

NEWSLETTER

Garden in Russell, by Shirley Van Dusen



71st OWS JURIED EXHIBITION "THE MAGIC OF WATERCOLOUR"

by Rick Sobkowicz



The Ottawa Watercolour Society held its 71st juried show, "The Magic of Watercolour", at the Trinity Art Gallery in the Shenkman Arts Centre on May 24.

A record number of watercolour paintings—75—were submitted for jury selection. Five jurors, including two from outside the Society, had the difficult task of deciding which paintings would be displayed; the jurors voted "in secret", insofar as they did not see what score the other jurors gave to each painting. In the end, thirty-four paintings were selected by the

jurors. Betty Sullivan, our exhibitions chairperson, did an excellent job of coordinating everything with a very difficult timeline and tried to fit as many paintings into the exhibition as possible.

We would like to thank everyone who brought paintings for the jury's consideration. Members' participation is important, as it gives the public a wider selection of art to view, enjoy, and vote on. We look forward to a continued high level of participation, and we take pride in the end result. If you have not seen the exhibition, we hope you might find the time to drop into the Shenkman Arts Centre to view what is on display. The exhibition showcases many different styles of watercolour painting and subject matter. And don't forget to cast a vote for your favourite painting!

Our sincere thanks go to Betty Sullivan and her numerous volunteers for making this event happen; to Janet Duggan and her volunteers for looking after refreshments at the vernissage; to our five jurors; and to the City of Ottawa officials who voted on the OWS members' artwork, which Pauline Goss submitted earlier and which ultimately secured us the gallery space we have.

The show runs until June 23, so there is still time to visit. The Shenkman Arts Centre is located at 245 Centrum Boulevard in Ottawa. There is parking in the front and the back of the centre. For a map for the centre, go to http://www.mapquest.ca/ #a85460f762714d3b6c6f06f1.

71st OWS JURIED EXHIBITION "THE MAGIC OF WATERCOLOUR" (Cont'd)



Top Choice Award
"After the Storm", by Alain Godbout

President's Award "Afternoon", by Tong Li Judge's Choice Award (Mary Nunn)





Morton Baslaw Award "Storm Brewing", by Shirley Hickey

71st OWS JURIED EXHIBITION "THE MAGIC OF WATERCOLOUR" (Cont'd)



Judge's Choice Award (Pat Smith) "Tulips", by Meenu Bauri

Judge's Choice Award (Crystal Beshara) "Shades of Green", by Pauline Goss





Judge's Choice Award (David Kearn)
"Fur Hat", by Sally Jackson

71st OWS JURIED EXHIBITION "THE MAGIC OF WATERCOLOUR" (Cont'd)

Judge's Choice Award (Renate Hulley) "An Arabian", by Brian Seed







Setting up the exhibition at the Shenkman Arts Centre

YOUNG AT ART EXHIBITION

by Rick Sobkowicz



I would like to share with you our Society's recent involvement with the Young at Art program organized by the City of Ottawa. This is a "juried art exhibition that brings the work of young visual artists to local art galleries across the City of Ottawa."

The exhibition is held annually at three locations throughout the city of Ottawa: Ottawa West, Ottawa Central, and Ottawa East. The program is coordinated through the school system and students are invited to participate. The artwork can be in any medium, and this includes photographic work and work in 3D.

This year over 300 young artists participated. The works selected are exhibited in the district where the students' schools are located: (1) Kanata Civic Art Gallery in the John Mlacak Centre at 2500 Campeau Drive; (2) Shenkman Arts Centre – Trinity Art Gallery, 245 Centrum Boulevard, Shenkman Arts Centre, Lower Level; and (3) Atrium Gallery and Nepean Fine Arts League Gallery, 101 Centrepointe Drive. If you want to know more, go to http://ottawa.ca/en/ottawa.ca/liveculture/young-at-art.

The Ottawa Watercolour Society is involved as one of a number of sponsors, and I was the judge for the watercolour entries, which were divided into two classes: a junior class and a senior class. To encourage and reward participation, I decided I would select a "winner" in both the junior and senior classes at each exhibition location. Unfortunately, there were no watercolour artworks in the exhibition in Ottawa West. There were a few watercolour works at the remaining two locations, and you can see the winning paintings on the next page. There were a lot of impressive works in the other art classes.

My wife Margaret and I went to the Young at Art awards ceremony held at City Hall on May 13. I was honoured to represent the OWS and to present the OWS Certificates of Achievement, along with an invitation to the four watercolour winners to apply for a two-year free membership in the OWS.

YOUNG AT ART EXHIBITION (Cont'd)



'Untitled' by Isaac MacDonald, Watercolour, JR, Ward 3, John McCrae Secondary School, Young at Art Exhibition at Atrium Gallery and Nepean Fine Arts League Gallery, April 2015



'Storm Glider' by Huibo Sun, Watercolour, SR, Ward 3, University of Ottawa, Young at Art Exhibition at Atrium Gallery and Nepean Fine Arts League Gallery, April 2015



'Nature's Birds' by Bill Zhang, Watercolour, JR, Ward 14, Lisgar Collegiate, Young at Art Exhibition at Shenkman Arts Centre, April 2015



'Apollo and Drana' by Sadaf Shahid, Watercolour and ink, SR Ward 1, Cairine Wilson SS, Young at Art Exhibition at Shenkman Arts Centre, April 2015



Example of an OWS Certificate of Achievement given to each winner

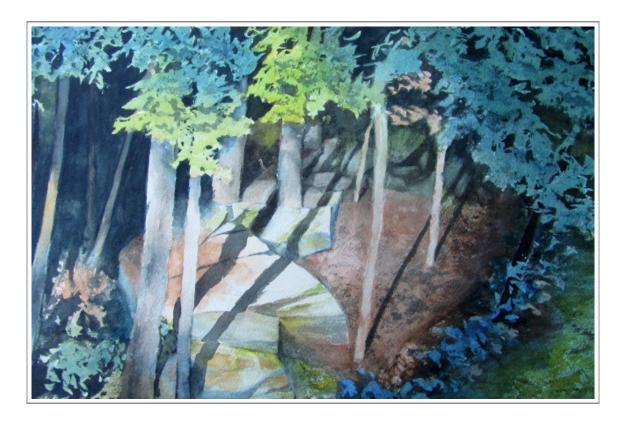
YOUNG AT ART EXHIBITION (Cont'd)

This was a special evening for the winners, almost like a mini Oscar night! Mayor Watson was in attendance, along with three city councillors, to hand out City of Ottawa Awards. Each City of Ottawa Award winner had photographs taken with the mayor and the three councillors, as well as with each of the sponsors. One of my selected winners, a 14-14-year-oldyear-old boy, showed up with his parents and six of his siblings. Everyone was so proud of Isaac's accomplishment. It was just wonderful to see this evening through the eyes of our young artists and to share in their excitement and pride.

I am proud that we participated and would like to see the Society continue to support the Young at Art program. I hope we will continue to send a member of our executive to personally congratulate our young winners. Who knows how such a small gesture on our part can make a difference in the lives of our young artists? This was a great experience for all involved.

OWS MEMBER IN CANADIAN SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATERCOLOUR (SCPWC) EXHIBITION

Pat Smith's painting "Good Morning Sun" has been selected for the CSPWC Watermark Regional Exhibition in Owen Sound, Ontario, from May 23 to June 20, 2015.



AYLMER ARTS COUNCIL CELEBRATES 60 YEARS IN THE COMMUNITY

With contributions from Diane Groulx and the Aylmer Arts Council

The Aylmer Arts Council was born in 1955 when the late Marjorie Fortey (nee Lusk), an intrepid artist, opened her doors to other artists in the area. Suddenly, a world of possibilities was opened to women on a quest for creativity. Their meetings, workshops, and other adventures made headlines. This year the Aylmer Arts Council (AAC) is celebrating 60 years in the community. As a non-profit organization, AAC is dedicated to the promotion of visual arts and culture in the city of Gatineau and surrounding areas.

In 1964, under the direction of Robert Hyndman, portrait artist and renowned professor, the Association of Aylmer and Surrounding Areas was founded. At the time, the Association had six committees, each with its own director: music, painting, theatre, dance, literature, and fine crafts. Joan Wright was the first president of the association, and courses were offered to both adults and children in the community.

In 1964, A.Y. Jackson, of the Group of Seven, hosted the first Arts Festival held at Aylmer's City Hall. In the years that followed, other important figures in the arts, such as Henri Masson, Arthur Price, and Michael Pantazzi, were involved in various association shows.

On May 25 of this year, our very own OWS member Shirley Van Dusen, one of the cofounders of the Aylmer Arts Council, was the guest of honour at the spring show. The occasion called for food, wine, and cake, followed by live music and plenty of reminiscing—it



was a memorable evening. Shirley came with her daughter Tina, and old friends and Aylmer neighbours of the Van Dusen family were also there to celebrate, along with a few Gatineau municipal councillors and other dignitaries.

Shirley Van Dusen and Diane Groulx

June 2015 **Ottawa Watercolour Society**

AYLMER ARTS COUNCIL CELEBRATES 60 YEARS IN THE COMMUNITY (Cont'd)

Shirley spoke about her memories of Aylmer and of how happy she is to see that art is still going strong in the community after 60 years. She asked that we not forget her invitation for the council's 70th birthday, since she will only be 99! Shirley still has her funny bone, and we love her for all the energy and beauty she exudes. Thank you, Shirley.

Many women reach a point in their lives when they have to de-cide between pursuing a career

cide between pursuing a career or getting married and pursuing children.

Most are unable to resist the prodding of the natural instinct, and take up the latter pursuit, abandoning burgeoning profes-

sions.
Several who opt for mother-hood, however, are able to give forsaken talents second cracks when their families are finally able to fend for themselves.

A fraternal cluster of Ottawa-bower recently re-

A fraternal cluster of Ottawaarea women have recently returned to a hobby-profession
they have neglected for years.

The housewife-artists; for
them, a good painting day overrules cleaning day.

Their paths cross frequently,
at the Ottawa Municipal Arts
Centre, painting exhibitions, and
preferred painting sites.

Marj Fortey of Lucerne, Shirley Van Dusen of Aylmer, and
Cecile Loubert of 111 Beaver
Ridge are three women who
have returned to painting almost
full-time after long stints as
child pursuers.

At least three times a week,
they head for the hills—the Gati-

they head for the hills—the Gati-neau Hills, which the women re-fer to as a painter's paradise—in search of outdoor scenes they

judge worthy of transferring to

canvas.

Mrs. Fortey and Mrs. Van Dusen attend figure painting workshops at the Municipal Arts Centre vivice a week, and Mrs. Loubert attends an art class.

A couple of evenings a week, they're off hanging paintings in exhibitions or picking paintings up that have already been displayed.

played.

Mrs. Fortey and Mrs. Van Du-

Mrs. Fortey and Mrs. Van Dusen also paint portraits on commission which takes up another
chunk of housework time.

Mrs. Fortey is a graduate of
the Ontario College of Art and
the mother of three children,
only one of whom still lives at
home.

One of the original founders
of the Avimer-Fuserne Arts

One of the original founders of the Aylmer-Lucerne Arts Council, in existence for seven years, Mrs. Fortey gave up painting for 15 years while she was raising her family.

The only painting she did during the interval was at a onceweekly art class given in Aylmer by nationally known artist Robert Hunding.

by hatohany known artest rootert Hyndman.

Mrs. Fortey said that the only way to paint and keep up hous-wifery was to compile a list of daily duties and follow it strictly.



INTRODUCING ARTIST SHIRLEY VAN DUSEN

by Elizabeth Hogan



Upon arriving at Shirley Van Dusen's home in downtown Ottawa, one is struck first by her warm welcome and then by the amount of art on the walls—most of it paintings by Shirley herself, but other artists can be found here and there as well. Later, as she shows me her studio, Shirley tells me, with a twinkle in her eye and her tongue firmly planted in her cheek, that "Genius tolerates disorder".

Shirley has travelled and painted extensively in the Ottawa area and in the Maritimes, as well as in more far-flung places like Switzerland, France, Ireland, Greece, England, Mexico, and the Caribbean—always carrying her watercolours and her sketch book.

"When my children were in school", Shirley says, "I went out with other artists and we painted almost every day." Shirley looks for something that catches her eye, that evokes a particular mood. "Light is important", she says; "Canada is known for its rosy hue, but Venice is magical at night."

Flowers on St. Kitt's, 1987



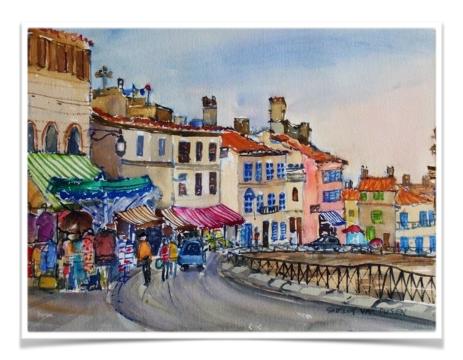
INTRODUCING ARTIST SHIRLEY VAN DUSEN (Cont'd)

Shirley Van Dusen was eight years old when she began taking art instruction at what is now the Museum of Nature on Metcalfe Street in Ottawa and what was then the location of the National Gallery. In her early years, Shirley wanted to work in the fashion industry, and after attending the Ontario College of Art in Toronto, she began work at the



A.J. Freiman department store in Ottawa as a fashion artist. She worked for several years as a commercial artist and studied portraiture with Robert Hyndman, a distinguished Canadian landscape and portrait painter, and went on to further those studies in New York.

Mykonos, September 1990



Arles, 1992

INTRODUCING ARTIST SHIRLEY VAN DUSEN (Cont'd)

Shirley especially loves painting portraits; as she interacts with the person being painted, she

enjoys getting to know them and letting that knowledge filter through in her paintings.

In 2010 Shirley was included among 25 artists across Canada who were invited to present a portfolio of their work with the opportunity to paint a portrait of the Queen. Although she was not chosen, Shirley was particularly proud to have taken part in the process: "It was quite an honour", she says.

Shirley has also painted the children of former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Mila Mulroney, the son and daughter-in-law of former Governor General Jeanne Sauve, and former Speaker of the House of Commons, John Bosley, among others.



The Party Dress, 2005



Mulroney children, 1988

INTRODUCING ARTIST SHIRLEY VAN DUSEN (Cont'd)

The Parliament Buildings in Ottawa held a particular fascination for Shirley. "I looked at them over and over again in the evening when I went to pick up my husband, who worked on the Hill." While waiting in the car, Shirley began to paint these iconic buildings, portraying them in winter and in summer. These paintings are now in the collections of former Prime Ministers and in the corporate collections of Sony, the Royal Bank, and the Bank of Canada.



West Gate,
Parliament Hill, 2009

A founding and life member of the Aylmer Arts Council in 1955, Shirley was recently feted at the 60th anniversary of the council's founding (see previous article). She was a founding member of the Russell Artists' Co-op in 1985 and is a co-founder, Fellow, and life member of the Ottawa Watercolour Society.

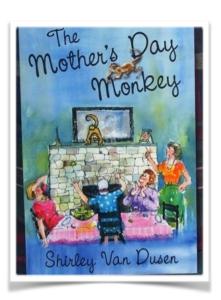
For 30 years, Shirley was a member of the Agnes Art Lending—Agnes Etherington Gallery at Queen's University in Kingston. She has taught children's art and holds a teacher's certificate in the adult division of the Ottawa Board of Education, and she was also a member of the teaching staff of the Ottawa School of Art from 1979 to 1983.

INTRODUCING ARTIST SHIRLEY VAN DUSEN (Cont'd)

In 2010, Shirley wrote and illustrated a book of stories, titled "The Mother's Day Monkey", a humorous look at her life with her husband Tom and seven children, with a menagerie of animals rounding out the colourful cast.

The book also brings to life memories of painting in the Byward Market and on travels to Greece. (Shirley has copies for sale if anyone is interested. I can recommend it—it made me laugh out loud!)

Shirley continues to paint at her home by the Rideau Canal. "Painting is an obsession", Shirley says. "I have to do it." Her work is in private and corporate collections in Canada and around the world.



INTERNATIONAL WATERCOLOUR SOCIETY IN CANADA



Calling all Canadian Watercolour Artists

Did you know that the International Watercolour Society has a branch here in Canada? At least two OWS members are also members of the IWS—Adriana Saba and Alain Godbout. The goal of the IWS is to promote universal peace and love through art, and to promote the medium of watercolour. For more information about the IWS, please visit their new website:

<u>www.internationalwatercolor.com</u>. The e-mail for the Canadian branch is: <u>iwscanada@gmail.com</u>.

"The Red Socks", Adriana Saba

OWS RESULTS AT THE OTTAWA ORCHID SOCIETY'S 34TH ANNUAL SHOW by Rick Sobkowicz

The Ottawa Orchid Society hosted its 34th annual show in April at the Nepean Sportsplex. There were many beautiful artworks on display, and the Ottawa Watercolour Society was well represented. Pauline Goss won a 1st place ribbon for her watercolour painting, "Vanda Beauty", in the Watercolour Class, and this same painting won a Show Rosette for the Best Artwork in the Fine Art Category. Danielle Beaulieu won a 2nd place ribbon in the Watercolour Class with her painting, "Strand of Blue Orchid". Congratulations to both Pauline and Danielle for their success. It was also nice to see the artwork of the other OWS members who participated and helped with the show. Great work and well done, OWS!



"Vanda Beauty", by Pauline Goss

1st Place winner in Watercolour Class,
Rosette Winner, Best in Fine Art Category

"Strand of Blue Orchid", by Danielle Beaulieu 2nd Place winner in Watercolour Class



EXHIBITION AT THE WALTER BAKER SPORTS CENTRE GALLERY (WBSCG)

by Rick Sobkowicz

The Ottawa Watercolour Society has just concluded a wonderful display of watercolour works by OWS members at the Walter Baker Sports Centre Gallery (WBSCG). This exhibit ran from March 28 to May 30, 2015. The artwork ranged from delightful works with a serendipitous air that brought a smile to the viewer, to works that were stunning for their bright and strong colours and composition. Five OWS members participated, with a showing of 15 paintings. Due to the unanticipated shortfall of paintings available for hanging, the members participating were invited to hang more than two paintings. The members participating were Dhanashri Bapat, Barbara Brintnell, Alain Godbout, Pauline Goss, and Renate Hulley.

Members' participation at the Walter Baker Sports Centre Gallery is important. There are limited City of Ottawa public places that can serve as venues for displaying art, and the demand for space exceeds what space is available. We are lucky to have the location we do, as we could be on a waiting list for public space. However, to keep this space, it is important for the OWS to fill the wall space provided. Your continued participation is very important and very much appreciated.

The current exhibit runs until August 2, 2015. Eight OWS members are participating. They are Jane Barlow, Meenu Bauri, Barbara Brintnell, Alain Godbout, Pauline Goss, Renate Hulley, Isaac MacDonald (our newest and youngest member!), and, Richard Sobkowicz. The display covers a range of styles and subject matter and reflects very well on the Society and our members' artistic abilities. There were many fine paintings that could not be exhibited at the Shenkman Arts Centre and we had hoped that some of these works would be brought for this showing. For reasons unknown, very few of these paintings were brought to the WBSCG.

If you live in the west end of Ottawa or will be passing through or near Barrhaven, we do hope you find a few minutes to view the exhibition. The gallery is located on the second floor in a corridor linking the Walter Baker Sports Centre with John McCrae Secondary School. There is another art society exhibiting very close to where we are located and you can view what other artists are doing in other media, including watercolour.

Many thanks to our participants, and thank you Pauline and Brent Goss for your work in organizing and putting up this exhibit.

The Walter Baker Sports Centre is located at 100 Malvern Drive in Nepean.

EXHIBITION AT THE WALTER BAKER SPORTS CENTRE GALLERY (WBSCG) (Cont'd)

Photos from the March 28 to May 30, 2015 exhibition:

Exhibition by Ottawa Watercolour Society at Walter Baker Sports Center from March 28 to May 30, 2015







Above, from left: 'Pat the Frog' by Alain Godbout; 'Playful Flowers' by Pauline Goss; and, 'Waterlily Pond' by Dhanashri Bapat.







Above, from left: 'Happy Poppies' by Pauline Goss; 'Fall in Charlebois' by Renate Hulley; and, 'Say It With Flowers' by Barbara Brintnell.







Above, from left: 'The Flower Box' by Pauline Goss; 'Thirsty Flowers' by Barbara Brintnell; and. 'Floating Reflections' by Dhanashri Bapat.







Above, from left: 'Zinnias in My Garden' by Pauline Goss; 'Aylmer Road' by Alain Godbout; and, 'Sunset Islands' by Dhanashri Bapat.

EXHIBITION AT THE WALTER BAKER SPORTS CENTRE GALLERY (WBSCG) (Cont'd)

Photos from the March 28 to May 30, 2015 exhibition:



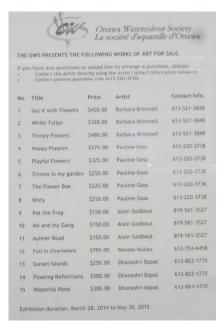




Above, from left: 'White Tulips' by Barbara Brintnell; 'Me and My Gang' by Alain Godbout; and, 'Misty' by Pauline Goss.

Exhibitors:

Dhanashri Bapat Barbara Brintnell Alain Godbout Pauline Goss Renate Hulley



EXHIBITION AT THE WALTER BAKER SPORTS CENTRE GALLERY (WBSCG) (Cont'd)

Exhibition by OttawaWatercolour Society at Walter Baker Sports Center from May 30 to August 2, 2015





Above from left: 'Monuments of the Artic', watercolour (18"x24") painted by Renate Hulley; and, 'Hidden Valley Farm', watercolour (40"x32") painted by Barbara Brintnell.





Above from left: 'Glacier with Zodiac', watercolour (18"x24") painted by Renate Hulley; and, 'Sugar Shack in Fall', watercolour (40"x32") painted by Barbara Brintnell.





Above from left: 'Orange Plush Slipper', watercolour (8"x10"), painted by Richard Sobkowicz; and, 'Paphiopedilum superbiens', watercolour (10"x8"), painted by Richard Sobkowicz

EXHIBITION AT THE WALTER BAKER SPORTS CENTRE GALLERY (WBSCG) (Cont'd)





Above from left: 'Life Lines', watercolour (15"x20"), painted by Jane Barlow; and, 'Autumn Splendour', watercolour (17"x13" framed), painted by Pauline Goss.





Above from left: 'Me and My Gang', watercolour painted by Alain J. Godbout; and, watercolour painting by Meenu Bauri (no further details available at this time).





Above from left: Untitled watercolour by Isaac MacDonald; and, 'Pat the Frog', watercolour by Alain J. Godbout.

EXHIBITION AT THE WALTER BAKER SPORTS CENTRE GALLERY (WBSCG) (Cont'd)





Above from left: 'Sunset at Prince Leopold', watercolour (22"x30"), painted by Renate Hulley; and, watercolour painting by Meenu Bauri (no further details available at this time).





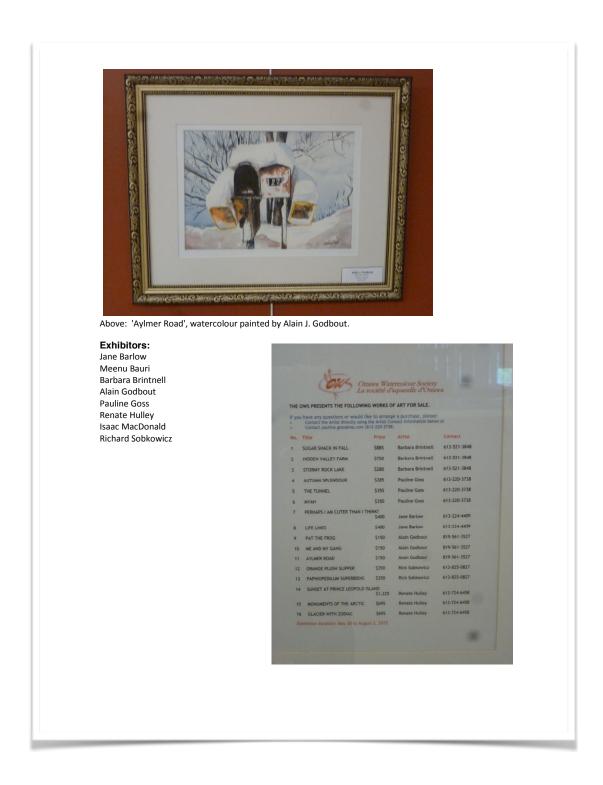
Above from left: 'The Tunnel', watercolour (20"x28" framed), painted by Pauline Goss; and, 'Perhaps I Am Cuter Than You Think', watercolour (15"x20"), painted by Jane Barlow.





Above from left: 'Stormy Rock Lake', watercolour (17"x25" framed), painted by Barbara Brintnell; and, 'Myah', watercolour (16"x21" framed), painted by Pauline Goss.

EXHIBITION AT THE WALTER BAKER SPORTS CENTRE GALLERY (WBSCG) (Cont'd)



WORKSHOP WITH MARY NUNN

by Jane Barlow

Mary Nunn, a well-known watercolour artist, teacher, and Fellow of the OWS, met with members of the Ottawa Watercolour Society at Wallack's downtown to share with us her passion for matters related to colour. Mary's watercolours clearly demonstrate her understanding of how colour sets the mood and conveys a message, whether it is quiet and subdued or vibrant and spirited. She surrounded us with her "hundreds" of colourful scarves —which she continues to acquire, much to her husband lan's chagrin—and enveloped us in her love for the patterns and the play of hues as they sit against each other. We saw how neutrals by their quiet nature allow others to shine, such as Payne's grey next to burnt sienna, and how even just slightly warmer shades will make others become cooler when lying alongside them.

Each artist tends towards their own unique palette, an aspect that ultimately contributes to their own style and recognizability, but stepping out of one's own comfort zone of colours can be a path to adventure and creative change. Mary shared with us her own playful exercises, such as exploring the effects of various undertones previously applied and painted over; the effects of granulating paints; painting the darks first for the lighter tones to relate to and vice versa; charging a colour into a wet area; painting on tissue paper; using an opaque to stop another transparent colour from running into a wet area; painting over an old painting to provide surprise elements of colour where it is not expected; and scrubbing off using a sponge and a stencil. She encouraged each of us to consider designing our own personal flag and to explore shapes—what colour would you choose, and what would this help you learn about yourself?

Finally, we all played, using paint and paper provided to create monoprints by applying thick paint to plastic sheets and pressing this onto wet paper. QoR (http://www.qorcolors.com) provided samples of their new line of paints, which were handed out to all who attended, and Jane Andersen was the lucky winner of a set of paints from QoR as the door prize.

Many thanks to Mary for a thoroughly enjoyable morning.

COLOUR MATTERS

by Mary Nunn

During a recent OWS event we discussed the colours we used most often: ultramarine blue and burnt sienna were at the top of the list. I love colour and how it moves and changes, especially in watercolour. Below is an example of some of the test sheets I created.



These samples were done on 140 lb Arches paper. I used the haloing technique for blending colours. Winsor & Newton is on the right—soft, beautiful transitions are apparent. On the left is the QoR watercolour by Golden. Notice the erratic behaviour on the wet surface.

Watercolour is unique in many ways. A watercolour artist deals with staining and non-staining pigments, spreading, bleeding, granulation, and opacity, when and where to use them, and in what order—all while saving some white of the paper.

COLOUR MATTERS (Cont'd)

Next is a test sheet using Winsor & Newton lemon with permanent rose, using various blues and observing interesting mixes and interactions.



The blues from left to right, with various brands, are: pthalo turquoise; Winsor & Newton blue r/s; manganese; French ultra; cobalt; cobalt turquoise; cerulean. The yellows were added to the bottom of the wet blue paint and the rose from the top.

I am familiar with many brands of paint; I experiment often. Winsor & Newton, Da Vinci, Daniel Smith, and QoR each have their strengths and limitations. You may also want to consider Cotman, a second line from Winsor & Newton. The earth colours are fine in student colours, as almost all earth colours are non-staining and in many instances are as good as the more expensive brands.

Merry painting.

(You can contact Mary Nunn at mary@digitaldoor.net.)

MARY NUNN'S RULES OF WATERCOLOUR

The old adage, that there are no rules, is the only rule in watercolour. I have found some basic truths that I use in my art practice. I would love to hear yours.

- ☑ Warm colours (reds) move forward, cooler ones (blue-greens) recede.
- My main focus in the painting will be larger than other objects in the work.
- Bright colours almost always need to be offset with neutral tones.
- ☑ The brighter the colours, the more active the work is, the smaller your audience.
- ☑ The clearer your interior image—achieved through trial and error or planning—the more successful you will find the painting.
- ☑ Use a consistent style throughout the work.
- Work in a series.
- Follow the 'what ifs' and see where they lead; you can always reset.
- Find someone who knows more than you do and learn from them.
- ☑ Don't fear criticism or rejection; it happens to all of us.
- You can try to copy someone else's work, as practice, but work through it to find your own voice.

PAINTING EN PLEIN AIR

Charlie Spratt, painting along a ski trail in Val David on a beautiful, warm spring day in April. "I was there with a painting group called Plein Air Ensemble, one that I started 25 years ago this spring with Pierrette Dulude Bohay (OWS) and Andrew Lyall. This anniversary occasion brought back so many great memories of places we painted and friendships we made on these annual spring and fall trips. Renate Hulley (OWS) was along to celebrate with me. She is one of the originals from the very first trip."



PROGRAMS REPORT

by Jane Barlow

The lecture on Colour Matters with Mary Nunn (see article in this newsletter) on March 21 was very well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by all as an exploration of colour theory and hands-on experimentation in making watercolour prints from paint applied to plastic sheets. Samples were provided by QoR, a new line of watercolour paints.

Our next program is the workshop with Doug Mays on June 6 and 7, 2015, and it is sold out. The venue is the College Square Loblaws Cooking School, from 9 to 4 p.m. each day. With the fees at \$150 (same as last year) we are over budget by about \$300-\$400. This is due to accommodation costs of three nights in a hotel in Ottawa during the FIFA games. We have a surplus from last year's workshop that can easily cover this, but next year I will likely have to put the registration fees up to \$175-\$200. Do the members believe this would significantly put artists off registering?

Paintouts

I have put out a schedule for paintouts for those dates that coordinators have volunteered for. This has left some empty spots, which I have left blank. We have redesigned the paintouts such that each event has a coordinator who will send out a reminder announcement a week ahead of the paintout so that members can register their wish to attend with the coordinator. This way we will know who is attending and be sure that all know where the meeting site will be.

The coordinator is not a teacher or guide regarding plein air painting. Typically the meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. on the second Wednesday and fourth Saturday of the month. We are also suggesting that a meet-up occur at 11:30 a.m. for artists to share their work.

We are emphasizing that you don't have to paint to come—photographers, sketchers, observers are welcome.

Volunteers are still welcome to fill in the spaces.

Paintout Schedule 2015

I have made up a schedule of paintouts for the 2015 season from May to October. The meeting place is to be determined by the coordinator and meeting time is 9:30 a.m. (unless otherwise determined by the coordinator). After 9:30 a.m. the group may disperse to their chosen painting spot.

Paintout Schedule 2015 (Cont'd)

Meetings are generally the second Wednesday and fourth Saturday of the month. Please contact the coordinator before the event if you are interested in attending—by email or phone. This way the attendance for the event will be known and details of the meeting place can be clearly discussed.

There are gaps in the schedule where there has been no volunteer to coordinate. If you are interested, please contact me, Jane Barlow, at barlowjanem@gmail.com or 613-224-4409.

Date	Coordinator	Coordinator Phone	Coordinator email	Place
May 23 rd (Sat)	Jean Sunter	613-828-6077	jeanesun@rogers.com	Fletcher wildlife Garden 10:00am
June 10 th (Wed) Meet at 10 a.m. (will wait till 10:15) Meet in parking lot	Monique Huneault	(819) 205-9446	MONIQUE.HUNEAULT ② VIDEOTRON.CA	Canada Agriculture and Food Museum on Prince of Wales Drive. Entrance Facing the White Fletcher Wild Life Garden Sign
June 27 th (Sat)	Danielle Beaulieu	<u>613-833-0155</u> (e venings)	dbeaulo155@rogers.com	Danielle's garden
July 8 th (Wed)	Betty Sullivan	613 254 8319	Betty.sullivan@rogers.com	Pinhey's Point
July 25 th (Sat)				
Aug 12 th (Wed)				
Aug 22 nd (Sat)	Pauline Goss	613 941 1216 or 613-220-3738	pauline.goss@me.com	Black rapids

Sept 9 th (Wed)				
Sept 26 th (Sat)				
Oct 14 th (Wed)	Barbara Camfield	(613) 422-7410	hollandcamfield@aol.com	Brown's Inlet
Oct 24 th (Sat)				

Coordinators are asked to remind members about their upcoming paintout about one week ahead through our communications coordinator, Rosy Somerville, at rosy.somerville@rogers.com.

Coordinators are also responsible for notifying attendees if there is any change of plans due to weather or other emergency. At 11:30 a.m. the painting group is expected to meet at a prearranged spot to share their painting experience. Coordinators are not expected to provide any guidance about plein air painting. All are welcome to attend regardless of intent to paint.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Ladies and gentlemen, wet your brushes!

At the last meeting of the OWS executive committee held on May 26, 2015, committee members discussed ways to further encourage participation by OWS members in Society shows. One decision taken is to award two cash prizes for juried artwork: \$300 for the Jurors' top choice and \$200 for the people's choice awards. The committee hopes to hold the jurying of artwork for our 72nd juried exhibition sometime in September. It is not too soon to start thinking about what paintings you would like to enter. The venue where we intend to hold our show can

accommodate approximately 30 to 32 paintings, with a maximum $\frac{1}{4}$ sheet size.

The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) is planned for sometime in November. At last year's AGM we held a fun contest where members were invited to bring any one of their watercolour paintings. Everyone at the meeting was invited to cast a vote for the painting they liked the most, and the artist whose work received the most votes was awarded a \$100 cash prize. We intend to hold a similar contest this year.

So there are several opportunities to win one or more cash prizes for your artwork—and certain bragging rights. Good luck, everyone!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)

Volunteer(s) Needed for OWS Exhibitions

Betty Sullivan announced at our Executive Committee meeting that she is stepping down from her responsibilities as show chairman after several years of organizing and setting up our juried shows and public exhibitions. Betty has worked closely with Jean Sunter, her cochair, and other OWS volunteers in organizing the jurying and exhibitions. Betty informed the executive committee that she is willing to help the person taking over her exhibition responsibilities.

The Ottawa Watercolour Society is approaching members who have indicated on their membership application their preference to help with the exhibition program. The OWS is looking for the help of two to three additional persons with various exhibition duties. Should you be interested in taking over Betty's role as exhibition chair or joining the exhibition committee, please contact the OWS President, Rick Sobkowicz, at ricksobkowicz@rogers.com as soon as possible.

For a list of duties pertaining to exhibition chairperson, you can contact Betty Sullivan at betty.sullivan@rogers.com.

The Ottawa Watercolour Society would like to take this occasion to thank Betty very much for all she has done. She has been an invaluable asset to the Society and will be very hard to replace. Our thanks, too, go to Betty's husband Pat who accompanied Betty to many of the exhibitions and helped with hanging and taking down the art and performing numerous other activities. They have both been a wonderful and hard-working team. We will miss their involvement and hope that Betty will enjoy her time when travelling and will have more quality time to paint. Thank you, Betty and Pat, for everything!

Handy Aid for Painting

Do you have difficulty differentiating the values of the different objects in your painting or between colours? Here is a handy and inexpensive tool that you can use to add depth to your paintings. It is a 'Gray Scale and Value Finder', approximately 4" x 6". Used properly, it will cause the subjects in your painting to have more impact. It is available from Curry's and sells for \$3.79. To get more details on this small device or to place your order with Curry's, click on the following link: https://www.currys.com/product.htm?
Product=CW3505&Source=Category&Category=COLOUR_WHEELS_AND_GUIDES



WORKSHOPS AND EXHIBITIONS

The Davis Art School (613-790-1888) is located in the Rectory Art House, 179 Murray Street, beside St Brigid's Centre for the Arts. Courses and summer camps are available for children and adults.

Ash Stories: Tales of Loss and Mourning with artist Mary Abma

This two-day workshop will take participants through the steps of creating a site-specific art installation on an ecological theme.

Two-day Workshop: \$135.00 plus HST

Location: Davis Art School, 179 Murray Street, Ottawa

Dates: Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14

Time: 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch break (please pack your lunch) For more information and to register: http://abmaworkshop.eventbrite.ca

Artist's website: www.maryabma.com

Painting LIGHT AND SHADOW with artist Marcia Lea, Sunday, June 21, Cost \$69.00 + HST

Time: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch break (please pack your lunch)

For more information and to register: http://lightandshade.eventbrite.ca

Painting WATER with artist Marcia Lea, **Saturday, June 27**, Cost \$69.00 + HST Time: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch break (please pack your lunch) For more information and to register: http://paintingwater.eventbrite.ca

Drawing ARCHITECTURE with artist Marcia Lea, **Saturday**, **July 4**, Cost \$69.00 + HST Time: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch break (please pack your lunch) For more information and to register: http://drawingarchitecture.eventbrite.ca

Drawing the Human Figure with artist Marcia Lea, **Saturday, July 11**, Cost \$99.00 + HST (Clothed Model)

Time: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., with a one-hour lunch break (please pack your lunch) This course is in studio.

For more information and to register: http://drawinghumanfigure.eventbrite.ca

One-day Introduction to ACRYLIC LANDSCAPE PAINTING with Blair Paul, Saturday, July 18, \$75.00 + HST

Time: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch break (please pack your lunch) For more information and to register: http://blairpaulworkshop.eventbrite.ca Artist's Website: www.blairpaul.com

The Human Figure in the Landscape, with artist Marcia Lea, **Saturday**, **July 25**, \$99.00 + HST (Clothed Model)

Time: 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one-hour lunch break (please pack your lunch) For more information and to register: http://figureandlandscape.eventbrite.ca

WORKSHOPS AND EXHIBITIONS (Cont'd)

Art en Vogue is recruiting artists/painters or sculptors who would like to participate in their exhibit.

Where: Centre Meredith, 23 Chemin Cecil, Chelsea, Quebec

Date: August 14 to 16, 2015

Cost: \$150

If you are interested, please contact Denise Venne at 819-669-7308, <u>vennedenise@videotron.qc.ca</u>. or Monique Dea at 819-775-0576, <u>moniquedea@videotron.ca</u>.



Eastern Canada's Art Material Consumer Show takes place Saturday, **October 31, 2015, and Sunday, November 1, 2015**, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Hellenic Meeting & Reception Centre, 1315 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa.

For more info, please visit: www.ArtSchoolFair.com

Pat Dews Watermedia Painting Workshop

I am hosting a 5-day water media workshop with award-winning artist, juror, and instructor Pat Dews. This is a wonderful opportunity to study with her in the Hudson Area of Quebec **August 24-28**. The cost of the workshop is \$500 U.S.

Pat Dews is an elected, signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, the National Collage Society, and the National Association of Women Artists. She is the author of Creative Composition & Design and Creative Discoveries in Watermedia, published by North Light Books.

For more details, please contact Shernya Vininsky at <u>www.Shernyavininsky.ca</u> or 450-458-6660.

St Lawrence College Summer School of the Arts

Brian Smith is teaching Figurative Abstraction in acrylic from **June 22 to 26** at St Lawrence College Summer School of the Arts, Brockville, 9-4 p.m. Cost is \$450. Brian is a very good teacher, well organized, with lots of creative ideas. He has taught life drawing, portraiture, and abstraction of the figure for over 20 years, and he has taught at Ontario College of Art & Design, Haliburton School, and Master Classes at his own studio.

http://www.stlawrencecollege.ca/~/media/Files/Documents/OCE/summer%2oschool%2oof %2othe%2oarts%20%2ofor%2oweb.pdf

Home Pages and Websites

(If you don't see your name on the list and would like to have it in the next newsletter, please get in touch with Rosy Somerville.)

Janet Agulnik - <u>janetagulnik.com</u>

Alan and Audrey Bain - alanaudreybain.artbo.net

Dhanashri Bapat - <u>dhanashri.com</u>

Anne Barkley - annebarkley.ca

Brenda Beattie - brendabeattie.com

Josie Braden - anya.corto.ca

Barbara Brintnell - www.BarbaraBrintnell.ca

Ted Duncan - tedzworks.com

Arlette Francière - arlettefranciere.com

Ann Gruchy - anngruchy.com

John Hiscock - jphiscock.ca

Renate Hulley - renatehulley.artbo.net

Arlene McGee - <u>arlenemcgee.com</u>

Pam McKinnon - pammckinnonart.com

Shirley Moulton - <u>shirleymoulton.com</u>

Ewa U. Mroz - SeventhSisterStudios.ca

Mary Nunn - <u>marynunn.com</u>

Victor Pavlov - victorpavlov.com

Yvon Perrier - <u>vvonperrier.com</u>

Rosemary Randell - rosemaryrandell.com

Adriana Saba - adrianasaba.com

Pat Smith - <u>jazzbo.ca</u>

Rosy Somerville - <u>rosysomerville.com</u>

Betty Sullivan - <u>bettysullivanart.com</u>

Charles Spratt - <u>cspratt.net</u>

Anne Remmer Thompson - anneremmerthompson.ca

Shernya Vininsky - shernyavininsky.ca

Note from the Editor

Do you have something to say about your experience with watercolour, a particular technique you like, an experience you would like to pass on, photos of a recent exhibition—anything at all that relates to watercolour? Please consider passing it on in the form of a newsletter article, or just send the raw material and I can help you put something together. Other OWS members would love to read about your experiences, your trials and tribulations even! The next newsletter will come out the first week of September, so in your travels this summer I hope you will think about sharing your painting adventures with the OWS.

On the social media front, I have set up a Facebook page for the Ottawa Watercolour Society. It is still in its infancy, but this summer I hope to get it humming. The OWS is also on LinkedIn. Please feel free to 'connect' with or 'like' the OWS.

As always, any and all feedback on the newsletter and/or the Facebook or LinkedIn pages is much appreciated.

Enjoy your summer!

Elizabeth Hogan Newsletter Editor lizaa@rogers.com