

## **Artist John Ross Palmer: Career & Personal Milestones 2017**

- **On Jan. 21, Palmer and Lindsay took great pride in attending the Women's March in DC;**
- **On Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> Palmer and Lindsay celebrated a 10-year wedding anniversary. A decade prior they made a commitment to each other at the Lovett Inn in Montrose, Houston;**
- **In its 9<sup>th</sup> year, Palmer's Escapist Program featured 3 talented artists: Laura Burlton, Jan Golden and Chuck Redick. Golden was named 2017 Escapist of the Year by a collection of secret judges that attended and ranked each Escapist solo show;**
- **John Palmer Art released two new publications: *Auckland 2017* and *Escapism 2017*;**
- **The 6<sup>th</sup> annual *Palmer's Prestigious Ladies Luncheon* had notable attendees including 2016 Escapist Tatiana Escallon, Air Liquide's Margaret Ferenz & Laura Parkan, H.E.B.'s Winell Herron, Houston Habitat's Angela Birch Cox, Chicago Title's Carla Schraub, Patti Carlton with the Rotary Club of Houston, ret. Healthcare Executive Aileen McCormick and geologist Melanie Edmundson;**
- **In August, Palmer met with President George H.W. Bush at his summer estate on Walker's Point, Maine. The pair of Houstonians launched a fundraiser for Hurricane Harvey recovery to support the Points of Light Foundation through the sale of Palmer's print "On Board with Houston". The effort raised thousands of dollars through hundreds of collectors and Palmer was honored to welcome Points of Light CEO Neil Bush to his gallery for a major check presentation. The fundraising efforts were chronicled in a lengthy, captivating Houston Press article;**
- **The American Art Museum in Ogunquit, ME selected Palmer's *Havana 2016 No. 3* as a featured painting at its annual Art by the Sea auction fundraiser;**
- **Art Launch, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded by Palmer and Lindsay in 2016, experienced tremendous growth. Under the leadership of Honorary Chairperson Lauren Waddell, the graduation weekend added a Sunday Brunch and raised \$97,606 to fund the empowering Escapist Mentorship Program. Only 11.2% of funds raised went to administrative costs. Palmer continues to serve as Art Launch's Board Chairman;**
- **John Palmer Art named the H.E.A.R.T. Program as its 2017 Charity of the Year and supported the nonprofit through more than \$9,000 in direct cash donations, \$2,000 in funds raised through art donation, creation of artwork and presentation to honor Mayor Sylvester Turner and hosting an MVP Trainee Painting Party to conclude the year;**
- **Palmer had notable artwork presentations with the US Consul General in Auckland, Melanie Higgins, Auckland, NZ CM Penny Hulse and Hamilton, NZ Mayor Andrew King;**
- **Ernie Manouse's interview, "The Painted Life of John Palmer", won an Emmy Award;**
- **For the second time, Palmer was selected by the Texas Lyceum to create artwork for its annual public conference. His painting, "Texas Capitol", was presented to former US Sec. of Ed. Margaret Spellings, Ambassador Ron Kirk, TX Land Comm. George P. Bush, TX Sup. Ct. Justice Don Willett and famed conservative strategist Karl Rove;**
- **In October Palmer created 10 innovative commissions while on the island of Crete; and**
- **The George H.W. Bush Presidential Library selected Palmer to create a painting for its permanent collection honoring the library and museum's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The image of his painting was then used on 300 scarves, personally made by Palmer, at the annual Vintner's Dinner and on the cover the annual Bush Christmas Card.**