



TWS ARTLINE

JUNE 2023



PRESIDENT'S GREETINGS

Following our AGM, we're well into our new year, running from March 2023 to March 2024.

A huge thank you to the new members of the Executive for stepping up and to the new volunteers. Your interest and time are very much appreciated and important going forward.

Let me remind everyone again that the Vice-President and Program Chair positions are open and need to be filled!

Having been the first President of the TWS, I find that coming back after 30 some years has been an eye-opener. We were a small organization back then. Most of the members were from Margaret Roseman's painting classes in the Art Program at Central Technical School through the Toronto Board of Education. But some of us were from Margaret's class at the Toronto School of Art on Brunswick Ave. The woman who ran the art school had a little art supply store in the basement and she would just let us take paper, paint, or brushes as needed. She would remember and keep track of all these transactions; we could pay her next time. Imagine that in today's world! At least, that's my recollection, but it's been a

while. The Toronto School of Art was small, cozy, and friendly, and that was also the feeling of the TWS. Not to minimize the Society but it was more like an interest group among people who loved watercolour and wanted to paint and learn and show their work together.

So what was I doing in my 33-year absence from the TWS?

Basically, I was working full time as an art teacher in a high school that was busy with extra curricular activities. The art dept (myself) always did the sets for the plays, music night, Arts Night, Art Club events, etc. I was also running a house and family (just one child but that was plenty for me). Living an hour from the TWS meeting venue - having to deal with rush hour traffic and weather – made continued membership in the Society impractical for me.

Now it's great to be involved again and catching up with TWS doings. The Society has grown into an organization that is more professional and is taken more seriously. The quality of the work has grown by leaps and bounds. The membership has grown as well and the programs and workshops attract internationally known artists. Many of our members belong to other art associations like the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour. Impressive! The past Executives have put together a thorough manual for the TWS, detailing all the positions and responsibilities. Forms for shows and workshops, etc. are on file, ready to go.

My plan is to make sure all this continues – with everyone's help, of course!

JODY FULLER

YOUNG AT HEART

by Beth Parker

"I am a child inside", says Evangeline Munns, "and I need to paint!" Evangeline's declaration is a telling description of her extraordinary career as a PhD psychologist specializing in therapy with children and her life-long passion as an artist.

Growing up in Edmonton, Evangeline was always drawing. In fact, she was certain that her career would be in art. But when she was in high school, Evangeline took an art course and the experience changed her mind. "It was commercial art," she explains, "which meant I would have to create pictures of products I didn't always believe in, and that bothered me."

What followed was a notable career in clinical and health psychology. Evangeline first earned her Hon. BSc at the University of Alberta, followed by an M.A. at the University of Toronto, and then, a PhD at York. For 41 years, she owned her own practice, specializing in working with children with severe social, emotional, and behavioural difficulties; her therapy included their families. Her work in play therapy and art therapy won her respect around the world. She's the recipient of several honours, including a Play Therapy International award and a lifetime achievement award from the Canadian Association for Play Therapy. She's also the author of two books on play therapy and families, and she has contributed chapters in 26 other books.

Evangeline, however, did not abandon her dream of art. Throughout her busy career, Evangeline continued to paint and study art at various schools, including the Ontario College of Art (and Design), the San Miguel de Allende Institute in Mexico, the Haliburton School of Art in Ontario, and in Kenya. Her fresh, transparent watercolours have won many awards in shows in and around Toronto



and Aurora, including TWS shows. Her art is represented in several galleries and in private collections across North America, England, Europe, Japan, and Australia. She's also taught art and served as a juror, and of course, integrated her love of art and talent with her work in art therapy.

Just last year, she retired—at 88. In her words, "Now I can just be lazy."

It's hard to imagine Evangeline as lazy! (She also loves to sing, ski, and play bridge.)

The connection between art and work has always been an important one for Evangeline. "As a psychologist," she says, "I recommend a creative outlet for everyone, whether it's knitting, painting, music, whatever. Artists in the TWS are fortunate that painting can be a release for them. But you must find time to paint regularly—it's too easy for other priorities to take over."

A favourite subject for Evangeline is flowers, although her paintings include landscapes and other nature-inspired works. While committed to watercolour, she has also painted in acrylic and oil. "It's good for any painter to try other mediums and styles," she

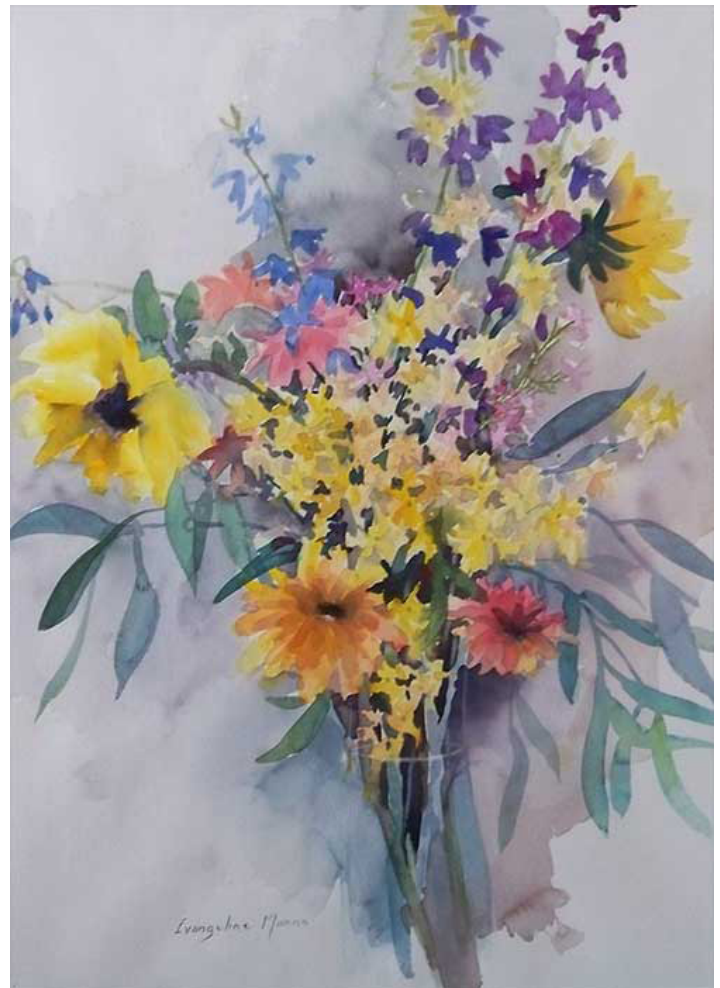
Young At Heart continued...

advises. More recently, she was doing some abstract painting and noted how tough it is: "It looks easy, but takes a lot of work to be effective."

This spring Evangeline packed up her paints for a move from her house to join her husband, Tom, at the Meadows retirement residence in Aurora. Although not quite settled in, she's enjoying daily walks on the trails in the area, and it won't be long before she's set up her paints in her new apartment. Their daughter, Catherine, also a PhD clinical psychologist, works at the Hospital for Sick Children, so Evangeline has family nearby.

"I'm so lucky I have painting as a creative outlet," she says. "Art has always been my therapy. I'm 89, but I want to take more workshops and I want to venture more into acrylics."

Evangeline is a silver member of the Toronto Watercolor Society (which means she's participated in 25 juried shows) and in 2020, was honored as a 35-year member.



Summer Beauties

SPRING AQUASISION 2023

Our Spring Aquavision Show was a very enjoyable and successful event. Over 420 people attended the show, not including our talented participating artists. Visitors loved the venue with the natural light, open space and lighting focussed on the work. The curator was Jeff Nye and his arrangement of the paintings received many compliments. Grouping by theme was very popular and allowed people to view a number of related paintings at the same time. Visitors praised the beautiful work and were very involved with choosing their favourite paintings.

TWS benefitted from coverage by local news outlets who published write-ups and photos taken at our opening reception. They were interested in local artists participating and being honoured at our show.

Data from our People's Choice ballots showed that the most effective advertising came from local news and radio (88.5), Facebook and Instagram, artist invitations and posters placed in stores, schools and cultural venues.

Sincere thanks to the participating artists who sat the show. Visitors were happy to meet and chat with some of the artists. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know our fellow members and enjoy the artwork together.

Thank you to our Social Committee who provided delicious refreshments. The table itself was a work of art.

Thank you to our Juror, Ray McNeice whose comments are included in this newsletter along with photos of the award winners.

Thank you to Janet Raponi at the Old Town Hall Newmarket and Jeff Nye our curator. Everyone who participated remarked on the warm and friendly people at the gallery.

Our next show will be at the Papermill Gallery, Todmorden Mills. Drop-off day of accepted paintings will be Monday, October 23, 2023, with the show running during gallery hours from Wednesday, October 25 to Sunday, November 19. Mark your calendars. More details will be available later.

- Nancy Newman

SPRING AQUAVISION 2023 DATA

Paintings Sold: 6

4 buyers from
Newmarket
2 from Toronto

Minimum price \$200.00

Maximum price \$450.00

Average Price: \$330.00

All sales using Square,
Visa or debit.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD 282 votes cast

1. Rani Satpute,
Devotion Reflects 30
votes
2. Tied: Nancy
Newman Ring of
Trilliums 19 votes
and Natalia Outkina,
African Beauty 19
votes
3. Cameron Stewart,
Glendon Ravine 18
votes

2023 TWS SPRING SHOW AWARDS AND JUROR'S COMMENTS: RAY McNEICE



As an admittedly novice juror, to be asked to oversee the accomplishments of this talented and diverse group has been an honour, albeit with a huge learning curve. I have always loved the watercolour medium for its immediacy, transparency and, as an avid traveler and painter *en plein air*, its portability. The Toronto Watercolour Society, with its wide range of skills and approaches, has been an educational and exciting experience for me to jury. I wish to thank you all for trusting me with this task.

GOLD AWARD



Falling For You
by Sherrill Girard

A beautiful yet simple portrayal of a shed, the irregular line work and cast shadows amplify the age and wealth of stories that it could tell. The bright red watering can is a nice counterpoint to bring us back to the present.

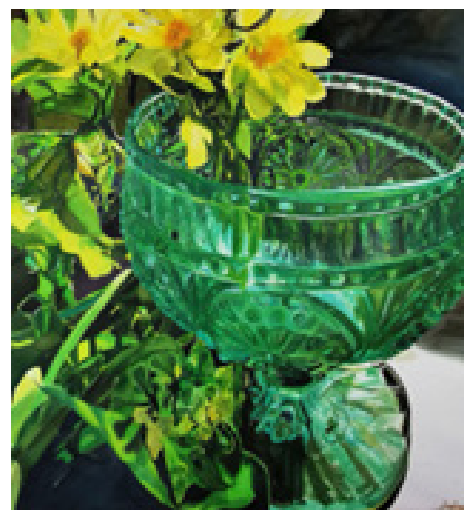
SILVER AWARD



Vietnam Fishing Village
by Ted Martin

Well-designed with great diagonal shapes and depth and strong use of complementary colour. I like the flattened, linear treatment of the background and the lone figure as a focal point.

BRONZE AWARD



Glass in the Sun by Lan Fang

An exotic still life with lush green side-lit glass and bright sunshine illuminating the yellow accents that surround it. A very nice use of the white foreground and black background as counterpoints.

BRUCE SNELL AWARD FOR BEST USE OF TRANSPARENT WATERCOLOUR

*Embodied Impressions
(Killarney) by Barbara Eguchi*

A dreamy landscape with bold, lush splashes of transparent colour. Both strong and deliberate... not a timid piece to be sure, embodying the magic of transparent watercolour.

AWARDS OF MERIT (ALPHABETICALLY ORDERED)

*Winter Shadows
by Eric David*

Beautiful dry brush treatment ties together this lovely rural scene. The cool foreground shadows lead to the warm farm buildings and unsettled sky. A very unique interpretation of a rural subject.



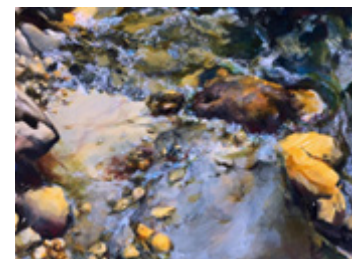
*Turning To Fall
by Margaret Roseman*

A very strong image with lovely calligraphic brushwork combined with exciting loose colour application. The diagonal foreground fence and linear shadows lead beautifully to the porch focal point.



*Aegina Island
by Fiona Shen*

A timeless image with very nice use of both warm and cool colours. A beautiful composition with well-handled washes and lighting.



*Shoreline Walk
by Kim Yong*

Well-designed with lovely movement throughout, emphasized beautifully with the dappled blue brushwork and yellow rocks. A very peaceful, calming image.

HONOURABLE MENTIONS (ALPHABETICALLY ORDERED)

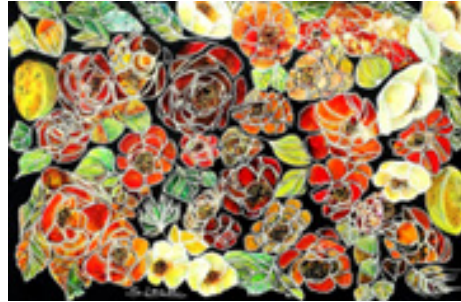
Hills and Dales of King II by Mary Cromarty

This delicate and simplified landscape feels like it was created "in the moment." A colourful dream-like image is enchanting in its simplicity.



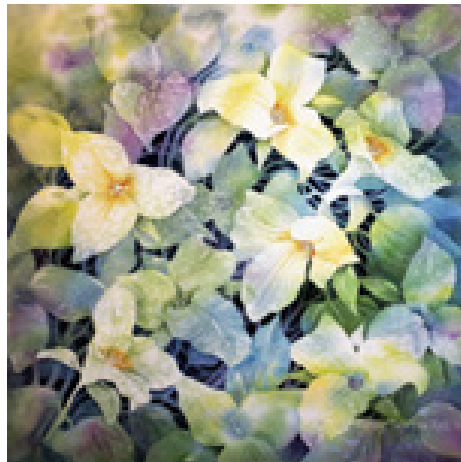
The Cathedral, Abstracting the Landscape by Andrew Farinha

A strong, simplified abstract created with a nice use of both hard and soft edges, mark-making and bold brushwork. Complementary colours used to good effect anchoring the massive rock face.



Bed of Flowers by Shoshana Lock

Intriguing use of black ground with bright jewel tones and white outlines conjuring images of stained glass or embroidery. Size variations allow the eye to move around and through the composition.



Ring of Trilliums by Nancy Newman

An enchanting multi-layered floral with well-defined shapes throughout, beautiful soft colour composition held together with strong negative dark areas.



Food Festival by Betty Wong

Figures are well-composed with nice contrasting shadows anchoring and echoing their gestures. Cool simplified background is a nice contrast to the colourful clothing. An engaging, whimsical moment in time.

FIRST TIME ENTRY AWARD

Glendon Ravine by Cameron Stewart

Beautifully executed with a minimal palette, good contrast and depth, this is a well composed painting. A nice contrast of wash and dry brush treatments brings it all together.

TWS LIFETIME HONOUREES

by **Carolyn Pascoe**



Hal Bilz, Mary Cromarty, Pauline Holancin

At the Spring Show opening on April 1st, at the Serpa Gallery in Newmarket, the TWS honoured three Lifetime members for their excellence in painting and their volunteerism towards the Toronto Watercolour Society. These members were Pauline Holancin TWS (Platinum), Hal Bilz TWS and Mary Cromarty TWS. All of these members are over 90 years young and still actively painting. Each honouree received a beautiful certificate and a lovely corsage and a large, colourful azalea plant.

The following tributes were put on their personalized certificates with gold embossed trim.

Pauline Holancin

Congratulations Pauline Holancin TWS for being acknowledged as a Toronto Watercolour Society Lifetime Honouree 2023, For being a Pillar of our Organization by your Contribution to Outstanding Excellence in Life-Long Watercolour Painting and being an Enthusiastic, Giving and Diligent Volunteer in so many roles: Program Chair, VP, President, Past President, Director and Special Workshops, 1985-2023.

Hal Bilz

Congratulations Hal Bilz TWS for being acknowledged as a Toronto Watercolour Society Lifetime Honouree 2023, For being an Outstanding member of our Organization by your Contribution to Excellence in Life-Long Watercolour Painting and being a Willing, Giving and Diligent Volunteer in so many roles: Technical Crew (every meeting) Show hanging, Signage for shows 2008-2023.

Mary Cromarty

Congratulations Mary Cromarty TWS for being acknowledged as a Toronto Watercolour Society Lifetime Honouree 2023, for Outstanding Excellence in Watercolour Painting and being a loyal member of TWS from 1996 to 2023.

HAL BILZ

After five years on our waiting list, Hal joined the TWS in 2009. Since then, he has been juried into every TWS show that he has entered (24). He received his Signature Membership in 2012 (juried into six shows) and his Bronze Level of Distinction (juried into 15 shows) in 2017. He became a Lifetime Member of the Society five years ago.

Hal has sold many paintings and has won many awards for the excellence of his watercolours. In the first show he entered, he won the inaugural "First Time Entry Award." Since then he has won the Dorothy Bleggen Award for Best Use of Colour, one Honourable Mention Award, six Awards of Merit, four People's Choice Awards and three Silver Medals.

From his first year in the Society, Hal volunteered to help TWS and became an integral member of the Show Committee, assisting on take-in day and hanging many shows at the Columbus Centre and other venues.

He also volunteered to join the technical crew who transport, set up and take down all the visual and audio equipment at our monthly meetings. After more than ten years, he still continues to do this important job which helps all members to see and hear our guest artists as they do their demonstrations.

Another important volunteer effort he undertook for almost ten years was to help set up the signs along Pottery Road for our Spring Todmorden Show. Always ready to help, Hal never says "No" to volunteering!

From the time he was a boy, Hal has always been drawing, painting and doing many other creative pursuits, using wood to build many things around the house and creating toys later in life for his children. In high school, he took the art course at Western Technical School and after graduation he started to work in many of the big and small Commercial Graphic Art studios in Toronto. The only way to get known was to keep moving, so in the first 20 years he worked in five different Art Studios. That gave him enough experience to form his own company with two friends. The company, called McLean-Bilz Associates, did all the art work for many large corporations. After closing that down in 1992, Hal seriously started painting and entering shows. Inspired by a teacher at Western Tech, he decided to paint exclusively in watercolour. Hal now belongs to the Art Guild of Scarborough, the Pine Ridge Arts Council and the TWS. He continues to learn and excel in his chosen medium of watercolour.

- Carolyne Pascoe

MARY CROMARTY

Mary is a Lifetime member of the Toronto Watercolour Society. She joined TWS in 1996 and became a Signature member in 1999. In 2021, Mary earned her twenty-five-year membership pin and certificate.

As a young woman, Mary painted in oils. She began working with watercolour after taking an evening class at the high school in Aurora and later joining Kingcrafts in King. Her interest in watercolour led to classes with John Bennett, Donald Fraser and Denis Cliff. From 1984 to 1987, Mary attended The Ontario College of Art (now OCAD) learning from Chinkok Tan and Harley Parker. She has been fortunate to take workshops with Zoltan Szabo, Barbara Nechis, and Charles Reid among others.

Her first solo show at the Aurora Public Library led to the formation of what was originally known as the "Group of Nine." Eventually, its members included artists Helen Bird, Isabel van Zant, Betty Jenkins, Evangeline Munns, Susan Hally, Diane Styrmo, Ho Iverson, Valerie Irving, Jesse Loblaw and Ann Armstrong. These adventuresome artists would park along the side of the road and paint *en plein air* one day a week. This has been Mary's style through the years. She would begin a work on site, then add the finishing touches in her home studio, giving her work a fresh, authentic feeling.

Mary is an elected member of the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour and the Colour and Form Society, and a member of the International Watercolour Society Canada. She has been a member of the Markham Group of Artists and The Society of York Region Artists, among others.

Mary's work has won awards in several juried exhibitions. Her solo exhibitions include shows at the Kathleen Gormley McKay Gallery in Unionville, The Link Gallery in the North York Civic Centre and the Skylight Gallery in Aurora.

Mary continues to be inspired by the landscapes and flowers around her. Two of her recent paintings were juried into the TWS Spring 2023 Aquavision Show. We are happy to celebrate her wonderful life in the arts.

- Nancy Newman

PAULINE HOLANCIN

A Lifetime Member of the Toronto Watercolour Society, Pauline is one of the pillars of our organization! She joined TWS when it was founded in 1985 and received her Signature Membership when that award was initiated in 1995. Since then, she has achieved the Bronze, Silver and Gold Level of Distinction Signature Memberships for being juried into our Aquavision shows. In 2013 she was the first member to receive her Platinum Level of Distinction and Crystal Award for being juried into 50+ shows. During this time, her beautiful and varied paintings garnered a number of awards from numerous jurors for excellence in watercolour painting.

But Pauline did not just paint. She also volunteered for several positions on the Executive including: Program Chair (four years), Vice-President (two years), President (two years), Past President, (two years) organizer of Special Workshops (20 years) and Director (ten years), as well as being involved in the planning of both our 25th and 35th Anniversary celebrations.



Because of Pauline's enthusiastic initiative, TWS members were exposed to the work of many of the top watercolour artists in North America, including Frank Webb, Domenic DiStefano, Charles Reid, Stephen Quiller, Tom Lynch and many more that she invited to come to our meetings and workshops. Pauline and her husband, artist Jake Mol, a TWS signature member, graciously invited many of these artists to stay at their home, where they always had a large dinner party in honour of the visiting artist.

In 2010, Pauline was awarded the Ontario Volunteer Service Award for her contribution to the arts for over 25 years of service. Pauline received her TWS 25-year membership pin and certificate in 2009-10, as well as her TWS 35-year membership certificate and award in 2019-20.

From the time she was a child in Ottawa, Pauline was recognized for her artistic talent and was chosen to take classes at the National Museum of Art for five years. This love of learning persisted her whole life and she became a very accomplished oil painter. She has taken workshops with numerous artists in many countries, but painting with Bill Hopkinson on location in Haliburton hooked her on painting outside wherever she could. She and Jake travelled all over North America and Europe painting on location. (Their favourite locations to paint were Rockport Massachusetts and France). Pauline also started teaching, demonstrating and sharing what she had learned for many art groups in Canada and she organized international trips to France (four times) and New Zealand.

Pauline was elected to the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour in 1999. She is a Lifetime member of ECOAA (East Central Ontario Arts Association), COAA (Central Ontario Art Association) and the Willowdale Group of Artists. She has won many awards in these groups and has volunteered to help with all these organizations!

Pauline continues to paint watercolour most days in her retirement home in Bradford, inspired by her memories of many trips as well as the wonderful transparency of watercolour!

-Carolyn Pascoe

PROGRAMS

April 12th: **Annual General Meeting**

With Nancy Newman on hand as our Zoom administrator, Margaret Roseman welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting for 2023.

Presidents' Report

On behalf of herself and her Co-Presidents, Nancy Newman and Carlyne Pascoe, Margaret gave an overview of the Society's 2022-2023 year. Noting that we are still coping with effects of the Covid pandemic, Margaret said we are now in a transition period that involves many changes. One of the most notable of them is our current use of technology such as Zoom in our proceedings.

With detailed acknowledgment of the tasks accomplished by each individual, Margaret thanked the many Executive members and volunteers who have contributed so much to the Society – “above and beyond the call of duty” – over many years. She expressed a warm welcome to those new Executive members who have taken the positions of those who have stepped aside. Margaret also mentioned that one of the Society's recent changes is the employment of Ana Jurpik as a paid, part-time Administrator.

Pointing out that the positions of Vice-President, Show Chair, Programs Chair, Workshops Chair and Photo Co-ordinator are still vacant, Margaret encouraged volunteers to step up. (The positions of Workshops Chair and Photo Co-ordinator have since been filled.) The Society can grow and flourish, Margaret said, “only through the support of volunteers.”

Treasurer's Report

Monika Ignacak explained that the Quicken software we now use for our bookkeeping provides regular monthly reports on expenses and income. For payments to the Society, e-transfers are preferable because payments through Square incur a fee of 2.65% on each transaction. Our income for the past year

was \$35,772 and our expenses were \$31,249, leaving us with a modest net income. We also have savings in GICs amounting to \$52,828. The complete treasurer's report can be viewed in the private section of our website accessible to members only.

Incoming President

Margaret's gracious introduction of Jody Fuller, our incoming President, noted that Jody was the Society's first President many years ago. Having earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Colorado, Jody obtained an Art Education Certificate in 1980. She moved from Pittsburgh to Toronto in 1983. Her mother-in-law, a student at the Toronto School of Art, brought Jody to Margaret's classes there. Before retirement, Jody spent 33 years as a Visual Arts teacher with the Halton Catholic School Board. Margaret said that Jody, being organized, efficient and a good communicator, will be an excellent President of the TWS. Besides, “she's passionate about watercolour!”

Jody said she embraces the Presidency as a “challenge” and she looks forward to getting to know the members. Marvelling at how much the Society has grown since it's early days, Jody says the quality of the members' work “blows me away.” She admires the enthusiasm and energy of the members, the camaraderie among them and the quality of the guest artists. Her aim is to keep all this going, to encourage everyone to pull together, as an “evolving, learning, great community!”

Executive Slate

Nancy presented the Executive Slate for 2023-2024. Beth Parker came forward to take on the position of Workshops Chair. The slate can be viewed on the final page of this issue of Artline.

Editor's Note

A report on the Awards given at the AGM will be included in the September Artline, along with an up-dated Hearts & Flowers report.

Programs, continued...

May 10th: **Birgit O'Connor**

Our guest artist for May, Birgit O'Connor, is an award-winning master watercolour artist, best-selling author and sought after instructor. Aside from being an astonishingly brilliant painter, Birgit showed us she's a master planner. Before she begins a picture, she wants to be confident about how the colours, paper, and brushes are going to work together. So, she tests everything first. That includes seeing how pigments will soak into different kinds of paper. She's looking for the right colour combinations, but she's also using value and technique to answer questions such as what is the emotional response that she's looking for: i.e., dramatic, happy, moody, etc.

Using a reference photo, Birgit transferred the lines to the main paper before the demo, limiting the detail and thinking of the components as shapes. When the demo begins, she drops in the background, using mostly a wet-on-dry technique, and cooler colours. Once the background is dry, she

takes on each flower petal, this time wetting the inside areas of the petal with a hake brush, and applying warming petal colours with a smaller brush, using big, sweeping strokes and leaving some areas highlighted as white. She tips the paper side to side to let the colours flow.

She keeps stepping back to evaluate. "I want to keep things light and airy," she says. There are areas she paints over because there is too much detail. In other places, she glazes over sections to add depth and contrast. "My ideas keep changing as I continue to evaluate the painting, see what's working, how the paper is absorbing the paint," she tells us, as the painting emerges more beautiful than ever. "I think of every problem as an opportunity."

And then she announces, "It's done!"

- Beth Parker



Birgit's process



Final painting

Programs, continued...

June 14th: **Alexandra Sharma**



The guest artist for our June meeting will be Alexandra Sharma. Alexandra is a painter, printmaker, sculptor, and art professor. Coming from a family of artists, she learned a unique awareness of form and space from her sculptor father.

Alexandra has a degree in Fine Arts and has studied at the Sorbonne in Paris, and Oxford University in England. She has been teaching and painting in Canada and the United States for twenty-five years. Alexandra paints *en plein air* and is known for her loose painting style and her ability to capture "the essence of the moment." She has taught art at college and university levels in Toronto and more recently, in Beaufort and Hilton Head, South Carolina.

The outdoors, in the Lowcountry of South Carolina, is Alexandra's studio. She finds her subject matter in hidden or forgotten places, and focusses on the play of light and shadow, colour, an unusual point of view, and mood at a particular time of day. Alexandra is a member of many art associations and guilds and she exhibits her work at the Charles Street Gallery in Beaufort, S.C. and several places in Hilton Head, S.C.

"Mastering a loose technique is the groundwork that will enable you to paint intuitively and creatively," says Alex. In her June demo, she will show how she achieves atmospheric perspective and the illusion of depth and distance through value, colour, contour edges, and brush technique.



Toronto Botanical Gardens

WHY MADDER MATTERS

by Beth Parker

Now here are a couple of colours that have roots – going back at least 5,000 years. The paints that we know as alizarin and rose madder both originated from the red roots of the lowly madder plant. These reds have been used to make dyes and paints since ancient times. Traces of madder used to dye linen were found in King Tut's tomb, and paint made from the dye was used to create “mummy” portraits in Roman Egypt. Irish sheep farmers still feed their sheep madder plant to tint the wool. (It's so much easier than dying

that the paintings we see today would be much less vivid than when he painted them. The other challenge with rose madder was its cost. By 1860, Britain's madder imports were worth £1.25 million a year; clearly, chemists needed to find a better way to make the pigment.

In the late 18th century, George Field, an English dye-maker, found a method to turn water-soluble madder extract into a solid, insoluble pigment which produced a longer-lasting colour. Eventually, two French chemists were able to produce synthesized rose madder and alizarin.



Roots of the madder plant

it!) The Rubicon River in Italy is so named because its waters are coloured by madder in the mud deposits.

Renaissance painters particularly loved rose madder. They used it to glaze over red and orange tones like vermilion to add a deeper glow; they also used it in portraits to give the flesh a pinkish hue. The pigment, however, was a challenge because it was notoriously fugitive. In fact, there are many paintings from the 15th and 16th centuries with bleached out areas where there once was a lovely rose tone. Even the great watercolor painter, J.M.W. Turner, might have regretted using rose madder if he knew



An ancient coffin portrait using rose madder

Why Madders Matters continued....

Fans of rose madder say that it retains a soft depth and richness unlike any other rose available. That's likely why the Winsor Newton Company still produces a watercolour pigment named "Rose Madder Genuine". (It helped that Field was an associate of the company and apparently his original recipe is still the basis for how the colour is produced.) Alizarin is loved by many (including this writer!) because of its depth of colour, transparency, and tinting strength. It is also excellent as a mixing colour when you want deep darks that still feel transparent.

Today, the debate continues over whether to use rose madder or alizarin. Comments online show the passion with which artists express their opinions. All of which means, if you're devoted to your rose madder or alizarin, you're likely not

going to be happy with alternatives!

Still, both colours can fade. For those who want to avoid fugitive colours, then, there are several hues that you can use instead.

As alternatives to rose madder there are: Quin Rose, Potter's Pink, or Rose Madder Permanent, although reviewers note that the colour in the last one can vary widely between brands.

Instead of alizarin crimson, Quinn Red and Crimson Lake are good substitutes. If you opt for Alizarin Crimson Permanent, you should know that it's actually a transparent colour called anthraquinone red.

And the debate continues!

So, what's in your palette?



J.M.W. Turner loved using rose madder in his washes

MEMBERS' NEWS

by **Carolyn Pascoe**

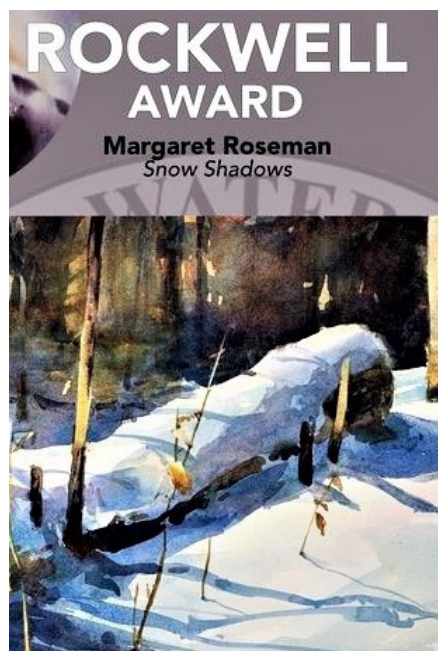
Congratulations to three TWS members who have been elected to the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour (CSPWC): **Perry Chow TWS**, **Ted Martin TWS** and **Adam CX**. They were honoured at the Annual CSPWC Meeting at the Arts and Letters Club in Toronto on May 6th 2023.

TWS is very proud that works by five members were selected for the Society of Canadian Artists (SCA) 2023 Open International Online Juried Exhibition: **Margaret Roseman** (Watercolour), **Nancy Newman** (Watercolour), **Sherrill Girard** (Watercolour), **Doreen Renner** (Acrylic) and **Eric David** (Photography). Enjoy 175 works from 109 artists from across Canada and the world. The show is on until June 15th. You can see the works of art at the [Society of Canadian Artists](https://www.societyofcanadianartists.com/) website.

Congratulations to our founder **Margaret Roseman** for winning the **International Watercolor Society's Rockwell Award** for her watercolour painting "Snow Shadows" in their April show "Stories in Light."

Congratulations to **Adam CX** who had his watercolour portrait "Diana in Spring" accepted in the American Watercolor Society's Associate Members Online Exhibition. Go to the AWS website to see the show from June 7th – August 20, 2023.

Carolyn Pascoe has been asked to be one of two featured artists for May and June on the website of the Art Guild of Scarborough where she has been a member for 40 years. To see her page, go to [The Art Guild of Scarborough](https://www.artguildofscarborough.com/) website.



Diana in Spring

TWS ARTISTS AT SUNNYBROOK

We're happy to report that twenty-five TWS artists are participating in a show at Sunnybrook Hospital, May 6th to July 7th. The show is part of the hospital's Fine Arts Fundraisers program. Different art groups in and around the GTA participate each year, including the TWS. A portion of each sale goes back to the artists, with a commission given to the hospital to help support patient care.

TWS organizers for the show, Jenny Reid and her husband, Neville, assembled a team of volunteers to make this possible. Both Jenny and Neville praised the show for the quality of the work and the efforts of the participating artists. Thank you, Jenny, Neville, show volunteers and artists!

A link to the show online can be found at: <https://giftshop.sunnybrook.ca/collections/fine-art-sales>.

NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS AND CONTRIBUTORS



Patrick Donohue



Jody Fuller



Margaret Roseman



Nancy Newman



Cathy Gifford



Beth Parker



Carolyne Pascoe



Jennifer Tran

JOLLY JULY PRESIDENT'S PAINT-OUT PICNIC

About fifteen years ago, we started an annual President's Paint-out as a way of introducing a more social aspect into the life of the TWS. The paint-out is always held on the second Wednesday of July because that's the month when we don't have a members' meeting on the second Wednesday.

This year, Jody Fuller, our new President, will welcome everybody who can attend our paint-out on Wednesday, July 12th, in the Toronto Botanical Garden (also known as Edward's Garden) at Leslie and Lawrence. It's one of our favourite paint-out locations because it's handy for TTC access, it has lots of parking, washrooms and a place to buy refreshments. Not to mention the many gorgeous opportunities for painting flowers and landscapes. And there are places to paint in case of rain!

We usually gather around 9:30 at the café, then each member wanders off to find a particularly appealing spot to paint. We re-convene at the refreshment stand around 12:30 to enjoy the bag lunches that we've brought and to chat and share our work. Some people head home after that; others hang around to make the most of the day.

This year, there's a special reason to attend. Alexandra Sharma, our demonstrator for the June meeting, is going to join us at the paint-out. She's an expert at plein air painting, so her presence will surely provide extra inspiration for us all!

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