

# Explore Guatemala with.....

## Betsy Dillard Stroud



One of the most fascinating women on the American art scene, **Betsy Dillard Stroud** leads this art workshop/tour in Guatemala; the hottest new global venue for painters.

Born Virginian, Betsy resides in Scottsdale, AZ. Her Eastern upbringing and the spirit of the West and Southwest infuse her

work. She states, "As a painter, color is my language, my brush is my voice, and my finished painting is my testimony." Betsy was educated at Stuart Hall Episcopal Girls School in Staunton, VA. She received her B.A. from Radford College and her M.A. in Art History from the University of Virginia. One of the most prolific writers, (her new book on creativity, *The Artist's Muse* will be hitting the bookstores soon) painters, and jurors in the country, Stroud is the winner of 22 awards, has had 22 one-woman exhibitions of her work, and has exhibited in over 140 invitational, joint, and competitive national and regional shows. A highly respected workshop teacher and juror since 1987, she has taught painting workshops throughout the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

This is your chance to learn, paint, and write with Betsy Dillard Stroud in one of the most scenic settings and best kept secrets in the art world today...Guatemala; a paradise for artists. This "land of eternal spring" once again calls artists, culture seekers, shoppers, and those who want to experience a beautiful and fascinating country where the ever colorful Maya practice their traditional customs and dress like their ancestors did hundreds of years ago. You'll fall in love with their calm, disarming nature. There are very few places left in the world where one can still witness the magic of traditional indigenous peoples.

There will be lots of time for visiting Maya markets and villages such as Chichicastenango and Comalapa; as well as opportunities for buying handicrafts and textiles known the world over for their beauty and quality.

Come participate in a creative feast for the heart and soul. Join Betsy on this adventure of a lifetime.

### Workshop Setting and Highlights...

#### Guatemala City...

Discover the beauty of the **Quinta Real** ([www.quintareal.com](http://www.quintareal.com)) overlooking the City and facing the colossal "Fuego" and "Aguacateles" volcanoes. Its feel and look is a resplendent blend of Guatemala and Mexican art and architecture.

#### Lake Atitlán and Villages...

Travel through the highlands of Guatemala with vistas of great mountain peaks, plateaus, and valleys. Lake Atitlán, "the most beautiful lake in the world", with its three towering volcanoes standing guard over azure waters and twelve Maya villages is truly inspirational. You will feel suspended in time as you watch a Mayan fisherman in his dugout *cayuco*, plying his trade as his ancestors have done for centuries. The color, the dramatic landscapes, the deeply entrenched Maya culture will create memories to last a lifetime. You will stay at the **Hotel Atitlán** ([www.hotelatitlan.com](http://www.hotelatitlan.com)) at the water's edge, surrounded by beautiful botanical gardens.

#### Chichicastenango...

The markets are the "crown jewel" of Guatemala, brimming with beautiful hand woven textiles and splendid works of art and craft in designs and techniques passed on from generation to generation. The Maya/Catholic rituals and open-air market of the world famous Chichicastenango, and the blazing colors of everyday dress will enthrall you. Here you will stroll the market and visit the churches of this unique Maya village.

#### Antigua...

In a verdant valley, surrounded by lofty volcanoes, the picturesque time-trapped city of Antigua will capture your heart. Antigua is considered one of the most beautiful towns in Central America. The romantic ambiance of its richly textured ruins, draped in vibrant bougainvillea, its peaceful parks, cobblestone streets, churches, monasteries, and colonial homes with courtyards provide artistic inspiration. You will stay at the most incredible **Hotel Casa Santo Domingo** ([www.casasantodomingo.com.gt](http://www.casasantodomingo.com.gt)) built from the ruins of a 16th century Monastery, where the sound of running water in the stone-carved fountains, candlelight throughout the hallways, and fresh flowers everywhere will simply take your breath away.

### To enroll...

Detach the registration form and send it with your deposit or full payment check (**class size limited**, date of registration request determines priority of space) made **payable to Explore Guatemala, L.L.C.** Upon enrollment, additional information will be provided to assist you in planning your trip. **Do not make airline arrangements until you have received confirmation of your reservation from Explore Guatemala.**

June 11 - 21, 2007

**Betsy Dillard Stroud Art Workshop/Tour**

Tel 210-599-7098 Fax 210-655-1451

e-mail: [exploreguatemala@idworld.net](mailto:exploreguatemala@idworld.net)

web site: [www.exploreguatemala.com](http://www.exploreguatemala.com)

P.O. BOX 17217, San Antonio, TX 78217

### Registration Request

Name you go by: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on your passport: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number – (**Current passport required**): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex: M/F \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical/dietary considerations: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am on my own but wish to share a room.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a smoker.

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer the single supplement charge.

Enclosed is check/money order

**payable to Explore Guatemala, L.L.C.**

Deposit: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or Total Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**X** \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicates you have read our Terms and Conditions – see web-site)

*Betsy Dillard Stroud*  
*Art Workshop/Tour in Guatemala*  
*June 11 - 21, 2007*



### Workshop/Tour June 11 - 21, 2007

**Mon 11th:** Fly into Guatemala City, overnight at Hotel Quinta Real, on a mountainside overlooking the city and volcanoes.

**Tues 12th:** We will travel to the village of Comalapa which has become an important center of *naïf* painting largely due to Andrés Curruchich, whose paintings are in galleries the world over. A wonderful Maya market here. Then, travel through the magnificent Guatemala highlands with spectacular vistas and scenes of the Maya in a world not too changed from hundreds of years ago. A welcome, overview of the workshop, and discussion of workshop goals with Betsy. (B,L,D)

**Wed 13th:** Wake up to majestic volcanoes and the lake. After breakfast, Betsy will give a short lecture on various painting approaches with a demo, and an assignment. Afterwards, there will be short writing assignments for those who wish to bring back a completed visual diary of the trip. The afternoon is free for painting on your own, individual instruction, exploring the nearby nature walk or go into the local village of Panajachel. (B,L,D)

**Thurs 14th:** Boat across Lake Atitlán, viewing beautifully terraced mountainsides and volcanoes, to the village of Santiago for an incredible cultural experience and a little shopping in the artists' colony. A Tz'utujil lunch at a private home (featured in Architectural Digest, Aug, 2002), built in the traditional style of Tz'utujil architecture will thrill you. Art upon return. (B,L,D)

**Fri 15th:** Another day for painting and sketching opportunities in the village of San Antonio *Palopo*, known for its wonderful ceramics and onion growing. Wine party to show off your work. (B,L,D)

**Sat 16th:** There will be on-sight instruction by Betsy today. Take a walk up the Nature Trail and to the Butterfly Farm, relax in the gardens of the hotel, paint, draw, photograph, swim, or go into the local village of Panajachel. (B,L,D)

**Sun 17th:** Travel to Chichicastenango and its world famous market. Colorful, exciting; a maelstrom of furious commerce and the best place in the country to buy textiles and handicrafts. The magic of the Maya and their religion is everywhere.

After lunch we travel to colonial Antigua. Feel the romantic ambiance of its flower-filled courtyards, its narrow cobbled streets, and Spanish architecture. (B,L,D)

**Mon 18th:** In Antigua, take time this morning to explore your hotel, full of opportunity for inspiration with its architecture, colonial artwork (magnificent treasures) and special details in every corner. It is an ongoing archeological excavation site of a 16<sup>th</sup> century Monastery with several "world class" museums. Betsy will be available for individual instruction or critique so find your spot and paint away. (B)

**Tues 19th:** This morning we will walk to a pre-selected site for some painting time. After lunch, join us on an Antigua ruins tour and private tour of the Jade Factory, museum and shop. (B)

**Wed 20th:** Free day. Our finale will be the recognition of our work together in the form of a group exhibition. Tonight we'll join for dinner, and reflection. This is an evening to celebrate our trip to Guatemala and share our experiences. (B)

**Thurs 21st:** Departures for home. (B)

### Accompanying your Workshop/Tour

**Anita Rogers** lived in Guatemala for 25 years, speaks Spanish, and was a collector of Maya weavings and Spanish Colonial antiques. She has been around the travel industry most of her life, as her family owns the beautiful Hotel Atitlán on Lake Atitlán in the Guatemala highlands. **John Korte** has traveled to Guatemala for the past 20 years. They understand local customs and business practices. They stay in the hotels, eat in the restaurants, and ride the transportation, personally experiencing every aspect of their workshop/tours. They know the "hidden treasures" as well as the little bits of information only the locals know. Their experience, relationships, and knowledge of the country allow them to provide a worry-free, life enriching travel adventure.

### Included in your Explore Guatemala Workshop:

- A superbly crafted travel experience to the most enchanting, magical land of the Maya...Guatemala.
- Travel and learn with award winning and renowned artist Betsy Dillard Stroud.
- 11 days, 10 nights at unique, luxury hotels with most meals included (per itinerary).
- Deluxe motor coaches and private boats viewing the most scenic and colorful venues...an artists paradise.
- Hotel baggage handling, driver, and meal service tips. All entrance fees, and excursions included in itinerary.

### NOT included:

- Airfare from your hometown to Guatemala City. Our flexible plan allows you to:

1. use your Frequent Flyer miles to obtain your own tickets
2. **or**, purchase your tickets through your own sources
3. **or**, go through our **discount ticketing** resource, eXito, a company that specializes in low-cost airfare to Latin America. Call Issac at 1-800-655-4053 ext. 8507 or 0 if not available. Tell him you are traveling with **Explore Guatemala – Betsy Dillard Stroud Group**.

Obviously, the sooner you make your reservation, the better the price and availability. Do not make airline arrangements until you have received confirmation of your reservation from Explore Guatemala.

### Terms:

Prices:

- **\$1995** Plus airfare (based on double occupancy).
- Single room supplement: **\$385**.
- **Reservation Deposit: \$500**

**RESERVE NOW – CLASS SIZE LIMITED**

- There will be a moderate amount of walking required •