

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ART ASSOCIATION

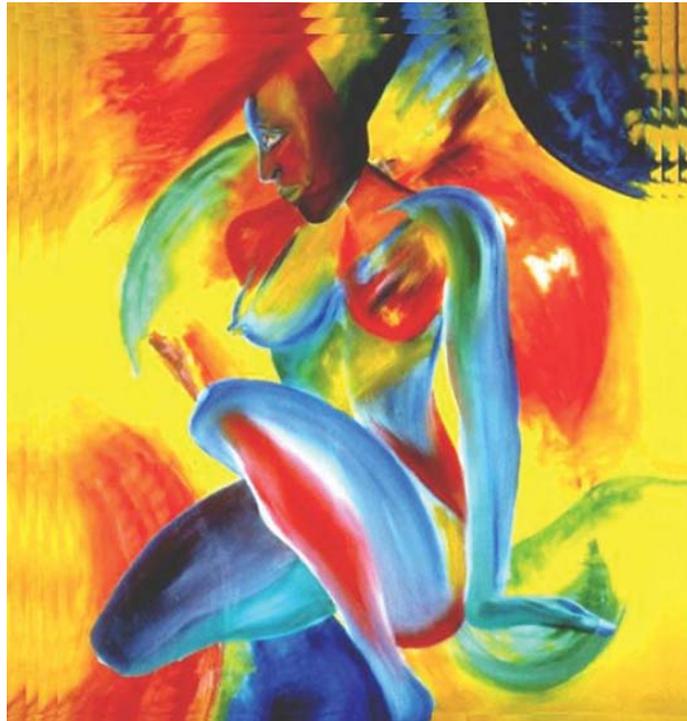
# MCAA News

## MCAA SPOTLIGHT

### Edelweiss Calcagno

**A**n internationally acclaimed mixed media artist and current MCAA Vice President of Shows, Edelweiss has been a full time United States resident for only two years. Twenty years ago Edelweiss's aunt, an established artist in Europe, helped her very talented young niece break into the world of European art. Major European cities including Paris, Monte Carlo, and Nice played host, on a rolling basis, to about 15 solo shows of Edelweiss' work a year. She and her husband moved to the United States almost seven years ago. Calcagno tried to commute back and forth to Europe for five years, but the addition of young children complicated the picture, and she wound down her European market. Edelweiss is now reconstructing her market base in the United States and promoting MCAA in the process.

Edelweiss paints in a "cubist expressionist abstract" style and has been compared to Picasso. She specializes in portraiture. She says, "The more you continue to exhibit and show your artwork, the more your clients will expect something of In Calcagno's experience, if you put 20 paintings in an exhibit, each painting must be of the highest quality you can produce. The artist has



*Femme indécisé*

found that the more types of techniques and variety there is to your artwork, the larger your client base and appeal.

Edelweiss is typically

working on 15 paintings at any one time, with each painting taking a month or more to complete. Her works now bring  
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## PROGRAMS

**A**ll are encouraged to attend monthly meetings for the most up to date and detailed information concerning MCAA and our activities. Meetings are held at PLAZA-ART Materials, 1594B Rockville Pike and begin at 7:00 PM (In the Pier One plaza, behind Duron Paints and

Twinbrook Metro access road. Opposite Congressional Plaza, east side of Rockville Pike). As a courtesy to our guest presenters, be sure to come early to shop! Our meeting begins promptly at 7:00 pm and concludes at 8:00 pm sharp, so your punctuality also allows us to maximize the time allotted.

## APRIL MEETING

**Wednesday  
April 9, 2008**

**Our April meeting will feature a video called *Painting Landscapes with David Dunlop*.**

Dunlop, an art historian and teacher works in many mediums. This video will focus on working with oils. Dunlop offers an exiting guide to finding, designing and painting using old master techniques in a contemporary manner. The video will feature an introduction in the the studio, sections on working in the field and the studio, and ends with a painting morphing sequence. Hope to see you there.

## NEWSLETTERS & MEETINGS

Are you being featured in a show? Let us know, and we'll get the word out in our newsletter! Also welcomed are suggestions on guest presenters for future meetings. Contact Marlene Sapperstein with your submissions for the newsletter or Alejandra Hucek for suggestions on guest speakers.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**H**appy Spring! I'm looking forward, and am sure many of you are also, to the inspiration that seeing flowers and trees in bloom brings. Maybe we can use some of this inspiration for our "Creative Expressions" show at Friendship Heights Village Center. I was fortunate to speak with Millie Shott at the Chevy Chase Women's Club show and she has since confirmed we are scheduled for hanging on Sunday, June 1st. It was great seeing so many of you at the CCWC reception. The show and reception were lovely and I was really impressed with the "Best in Show" drawing. The drawing was a portrait of an elderly man, and the detail in his hair and beard was exquisite. By the way, did you know that Millie Shott was the creative force behind the beginnings of the CCWC art show 33 years ago? I definitely plan to participate again next year and maybe even do some miniatures since they seemed to be selling so well. Speaking of Spring again, at the member meeting this past month we talked about getting a plein air group together at one of the beautiful locations local to us. If you are interested please let me know.

I am happy to report that we have some great nominations that have come in over the past month for our open MCAA board positions. The elections to the 2008-2009 board for the officers and heads of standing committees will be held April 9th. Nominations can still be made. Cathy Hirsh has been nominated to Secretary. Elizabeth Stecher has been nominated to Show Registrar. Vicky Surles has been nominated to Publicity Chairperson. Vicky did a nice job promoting the Miller's Framing show last December and has good ideas about expanding the scope of our publicity efforts. We plan to begin work developing a new Montgomery Art Association brochure. We are looking for a few more nominations: Hanging shows, Telephone Coordinator, President Elect and Activities chairpersons. These are all great ways to get involved in a more meaningful way with Montgomery Art Association. For more detailed information about serving, chairperson job descriptions, etc. please feel free to contact me at home 301-216-0861 or thebeckers6400@verizon.net

Speaking of publicity, Alejandra gave a nice little talk last month about creating your professional portfolio and what to include. The key points were:

- Artist Statement-what you are trying to accomplish with your art.
- List of your work-10 to 20 of your best work.
- A cover image to represent your portfolio as a whole.
- A nice portfolio case.
- Same sized high quality prints of your work-i.e. all 5x7's or all 8x10's.
- A helpful website for information and posting of your portfolio is: [www.absolutearts.com](http://www.absolutearts.com)

Ideas and suggestions about ways to enhance our membership activities and initiatives are being collected. We will be having a board meeting soon after the elections to discuss these ideas and welcome new suggestions about opportunities we can pursue or suggestions for change. Feel free to contact me at any time.

—Sara Becker

## news you can use ...

**L**ooking for a way to expand your art skills and perhaps try "plein air" painting? The Yellow Barn offers a wide range of art classes and workshops throughout the year to students of all levels and abilities. In general, classes are studio based, offering opportunities to work with live models and from still life. When the weather is agreeable, classes and workshops are often held outside, allowing students to capture dynamic scenes of nature and

offering the chance to experience the special challenges of working in an outdoor setting. Classes involve close interaction with qualified and dedicated instructors who have been chosen for their artistic and educational expertise.

### SPRING CLASSES ENROLLING AT GLEN ECHO

To Register:  
Phone: (301) 634-2226,  
Fax: (1-301) 634-2260, or  
E-mail:  
[registrar@glenechopark.org](mailto:registrar@glenechopark.org)

## Congratulations

**C**ongratulations to **Elizabeth Stecher** for her third place win at the Women's Club of Chevy Chase 33rd annual art show and sale on Friday, March 14th. The competition was fierce as the event attracted a large number of artists working in a variety of mediums. Among the many talented artists who entered were our own MCAA members: Sarah Becker, Sandra Cepaitis, Debra Halpren, Cynthia Haslinger, Dewey Heising, Jaqueline King, Susan Moses, Marlene Sapperstein, and Vicky Surles.

**Elizabeth Stecher's** painting that won third place was a miniature entitled "Cloistered Walk." In addition another miniature, "Assateague Channel" was sold the first day of the show.

**Susan Moses** was juried into the annual Strathmore Members Show which is a highly competitive show, with only about a 50% acceptance rate. Her watercolor painting NY Impressions was sold during the show in March.

## Ratner Museum Update

The request for artwork samples from MCAA member ranks was not of sufficient amount as to be adequate for a presentation to the museum director of Ratner Museum. This initiative may be postponed until a later date once more artwork samples are received by our Show Chair, Edelweiss. Work will continue on developing an MCAA portfolio to be used for exhibition applica-

tions. Please prepare your best artwork to be delivered or emailed to Edelweiss at your earliest convenience. Previous MCAA show award recipients are specifically requested to send .jpgs of the award winning artwork to Edelweiss Calcagno at [edelweiss101@yahoo.com](mailto:edelweiss101@yahoo.com) or call 301-588-8552 or Sue Moses at [mmoses4@verizon.net](mailto:mmoses4@verizon.net). Thank you for your cooperation in this endeavor.

## Member Shows:

**Roxana Laing** will be exhibiting some of her paper art at the Day of the Book Festival in Kensington. The show is primarily for authors and/or book & paper artists. A mixed-media artist, Roxana, will be featuring one-of-a-kind altered memory books, collage art, and creative paper art. Not traditional, but definitely an interesting artistic challenge!

Sunday, April 27 12-5, Day of the Book Festival, <http://www.day-of-the-book.com>, <http://www.freewebs.com/mirthunlimited>

**Sue Moses** and **Carol Kent** will have a two-artist watercolor exhibit entitled, 'The Shape of Color' at Brookside Gardens Visitors Center from April 28 through June 20, 2008. The Visitor's Center is located at 1800 Glenallen Ave., Wheaton, MD and is open every day from 9-5.

**Sue Moses** has also been accepted into the prestigious Baltimore Watercolor Society's 2008 Mid-Atlantic Regional Watercolor Exhibition at Strathmore. The exhibition dates are April 12 to May 24, 2008. The artists reception and awards presentation will take place on Sunday, April 27, 2008 from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM



*Margaret's Flowers—Susan Moses*

## Montgomery College Scholarship

Montgomery Art Association is proud to announce that we have made a donation to the Montgomery College Art Department in the amount of \$600 to be awarded to a student pursuing an art degree. Sara Becker personally delivered the check to Art Department Chair, Kay McCrohan, who was very appreciative and sent a personal thank you note to MCAA. The student scholarship had been discontinued by MCAA several years ago due to lack of adequate funding. Currently the MCAA treasury is high enough that we were able to reinstate this community outreach for the benefit of promoting art education. Montgomery College students have already been requested to apply for the 2008 scholarships. Portfolio evaluations were to be done by the Montgomery College Art department over the spring break and selections determined. Further information about who has been selected to receive the MCAA scholarship will be passed along as it becomes available.



## CHESAPEAKE SCENES

**DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2008**

Call for entries—Chesapeake Scenes Presented by Chestertown Arts League Entry Deadline: April 1, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. This show highlights creations crafted from native or nautical memorabilia or inspired by the unique, picturesque scenery of the Chesapeake Bay. The league looks forward to receiving submissions that will include a wide range of media and methodologies. These can include: found object sculpture, collage, photographs, paintings, drawings and prints. The opening reception will be held April 4, 5:00 PM -8:00 PM. Entry fees are \$2.00 for members and \$10.00 for non-members. Artwork should be dropped off Tuesday, April 1, between 10:00AM and 2:00PM. For details call: (410) 778-5789 or email: [artsleague@verizon.net](mailto:artsleague@verizon.net)

## Friendship Heights Village Center Show - Creative Expressions

**DELIVERY AND HANGING: JUNE 1ST**

Reception: June 8th, 11:30 to 1:30 pm

Closing: June 29th.

## "A Lifetime of Perspective: Art by Older Adults"

Although the deadline for submissions has passed, you may be interested in this information, in order to participate next year. This is an opportunity for senior, non-professional artists to participate in a, non-juried exhibition entitled "A Lifetime of Perspective: Art by Older Adults" Deadline was March 20, 2008. The exhibition will be held at the JCC of Greater Washington's Goldman Gallery in Rockville from May 18 to May 30, 2008. This show offers Washington area adults 65+ the opportunity to show one piece in an exhibition by 120 artists. It is free to all participants. If an artist wishes to sell his or her work, the JCC takes no commission. This art exhibit was created by Deena and Jerome Kaplan in memory of Deena's parents, Eve and David Berliant and is underwritten by the Kaplan Family and, the JCC's Deena and Jerome Kaplan Fund for Senior Adult Programming. For more information or to make an appointment contact: Kandy Hutman 301-348-3864 email: [khutman@jccgw.org](mailto:khutman@jccgw.org)

## Artscape Applications are available now.

Artscape, the largest free, public arts festival in the country features more than 150 artists, craftspeople and fashion designers. Artscape is produced by the Baltimore Office of Promotion & the Arts, Inc. Visit their site at [www.artscape.org](http://www.artscape.org).

## Edelweiss Calgano

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between \$1,000 to \$8,000. As she points out, the higher the level of the exhibit the higher the percentage the gallery collects and so the higher the price the artist must charge. For an artist, Edelweiss believes that, while awards and professional recognition help to build publicity and interest, selling provides the more important recognition. When an artist sells his or her work, the recognition and satisfaction is immediate. Edelweiss has found that if a client likes the painting, they will buy it, regardless of awards received (or not received).

Being an established artist, dealing with galleries and solo shows has its share of frustrations and challenges. Edelweiss is currently looking into markets in Florida and New York, but is finding the acceptance process much slower than in Europe. Still, she insists that her natural stubbornness, something she considers an essential personality trait for any successful artist, will enable her to overcome any rejection or closed door. Edelweiss's passion for creating her artwork, her high energy, and marketing skills should make her a success in the United States, as well as, Europe. We are fortunate to have her expertise on our board. You can view more of Edelweiss' artwork at [www.ayakyr.com](http://www.ayakyr.com).



*Direction*

## MCAA Board for 2007-2008

### President:

Sara Becker  
301-216-0861  
[thebeckers6400@verizon.net](mailto:thebeckers6400@verizon.net)

### 1st Vice President, Programs:

Alejandra Hucek  
[richandalej@verizon.net](mailto:richandalej@verizon.net)

### 2nd Vice President, Shows:

Edelweiss Calgano  
[edelweiss101@yahoo.com](mailto:edelweiss101@yahoo.com)

### Secretary:

Elizabeth Stecher  
301-593-8305  
[estecher7@verizon.net](mailto:estecher7@verizon.net)

### Treasurer:

Jacques Bodelle  
301-493-8618  
[c1bodelle@yahoo.com](mailto:c1bodelle@yahoo.com)

### Membership:

Sandra Cepaitis  
301-564-0331  
[slcep@msn.com](mailto:slcep@msn.com)

### e-Newsletter Editors:

Natalie Falk  
[nmfalk@comcast.net](mailto:nmfalk@comcast.net)  
Marlene Sapperstein  
[mbspainting@yahoo.com](mailto:mbspainting@yahoo.com)

### Newsletter Assistant:

Judith Levine  
301-869-6811  
[JULevineRN@aol.com](mailto:JULevineRN@aol.com)

### Publicity:

VACANT

### Show Registrar:

Teresa Rizzo  
301-933-1455  
[terrizzo@aol.com](mailto:terrizzo@aol.com)

### Hanging Shows:

Alejandra Hucek  
301-588-2927  
[richandalej@verizon.net](mailto:richandalej@verizon.net)

### Activities Committee:

Judith Levine  
Roxana Laing

### Hospitality Committee:

Alejandra Hucek  
301-588-2927  
[richandalej@verizon.net](mailto:richandalej@verizon.net)

### Telephone Committee:

Betty Ruhe Wright  
301-881-4805