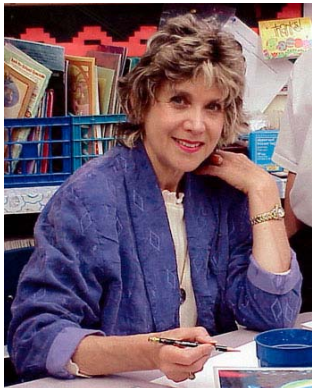


# Explore Guatemala with...

## Lesta Frank



I loved creating art as early as I can remember, and decided to become an artist at the age of five". A native of Texas, watercolorist **Lesta Frank** has an expressive style described as "intricately detailed, with a mystical touch." Her paintings of water gardens, cactus flowers, and Texas cowgirls are well-known throughout the

Southwest. Her original paintings are in permanent collections, have been exhibited at museums and in juried exhibitions, and are held by major hotels and private collectors throughout the United States.

Lesta's poster work has been published by MasterCard, commemorating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Alamo Bowl, the Cowgirl Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center and the Botanical Gardens in San Antonio, Texas. Lesta earned an M.F.A. from the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York, and a B.F.A. from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan. As an instructor, she is passionate in "encouraging and inspiring students along their painting journeys."

Come and paint Guatemala with well known San Antonio artist, Lesta Frank. Be inspired in the Spanish colonial town of Antigua where you'll wake up in a 16<sup>th</sup> century Monastery to the sounds of macaws and running water in the fountains and colorful bougainvillea everywhere. With its romantic surroundings, this town is considered one of the most beautiful in all of Central America. The venues here are endless. We'll paint in ruins left by the 30 Monastic orders that called Antigua home and built stunning monasteries, convents, and cathedrals in the town. The local markets, quiet courtyards with ornate gardens and the sights and sounds of colonial Spain permeate the atmosphere.

Travel through the magical highlands of Guatemala and paint on site with Lesta, overlooking Lake Atitlán (Aldous Huxley, famed English author called it "the most beautiful; lake in the world") with its three towering volcanoes and twelve Maya villages. Painters, photographers, textile or fiber artists, travelers, friends...all are invited to join in on this experience of a lifetime; the Maya markets, the villages, and the people will steal your heart forever. You will never want to leave.

### 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 "Agua" volcanoes. Its feel and look is a resplendent blend of Guatemalan 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 Maya 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 crafts in designs and techniques passed on from generation to generation. The Maya/Catholic rituals and open-air market of 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 16<sup>th</sup> century Monastery, where the sounds 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.**

**May 28 – June 7, 2007**

**Lesta Frank 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: \_\_\_\_\_



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

Lesta Frank  
Art Workshop/Tour in Guatemala  
May 28 – June 7, 2007



### Workshop/Tour May 28 – June 7, 2007

**Mon 28<sup>th</sup>:** Fly into Guatemala City, overnight at Hotel Quinta Real, on a mountainside overlooking the city and volcanoes.

**Tue 29<sup>th</sup>:** We will travel to the village of Comalapa which has become an important center of *naif* 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 Lesta. (B,L,D)

**Wed 30<sup>th</sup>:** Wake up to majestic volcanoes and the lake. After breakfast, Lesta will introduce you to her approach to plein aire drawing. Non-painters may visit the local town of Panajachel, or just sit by the pool with a good book. (B,L,D)

**Thu 31<sup>st</sup>:** 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 1<sup>st</sup>:** Today Lesta will do a demo and lecture then individual one on one sessions. Non-artists may hike the nature walk and visit the villages of *Santa Catarina* and *San Antonio Palopo*. (B,L,D)

**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Today, with a beautiful view of the lake with its distant backdrop of towering volcanoes will be a day of painting starting with a demo based on one of the sketches out of Lesta's sketchbook. You're free to do the same or use local subject matter at hand, with Lesta's individual guidance. Group Exhibition. (B,L,D)

**Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>:** 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 4<sup>th</sup>:** Today Lesta will instruct in the ruins of the Monastery. She will do a demo and then provide individual instruction. After lunch take a tour of the Casa Santo Domingo, 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. (B)

**Tue 5<sup>th</sup>:** This morning we will walk to a pre-selected site for some "street" painting. Non-artists will enjoy exploring this time-trapped colonial city surrounded by emerald volcanoes. (B)

**Wed 6<sup>th</sup>:** Today's focus will be colonial architecture. Non-artists may visit the market, local shops, and galleries which will keep you very busy or just relax around the pool and enjoy a pampering message. (B)

**Thu 7<sup>th</sup>:** 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 Lesta Frank.
- 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 tips, as well as 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 – Lesta Frank 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)
- **\$1795** For non- artists plus airfare (based on double occupancy)
- Single room supplement: **\$395**
- **Reservation Deposit: \$500**

**RESERVE NOW – CLASS SIZE LIMITED**

- There will be a moderate amount of walking required •