Professor Martin Giesen has taught in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Canada, and since 1997 in the UAE, where he was founding dean of the School of Architecture & Design at American University of Sharjah. For some 35 years, Giesen has produced and exhibited watercolor paintings documenting the impact of development on the environment. His paintings produced in Lebanon during the years of the civil war received critical acclaim. His work has been shown in solo exhibits in Lebanon, Germany, Canada and the UAE. David Tannous, Washington corresponding editor for Art in America, called Giesen a “contemporary orientalist.”

Wetter than Water, Lighter than Air is a three-hour watercolor demonstration session. The aim is to show how to paint water and skies convincingly. We will lay flat and gradated washes, work wet on wet and dry on dry. Watercolor on paper is supposed to look spontaneous, but paint takes time to dry and wetness control is key in this medium. Participants who want to try their own hand at this will need to bring (stretched) paper on board, paint, brushes and masking fluid. Supplies can be found for sale at the AUS bookstore. Observants are welcome to register as the event will prove to be valuable exposure.

cost is $50.00 • contact Brian Dougan, bdougan@aus.edu to register