

## Biography - John Jude Palencar - Artist & Illustrator

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Artist and Illustrator, John Jude Palencar is a rarity among modern artists, mixing meticulous technique reminiscent of the old masters with a soaring, darkly surreal imagination. There are touches of Bosch and Da Vinci in his visual allegories of nether-world landscapes and doomed characters

For more than forty five years he has created book covers and received honors for his contributions to the field of illustration including Gold and Silver Medals from the Society of Illustrators - (NYC), Gold & Silver Book Awards from Spectrum as well as their "Grand Master Award", and six Chesley Awards from the Association of Science Fiction and Fantasy Artists (ASFA) including their Lifetime Achievement Award presented in Yokohama, Japan.

His paintings have appeared on hundreds of book covers in over thirty countries for such renowned authors as H. P. Lovecraft, Ursula LeGuin, Marion Zimmer Bradley, P.D. James, Charles deLint, Octavia Butler, David Brin, R. L. Stine, George R.R. Martin, J.R.R. Tolkein and Stephen King to name a few. His cover paintings for the "Inheritance Cycle", by Christopher Paolini, have appeared on the New York Times Best Seller List. (Paolini named Eragon's birthplace "Palencar Valley", after John.)

He has also created illustrations for Time Magazine, Smithsonian Magazine, National Geographic Magazine and Nat. Geo. Television. Lucas Arts, Paramount Pictures, Vivendi Universal and many others.

As a painter, John has been the artist-in-residence at the Cill Rialaig Artist Retreat Village in County Kerry, Ireland, where his personal paintings were included in a special group exhibition entitled, "Images of Ireland" held at the National Museum in Dublin. He has exhibited in numerous group and solo exhibitions throughout the U.S.. Palencar has also been a "visiting artist" and lecturer at several colleges and universities.

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In 2010 John was the recipient of the prestigious Hamilton King Award presented to him by the Society of Illustrators in New York City. As an artist he received first place in the Figure/ Portrait category in the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Artist Magazine International Competition. He has been awarded The NSPCA Award, The Robert Sanstrom Gold Medal, Judy & Elias Memorial Award, The Louise C. Nemeth Memorial Award, The John J Newman Medal, The Mark Freeman Memorial Award all from the National Society of Painters in Casein & Acrylic. He was recently the recipient of the Gold Medal of Honor awarded by The American Watercolor Society's 153rd International Juried Exhibiton. This year, Palencar was awarded First Place in the Butler Institute of American Art 86th Annual Midyear Juried Exhibition. He also received the Allied Artists of America Award in the same exhibition (76th). Additionally he has exhibited at colleges, galleries and museums throughout U.S. and abroad.

Recently he has had several appearances on the Travel and Discovery Channels (Expedition Unknown with Josh Gates) in regard to a treasure book project (The Secret- A Treasue Hunt) that featured his paintings. A project he started with a book publisher in his last year at the Columbus College of Art & Design (BFA). Out of print, and more than forty years later, it went "viral" and now has a cult following.

His hybrid approach to art - being both an illustrator and fine artist is a testament to the strength and acceptance of his work by a wide audience of clients, collectors and the general public.

"Origins - The Art of John Jude Palencar", published by Underwood Books is a sumptuous tribute and collection of his book covers and selected personal works.

#### Visiting Artist:

Cleveland Institute of Art, Cleveland, Ohio  
Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia.  
Kendall School of Art, Grand Rapids, Michigan  
Laguna College of Art and Design, Laguna Beach, California  
University of the Arts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Community College of Balitmore County, Catonsville, Maryland  
Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, Ohio  
University of Hartford\*\* - Hartford Art School, Hartford, Connecticut  
(\*Koopman Distinguished Visiting Chair in the Visual Arts 2021-2022)  
Artist in Residence, Cill Rialaig Art Project, Ballinskelligs, County Kerry,  
Ireland

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Select Exhibitions, Gallery and Museum Affiliations:

The American Watercolor Society, New York, New York  
The National Watercolor Society, San Pedro, California  
Kenosha Public Museum, Kenosha, Wisconsin  
The Columbus Museum of Art (CCAD), Columbus, Ohio  
Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio  
Cill Rialaig Center, Ballinskelligs, County Kerry, Ireland  
The National Museum, Collins Barracks, Dublin, Ireland  
Art Hamptons/ (RJD Gallery - Sag Harbor, New York)  
Allentown Museum of Art, Allentown, Pennsylvania  
American Museum of Illustration, New York, New York  
The Society of Illustrators, New York, New York  
Arcadia Gallery (Contemporary), New York, New York  
Master Eagle Gallery, New York, New York  
Jonathan Levine Gallery, New York/ Brooklyn, New York  
University of The Arts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Solo)  
Laguna College of Art & Design, Laguna Beach, California (Solo)  
Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire  
Community College of Baltimore, Catonsville, Maryland  
Firelands Association of the Visual Arts, Oberlin, Ohio  
Louisville Arts Association, Louisville, Kentucky  
Centro Cultural Recoleta, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Salmagundi Art Club (NSPCA) (AWS), New York, New York  
Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio  
University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi  
University of Hartford, Hartford, Connecticut (Solo/ 2 person belated)  
Roq La Rue Gallery, Seattle, Washington  
Gallery Nucleus, Los Angeles, California  
The Canton Museum of Art, Canton, Ohio (Solo)  
Rhode Island School of Design, Woods Gerry Gallery, Providence, Rhode Island  
Steel Case, Cleveland, Ohio  
Southwest General Hospital, Middleburg Heights, Ohio  
American Greetings, Cleveland, Ohio

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Select Corporate collections of:

Anheuser Busch  
Huffy Bicycle Company  
The National Geographic Society  
The Franklin Library  
Paramount Pictures  
Vivendi Universal  
Canton Museum of Art  
American Greetings Corporation  
Wells Enterprises  
Hallmark

In the select collections of:

Stephen King: Author, Producer.  
R.L. Stine: Author, Writer, Producer (Goosebumps)  
Carleton Varney: Designer, President, Dorothy Draper & Co.  
Noelle Campbell Sharp: Former Publisher/ Owner/ The Irish Tatler, Founder of the Cill Rialaig Artist Project.  
Jacqueline LeFrak - Daughter of Sam LeFrak, The LeFrak Organization  
Dean Lorey: Writer, Producer, Arrested Development television series and others  
Christopher Paolini: Author – The Inheritance Cycle (Eragon).  
Vin Diesel: Actor  
Robert Weiner, Publisher — Donald M Grant Books  
George R.R. Martin, Author, producer (“Song of Ice and Fire” AKA -“Game of Thrones)

Art exhibited at publishing/ trade conventions:

Attended as - “Artist Guest of Honor”\*\*:

World Fantasy Convention, Austin, Texas\*\*  
World Horror Convention, Salt Lake City, Utah\*\*  
NecronomiCon Convention, Providence, Rhode Island\*\*  
Balticon, Baltimore, Maryland\*\*  
NorwesCon, Seattle/ SeaTac, Washington\*\*  
ArmadilloCon, Austin, Texas\*\*  
Marcon, Columbus, Ohio\*\*