



SOCIETY OF WESTERN
CANADIAN ARTISTS



February 2024

Feature Artist: Bing Phung



“Victoria Iceway, winterscape”

11” x 15” Watercolour

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Many years ago when Artra Art Supplies was a huge part of my life, we would get excited customers that came in wanting to make a painting that matched their couch. They would say that they just wanted to make something swirly and fast and abstract that would be a focal point of their new decor. I always had a hard time helping these customers. I loved selling them paints but it was just my nature to try to teach them that every painting evokes a feeling, especially abstracts and that it was important to make sure the painting would “feel” right in their room. If it didn’t, then subconsciously, they would not want to be in that room very much. I own quite a few paintings and each one I choose because it made me smile. Each painting I own, no matter how often I see them, gives me a good feeling. No matter the subject matter; landscapes, florals, abstracts, whatever, they do something right for me. They calm me, make me focus, and make me smile. And I think they will still be giving me this pleasure until I am no longer here to enjoy them. I have gone through several couches since my art store days, but my art pieces are still with me. As a matter of fact, I once painted a cloth couch to match a

loved painting. So when you are painting, think how your work will affect the viewer. Do NOT paint to match a couch; paint to evoke the right feeling for someone. They will experience that feeling for the rest of their life. Isn’t art amazing?

Thank you to both Elaine Mulder and Teresa Graham for entertaining us at January’s meeting. Elaine gave a wonderful “Featured Artist” talk that was a mini program in itself. Members were so interested, that a workshop is now being organized and more info of that is further in this newsletter. Teresa Graham gave an excellent educational critique and I am sure everyone learned something from listening to it and participating in it. I love how our group is willing to offer suggestions, give praise and encouragement to our members that bring work in for critiques. We have 3 critiques per year so start thinking which pieces you’ll be bringing in for the next critique happening April.

A bit of news - Wendy Bowman, our treasurer, is vacationing for 3 months in Hawaii and unfortunately fell and broke her wrist. She will be going through some surgery to make things right again and, fortunately, will be able to spend a couple of months on the beach healing. Please send her your “get well soon” wishes, if you can.

We survived the yearly deep freeze - yay! Let’s hope it’s smooth sailing for the rest of this winter. Hope to see you at the February meeting.

Eveline Garneau
SWCA President

SWCA 2022-23 Executive

President: Eveline Garneau
Vice President: David Shone
2nd VP: Donna Chamberland
Treasurer: Wendy Bowman
Secretary: Laurél Hawkswell
Lorraine Bérubé

Committee Chairs

Library: Cynthia Clarke
Membership: Brenda Heine
Workshops: Member’s incentive program
Exhibitions: Vacant/individual members
Standards: Shirley Kinneberg
Newsletter: Elaine Mulder
Greeter: Myrna Wilkinson
Book: Eveline Garneau
Website: Alex Garneau
Facebook: Karen Bishop
Instagram: Richard Bremness

Next Meeting Monday Feb 12, 2024

You and a friend are invited to our next meeting: Monday, February 12, at Laurier Heights Baptist Church (basement), 142 street & 86 Ave. Entry is via back door with parking in the back or on the street.

Doors open at 6 pm Library opens at 6:30 pm
Meeting begins at 7 pm Program begins at 8 pm

VALENTINE’S MONTH - Coffee Break will have some sweet treats.



***Let’s help the environment;
bring your own mug for coffee/tea***

Meeting Program

February Program - ARTISTS HELPING ARTISTS PAINT.

All attendees will receive a canvas, paints, brushes and the choice of 5 different reference photos to have fun putting a style to your painting. Members will be encouraged to help their neighbours at their tables. We will be working with acrylics so this is good chance to explore a new medium if you are mainly a watercolour/oil painter. Let's enjoy an hour of painting together and see what masterpieces emerge from it.



March Program- MEET THE ARTIST.

We are inviting all the artists who have work in the SWCA book: Edmonton - Through the Eyes of its Artists to come to this meeting. We will acknowledge every artist and let's have a book signing event! We encourage everyone to bring their copy of the book so artists can sign their artwork's page. This will instantly triple the value of your book and who knows...it might one day become priceless if seen on the Antique Road Show! All artists: bring your own pen!

Bit Of History: George Seurat



Georges Seurat was born in Paris, France in 1859. At that time Paris was the art centre of the art world and as a young man, Seurat wanted to go in a different direction than all the other local artists. He used scientific ideas he discovered about colour, line, and shapes, and he ended up inventing

Pointillism. He put tiny dots of colour close to one another to create new colours. He painted to allow the viewer's eye mix the colours. Seurat believed this method would make his colours appear more natural and real looking. His most well known works were huge and took a long time to paint. He and a few friends eventually formed a new art group known as Neo-Impressionists. To learn more about Georges Seurat's interesting life, please take out the book from the SWCA Library. "Getting to Know the World's Greatest Artists - Georges Seurat".



Exhibitions

Night of Artists Art Walk -

Friday, March 15 - Sunday, March 17th

SWCA has bought a booth at this year's Art Walk and need volunteers to man the booth. All volunteers will have 1 grid space (2'x6') to show (and hopefully sell) their paintings. We were very successful in spreading the word about how great SWCA is, that we ended up getting almost 25 new members at last year's event. We hope to do the same again this year. We even sold 5 paintings last year and quite a few of our books.

Interested volunteers, please call Eveline at 780-489-1028.

Laurel Hawkswell put out a social media page asking for possible locations to hold a SWCA show and she had received some great news. She is on holidays at the moment but she told us she'll announce things at the next meeting and newsletter. Exciting!

June Art Show - in coordination with our garage sale. This will be held at the beginning of June (not necessarily the same day as our meeting). All elements of this event are still to be decided on. We are wanting 3 volunteers to come forward to oversee this event. Contact Eveline if interested.

Volunteer Needed

Membership Chairperson Volunteer Needed! Brenda Heine is not able to come to all our meetings and we feel that this is important as guests wanting to join should be able to do so at our meetings. Brenda is happy to do full training and to mentor anyone interested in this position. If interested please contact Eveline @ 780-489-1028 .

Book Committee

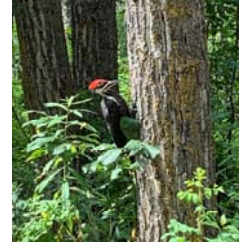
We had our latest committee meeting the last week of January and it was very productive. Committee members will be putting together a mailing list of all the bookstores in Alberta and we are going to do a strong push to get our books into them.

Last week, we received a cheque from Audrey's bookstore of over \$600 for their sales of the past year. They have asked for more books as they sold out the Edmonton Book before last Christmas. Their words to us was "It was great to see how they flew off the shelves!"

The committee went through the current entries for our latest book adventure and we realized we need to define what this book is going to be a bit better to members.

There were several entries that would not suit the book, even though they were excellent works. We want to be able to give the chance to members to change their entries after reading the parameters of what we are hoping for: Definitions of Flora and Fauna - FLORA - "The plants of a particular region, or geological period." FAUNA - "All kinds of animals living in a particular habitat. Birds from pheasants to owls, mammals from mice to bison, worms to reptiles, insects, soil and water fauna, etc., all inter-related species fall under the category of Fauna."

The book committee will accept perennials found in our backyards as we feel that even though they might not be native, they survive our cold winters and deserve a separate chapter. NO annuals or tropicals will be accepted. For animals - we are hoping to display from "Mice to Bison" - but they have to be wild. NO farm animals or pets will be accepted...even though we know they survive Alberta winters. There are a few entries that will not be



accepted under these guidelines and if you realize this and want to change out your entry, please do! In your email, please make a note of that.

To help you decide what to paint, here is a list of the current entries. At the meeting, we made the funny example that if everyone had painted chickadees, then we would put out a book on chickadees. But that was not the case. We have a good selection already and we're just starting!

FAUNA: black bear(1), moose (1), owls (4), pelicans (1), wolf (2), crows (4), fox (3), golden eagle (1), bald eagle (2), coyote (2), mountain sheep (2), big horned sheep (2), mallard ducks (2), blue birds (1), chickadees (2), nuthatch (1), white crested sparrow (1), blue jay (1), dragonflies (1)

FLORA: Birches (1), Native Yellow Lady slipper (1), Native Species Sunflowers (2), mushrooms (1), crocus (2), milkweed (1), Alberta Rose (2), lilacs (1), Indian Paintbrush (2), Water Smart Weed (1), Brown-Eyed Susans (2), Poppies (3), Marsh Marigolds (1), Peony (2), hydrangea (1), apple blossoms (2), cherries (1), coneflowers (1).

This means we have 61 entries so far that meet the specs. We will stop the entries at 200 but we are hoping that this book will be going to print by October 2024.

So please do not delay! Send your entries to swcabook@gmail.com



Did you know - When Paul Cezanne set up a still life for painting, he spent hours arranging the objects. He turned and tilted apples and oranges, propping them up on coins until the relationship seemed absolutely right to him.

Workshops

Workshops can now be registered online at swcartists.ca

Saturday Feb 17 —Mixed Media: Animals.

Instructor Samantha Walrod's work is influenced by similarities and differences between imagined and reconstructed environments, with the figurative elements often created from images of the Canadian wilderness. Walrod uses many layers of paint, collage, photography, and inks, as tactility is a very important element of her practice. Images are incorporated with collage and digital technologies, while maintaining the exploration of paint. The layers of materials act as a symbol of the mind's ability to retain detailed information, while at the same time, leaving certain elements unclear. In her own words, Walrod "reacts to the paintings with each layer or erasure, adjusting contrasting activity and quiet, opacity and transparency, chaos and balance". Tactility is very important to the artist's practice.



Samantha Walrod received her MFA Painting from U of A in 2013; and obtained her BFA from AUArts in 2008 with distinction. In 2018, Walrod was awarded the "RBC Workroom" residency at the Art Gallery of Alberta. Walrod's work can be found in various collections across Canada. **All enquiries to organizer Meghana Gauthier at meghanagauthier@gmail.com**

Saturdays March 23 & 30 - Multi-Media Landscape Relief- 9:30-2:30 @ Signworks Plus

Instructor Elaine Mulder's featured artist talk in January sparked a lot of interest. She is willing to teach a workshop so we can all try out different handmade mediums and recycling materials in our art! Elaine's artwork speaks for the passion she has for the forests and natural areas and uses her art as a vehicle to present issues relating to environment devastation, conservation and protection.

Elaine has worked in the field of art and design for over 35 years and now is fully emerging herself into her highly textured and deep art reliefs. For the past 6 years she has focused on creating unique works on nature and forests themes. These works are all created from homemade emulsions and upcycled materials.

Workshop highlights will focus on: 1) studying the depth of field in 3d as well as the textures we see and feel, and want to recreate. 2) creating emulsions, experiment and learning how to create textures and objects with them. 3) embellishing creations with additional scraps and objects that add interest to the artwork.

Direct enquiries to organizer Teresa Graham at teresabraham@gmail.com.



Erinn Evans has agreed to teach an encaustic class on animals. Erin did a wonderful program for us a couple years ago and we are thrilled to have her share her knowledge in this workshop.

Erinn Evans is an encaustics artist based in Sherwood Park, Alberta. She minored in art at the university of Alberta while earning her Bachelor's Degree in Education. Her artwork often features bold colors and patterns and reflects her love of nature and animals. Painting with encaustics, which is molten beeswax and resin mixed with pigments, allows her to incorporate a variety of materials such as oil pastels, india ink, and decorative papers to create depth and texture. Erinn has taught Encaustics workshops for the Paint Spot in Edmonton, the sociate Signature member of the Federation of Canadian Artists and her work is carried by the Art Gallery of Alberta shop. For more information see www.erinnevansart.com, Facebook: Erin Evans Encaustic Art, Instagram: Erin Evans Art.

All enquiries to go to organizer Janice Galarneau at jgalarneau@live.ca.

the bigger picture

Art news and opportunities in the community.

IN CELEBRATION OF LOVE

A special art exhibition and sale by members of the Art Society of Strathcona County at the Loft Gallery, A.J. Ottewell Centre/Red Barn 590 Broadmoor Blvd, Sherwood Park

Weekends February 12 noon - 4pm
Loft Gallery & Gift Shop also open !



Strathcona Art Society Ottewell Centre Winter/Spring 2024 Workshops

Register online: www.artstrathcona.com

Palette Knife Painting, with Izabella Orzelski
February 10 & 11 9:30—4 pm.
Reg. Cost \$180

Beginner Observational Drawing for Adults,
with Crystal Driedger
March 2&3 9:30 -4 pm. Reg Cost \$180

Acrylic Landscapes, with Margaret Klappstein
March 7, 9:30 – 4 pm. Reg Cost \$75

Watercolors for all Levels, with Willie Wong
March 11,18,25 & April 1,8,15. Reg Cost \$190

Line and Wash Journals, with Terrie Shaw
March 23 & 24 – 9:30-4 pm. Reg Cost \$180

Mastering Acrylic Landscapes, with
David Langevin – April 6, & 7 9:30-4 pm.
Reg Cost \$200

Pastel Landscapes, with Jane Romanishko
May 25, 26 – 9:30- 4 pm. Reg Cost \$180

Encaustics, with Dianna Sapara
June 8, 9, - 9:30—4 pm
Reg Cost \$180, plus \$85 for supplies

Orchid Fair: Art Exhibition & Competition, 2024



The Orchid Society of Alberta is once again inviting artists of all ages (youths, adults and seniors) and of all abilities (amateur and professional) to submit 2D and 3D orchid art for display and judging to our annual orchid sale and show. The main focus of your piece must be an orchid(s).

Orchid Fair, 2024 at Hole's Enjoy Centre in St. Albert between Friday, March 22 and Sunday, March 24, 2024.
(Entries to be delivered on Thursday, March 21, 2024.)

Registration forms and regulations will be made available early in the new year at various art supply stores and art schools. You may also check www.orchidsalberta.com for updates. Registration forms should be available on the site early in the new year as well. Please notify J. Auschrat at 780-484-4290 or at cakesliver@shaw.ca by **Monday, March 18, 2024** if you intend to submit an orchid art piece for show and judging. You should receive confirmation of your registration shortly after contacting us. If not, then please try again. Arrangements can be made if you wish to sell your art piece.

The Orchid Society of Alberta would like to thank the members of SWCA for their continued support!
J. Auschrat

Last year's trophy winners were:

Henrietta Fiddler – Vivian Thierfelder Trophy For Best Artistic Image

AnnaV. – Una Thompson Trophy For Best Artistic Image By A Youth
(Alex Janvier School)

Jerry Hummelle – Members' Choice Award For Best Artistic Image

Polina Kolotilina – Members' Choice Award For Best Artistic Image By A Youth
(Expression Art Studio)

Painting Holiday

with David Shkolny in Montelparo, Italy

MAY 10-17, 2024

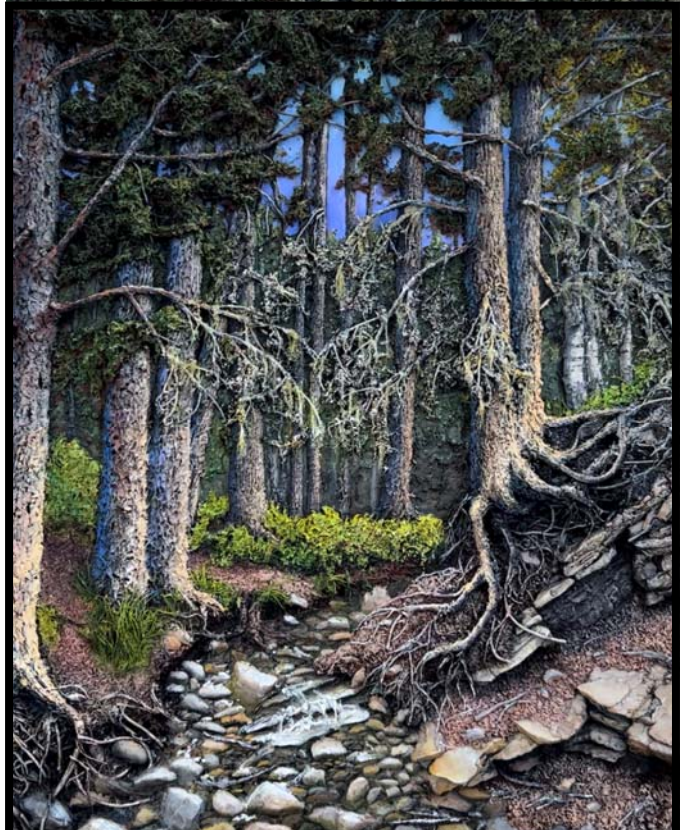
www.hotelleonemarche.com

Includes 2 free Zoom classes and a chance to win an original painting!

Contact: dshkolny@shaw.ca
780.903.8123

Buon pomeriggio! I'm taking this opportunity to reach out to people who I think might be interested or who know some folks who would be interested in coming to a fabulous painting holiday in the heart of Italy! Next year, from May 10-17 will be my third time as your instructor and guide in all things painting and I have lots of things to share, including two FREE zoom classes before we leave for Italy, AND, everyone who comes on the painting holiday has a chance to WIN an Italian painting I have done, or will do on the trip (see two attached)! If we get max capacity, I might add another!

Right now it's about half full, so there's only about 6 or possibly 7 spots available. Some people take their spouses who end up having fun doing their own thing while we're off painting so that's definitely an option. It all starts at 1999 Euros based on double occupancy, plus your own flight. The staff will pick you up from the airport at Ancona or the train station See: <https://hotelleonemarche.com/en/retreats/painting-holiday-david-shkolny-2024/>



"Touching and Feeling Nature"

3D Art Relief Workshop with Elaine Mulder

Tuesdays Feb 19 & 26 9:30-3:30 pm

At Elaine's Studio on the edge of Edmonton

Workshop will focus on:

- 1) Nature Walk: Recognizing the textures we see and feel in nature: Tree types, grass types, shrubs, rocks, etc.
- 2) Recognizing forest devastation, conservation and what can we do about it.
- 3) "Recycling, upcycling, reusing" in Art
- 4) Composing a 3d Art Relief focusing on layout, and depth of field.
- 5) Creating a 3D Art Relief using different emulsions and materials.
- 6) Painting to enhance depth of field and exaggerate shapes. Working with shadows.

Classes limited to 8 people. Materials will be provided except for containers, acrylic paints, brushes, and tools.

For more information, contact Elaine Mulder @

780-446-1275 or emulderdesigncreative.com



6 SPACES FOR ARTISTS OPENING AT THE CREATIVE HIVE!!!

We have created a space and a place we want to bring the community together and that always includes artists here at The Creative Hive! We have a 1500 sq ft. space and are dividing it into 6 art rentable mini art studios. The ceilings are 17' high and you can get as messy as you like!

- 6 spaces
- 17 foot ceilings
- Overhead door access
- Access to The Creative Hive
- Free use of studio when available for photos
- Utilities & WIFI included
- Free Parking
- 2 art shows/year at The Creative Hive
- Access to Square 1 Coffee and all the creativity and people here at The Creative Hive
- \$500/month (6 month lease)
- \$700/month (month-to-month)
- Space at The Creative Hive to display work



We want to share and show the space!

Email Dez at info@thecreativehive.ca to see the space now.

***READY TO MOVE IN JAN 1, 2024**



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