

SPRING EDUCATION EDITION

Art Avenue

A Federation of Canadian Artists Publication – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012 \$5



STAFFORD D. PLANT

Small Smaller Smallest

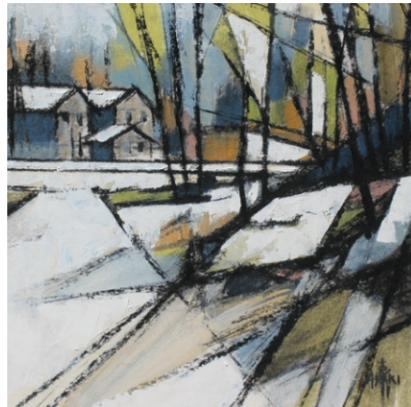
NOVEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 4



Pat Jobb TOFINO TREE
5.5" x 5.5", Drypoint, \$225
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Marko Lubonic AFTER MEAL
12" x 13", Charcoal, \$400
FCA FIRST PRIZE DENIS MATISZ AWARD



Bob Araki AFCA EVENING SNOW
11" x 11", Oil, \$350



Karen Martin Sampson FACE LIFT
12" x 12", Oil, \$600
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Jill Charuk HOT STUFF
12" x 9", Acrylic, \$500



Arlene Connolly TROLLEY-RIDE
10" x 13", Watercolor, \$650
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



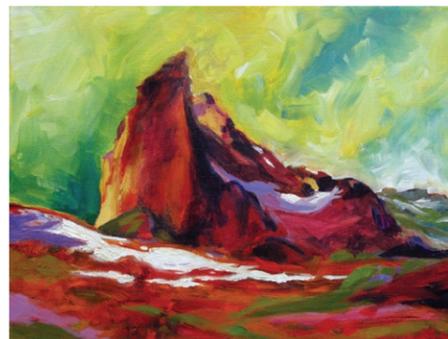
Drew Gillies AFCA NIGHT TRAIN
8" x 12", Oil, \$600
FCA SECOND PRIZE AWARD



Allan Dunfield A GREY MORNING
11" x 14", Acrylic, \$600
FCA THIRD PRIZE AWARD



Sara Morison HANGING IN THERE
12" x 12", Watercolor, \$185
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Mirja Vahala VALHALLAS
11" x 14", Acrylic, \$250



Art Avenue

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012

EXHIBITIONS



SMALL SMALLER SMALLEST
November 15 to December 4
-2-



70TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW
October 25 to November 13
-10-



SPILSBURY MEDALS SHOW
December 6 to 24
-19-

FEATURES

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ON THE COVER | STAFFORD PLANT

HOLMES DE NEIGE 18" X 24", OIL ON CANVAS



A SELECTION OF STAFFORD PLANT PAINTINGS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE FEDERATION GALLERY

Stafford Plant was born in Esquesing, Ontario in 1914 and passed away in 2000. He was a talented and well-known painter, instructor and graphic designer. He was a student of L.A.C. Panton, F.H. Brigden and Group of Seven member Arthur Lismer. As one critic said of him, "Stafford Plant is an experimental artist whose works range from realistic to a highly stylized semi-abstract view of nature. He straddles with relative ease that invisible line between commercial art and the painting of sensitive canvases."

Art Avenue

a Federation of Canadian
Artists Publication

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Stretch Your Creativity

A new year calls for new ideas.
Expand your practice with the addition
new materials and techniques and
breathe new life into your work.



Acrylic medium, collage & oil pastel on a digital print on paper
and mounted on a wood cradled panel. Artwork by G. Brown.



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digital printing on
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framing, and more!
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NEW MEMBERS

BRITISH COLUMBIA

LOWER MAINLAND

Mariko Kurahashi	Vancouver
Gabriele Maurus	North Vancouver
Deborah Bakos	Vancouver
Carmin Faye Mathes	Vancouver
Andrew Matthewson	New Westminster
Anita Baker	Surrey
Yi Yin Zhang	Delta
Oliver Malana	Richmond
Engin Dalyanci	Vancouver
Yong an Yang	Richmond
Diane Fairfield	Vancouver
Nancy Wong	Coquitlam
Sheryl Walker	Surrey
Amanda Shatzko	Surrey
Peggy Grasse	Vancouver
Rick Rozdeba	Langley
Pat Sturgeon	New Westminster

VANCOUVER ISLAND & GULF ISLAND & SUNSHINE COAST

Kathleen McPhail	Victoria
Darlene Young	Victoria
Jaya Malavi Arachchi	Victoria
Lynda Jamieson	Campbell River

THOMPSON-OKANAGAN

Vallee Leyden	Kelowna
Frank Lively	Kamloops
Ann Diehl	Kamloops
Shirley Tracey	Okanagan Falls
Dave Watland	Lake Country
Dawn Renee Matheson	Naramatu
Kirsten Chapman	Blind Bay
Roger Ulasovetz	Oliver

ALBERTA

Carol Elliott	Calgary
Liela Chan	Calgary
Patricia Neden	Calgary

In the news

PATRICIA ADAMS was invited to show her watercolours at the 2011 Florence Biennale in Italy at the Fortezza da Basso from December 3 - 11.

Three of Pat's paintings were selected to be published in the Best of Artists Worldwide - Abstract and Still Life, Volume 1.



ROSE-MARIE GOODWIN was awarded, in the 2011 American Art Awards, 3rd Prize in the category Floral (Non-Realistic) for her "Come to the Garden" painting.

JACKIE TAHARA has been invited to paint a life-size replica of a Chinese terracotta warrior as part of the Terracotta Warrior Public Art Project, to be unveiled in Vancouver in Spring 2012. For more information about this project, please see www.terraccottawarriors.ca/

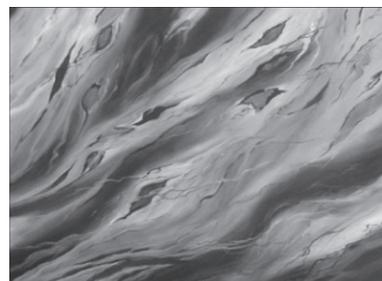
On October 21 and 22, 2011 **THE GROUP OF NINE** had its 6th annual art show and sale in Maple Ridge. It was well supported by many of the community including the Mayor, Ernie Daykin and several Councillors as well as the former mayor Gordy Robson and his wife Mary.

FCA members who participated were: Florence L. Nicholson, Margaret Bale, Shirley Felgner, Suzette Fram, Betty Coy, Joyce Campbell.



TINYAN CHAN has recently been honoured in an exhibition titled "Tinyan Chan's 55 Years Retrospective Exhibition" at the Art Museum of Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts to be held in March of 2012. Tinyan Chan received the lifetime achievement award from the FCA in 2011.

SHARON STONE will be featured as one of the artists in the Best of Worldwide Watermedia Artists, Volume I, including her piece entitled "SeaDrift II".



Current Exhibitions

JACKIE TAHARA is showing her bright and very fun multi-media collaged works on wood panel at the Red Rooster Winery in Penticton. The show opened as part of the 2011 Okanagan Fall Wine Festival in October and has been held over until March 2012. You can see her work at: www.jackietahara.com

DORIS CHAREST's new series was shown at the PAVA Gallery in Edmonton on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2011. All the work is a result of a retreat I took in Banff, AB in August. Dance is the theme and a new style is a result. Installation with music and paintings, the project proposes to take the viewers in this world of light, hard work but also the suffering that is the world of a dancer.

The exhibition will be held from October 22nd to November 23rd, 2011. Reception on Saturday, October 22nd, 2011 from 1pm to 4pm.

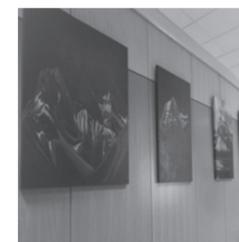


TATIANNNA O'DONNELL is having an exhibition of "Trees and Roots" at the Epcor Centre in the Performing Arts Centre in downtown Calgary from September 30 to December 30, 2011.



THE AIRPORT

The newest group show at the Airport Gallery is now on display in the 2nd Floor Cafe and Upper Gate areas, with over 30 pieces of work installed. Work is being showcased by the following artists: Ira Hoffecker, Sokee Lee, Bob McPartlin, Lawrie Dignan, Deborah Tilby, Brandy Saturley, Margaret Hantiuk, Pamela Wootton and Joane Moran.





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Chapter Events Calendar

VICTORIA CHAPTER

UPCOMING MEETINGS: All meetings are held at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay, 7-9pm on Thursday evenings, usually the third Thursday of the month.

JAN 19, 2012

Demo with Jennifer Heine: Water-soluble oils on mylar.

FEB 16, 2012

Demo with Noah Layne, oil, using a live model

MAR 15, 2012

Critique with Victor Arcega. Bring 1-2 paintings. Victor will critique one painting from each artist and a second painting if time allows.

MAR 4-28, 2012

SPRING JURIED EXHIBITION:
Our Spring Exhibition will be at Goward House, 2495 Arbutus Rd, March 4-28. Opening Reception Sunday March 4, 1:30-3:30pm. For more information contact Jim McFarland, AFCA, jcmcfarland@telus.net



NANAIMO CHAPTER

OCT 11-NOV 1, 2011

FALL JURIED SHOW
Nanaimo Art Gallery

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE



Funmi Connacher
NEW YORK PIZZA
Acrylic



Dorothy Sevcov
EMBRACING COLOUR
Mixed Media

Maureen Walker AFCA
THROUGH THE GRID
Dye on Silk

HONOURABLE MENTIONS



Funmi Connacher
A DAY IN COOMBS
Acrylic



Gail Johnson AFCA
DRIFTWOOD SHORES
Acrylic



Maureen Walker AFCA
SUNLIGHT ON WINGS
Dye on Silk

CALGARY CHAPTER

JAN 17, 2012

(3RD TUESDAY OF MONTH)

Chapter meeting & Pastel Demo by Karin Richter
7 pm Haysboro Community Centre
1204 89 Avenue SW, Calgary. All Welcome.

FEB 21, 2012

(3RD TUESDAY OF MONTH)

Chapter meeting, 7 pm Haysboro Community Centre
1204 89 Avenue SW, Calgary. All Welcome.

SPRING

(DATE TO BE ARRANGED)

Pastel Workshop with Karin Richter
For more information on upcoming workshops please check our website: <http://fcacalgary.ca/> Go to : events - workshops.

MAR 10, 2012

JURIED SHOW AND SALE "ALL THINGS SPRING"
10 am - 4 pm Edgemont Community Centre
33 Edgevalley Cir NW, Calgary

CHAPTER AWARD WINNERS

Also here are the award winners from our Fall Show and Sale "MAD ABOUT ART" which ran on Nov 5th 2011.

AWARD PAINTINGS - MAD ABOUT ART QUALIFYING



Dawn Heinemeyer
BEANS, BEANS...
16" x 22", Watercolour,
\$595 FIRST PLACE



Linda Wilder
PEEKING THROUGH
16" x 20", Acrylic, \$880
SECOND PLACE



Sharon Lynn Williams
ELBOW FALLS SUMMER
12" x 12", Oil, \$550
THIRD PLACE

AWARD PAINTINGS - MAD ABOUT ART QUALIFYING ctd...



Dianne Stewart PARTY OF FOUR
20" x 24", Mixed Media, \$925
HONOURABLE MENTION



Patti Dymert THE PLANK BRIDGE
12" x 16", Oil, \$700
HONOURABLE MENTION

THOMPSON NICOLA SHUSWAP CHAPTER

FEB 2, 2012

CHAPTER GENERAL MEETING

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Chase Community Hall, 547 Shuswap, Chase, BC
(Basement meeting room)

For more info contact Cathie Peters jb.peters@shaw.ca
or Deb Swain deb_swain@yahoo.ca

MAR 29, 2012

CHAPTER GENERAL MEETING

10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Yacht Club, 1140 River Street, Kamloops, BC

For more info contact Cathie Peters jb.peters@shaw.ca
or Deb Swain deb_swain@yahoo.ca

CALL FOR ENTRIES

THOMPSON NICOLA SHUSWAP CHAPTER 2012 OPEN SHOW
Open Juried Exhibition or original paintings, prints and drawings
April 17 - 29, 2012

Open daily 10 - 5 pm, closes at 3:00 on last day

Kamloops Courthouse Centre for the Arts

100 Seymour Street, Kamloops, BC

Entry deadline Feb. 22, 2012

Please e-mail entries to both deb_swain@yahoo.ca and
jb.peters@shaw.ca using standard FCA entry guidelines in
regard to naming and size of images. Thank you!

AWARD WINNERS

FROM THE 7TH ANNUAL TNS CHAPTER SHOW

The Thompson Nicola Shuswap Chapter held its 7th Annual Chapter show this fall open to our chapter's active and signature members. The show ran from September 24 - October 2, 2011 at the Kamloops Courthouse Centre for the Arts. We were thrilled with the number of entries and resulting quality of the show this year, one of our best Chapter Show's to date! Here are this year's award winners; Gold- Sharyn Olfert - "Summer View", Silver - Debbie Milner, AFCA - "Heading In", Bronze- Linda Sawyer - "Pear Trio". Awards of Excellence went to Dale Refern, AFCA- "Canadian Education System", Donna Houston, AFCA- "Golden Splendor", Mavis Smith - "Spring Rush". Thank you to all of

our members, jurors, and executive for all your hard work to make this such a successful show!



Sharyn Olfert
SUMMER VIEW
GOLD



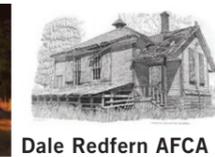
Debbie Milner AFCA
HEADING IN
SILVER



Linda Sawyer
PEAR TRIO
BRONZE



Donna Houston AFCA
GOLDEN SPLENDOR



Dale Redfern AFCA
CANADIAN
EDUCATION SYSTEM
AWARD OF
EXCELLENCE



Mavis Smith
SPRING RUSH

CENTRAL OKANAGAN CHAPTER

JAN 1-MAR 31, 2012

FCA CLASSIC PAINTING COMPETITION

Produced by the Central Okanagan Chapter, FCA. To enter, visit
www.centralokanaganfca.com.

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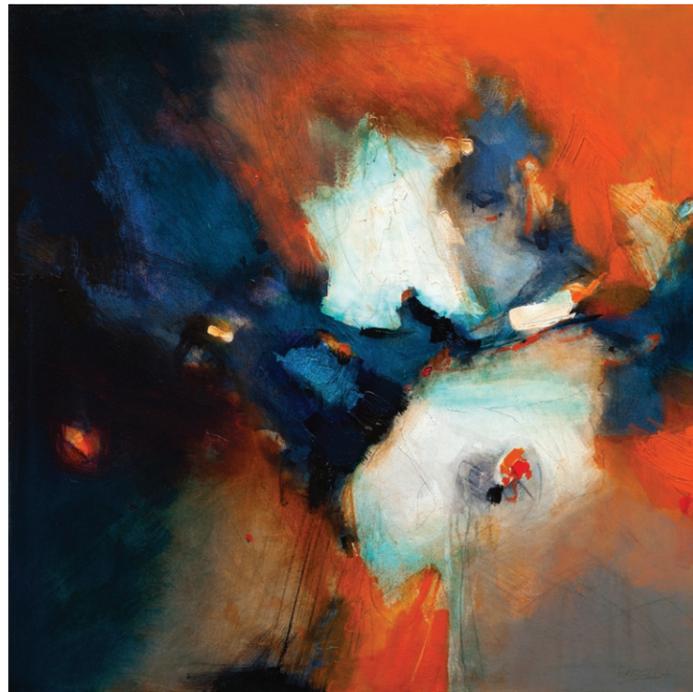
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70th Anniversary
OCTOBER 5 TO NOVEMBER 13



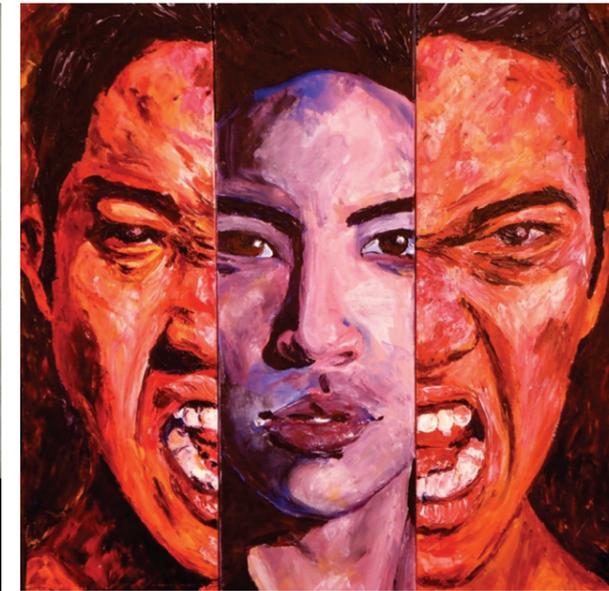
Barry Rafuse AFCA CAMELLIAS
 36" x 36", Acrylic, \$1995
 FCA THIRD PRIZE AWARD



Susie Cipolla 100 YEARS OF DREAMS
 30" x 30", Acrylic, \$2070
 FCA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Andy McKay SHORT SHIFT
 24" x 18", Mixed Media, \$600
 FIRST PRIZE EMERGING ARTISTS CATEGORY



Jay Cabalu SELF PORTRAIT TRIPTYCH
 36" x 36", Acrylic, \$600



Nicoletta Baumeister SWEET RAVAGES OF TIME
 22" x 30", Watercolour, \$2800
 FCA FIRST PRIZE AWARD



Frank Ducote WOODWARD'S COURT
 20" x 16", Digital Print, \$400
 THIRD PRIZE EMERGING ARTISTS CATEGORY



Marlene Wildeman BURRARD INLET
 20" x 16", Mixed Media, \$300

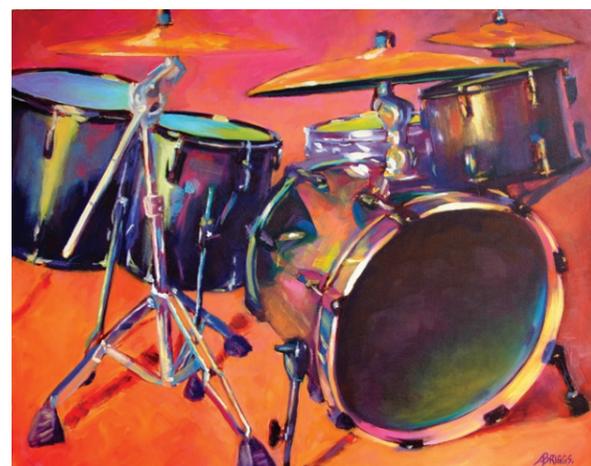


Michael Beseau OSPREY
 15" x 17", Pen and Ink, \$495
 FCA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

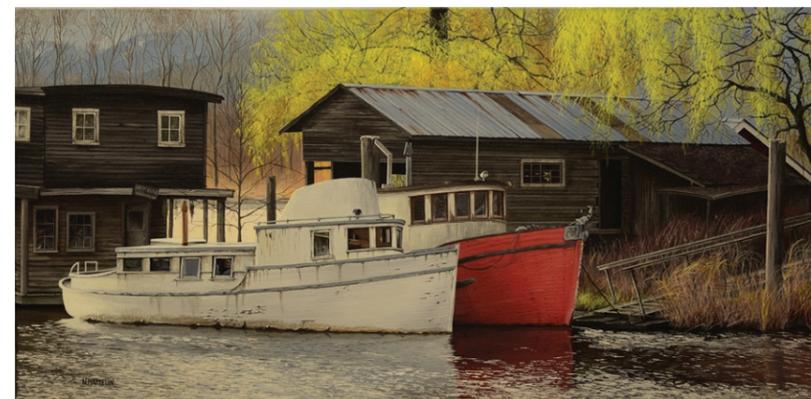
Still Life Show



Susanne Darius SWINGING BLUES
 36" x 48", Oil, 2592
 FIRST PRIZE MARY CONLEY AWARD



Adam Briggs VIVID PEARL
 22" x 28", Oil, \$1250
 FCA SECOND PRIZE EMERGING ARTISTS CATEGORY



Neil Hamelin WEEPING WILLOW
 14" x 28", Acrylic, \$1495



Katharine Dickinson CHARLOTTE
 14" x 11", Oil, \$2000
 FCA SECOND PRIZE AWARD

70th Anniversary – Opening Night



JAY CABALU with his painting.



FCA staff member **TED FRASER** serves guests hors d'oeuvres.



JUTTA KAISER SFCA and ALAN WYLIE SFCA.



ANDREW MCDERMOTT SFCA with ADAM BRIGGS, Second Place Emerging Artist winner, and a friend.



Founding member **ANNE SNELLGROVE**, was our honoured guest. She has been an FCA member since 1941!



ANDREW MCDERMOTT SFCA with emerging artist ADAM BRIGGS, FCA staff member Cara Bain, and some colleagues from the IDEA program at Capilano University.

A year-end message from our Executive Director

BY BEV RUSHWORTH

It has been a very busy year with 19 shows hung in the Federation Gallery. We welcomed a large crowd for our 70th Anniversary Show reception. The very generous Alan Wylie, SFCA, donated a stunning painting called “Just Chillin’” for a raffle, the funds earned us \$5000 which helped cover costs for our show and award presentations. The FCA participated with the Chinese Canadian Artists Federation in the 2nd Annual “Crossing Boundaries Show” which hung in their gallery this year. We sponsored four open juried shows: POTE, AIRS, Haiku Inspirations and the FCA 70th Anniversary Show. The final Gabriola Island workshop was held for the third successful year, and we thank all the friends we made at the beautiful Haven Resort. Thank you, to all the wonderful volunteers from Gabriola Island. We are very excited about our next Island Workshop for 2012 to be held on Salt Spring Island.

We had a very successful “Paintings By Numbers” event, which is our main fundraiser, based largely on the overwhelming generosity of the contributing artists who donated some of their best paintings to be used for this event. Mila and I are always amazed at the quality of the paintings that come in. We expect an equally good year for 2012, as it looks like all the tickets are spoken for.

The final show for this year will be hung for the Christmas Party, on Dec 8, 2011 and continue until December 24th. The FCA Spilsbury Medal Show, will cap our year with paintings from our signature members, AFCA and SFCA. We hope you will come celebrate with us.

The first show to hang in the New Year will be paintings done by the students of our classes and workshops held this year. A fine representation of what the students have learned from our inspiring instructors. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend the reception to support this group emerging artists.

The FCA is proud to welcome new supporting and active members. This year 11 members earned their AFCA signature status and 3 earned SFCA status.

We had an addition to our staff this year, Cara Bain, who manages our website and coordinates news for the Art Avenue, as well as other duties. Volunteers, many of them new, have been so generous with their time and expertise; we have some very talented people helping us out in the gallery. A huge thank you to all!

Our revenue has been down this year from the past year, and as a result, it has been necessary to cut expenses. We have done this, I think, with very little inconvenience to the delivery of service to the members. Our classes and workshops have not had the enrolment that we enjoyed the year before and hopefully this will be a better year. Please email me with any request for an instructor or type of class that would interest you. The Education Committee want to serve you with your choices.

We have added new on-line features to make things easier for the members. You can now register and pay online for your choice of courses in the education program, renew/new membership registration and show submissions. There have been some small glitches with this new system but these are being worked out as quickly and painlessly as possible.

The media keeps telling us that the economy is very poor this past year; this seems to be reflected in our gallery sales. It seems people are being very careful with discretionary spending. Our gallery offers paintings in all sizes, mediums and prices, from you, the members. Paintings offer pleasure as well as an opportunity to increase in value. We can all promote the work of our fellow artists, and help the gallery, by inviting friends, co-workers and businesses you are affiliated with to make a visit to the gallery. We have promotional material that can be picked up at the Gallery or mailed out to anyone who is interested.

In closing I look forward to a year full of happy enthusiastic artists, so paint, paint, paint. Enter shows and take classes and workshops, develop your style and most of all enjoy your talent and creativity. So many would love to be able to do what you can do.

The Board of Directors and staff, Mila, Cara and Ted, join me in wishing you a Very Happy New Year!

Best Regards,

Bev Rushworth



FEDERATION
of CANADIAN
ARTISTS

Salt Spring Island Workshop

SEPTEMBER 11 - 17, 2012

The Salt Spring Workshop 2012 is a program offered to continue the successful Island workshop experience that has proven to be very popular. The Salt Spring workshop format will divide the participating students into four groups, each spending a full day with each of the four featured instructors. This program will be based on en Plein Air painting at different scenic locations through out the Island. On the fifth day all the instructors will work with small groups and individuals, followed by an optional critique session.

Paint along side senior signature members of the Federation and join them for evening demo's and discussions.

Robert Genn, SFCA, will be a guest artist offering a day of individual critiques by request, first come first served.

Home base will be at ArtSpring, 100 Jackson Avenue in the town of Ganges. There will be other venues also but they are in or close to Ganges. We advise people booking accommodations to do so on the north end of the island - north of Cusheon Lake. This will greatly reduce driving times and facilitate getting to the evening events, and meals in restaurants. Participants with cars can easily stay outside of Ganges in one of the many of the B&Bs and cottage resorts. Those without vehicles can/should stay pretty close or in Ganges in one of the hotels.

ROBERT GENN CRITIQUES – Register your request for a time slot at fcaadmin@artists.ca. Bring up to 3 paintings or a cd or portfolio of your works completed before the Workshop. There will be a time limit of 15 minutes per person so bring the work you want input on. Critique can range from paintings, portfolios and comments on career development.

PLEIN AIR participants generally work in the medium in which they are most comfortable. They may work in one medium all week, or they are certainly free to switch and try something different depending upon the instructor of the day. Supply lists will be provided soon for each presenter. The main idea is to understand how each instructor goes about developing a good painting outdoors. This will depend on the medium to some extent, but it will also expose the participants to the instructor's ideas on composition, simplification and approach to the art of plein air painting, distinct from studio painting.

MEDIUMS – It is important that whichever medium or mediums participants plan to use, they should prepare a portable field painting kit which they can carry to the painting site. While we will try to minimize the amount of walking, some is inevitable. So if participants plan on using more than one medium, the supplies should be organized into separate kits that are portable. Carrying several painting mediums in one kit is not recommended (too heavy and cumbersome).

OUR FEATURED INSTRUCTORS ARE AMONGST NORTH AMERICA'S MOST RECOGNIZED ARTISTS:



CARLA O'CONNOR – www.carlaocconnor.com



JOHN SALMINEN – www.johnsalminen.com



STEPHEN QUILLER – www.quillergallery.com



ELIZABETH WILTZEN – www.mountainartist.com

WORKSHOP FEES:

\$695.00 includes HST - Early bird rate is \$645.00 includes HST- save \$50.00 if registering before February 28, 2012. Inquiries by email: fcaoffice@artists.ca

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENTS:

There is a \$350.00 non-refundable deposit to validate the applicant's registration.

CANCELLATION POLICY:

Cancellations before February 28 will be refunded 100% of their payment, minus the \$350 non-refundable deposit. February 28 - June 30 will be refunded 50% of their payment, minus the \$350 non-refundable deposit. No refunds after June 30.

BY PHONE: 604-681-2744

BY MAIL: Send in registration form with payment to

Federation of Canadian Artists
1241 Cartwright Street, Vancouver V6H 4B7

ONLINE: Registration and full payment can be done online at www.artists.ca (Note: Online takes full payment only)

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is the responsibility of the participant. Accommodation on Salt Spring is plentiful and can be booked on-line, by email and by telephone. Early booking of accommodation is strongly recommended as our dates coincide with the Salt Spring Fall Fair, one of the busiest weekends of the year.

For accommodation options go to <http://saltspringtourism.com>. Also, some members of the Accommodations Group of Salt Spring Island are offering 10% discounts on a 6 night stay for our workshop. Their web site is www.saltspringaccommodation.ca. Many accommodation providers also offer weekly rates should you decide to stay an extra night and take in some of the other attractions on the island.

ABOUT SALT SPRING

Information on what to do and see while on Salt Spring is available on the excellent web site of the Chamber of Commerce <http://saltspringtourism.com>. Guidance on how to get to Salt Spring is also provided there.

For travel information, please visit www.bcferrries.com.



FEDERATION
of CANADIAN
ARTISTS

Salt Spring Island Workshop

SEPTEMBER 11 - 17, 2012

Mail this portion of the form along with a cheque to 1241 Cartwright St. Vancouver, BC V3H 4B7
Or register on-line at www.artists.ca or call 604-681-2744

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Non-Refundable Deposit 350.00 Date: _____

Full Payment \$695

before Feb. 28th \$645

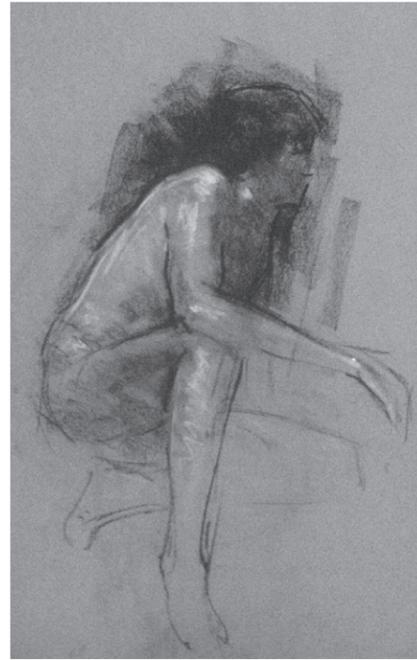
Balance due May 31, 2012

LIFE DRAWING ARTIST TIP

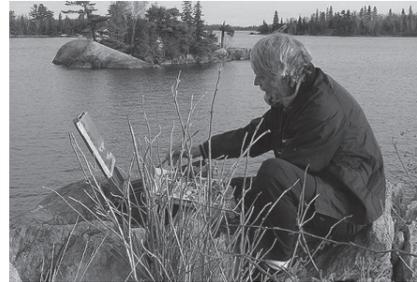
Drawing from life is really key to becoming a better artist. To me it's a basic fundamental that too often gets neglected. It's like not knowing the words of a song before you sing it.

When life drawing I prefer using a craft paper pad (only \$6). It works really well with pastels, charcoal, conte, ink, and acrylics. I start with a few two and five minute poses to warm up and then work up to 10, 15, 20, and 30 minute poses. If I am painting however, it is nice to have half the day to push the paint around.

ANDREW MCDERMOTT, SFCA



BEHIND THE EASEL



with Robert Genn, SFCA

BE YOUR OWN BEST CRITIC

Yesterday Michelle Lonsdale wrote, "I'm currently in my second year studying Fine Arts at a University. I'm working on a research assignment investigating artists' self-critiquing methods. What thoughts, beliefs or rituals do you use while critiquing your work?"

Thanks, Michelle. Your question is such a valuable one. With all the current running off to get things juried and critiqued by others, self-critiquing might seem an unpopular sport. It isn't. The

acquired ability to self-critique is the fuse of great art and the silver bullet of the pros. While all artists work differently, here are a few thoughts:

Quality develops when the artist and the critic are honed into a functioning cop within the same skull. The "ritual" is to pry the artist away from the critic. The artist can be flamboyant, egocentric and prejudiced. The critic needs to be patient, humble and strict. A split personality may be the price you have to pay to see your work through fresh, unsullied eyes. The operation doesn't hurt--much.

Divorcing yourself from the preciousness of your efforts and seeing your work as it really is takes time and mileage. This means "alone time" in your working area. A valuable ploy is to constantly upgrade and rethink standards of excellence. This is most often done through books and other media. This doesn't mean your style will be influenced by the exposure, but rather you may improve by association with those you admire. "You're only as good as the company you keep," goes the time-honoured expression. The mere act of holding onto great works or seeing them in museums magically transfers a sense of timelessness and creative soul. Fact is, you will not generally improve by misguided staring at your own efforts.

Not surprisingly, when you switch from creation mode to critique mode, you tend to lose the magic of inspiration and

substitute a more pedestrian, mechanical approach. A checklist is valuable. In serious sobriety you need to write and follow your own list. Right now I'm using a series of varying questions: Meaningful subject? Strong patterns? Middle tones? Interlocking gradations? General gradations? Echoing shapes? Flowing design? Alluring counterpoint? Lost and found? Focal point? Big and small? Overall simplicity? Complex shapes? Visual depth? Interesting surface? Arial perspective? Sophisticated colour? Natural believability? Dramatic event? What could be?

Critical intuition can also be enhanced by minor substance abuse. Cigars and Scotch have been my traditional choices. Since giving up smoking I've begun to note the critical value of alcohol. "In vino veritas" (In wine there is truth), said Plato. More recently, I've been stalking errors by merely putting on another hat. Right now I'm using an Australian Akubra that makes me feel like an antipodean crocodile wrestler. On and off it goes, sometimes several times an hour.

PS: "Think of and look at your work as though it were done by your enemy. If you look at it to admire it, you are lost." (Samuel Butler)

Robert Genn writes a free twice-weekly email letter that goes out to artists all over the world. You can find out about it at www.painterskeys.com

FIXING A DRAWING ON CANVAS

BY DAVID LANGEVIN



I recently did a complicated drawing on an acrylic primed canvas. I will be painting in acrylics but have noticed that prior to starting the drawing is already starting to smear. What can I put on as fixative to preserve the drawing? Would the same fixative work for oils? I have been to the local art supply store and after reading all the labels, I am still no wiser! Thanks so

much for the advice. I really appreciate your columns as I'm sure do many other people.

Thank you, Gloria

Hi Gloria,

Preparatory drawings on canvas or board, whether they are done in pencil or ink, do need to be fixed before you can start the painting. Some painters avoid this issue by simply sketching out their image with the paint. But of course this isn't practical for all painting styles. All dye based ink markers will bleed, I use acrylic inks or India Ink for these drawings on the gesso and they will not smudge easily or bleed once they are dry.

I don't know if the spray type fixatives in the art store would be of any use in this situation. I have very little experience or information on these products. Even if they did act as a fixative for the drawing I wonder

how compatible they would be with the paint layers as they are not meant to be painted over, as a rule.

I do know that pencil is simply graphite and it will smear when you rub it with a paint brush. You can fix it before starting your acrylic painting by first applying a layer of acrylic medium, however. The key is to apply a generous layer and spread it very lightly with a soft brush so as not to disturb the pencil drawing. When the medium is dry, the drawing will be set and you can begin painting. I have done this successfully many times.

The same method would work for oils except that you would replace the acrylic medium for an oil one of course. Adding color to this sizing layer that seals the drawing is an age old practice and this first glaze layer is called an "Imprimatura".

Good luck, David

WHY TAKE A WORKSHOP?

BY SUSIE CIPOLLA, ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE FCA

I have been told by a number of people (friends, family and teachers) that I am not a very good listener. It is fortunate though that I am able to learn by observing, recording and doing. I started painting over two years ago and have taken an intense interest in trying to get "good" at it. By taking workshops and weekly classes on a regular basis over the last two years I am taking the first small steps to getting there.

Workshops for me have been like going back to school without the 4 to 5 year full-time commitment. The huge variety of workshops offered by the FCA and others have allowed me to pick and choose my artist-instructor, type of class or workshop, date, place and time.

The beginner acrylics course with Janice Robertson was a great place to start. I took the course twice as I was a little slow to get the hang of it. I have painted with Robert Genn SFCA, Alan Wylie SFCA, Mike Svob SFCA, Brian Atyeo, Andrew McDermott SFCA, Rick McDiarmid SFCA, Suzanne Northcott SFCA, David Langevin and many others. I have painted at beautiful resorts, on a boat (great food and company), in classrooms, plein air and I even drove a two thousand kilometer round trip for an excellent workshop in Alberta.

I have learned something valuable from every instructor I have met. The artist-instructors are a clever group of people with a vast array of knowledge to share. If you have the time and the resources to tap into that knowledge, go for it. If you feel the need to get out of your studio, meet new people and freshen up your work sign up for a course!

Susie Cipolla lives in Whistler and is an Active member and member at large with the Federation of Canadian Artists. Please check our website (www.artists.ca/art_courses) regularly for updates on our classes and workshops.



EXHIBITION CALLS

STUDENT SHOW

January 10 – 22, 2012

Reception: Thursday, January 12, 6:00pm to 8:00pm

***NOTE: NOT A JURIED SHOW. OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS WHO COMPLETED AN FCA COURSE IN 2011.**

\$15 HANGING FEE.

ONE OR TWO SUBMISSIONS PER STUDENT.

PAINTING DROP-OFF: JANUARY 4-6

ABSTRACT SHOW

February 7 – 19, 2012

ENTRY DEADLINE: JANUARY 5, 2012

LANDSCAPES

February 21 – March 9, 2012

ENTRY DEADLINE JANUARY 26, 2012

SUCCESS!

March 13 – April 1, 2012

APPLICATION FOR SIGNATURE STATUS DUE FEBRUARY 16.

Entry regulations and submissions online at www.artists.ca.

All submissions online. If you are having problems with the online system call Mila Kostic at 604-681-8534 or email us at fcagallery@artists.ca.

Entry fees and number of submissions are defined for each show in the online submission process.

EXHIBITION REGULATIONS: Environmentally sensitive artwork, such as watercolour and pastel are required to be framed under glass or Plexi-glass. Artwork must be submitted with a conventional hanging device attached and the work must be framed or prepared in a professional way for display in the gallery. Unframed canvases must have all sides wrapped in canvas with no staples showing. The FCA reserves the right of refusal to hang any artwork that is deemed to be not suitably prepared. It is understood by the applicant of any show submission that the FCA abides by the Canadian Copyright laws and therefore all work must be declared to be the original work of the submitting artist. No artwork will be accepted that is found to be a copy or derivative of another artist's work, nor can works produced in class or workshops be submitted. All paintings submitted and accepted into a juried show must be for sale in order to hang in the gallery. The gallery will take a 35% commission on all sales. Your HST number should be made available to the office. The FCA has limited insurance coverage, and while it is the priority to ensure the safety of paintings held in the gallery, the FCA cannot take responsibility for any damage or loss incurred during the time the work is in transit to or from the gallery or while in the gallery. Artists submitting work for exhibition in the gallery must agree to allow the FCA publishing privileges of that work.

ART CLASSIFIEDS

DEADLINE: JANUARY 24, 2012

Rate for an advertisement .40 cents per word, Business Card - \$100, 1/8 Page - \$120, Banner 8w x 2h - \$150, 1/4 page - \$160, 1/2 page \$300, Full Page \$600 (Black and White). Full Page Colour - \$800. To place a classified ad, please email artavenue@artists.ca.

DVDS AND CDS FOR SALE AT FEDERATION GALLERY

RICHARD NELSON'S LESSONS CD AND RICHARD NELSON IN RETROSPECT DVD

The CD features more than 200 pages of lessons, discoveries and ideas from the beloved teacher and the inventor of the Tri-Hue Method. Full copyright reserved. \$38 each, taxes included. \$70 for both. Shipping and handling \$5.00

PICTURE THIS WAY DVDS

Watercolour & Mixed Media: painting demos by Mike Svob SFCA and Joyce Kamikura SFCA, or Acrylic & Oil: painting demos by Robert Genn SFCA and Alan Wylie SFCA. Each video has two 30 minute technique tutorials. Full copyright reserved. \$20 each, tax included. \$40 for the hour-long video featuring all 4 artists. Shipping and handling \$5.00

JEAN PEDERSON'S WET GLAZING WATERCOLOUR PORTRAIT DVD

Jean Pederson's gradual glazing process keeps portraits under control. You learn to build smooth facial contours with thin, deliberate layers of transparent paint. Jean's in-depth discussions of anatomy, lighting and color provide all the tools you'll need to capture the nuances of the human face. \$40, tax included. Shipping and handling, \$5.00

To purchase any of these DVDs or CDs, please phone 604-681-2711, or email fcaoffice@artists.ca.



**FEDERATION
GALLERY**

DEC 2011 TO FEB 2012

Spilsbury Medal Show

DECEMBER 6 – 24

Student Show

JANUARY 10 – 22

Works on Paper

JANUARY 24 – FEBRUARY 5

Landscapes

FEBRUARY 21 – MARCH 9



Janice Robertson SFCA COUNT THE HOUR
20" x 24", Acrylic, \$2150
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Jim McFarland AFCA LAST LIGHT ON THE BOUNDARY COUNTRY
20" x 36", Acrylic, \$1900



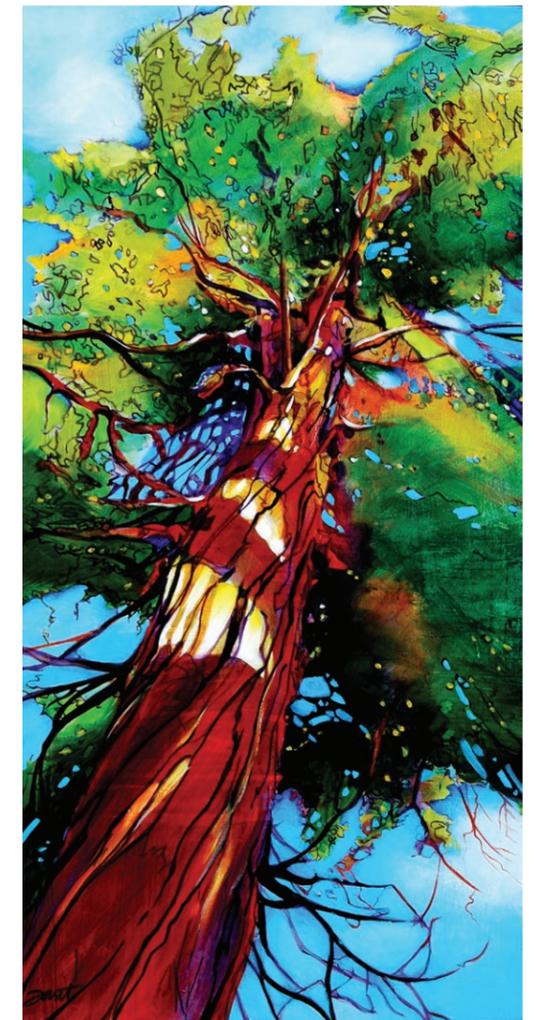
Caroline Hunter AFCA BEYOND BLUE
18" x 24", Acrylic, \$1800

Spilsbury Medal

DECEMBER 6 TO 24



Roberta Combs SFCA TIMES SQUARE
15" x 30", Pastel, \$3000
FCA BRONZE MEDAL



Dorset Norwich-Young AFCA WILD PLACES #4
48" x 24", Acrylic, \$3745

Spilsbury Medal Continued...

DECEMBER 6 TO 24



Donna Houston AFCA STANDING GUARD
36" x 48", Acrylic, \$4500



Margaret Elliot SFCA MELROSE III
14" x 24", Watercolour and Ink, \$800
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



Wai Hin Law SFCA TO PLAY CHESS
26" x 36", Watercolour, \$9000
FCA GOLD MEDAL



Anne Zeilinski SFCA NOVEMBER FIELDS
48" x 48", Acrylic, \$5400
FCA SILVER MEDAL



Shirley Thomas AFCA WINTER GLORY
20" x 24", \$1100
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE