

About the Cover Artist

Diana Nicosia

Diana Nicosia maintains studios in Boston and Gulf Stream, Florida. For twenty years, she lived and painted in Tuscany. As an artist, she has realized significant distinction at the international level. Her work is currently included in museum collections in New York City, Sao Paulo, Kuwait City and the Vatican.

She was honored by the Trustees of Versailles to paint at Claude Monet's Giverny and by the government of Kuwait to paint and exhibit her series "Tides of War: The Oil Fires of Kuwait." She was invited to exhibit at the Gainsborough House in England and, with permission from the Vatican, to paint in the private Papal Gardens. She is the first artist to receive the Italian government's Terzo Mellenio Award in recognition of her "Vatican Images" exhibition.

Ms. Nicosia is a past trustee of the Foundation for Ethnobiology at the University of Oxford. She was invited to paint "the passionate drama of the evolving status of the jungle" by the Smithsonian Institution and the Brazilian Ambassador to London, Paulo Tarso Flecha de Lima. Her acclaimed series depicting the waste and destruction of the Brazilian rainforest was exhibited in Sao Paulo, London, Washington, D.C., and New York.

Her landscapes and coastline studies of the Mediterranean Sea capture the brilliant light and cobalt blue of Tuscany, Venice, Capri, and Monaco. Her evocative New York City series of 2004, "the Spirit of New York," addressed traditional landmarks and icons of the city in a new era of reflection and discovery.

In 2005, she launched a delightful, change-of-pace series of paintings to celebrate the Yankee legends of baseball, including Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio and Don Larsen. These paintings have been well-received and widely appreciated, especially by those with memories of "the Perfect Game." Most of the proceeds from this series benefit charity.

The family of Sir Winston Churchill invited Ms. Nicosia to paint on the grounds of Chartwell, Churchill's beloved country estate overlooking the Weald of Kent. Her newest series is inspired by the antique Roman frescoes of Livia Drusilla, wife of Emperor Augustus. Most recently, Ms. Nicosia has been invited to paint on the private grounds of a hunting estate in Siena, Italy, to capture the beauty of the Tuscan countryside.