

Professional Painter for more than 20 years. Main
interests: History, Art History, Painting, Portraits,
landscapes, Still life. Natural History, Archeology.

Although

Although the Gentlings have been residents
and painters of ~~Texas~~ ^{Texas} Southwestern subjects for
more than 30 years and are well known for
their striking realism and dry brush water color
technique, they are students of many world
cultures and histories. They have lectured at
the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, the Dallas
Museum of Art and the Kimbell Art Museum
on such varied subjects as 17th Century Dutch
Painting, Pre-Columbian Art and Architecture of
Mexico and European drawings from the 14th to
the ^{20th} ~~19th~~ centuries. They have also spoken
to audiences ~~They have lectured at the Kimbell Art Museum~~

They were chosen by the Kimbell Art Museum
They ^{also} exhibited their ^{Portraits, Landscapes + Still life} work and lectured at
the Kimbell Art Museum as part of that Museum's
prestigious "Artists Eye" program. Stuart Gentling
served for 5 years as member of the Board of Directors
for the Fort Worth Museum of Modern Art and currently
serves as ~~board~~ member of Intercultural, the
Fort Worth-based arts organization with many
ties to Japan ^{which} is currently working with the
Japanese on several cultural exchanges and exhibitions. (about 1970)
The Gentlings have also been collectors of

Art
New
was painted
to host. World Japanese Art center 1987

Japanese prints and screens for more than
twenty years. They

In 1982 Scott and Stuart Gentling published
what is ~~regarded by~~ is universally regarded
by art and book critics as the most magnificent
book of its kind ever produced in Texas. The
Book is titled "Of Birds and Trees". In their
introduction to this massive 46 ^{Impress} folio and
in their commentaries to the ^{12. (p. 21) and plates XVII} color plates they write
of the Oriental influence in their work, especially
such Japanese ~~from~~ artists as ^{Itō-Jakuchū} Jakuchū, Sōtatsu,
Sotatsu, Korin, and Utamarō. Their book was
dedicated to ^{the great bird artist} John James Audubon who was an important
influence on the Gentlings' bird painting style and
whose work has always been extremely ~~interest~~ popular
in Japan because of its many stylistic affinities to
Japanese ~~natural~~ bird painting. (See illustration)

As a result of Japan's increasing participation
in international affairs, there has been a growing
interest among the Japanese in the cultural histories
of new world peoples, especially the high cultures
of pre-colonial Mexico. The Gentlings are currently
working on a massive ^{new publication} project to reconstruct in words
and pictures the ancient Aztec capital city of Tenochtitlan
as it may have appeared to the first Europeans. The
cultural repercussions of European contact with indigenous
American peoples is of ^{major} interest to many Japanese. The
models and paintings created by the Gentlings
in the course of their studies form a body

Intensely
Intensely

of work apparently without precedent or parallel in contemporary American art and has attracted the notice of the highest echelon of the Mexican Government. In fact the Gentlings have been asked by Jorge Alberto Jozoya ^{Mexican Embassy Secretary for Foreign Relations} to participate with Mexico by showing their Aztec paintings at a forthcoming ~~and~~ exhibition in Madrid's new Museo de America organized by the King of Spain. The Gentlings have also been invited by the Dallas Museum of Art to show their Aztec works at the opening of their new 30,000,000 Hammon ~~and~~ "Art of the Americas" wing in 1993.

In 1989 Stuart Gentling was a guest of the Government of Nepal and ^{the} World Wildlife Fund and traveled throughout ~~that~~ ^{Nepal} Country on an Asian Rhino Study and Capture program. He produced a poster to commemorate the project, painted in the style of Indian and Nepali miniatures. This cross-cultural poster has proved so popular not ~~in~~ just in this Country but also in Nepal - that copies of it hang in government offices throughout that Country and even in the National Palace.

Stuart Gentling also serves as Board member to the Fort Worth Zoological Association and was also in Africa in 1989 to oversee the capture of Black Rhinos for an international Rhino breeding program.

Nathan Gentling has traveled to Japan except as a stop over on tightly scheduled trips to Nepal and India and so they would

very much like to ~~stand~~ see some of the Country. Their older brother Dr. Peter Bentley, a Surgeon in Asheville N. Carolina, is a garden enthusiast who has traveled extensively in Japan studying Gardens there. He is currently working on a book ^{about} ~~an~~ adoption, Japanese esthetics and Gardening techniques to American Gardens environment. The Bentleys twins and their sister Suzanne are providing illustrations for their forthcoming book.

Although their interests ^{do} range far and wide, the subject matter of their most personal work - Their drybrush watercolors of still life, ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~scapes~~ ^{scapes} and portraits - is primarily that of the ^{Fort Worth and} ~~Southwest~~ Texas and the Southwest. They are very much Texas artists, and yet ^{they} ~~they~~ reflect ~~very~~ well the growing international and cross-cultural ~~awareness~~ ^{so many} influences that are affecting artists today.

The Bentleys have suggest four topics for lectures, ~~two of which~~ Each lecture could be accompanied by slide presentation and two of the lectures could be accompanied by a small exhibition of art works.

1) The place of realism in Contemporary American Art.

2) "Of Birds and Trees", ~~The Creation~~
A Contemporary Elephant fold and its ^{known} relationship to J. J. Audubon and 19th Century ^{Nature writing} ~~bird~~ ^{bird} paintings.

- 3) Tenochtitlan - ^{the Aztecs} A great new world city on the eve of European Contact.
- 4) A discussion of the great Imperial Gardens of Aztec Mexico, their form and purpose.

In 1987 the Kimbell Art Museum asked ^{Takayama} the Gentlings to assist them in making Dr. Okochi Sadao and Rona Castile of Japan House feel welcomed to Fort Worth, ^{when the exhibit of No Roses and Mushrooms from the Tokagawa Museum} and in 1987 the Gentlings Gallery hosted ^{at the request of the U.S. State Department} a reception for Japanese Art Critics then touring the United States.

In 1977 the Kimbell Art Museum asked the Gentlings to assist them in making Dr. Okochi Sadao of the Tokagawa Museum and Rona Castile of Japan House feel welcome to Fort Worth when the exhibition of No Roses and Mushrooms from the Tokagawa Museum opened here. ^{Also in 1987} The Gentlings ~~also~~ hosted at the request of the U.S. State Department a small reception at their art gallery for Japanese Art Critics then touring the United States, ~~in 1987~~.

Travel Expenses for two. ^{If that is not feasible then send money will} represent the Gentlings Exhibition Expenses (Shipping, handling, insurance, technical assistance for slide presentation).

Jim Ingersoll's Jalin will be set aside for gifts to Institution in appreciation.

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