

# Escapist Testimonials

**Devine, Kelley**



**"Thank you for having me as a part of the program, it's meant a lot to me personally and professionally. The Escapist program is an important means of individual and community support and through our time there we learn to see ourselves not just as artists but as professionals. We learn that in order to do this we must not only create our product but also handle every other aspect of the business of art. This is one of the most important aspects of the program. Simultaneously we also learn that supporting others around us and in our community through our art, donations and time is what we will be remembered for.**

**Thank you both again, you have my support and I am honored to have yours."**

**Kelley Devine, 2010 Escapist**

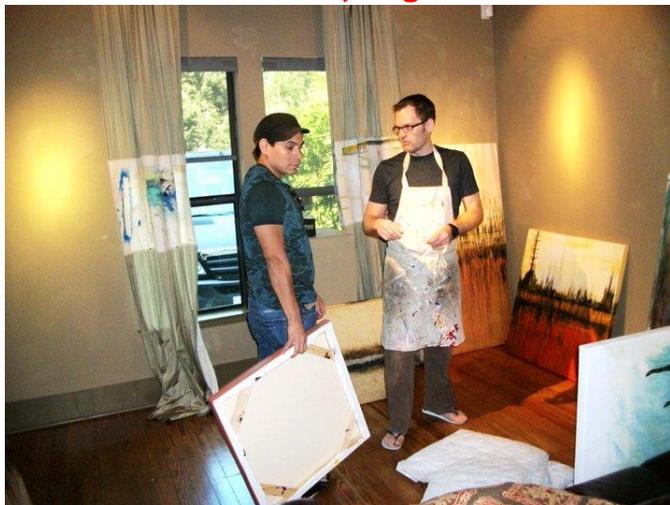
**Fugate, Ryan**



**"Being part of the John Palmer escapist program has been the single most inspiring, motivating and growing experiences to my artistic career development that I have had. It challenged me to push and stretch beyond my expectations, both in my art practice and way of thinking, to see potential and possibilities I hadn't realized before. I am very grateful for what I have learned and been able to apply from the program in helping me attain a new level of success as an artist. The amount of motivation, support, encouragement, and knowledge is invaluable to anyone seeking personal and artistic career development."**

**Ryan Fugate, 2010 Escapist**

**Medina, Edgar**



**“The Escapist Program was a great tool for my career. I learned so many things that I still use now. Working with John during my mentorship year was amazing. It was great to learn from someone who has been in the business and has done it all. He always had an answer and a good positive outlook in any situation. Once an Escapist, always an Escapist!”**

**Edgar Medina, 2010 Escapist**

**Gala-Seibert, Nubia**



**“Escapism allowed me to expand my horizons in creating new channels of distribution for my art. With John’s mentoring I built my own private art gallery and learned to host an Open Studio soiree. Escapism gave me the opportunity to attend some of the largest art fairs in the world like Art Chicago and participate twice in equally important fairs such as the Los Angeles Modern and Contemporary Art Show. One of the most gratifying experiences is to see John’s genius, unending creativity and be part of his loving, caring family of artists as well as his collectors.”**

**Nubia Gala-Seibert, 2011 Escapist**

**Gonzalez, Raul**



**“Being able to work with artist John Palmer allowed me to see how an artist can create their own path to success. I was able to talk to him both on a personal and business level. Through those conversations and seeing a very motivated person in action, I was able to learn more about what I really wanted for my own art career. No artist’s path should be the same.”**

**Raul Gonzalez, 2011 Escapist**

**Vasquez, Zak**



**“Being new to the art scene, the Escapist program gave me a unique opportunity to meet and collaborate with a group of like-minded people. I was able to see first-hand the dedication and perseverance it takes to make it as an artist.”**

**Zak Vasquez, 2011 Escapist**

**Armstrong, Leigh**



**“For a young artist, it is groundbreaking to have an experienced mentor, particularly one who teaches a business approach to establishing a successful career in art. I am currently at one of the top 3 art colleges in the U.S. and the teachings I gained from being an Escapist are not even available here. John and Ryan fill an important and critical role in the art community.”**

**Leigh Armstrong, 2012 Escapist**

**Cuellar, Sonya**



**“The Escapist Mentorship Program took me out of the shadows. I don’t think I thought of myself as a real artist until I became an Escapist. Being a part of this incredible program and learning and spending time with John and Ryan gave me the confidence to be who I was meant to be.”**

**Sonya Cuellar, 2012 Escapist**

### **Slaughter, Tra`**



**“The Escapist Mentorship program really opened my eyes to see just what we are capable of as individual working artists. John's strong drive accompanied with his nurturing nature was and still is so motivating. He believes in each of us and really helped me to see my true potential. Ryan gave and still gives tremendous advice and guidance in the business realm of being a self-sufficient and sustaining artist. Being an Escapist is a fantastic honor and an experience that I urge every working artist to take advantage of. Priceless experience and John and Ryan are true gems in the Houston art world.”**

**Tra` Slaughter, 2012 Escapist**

### **Varadaraju, Anita**



**“Escapism is a force that is essential to help artists realize the difference they make in the society and in their environment. I attest to this fact. The selfless devotion of John Palmer and Ryan Lindsay to give it their all to make other artists grow is unparalleled. I came into the Mentorship with a lot of excitement and just as many questions. There was not one question left unanswered, not one stone left unturned. And what was refreshing was their ability to think differently, to open new avenues of possibilities and to reinforce my strength in myself. John and Ryan still make me look forward whether they know it or not...that is the kind of impact one expects from a Mentorship.”**

**Anita Varadaraju, 2012 Escapist**

**Wondra, Lauren**



**“Being an Escapist prepared me for a life I’d never expected. John’s artistic guidance boosted my overall look and cemented my staying power across the international art world. The attention I received was global, tremendous and their introductions opened my eyes to a world full of supporters. I gained 60,000 Facebook fans and rocked 7 solo shows across Europe with interview preps from Ryan—it changed my life and I’m forever grateful and proud to be an Escapist artist.**

**Lauren Wondra, 2012 Escapist**

**Duryea, Tina**



**“With the guidance of the Escapist Mentorship Program I have sold more pieces in 5 months than in the entire previous year. I have also doubled the number and quality of shows, including my first show in the heart of Chelsea in New York City. The experience has been invaluable--I can’t say enough good things about it.”**

**Tina Duryea, 2013 Escapist**

**Mendietta, Joe**



**“Being an Escapist Artist has opened a new journey for me as an artist. Within the few months I’ve learned so much from John Ross Palmer. He has inspired me in so many ways as an artist. I’m honored to be a part of the 2013 Escapist program. Thank you John and Ryan for allowing me to be a part of this amazing journey.”**

**Joe Mendietta, 2013 Escapist**

**Miller, William H. “Billy”**



**“Every career minded artist, whether they are aspiring, emerging or established should consider being part of the Escapist Program. John Palmer & Ryan Lindsay generously share their passion for the business of being an artistic entrepreneur and break down the steps to success with assignments which help you learn how to be an independent, professional and financially successful artist.**

**From my personal experience as a 2013 Escapist, I have been able to jump start my full-time art business with the insights from John Palmer & Ryan Lindsay, the encouragement from the community of other escapists, and from the success of hard work every day making art and cultivating my collector base.”**

**William H. “Billy” Miller, 2013 Escapist**

## Norwood, Lan



**"Being accepted into the Escapist mentorship program was one of the proudest moments of my life as an artist. I've learned so much from John and Ryan already and the year isn't even half-over. The program has reinvigorated me and pushed me to do things that I never would have conceived of a year ago. It's really opened my eyes to all of the possibilities.**

**It's admirable that John founded this program and that he and Ryan devote so much time to us. They don't get paid for this, but still they do it because they want to lift up other artists and help them be as successful as John has been. I would encourage any artist that is thinking about applying to do so. It's not just a mentorship program. To me it feels like being part of a family. A family that grows stronger with the addition of new escapists each year.**

**It's been an amazing experience so far and I look forward to what the remainder of the year has in store for me."**

**Lan Norwood, 2013 Escapist**

## Wright, Lee E.



**"John and Ryan have helped me open some doors that I thought were impossible to unlock. In short, the escapist program is a lot of hard work but you get encouragement, confidence, support, expertise, guidance, direction, and a swift kick in the butt when you need it."**

**Lee E. Wright, 2013 Escapist**

