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Art Now and Then

"Art Now and Then" does not mean art occasionally. It means art NOW as opposed to art THEN. It means art in 2017 as compared to art many years ago...sometimes many, many, MANY years ago. It is an attempt to make that art relevant now, letting artists back then speak to us now in the hope that we may better understand them, and in so doing, better understand ourselves and the art produced today.

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Saturday, October 21, 2017

Chris Tatam



Old Mill (on the island of Anglesey), 2003, Chris Tatam

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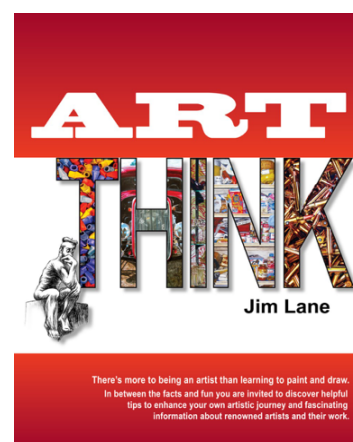


Copyright Chris Tatam

Every so often I meet an artist who, like myself, is not famous nor even well-known; and quite frankly, probably never will be. However, the Welsh artist, Chris Tatam, has a much better chance of achieving some degree of creative notoriety than I in that he's thirty-four years younger than I am. He's also talented in two distinctly different art media--painting and goose eggs. He works in oils, acrylics, and watercolor, each about equally well (nothing unusual about that). What is unusual as to his talent is that Chris carves and decorates his eggs in a manner reminiscent of the famous Russian Faberge eggs (which were *not* made from egg shells, by the way).

NEW !

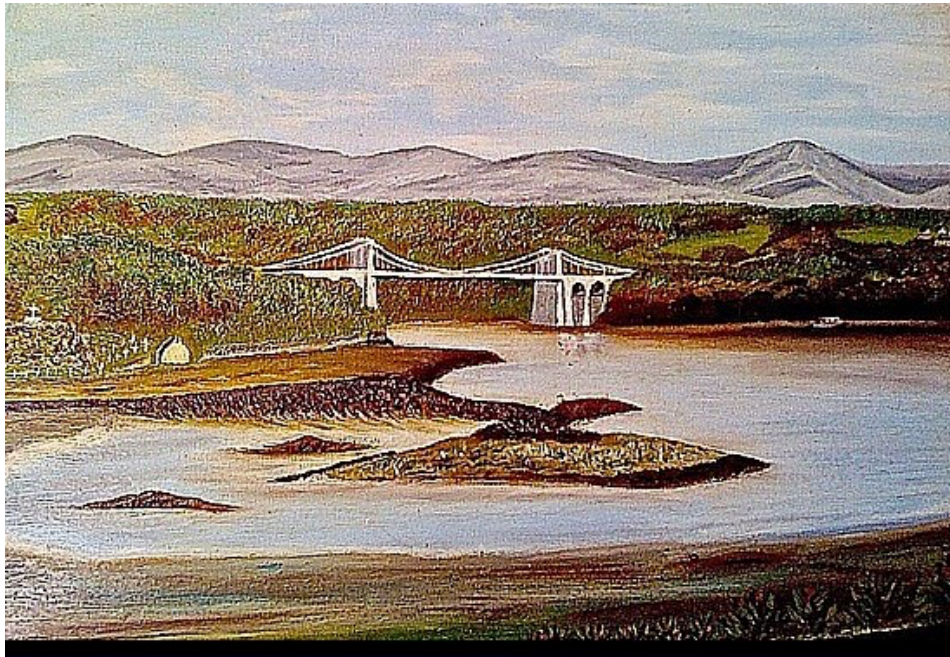
**NOW AVAILABLE
FOR THE FIRST
TIME...**



Each chapter of *Art THINK* contains from four to twenty-one relatively short essays on different aspects of learning to think like an artist. Originally written for an artists' online discussion group, these "ArtyFacts" (as they were first called) can be bitten off, chewed, and digested in as little as fifteen minutes. Some items are light and fluffy-brain candy. Some are snack food for thought. Some are downright chewy. And, a few are (gulp) stick-in-your-throat fruit-cakey. They employ humor, irony, a gentle dose of art history, common sense, conventional wisdom, and good old school-of-hard-knocks experience.

In e-book (PDF format), click

Bird on a Branch, 2016, Chris Tatam



Menai Suspension Bridge (upper image), 2009, Chris Tatam; photo of Menai Bridge to Anglesey (lower image).
Painting copyright, Chris Tatam

Chris Tatam was born in 1979 on the island of Anglesey just off the coast of Wales. According to his resume he's been carving eggs since 1989, which would have made him about ten years old at the time. At ten I was drawing horsies and cowboys. Chris had another distinct advantage over me in that his grandparents were both professional artists. Then, while watching a TV program about Peter Carl Faberge and the imperial eggs, he began

below for more details:

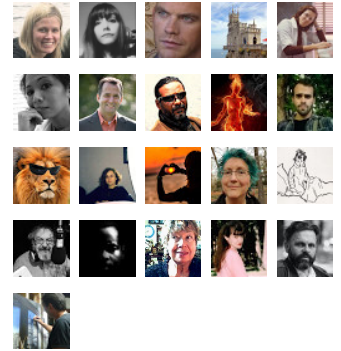
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researching various techniques in cutting the eggshell including the use of a hacksaw blade and a compressed air dentistry drill. From the ages of 14 to 20 he entered and won numerous arts and crafts competitions, which led to exhibitions and seminars throughout the U.K.



Watercolor instructor aboard the Queen Mary 2.



Copyright, Chris Tatam

Bejeweled egg by Chris Tatam (untitled).

As so often happens when young artists are faced with anxieties of making their way in the "real world," Chris chose what appeared to be a safer path to success. He chose to study psychology and law in college. Later he began working in the field of legal aid. Even so, Chris continued to paint and teach art and craft classes in the evenings. He has been teaching throughout the United Kingdom for a number of years and more recently in the United States and onboard cruise liners. It was on board the Cunard liner, Queen Mary 2 that I met Chris. He was the watercolor instructor on the return leg of our round-trip to England.

Chris Tatam

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► [September](#) (29)

► [August](#) (31)

► [July](#) (31)

► [June](#) (30)

► [May](#) (31)

► [April](#) (30)

► [March](#) (31)

► [February](#) (28)

► [January](#) (31)

► [2016](#) (366)

► [2015](#) (364)

► [2014](#) (365)

► [2013](#) (365)

► [2012](#) (366)

► [2011](#) (366)

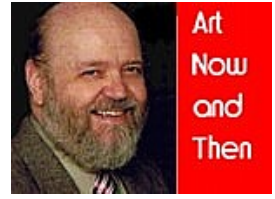
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One of his most elaborate eggs.

Copyright, Chris Tatam

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Queen Mary 2

Watercolor class



I'm the bald guy in the black shirt just left of center. The upper image is that of the student art exhibit on the final day of classes.

Tatam has a wide range of experience and knowledge in the painting of landscapes and seascapes, using all painting media. Primarily Chris is self-taught. More recently he has adapted his painting skills to other crafts that incorporate a range of materials from decoupage and enamel to creating Faberge style eggs using real egg-shell. Chris's work has received many awards and prizes over the years including a first prize at the National Eisteddfod of Wales and a highly commended (honorable mention in American English) at the Crafters Guild of Great Britain. To date his work has been promoted and published

across various mediums. Chris currently resides in Orlando, Florida, but spends his summers in Wales on Anglesey where he conducts seminars and exhibitions of his work. He is proud of his Welsh heritage and takes much inspiration from the natural scenery of his homeland as reflected in his creations. More of Chris Tatam's work may be seen at: www.christatam.com. He can be contacted by e-mail at: christatam@me.com.



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Dusk, 2016, Chris Tatam



Copyright, Chris Tatam

It's not a Faberge, but close.



Copyright, Chris Tatam

Snowdonia, 2013, Chris Tatam



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*Cosmas Augustus, 2016,
Chris Tatam*



Posted by Jim Lane at 12:01 AM



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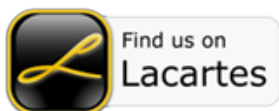
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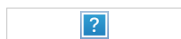


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