

Showcase of the 2021 New Members

It has been three months since our nine new members were introduced at our March Monthly Meeting, and we would like to present them as a group so that we all may learn more about each of them.







Art name: Adam CX, Name, Y.D. Zhao. Freelance painter, Member of Toronto Watercolor Society, Member of American Watercolor Society. Member of Art Guild of Scarborough and Don Valley Art Club and the Atlantic Artists Association. Adam has researched in many fields of art, such as painting using watercolor, oil and acrylic media, graphic design, photography, international standard dance, etc., has a subtle insight into life, and is good at using different artistic means to explore different artistic styles, to realize the bits and pieces of life and record dealing with the changes in the humanities and environment of the times.







Julie Hogg

After studying psychology at UofT and business administration at UWO - most of my career was in finance. However, the visual and performing arts have always been an important part of my life (I studied ballet for many years and my father was a commercial artist). I have dabbled in drawing and painting for several years - and recently studied watercolour. I have much to learn - and am excited about being a member of TWS. My goal is to somehow capture the beauty and essence of what I see - using the fluid but challenging medium of watercolour.







Liz Hrabowsky

At the age of 15, Liz began experimenting n calligraphy, pencil sketching and silk painting. As she further pursued her skills, Liz spent the next several years teaching calligraphy for the Toronto Board of Education and participating in various Toronto Arts and Craft shows.

Primarily self-taught, it was not until 1990 that she started her formal art training. Liz has received instruction exploring mediums such as watercolour, pastel, pen and ink, oils and conte, She studied at the Ottawa School of Art, as well as studying under mentors such as Laurie Hemmings, Morton Baslov, Joe Foster, Nancy Myron and Rose Edin. Liz has featured her works in groups shows, studios, restaurants and various charity auctions. Liz sells her work to collects throughout North America and Europe. Much of the last 10 years has been spent teaching both private and small instruction workshops to students of all levels. Her background in various mediums combined with her bold use of pure colour and awareness for texture is reflected in her loose and subjective style, thus presenting a unique and effective mood.







Diane Hunter

Growing up in Toronto I was always drawing. In grade school Sister Lenora would always hang my drawings in the main hall at school. After high school I took a Life drawing course at Danforth Tech. I was hooked. Later I managed to attend Ont. College of Art part-time. But I continued with the Life drawing groups. Moving to Thornhill with a family, and a fulltime job finally put a halt to my artistic activities for a time. Meeting other Thornhill moms who were interested in art introduced me to watercolour painting. I joined the Bayview W/C group. Later I joined the WGA because they offered Life drawing. I have become very involved with WGA over the years. I have met the most amazing group of friends and supporters within art. These artists have introduced me to painting with different mediums and experimenting within the artistic sphere. It has always fun and educational.

As artists we spend a lot of time on our own painting. Covid has forced us to stay at home. For me, Covid has given me the time to paint. No more rushing here and there. Time to focus on becoming better at what I love to do. Learning from artists all over the world. Staying in one place reading books, watching you-tube, and painting everyday. My desire is to make people feel good when they see what I have created.







Mona Kleperis

Mona has always been interested in arts and crafts. After graduating from Wexford Collegiate School for the Arts, Mona achieved her dream of a career in art when she was hired as a graphic designer in the art department of Lewiscraft and later Yellow Pages. She eventually gave up these positions to be a domestic engineer raising two wonderful children and caring for elderly family and friends. 22 years later, Mona found the time to reattempt watercolours (her worst medium in secondary school). A few courses and video tutorials later, Mona discovered she can paint in watercolour. She's excited to be a part of this talented group of artists and learning as much as she can about this medium, and she's grateful for this opportunity.







Augusto Lee (Gus)

Gus recently made Canada his home. He is an architect in his country of origin, the Philippines, where he is part of "Arkisketchers" -- a bunch of buddies in the same career, who have a knack for watercolour painting. Thanks to this group, he came back to the art of his youth five years ago. The group was first formed for fun. Along the way, it helps kids with cancer. Watercolour art is such a gratifying, stress-reliever for him; he thinks everyone should try it at least once. He finds himself unknowingly dissecting his surroundings in terms of hues and tonal values, excited to capture them on paper. He leans towards realistic renders with splashes of randomness here and there





Sucharita Maitra

My mantra is to capture and share joy. When I see beauty, my mind's eye entices me to paint it. Watercolour to me is the magical medium with its dancing and vibrating light and dark effects to transfer the joy onto paper. Art has attracted me since my childhood. However, for over 3 decades my life's journey was a successful career in finance and senior management and I did not permit my right brain to express my artistic desires. Since 2018 another new journey in my life has begun where I am allowing myself to immerse myself in the wonder of art and the fulfillment it





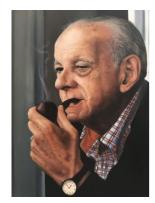


Mel Margolese

I am a retired Investment Banker and CPA. I have always enjoyed drawing and started to paint with Acrylics about 8 years ago. I moved to watercolouring 4 years later after seeing the inventive and creative aspects of the medium including the challenge of attaining a balance between control and letting go. Over the years I have taken art classes at the AGO, and at schools/museums in Florida and Arizona along with private group sessions. I have developed an interest in urban sketching with watercolours, enjoy membership in Urban Sketchers-Chicago and am very pleased to become a member of TWS







Diana Quilarque: Oil painting or Watercolour? Is that a dichotomy?

I am an amateur painter, starting with 5 years learning the oil painting world and recently I decided to explore the possibility of watercolours. My driving force behind my paintings has been the interest in the mix of different techniques and the use of expressive and intense colours and luminosity. The precise and realistic details of the human beings, objects or nature I love to recreate, allows me to abstract myself from the stressful and complex surrounding world to join my universe of emotions and personal reflections, and finally to dance silently with my soul and spirit.

A continuous flow between powerful oil painting and delicate watercolour pieces is my next goal, that matches my versatile personality, who loves to play, one day, with the cold wax and pallet knife to create rich and vigorous textures on my canvas, but who can easily move, the next day, to gradations and transitions of transparent, luminous watercolour washes.