that acquired your art.

List name and title of work.

- **Current Gallery Representation:** List name of gallery, city, state.

## **Artist Statement** (one page or less)

Write in the first person.

Avoid “art-speak” terms and language.

Write for an audience who has never seen your work and who may not be artists.

To help you formulate your statement try to incorporate the answers to the following questions that are relevant to your work. (Sample responses to these questions are presented below).

***What silk art do you do?***

***Why do you do it?***

***What are your silk painting materials, techniques and processes and why do you use these materials, techniques and processes?***

***How do you approach your artwork?***

***What influences and inspires you?***

**Does your work have a message?**

***If relevant, relate how your job and/or where you live may influence your creative expression.***

First sample response:

***What silk art do you do?***

Commissioned silk painted art quilts and duvets for private customers and decorators.

***Why do you do it?***

I enjoy the challenge of designing an art piece for a customer who has a specific venue in mind.

***What are your silk painting materials, techniques and processes and why do you use these materials, techniques and processes?***

For an artquilt, I often develop my designs through reverse appliqué, an adaptation of the Mola technique developed by the Kuna culture of Panama. The traditional mola consists of layers of commercial or hand woven fabric that have been cut back to reveal a design. Instead of commercial fabric, I use dye, resists and a variety of silk painting techniques to design and execute 24 layers of my original patterns on silk.

I then cut back to reveal a reverse appliqué design that incorporates the silk painted patterns of each layer.

For a duvet cover or bed quilt, I may work with a clear linear resist and dye to execute my design on one piece of fabric. Once the painted process is

completed, I have a professional construct the duvet or quilt according to my design specifications.

During my creative process I explore variations on these basic explanations.

***How do you approach your artwork?***

I plan and develop the color and design of the art quilt, giving myself leeway for spontaneous expression and problem solving.

***What influences and inspires you?***

Exploring the many techniques and process available to me as a silk painter, as well as my love of pattern, influences and inspires my design process.

***Does your work have a message?***

Although the message in my work changes and evolves in relation to the application, beauty in contrasts of color, design and pattern is the common thread I strive for and hope to convey in my work.

***If relevant, relate how your job and/or where you live may influence your creative expression.***

For many years I worked in New York City as a commercial surface designer. There I developed my design skills that I now use to create one of a kind art pieces.

Second sample response:

***What silk art do you do?***

I express my favorite subject, nature through the fine art of silk painting.

***What are your silk painting materials, techniques and processes and why do you use these materials, techniques and processes?***

I use the DyeColour technique where the treated surface of the silk affords me the opportunity to be painterly and express myself using brush strokes and texture.

***How do you approach your artwork?***

I take reference photos and draw and paint studies in the field. I then move into my studio where I further develop my composition and complete my paintings.

***What influences and inspires you?***

I am inspired by the diverse landscape, changing light and seasons of Mendocino County where I live. There is so much to take in, the hills covered



with vineyards, the wildflowers, the redwoods and ferns along the rugged stretch of the Pacific Ocean coastline, the sunsets and crashing waves, the mist and fog that settles in the valleys and along the coast.

***Why do you do it?***

The process of drawing and painting nature is a collaboration of observation and creativity. It allows me to experience and convey the wonder of a moment in time. I become so intimate with my subject that it is forever a part of me.

***Does your work have a message?***

I hope the people who view my paintings share a moment with me experiencing the wonder of nature.

***If relevant, relate how your job and/or where you live may influence your creative expression.***

My job is rather self-imposed, I work to expand and teach the applications and techniques I use to express myself as a silk painter. My job, my creative expression and the North Coast of California are intertwined. I follow my own heart and hope my students and patrons join me in my journey.

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**Electronic Submission of Application Documents and Images**

Download Dropbox if you don't already have it on your computer.

Create a folder and add all your images and files specified above for your application.

Notify the Committee Chair by email ([spin.dsa@gmail.com](mailto:spin.dsa@gmail.com)) of your intent to apply. Further instructions will follow.

Thanks to all SPIN members who apply; we welcome your application and the chance to see and understand the work you do.