

Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County
8214 Covert Lane • Sebastopol CA 95473



Our September 17 meeting will be via Zoom at 12:30.

>>> See information on page 6 <<<

September Prompts: CLOUDS & see page 4 for the Visuals

www.AWSOMEART.org



Merrie Krisl - "Race"
acrylic & collage, 22x16.5

Merrie writes, "I haven't done much this month. Started a tree picture, but then got sidetracked by the fires. The piece I'm sending is the result of liking Franz Kline's work and facing daily images of the fire. It's quite a departure for me and certainly not archival, as was much of his work. I have been watching a lot of YouTube videos and am happy to see that you can find things on your favorite painters, as well as demos by those who seem to have more creative energy than you may have at the moment! Missed our Zoom meeting, but hope to connect with everyone next month."

Georgia Simons' plein air
was painted at
Schoolhouse Beach,
9x12 oil.



FROM THE PRESIDENT...

WHERE'S THE LOCUSTS?????!!!!!!

Hi everyone,

Geez...pandemic, the lightning and thunderstorms, fires...somebody isn't happy with what's going on here! I hope you are all coping with everything that's being thrown at us! I was so sorry to have to cancel our Zoom in August, but after talking with board members, we felt it best to cancel. I look forward to seeing your faces and hearing about what is happening with you later this month.

Gary and I had a crazy ten days living on the borderline of evacuation "warning" then "mandatory" in Forestville. We've been a little bit of everywhere with our belongings in our car. I know Patty and Beverly Bird are still evacuated from Rio Nido (or may have come home this past weekend).

We are planning to have a full Zoom on our regular meeting date, September 17th. Please encourage other members that haven't participated in Zoom to do so! (Details on p. 6.)

And yes, you guessed it, NO PICNIC this month. We will take it month by month to decide, depending on our Public Health recommendations. It might be that we will plan a HOLIDAY event instead??!!

Remember to send in your photos of paintings you've been doing to Gail. Special thanks to Gail for keeping us in touch through our wonderful newsletter and to Jerry for organizing our Zoom that didn't happen!

We have THREE new members this month!

Welcome Sunny DuPuis, Beverly Kjeldsen, and Linda Loveland Reid!!

I hope you are finding ways to reach out and social distance with fellow artists. Some of my Thursday Morning art group members have been meeting at a picnic area in Ive's Park just to chat and show our art to each other for critiques.

Please take care of yourselves and remember to reach out to others. This is such a trying time!

Best,
Carol

After the August Zoom meeting was cancelled, **Kathy Root** wrote, "Good choice. It would've been a bit too much last week and this. Wishing all a safe month and positive return home."

Stages of Quarantine



From Deni Marrone, Venues Coordinator

Hello you fabulous fellow artists out there. I just wanted to give a shoutout to everyone, that while we're all dealing with the worst of global times, remember to stay safe, stay positive, do YOUR best, and above all else, stay creative. And never forget that laughter is still the best medicine.

Regarding the Venues: **Diane Cecarelli** is still in Umpqua Bank; **Phil Wilkinson** is still in Tombe Realty; and I am still in "The Specialty Center" (Eye Associates is one of the services in the newly named building).

Please call me at (408) 202-3875 if interested in any of those venues. As you know this is a very raw time for all businesses, but rest assured as things start to evolve and/or reopen, we will once again get our art out there!

I told my suitcases
that there will be no
vacation this year.
Now I'm dealing with
emotional baggage.

Carol Mills is in the deYoung!

by Gail Mardfin

I am so happy to brag about our president Carol Mills, whose watercolor “On the Edge of Town” was selected to be in the deYoung Museum’s Open Show!

Some 6,190 artists from the nine Bay Area counties applied to be part of the exhibition, sending 11,518 images of artworks including painting, drawing, printmaking, digital art, photography, sculpture, fiber art, and video. After being evaluated by curators and artist judges Hung Liu, Mildred Howard, and Enrique Chagoya, 881 works created by 763 artists were selected. Nearly 60 were from Sonoma County. And one of them was by our Carol!

To accommodate the large number of works, the museum plans to hang the show in a “salon or academy style,” where numerous pieces are grouped together in the nine galleries to best use wall space.

The grouped works will then be separated into different thematic sections. The first gallery will feature works inspired by recent events surrounding Black Lives Matter; the second will explore art that addresses the impact of the coronavirus. Other delineating themes include nature, abstraction, figures and portraits, as well as works inspired by surrealism. The exhibition’s overall theme, “On the Edge,” comes from a phrase in a traditional Ohlone song: “I am dancing. On the edge of the world I am dancing.” The theme had already been chosen before the pandemic and the year’s social activism, but evolved to focus around the Bay Area’s geographic location on the Pacific Rim and the region’s historical reputation for cutting-edge creativity.

Carol had submitted two watercolors that seemed to fit the theme, and one was selected. She says, “I feel really shocked and amazed that my watercolor painting was chosen for the show!” Due to the wildfires, the original delivery date was pushed back two weeks. We hope to get a picture of Carol and her painting in front of the museum on delivery day for our next newsletter.

The Press Democrat described the honor of being accepted this way: “For an artist living and working in Northern California, showing work at San Francisco’s esteemed deYoung Museum is an achievement akin to qualifying for the Olympics or climbing Mount Everest.”

Last time they had an open call show was in 1932; this one is to celebrate the deYoung’s 125th anniversary. A nice feature of this show, besides the artistic recognition, is that artists can offer their pieces for sale and keep all the proceeds.

The museum is currently closed due to the coronavirus pandemic, but hopes to open its doors to socially distanced visitors wearing masks, possibly as early as September or October.



Carol Mills - “On the Edge of Town,” 14x20 watercolor

You may recognize other artists in the exhibit; for a list of all those from Sonoma county who got into the show, this link is courtesy of **Ann Storms**: https://srp-prod-public-pdfs.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/aUzs2pW-RGaOdrC9_6ICLd5bVeA.pdf

Optional Inspirational Prompts for September



VERBAL PROMPT: CLOUDS • + • VISUAL PROMPTS are the two images pictured here.

Crop / re-compose / any medium! Please send a photo of your work to Gail@PLPgraphicdesign.com no later than September 24 to be in the next newsletter and/or share at our Zoom meeting.

Welcome to our new members!

SUNNY DuPUIS - watercolor
Santa Rosa - leohurley@prodigy.net

BEVERLEY KJELDEN -
acrylics/watercolor/gouache
Santa Rosa - bkjeldsen@yahoo.com

LINDA LOVELAND REID - oil & acrylic
Penn Grove - lindalreid100@gmail.com

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are one of the few art clubs that are still going strong during this pandemic, so please invite your art friends to join us!

New Member Dues

for the remainder of the year are \$20.

Please write to

lorrainestribling@comcast.net

Just one submission from August's TREE prompt...but remember, you can submit finished paintings at any time!



Carol Mills -
"Crepe Myrtles"
14x11 watercolor

From Gail Mardfin, Newsletter Editor

Hello everyone from verdant, damp Pennsylvania. Wish I could ship some of this rain and clear air back west. I made it out here driving in four days – it was fun! Lots of projects to attend to on this property here (including keeping the house mouse population down...) Haven't yet buckled down to paint yet, but I did bring my watercolors.

Before I left, I painted a commission (a trade for a friend who does my taxes) of his first granddaughter. You can see the photo I worked from, and changed. The mother is thrilled with the flowers. The next one was a total re-do of a large diptych. It was fun; worked with house paint and acrylics. I like the way the gold disks change throughout the day. I have a house-sitter and she loves waking up to it every day.

Will do my best to attend the September Zoom meeting, internet willing. Stay safe, everyone!

xo gail



Gail Mardfin -
ABOVE: "Madalyn"
14x11 pastel
BELOW:
"Whisperings II"
36x72 mixed media



April Lynch -

ABOVE: "Leopard Lily" 8x10 acrylic
"Here is one from my flower photograph collection, Leopard lily, Lilium pardalinum. These lilies grow in the shade along creeks in the forest. Wade through the ferns to find them. They can grow to 10' feet tall. Notice the whorled leaves and the two nodding flower buds on long stems."

BELOW: "Bloomfield Hills" 24x32 watercolor, also by April Lynch



I HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE
ACT ALL INTELLECTUAL
AND TALK ABOUT
MOZART WHILE THEY'VE
NEVER EVEN SEEN ONE
OF HIS PAINTINGS...

SAVOS

Online Through September
= SebArtsVirtualOpenStudio
www.sebartsvirtual.org

AWS artists participating include **Beverly Bird, Susan Bradford, Pat Landskron, Patricia Marina, Fran Neilsen, Phil Wilkinson, and Carolyn Wilson.** It's a beautiful website with lots to see - 138 artists! **Beverly, Carolyn, and James Reynolds** will also have live open studios the first two weekends of September, following Covid guidelines, of course. Good luck everyone!!

LIVE FROM AMSTERDAM Thurs. Sept. 10. 11AM



Drs Kees Kaldenbach, art historian and cyber docent extraordinaire, will deliver another fascinating tour of the Rijksmuseum, the best museum for Dutch fine art. Kees will stand in front of and discuss works by the beloved Vermeer and then move on to Rembrandt — (Did you know his late style shows wild, expressive brushwork?!) — as well as other outstanding Dutch masters, with time for live audience Q&A. It's a rare opportunity - by donation \$5-\$50. Register now!
www.sebarts.org

Our September 17th meeting will be via Zoom at 12:30.

Please view this YouTube video for our September meeting, “How to Paint a **DRAMATIC** Seascape in 5 Easy Steps.” It's an excellent 20-minute seascape demo done in oils by artist Sam Earp.

<https://youtu.be/RMHTNERQ5KU>

(You may remember we had originally planned to have artist Tom Rissacher demonstrate — in person — how to paint the ocean.)

I look forward to the discussion of this video during our Zoom meeting.

Thanks very much,
Jerry Fabiano



Look for an email from jfabiano@comcast.net the morning of the meeting - that is the invitation you'll need to join. A few minutes before 12:30, just click on the link in the email. •• If you have never received an invitation and you would now LIKE to be included, please let Gail know (gail@plpgraphicdesign.com). You need a computer/device/ smartphone with a camera and microphone to participate. **All those who've already asked to be included in Zoom meetings will automatically be invited.** They are fun and we'd love to see more of you! •• After a welcome and announcements led by Carol, we'll move into sharing art &/or other personal updates. After a short break, we'll discuss the video. Sound good? Any other ideas are welcome.



Jerry Fabiano -
“Natasha’s Morning Walk”
16x20 acrylic



AWS Artists have been busy!

←Clockwise from directly left:

Deni Marrone -

- “Sizzle” - 11x14 acrylic swipe
- “The Edge of Night” - 12x12 embellished acrylic flip cup
- “Frozen” (detail) - 10x20 acrylic drip pour & blow
- “Rainbow Profile” - 12x12 acrylic tree ring pour

Lorraine Stribling -

- “The Ladies” - 11.5x6 collage

Susan Bradford -

- “Apples and Teapot” - 16x12 oil
- “Fong Choo Teapots” - 14x11 oil
- “Onions, Vase & Teapot” 8x10 oil

Carol Mills -

- “Grand Tetons” - 14x11 pastel



This one is for sale at Corricks in Santa Rosa during September.



You must check out Streamline Art Videos! <https://www.youtube.com/user/streamlineartvideo> - where you can find dozens of FREE videos ranging from 20 mins to 2 hours – watercolor, oils, acrylics, figures, and California Impressionism, to name just a few.



Lonna Necker -
“Geraniums”
8x10 oil

“Quiet Corner”
7.5x9.5 watercolor

“Sunflowers”
8x10 oil



Patricia Marina is one of six guest artists in Graton Gallery, Sept. 4 - Oct. 18. Gallery is open Fridays, Saturdays, & Sundays 11-4.

Above,
“Flying Beauties”
20x20
mixed media.



“Spaces between the forms, or the negative shapes, play just as great a role as the positives. The positives make the negatives and negatives make the positives.”

([Stan Smith](#))

I highly recommend painterskeys.com, where I found these quotes relating to various articles there.

In the July 3 post about OVERWORKING A PAINTING, Canadian artist Sara Genn addresses the reasons we may “overwork” something — perfectionism, pressure, guilt, and self-doubt. Charles Eames said, “In my experience, it is better to be 10 percent underworked than 1 percent overworked. Learning how to stop takes practice.”

“A painter is a choreographer of space.”

([Barnett Newman](#))

“To be a painter, you need to know how to paint, and when to stop.”

([Pablo Picasso](#))

**KAREN MILLER HAS SHOW IN
UPSTAIRS GALLERY THRU SEPT. 27**



Karen Miller - CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT
“At Least I Have Oranges” 12x12 pastel • “Chard Amongst the Roses” 16x12 pastel
“Ripple Study” 12 x12 pastel • “Farm on Magnolia Loop” 8x16” pastel

Even with a mask on, who wouldn't recognize Karen in this self-portrait?!

She writes, “I have been sick, mildly so, but for about 4 months and not painting during that whole time. Was it Covid? No se, did not get tested but could have been. Not a lot different from chronic Lyme except for the cough. Anyway, I got back to painting and am putting up new work as the September featured artist at Upstairs Art Gallery in Healdsburg. I am attaching a few new pieces. It has been nuts trying to get everything ready while packing for evacuation and waiting on tenterhooks to see if we had to flee once again. Thankfully we did not, but trying to finish paintings and frame work out of boxes is a unique experience. So is trying to photograph work using daylight but dodging the heat wave and smoke filters. Gah. The Upstairs Art Gallery website has a blog about the show, <https://www.upstairsartgallery.net/featured-artist-events.html> P.S. I am still really sad about the Apple Blossom Festival. It would have been my first one and I was so looking forward to it. Ah well, next year.”

A couple of really good YouTube recommendations...

Gail and Steve Radice have found a great way to pass the time, watching **PORTRAIT ARTIST OF THE YEAR** (2019 & 2010). It's a British show where 12 artists have to paint portraits of 3 celebrity subjects in only 4 hours, working in the medium of their choice. Really fun and fascinating! Each episode is 45 minutes, and it features “regular people” with other jobs as well as professional artists. Each artist is highlighted, and we sometimes see a self-portrait that they did, too. There is commentary with audiences walking around the live event. At the end, the celebrities choose the painting they want to take home and judges pick the three best painters. **In an upcoming month, the optional prompt will be PORTRAITS or SELF-PORTRAITS, so this would be a great place to get inspired!** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWijBloPixs>

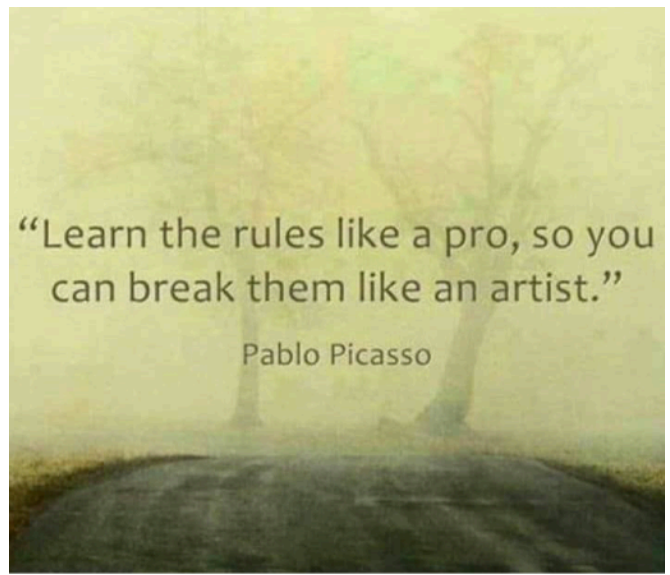


And Phil Wilkinson really enjoyed the hour-long video of **Kevin MacPherson painting on the Amalfi Coast at Portofino Harbor, Italy**. Writes Phil, “He of course is a wonderful painter, but what's really fun is that it's a masterful video so that you feel you are there with him watching him paint in a beautiful place. While it is a painting demo, the videographer has done a wonderful job of capturing the sights and sounds, birds, dogs, boats, and people of this beautiful place. Made me wish I was there!” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QKbS0ztEesM&feature=youtu.be>





Kathy Byrne -
"Summer Glory" 14x11 watercolor
"Thinking of Fall" 11x14 watercolor
"Here are a couple of paintings I completed in the last month."



COVID THOUGHTS...

1. If these last months have taught us anything, it's that stupidity travels faster than any virus on the planet.
2. If you believe all this will end and we will get back to normal just because we reopen everything, raise your hand. Now slap yourself with it.
3. Remember when you were little and all your underwear had the days of the week on them. Those would be helpful right now.
4. The spread of Covid-19 is based on two factors: 1. How dense the population is and 2. How dense the population is.
5. Remember all those times when you wished the weekend would last forever? Well, wish granted. Happy now?

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Painted cement frogs by Paula Pearce