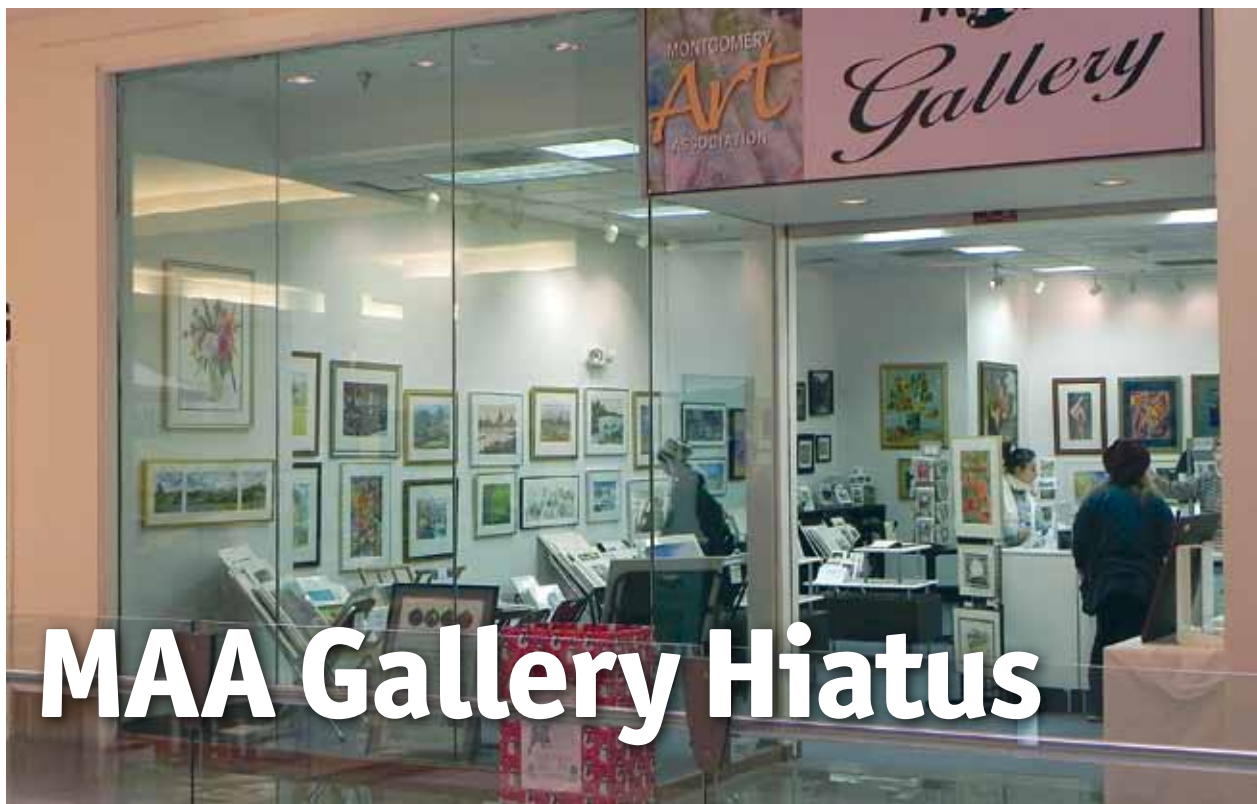


MAA NEWS

MAY 2012

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MAA Gallery Hiatus

The MAA Gallery in Westfield Wheaton Mall will close its current location at the end of the April show (April 29) due to mall renovations related to the Costco construction.

Of course, we knew we would need to leave the current location at some point, but what we had discussed with mall management was the idea of the Gallery moving to an available store someplace else in the mall. The problem we're facing now is that there are simply no empty stores currently available. While there are some stores that were previously empty and still are not yet open, they all have signed contracts by new tenants. We're happy that the mall is doing so well, but that success, unfortunately, leaves us without a store location!

The Gallery has been a big success, providing many

The MAA Art Gallery

benefits to MAA and its members. Now that this "grand experiment" has proven successful, we do not want to easily give up on the idea of an Association gallery. So with the closure, and with the help of Westfield, we are placing our furnishings and supplies into storage. And, we are actively investigating the possibility of opening at another loca-

tion in the mall when and if something is available or at another location altogether. Thus, for the time being, we are considering the Gallery "on hiatus," and not permanently closed.

Thanks to the generosity of Westfield Wheaton Mall, MAA has been able to operate its Gallery store in the mall for over 16

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MAA Gallery

FROM PAGE ONE

months! It's been a really terrific, amazing period that offered us both challenges and rewards. We created a gallery from scratch, including renovating a very messy space; creating full operating procedures; buying supplies; finding display furnishings; building our client list, and consistently operating the Gallery with artist volunteers on a monthly basis. And, we

were able to show that we could take the Gallery to the point where we were breaking our monthly sales records consistently. These are significant outcomes that those who participated in the Gallery can be very proud of.

We want to thank Westfield Wheaton Mall, our members, our visitors, and customers for all the support given to the Gallery thus far. It has been a wonderful opportunity for our members, and it

was a pleasure to meet all those in the community who valued our presence in the mall.

We hope to have a similar facility in the not too distant future. If you would like to participate in the "Gallery location search committee", or have an idea for a new MAA Gallery location, please contact MAA president, Cathy Hirsh, at hirshcathy@gmail.com. MAA is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation.

MAA MEETING may 9, 2012

Please be reminded that the next MAA meeting will be held at Plaza Art on Rockville Pike on Wednesday, May 9, 2012. The socializing will begin at 6:30 followed by business at 7 PM.

Before we move to this month's program, we offer a huge thanks to Ed Moore for his critiques at our meeting last month. Thanks, Ed!

Our next presentation will be a discussion of giclee prints as an artistic tool that will be delivered by Debra Halprin. See the article in this newsletter that provides additional details about the giclee process.

Our recent programs have been very well attended so plan to get there early to secure your seat. The room will fill up quickly.

Plaza Art is located on the east side of Rockville Pike, Rte 355, between Halpine Road and Congressional Lane in the same shopping center with Pier 1 and Fuddrucker's. Phone 301-770-0500. Ample parking is available.

MAA Art

If you are interested in having your work included in *MAA News*, please send one or two high-resolution (300 dpi) jpegs to nmfalk@comcast.net. Please label your submissions with the title and your name.



Rhododendron, by Steve Moen



by Sandy Cepaitis

MAA News will not publish in June and July. The deadline for submissions for the August issue is July 15.

President's Message

As I'm sure you can imagine from the announcements included with the election ballot and from the various articles included with this newsletter, it's been very busy since my last president's newsletter message to you.

And all indications are with the Gallery closing, the search for a new Gallery location, the implementation of our new website, and the preparations for the June member shows as well as for our major show over Labor Day week-end, it will also be very busy over the next few months. I look forward to working with many of you as we meet these challenges.

First of all, I want to relay congratulations to all of the candidates for the 2012-2013 MAA Officer positions. All were elected, and I'm happy to say the

member voting "turnout" was excellent!

Second, I want to ask that you review the articles in this e-Newsletter carefully. This is our last e-Newsletter until August and there's much to communicate with regard to our shows and new initiatives.

One article discusses the new website. There are some exciting features with it, some to be available right away and others to be completed later in the year. One of the features included is the ability to complete show registrations online instead of by mail. This feature will allow members to enter all the information related to the pieces they are entering in each show, and pay any entry fees online via credit or debit card. This approach will make administering our shows much easier. Just think of all those labels our show

registrar, Elizabeth Stecher, has been typing and all those checks Treasurer Barrie Ripin has been depositing individually! Of course, for those who do not want to register online, we will still support the standard mail-in form, and for those who do not want to pay online, we will offer a middle-ground option that allows online registration with a mailed check if a fee is required. Given the benefits to your fellow volunteer members like Elizabeth and Barrie, please carefully consider using our new online capability.

Right now, we are racing the clock to see if the website will be up and this new feature available in time for our two member shows in June. The instructions in this newsletter for entering the shows include using both the online registration and the current, manual method. Before

you do your registration, I would just ask that you look at the website, www.montgomeryart.org, to see if the online capability is available, and if it is, to use that new capability. It will help us immensely in the preparation for these two concurrent shows.

For the Labor Day Show, we will definitely have the online registration feature ready. In addition, because our membership period ends August 31, members will need to renew their memberships in order to get the discounted entry fees and the benefit of displaying bin work and cards for sale at the show. To support this process, the website will also have an online membership enrollment and renewal process available.

Besides the shows, we have a number of com-

munity outreach events related to children's art activities—at Westfield Wheaton, May 12 and June 16 for Mother's and Father's days and in "downtown" Wheaton, the Taste of Wheaton Festival. If you can assist, please do—more hands are always a plus. It's a great way to re-connect with your inner child. It's a fun time, and besides you're helping promote the arts in the community! Contact Judith Levine at julevineRN@aol.com for more information.

And we'll have our Summer Social Get-Together at the Artistic Gallery on July 11, 6:30-8:30 pm. Hope to see you there and at our next monthly meeting at Plaza Art on May 9. See the Upcoming Dates article for more information.

Til next time,
Cathy Hirsh

New MAA Website Coming! Watch for It!!



The current MAA website has served us well-- no doubt about that. Laura-Leigh Palmer, past MAA president and our website designer and manager, has done a wonderful job with it. And the Home page, with its paint palette and scrolling photos, is a real "tour de force." Thank you Laura-Leigh!

But as the Board members thought about what MAA needed for the future, it became increasingly clear that the current website is not sufficient:

- ▶ It is on older technology, making it difficult to update— Laura-Leigh spends many hours every month keeping the website current;
- ▶ It is passive. It provides information, but does not help MAA address administrative issues that could become troublesome given a growing membership and an organizational strategy of doing more frequent and larger shows. All of MAA's current administrative procedures are manual. They require entering member information from forms into an Excel spreadsheet; pulling together email lists; and laboriously typing show labels and registration listings;
- ▶ And finally, the site's technology cannot support new features MAA wants to offer its members, such as an online members' gallery and an online sales gallery.

So, after much consideration, the decision was made to redo the website. It is currently in development and will be making its debut soon. At the outset, it will provide many advantages with new features being added as they are ready over the coming months.

Before reviewing the new site and its online capabilities, it should be noted that the current approaches for membership renewal and show registrations will still be accommodated. This is particularly important for those members who might not welcome "online stuff." But, members who are willing to learn to use the new online features will, undoubtedly, find them helpful. Use of the online features will help make MAA operations more efficient and make the jobs of our member volunteers much easier.

The vision for the website, and in particular the Home page, is that it will be the hub for member communication—the access point to find information and also to get essential "stuff" done. When in need of information, members can come to the website to find what they want to know or do. Want to know the timing for a meeting or special event? Check the calendar on the Home page. Want to register for an upcoming show? The Home page will have a link to the registration process. Want to renew your membership status? That can be done online, too.

In addition, MAA wants the website to provide value to its members by helping them "get the word out" about their work and any services they provide. For example, the Member page, once we have the capability ready, will allow every member to display their contact information, including website links, and up to 10 images of their work. (We will be ready to implement this capability at the start of the next membership year, September 1, 2012.) This is a very exciting new benefit for all of our members.

For those members providing art-related services to the artistic community or the general community (lessons,

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Web Site

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commissions, printing services, etc.), their services can be listed on the Resources page. This capability will be available immediately upon the implementation of the new website. (BTW, if you want to list your services, send your information to Cathy Hirsh, hirshcathy@gmail.com.)

The new website uses reliable technology that will make monthly updates easier. Membership information and show registration information is kept in databases with the data accessible (with appropriate authorization) to easily send emails to members and produce show labels and registration listings. The site is hosted on GoDaddy, a huge processing complex with 24/7 accessibility and high levels of security against hacking and data theft—extremely important as we make the website more interactive with online databases and processing capabilities. Online payments will be done using Paypal, a leader in processing secure online payments with credit or debit cards.

Reviewing the site content briefly:

- ▶ **Home** provides the MAA calendar, contact information and important member links for show registrations and special events.
- ▶ **About** contains information about MAA and its history, its officers, and sponsors.
- ▶ **Members** contains announcements about member accomplishments and images of members' work (future capability) and **Events** describes current and upcoming MAA happenings.

- ▶ **"Artportunities"** lists show opportunities or exhibits of member interest and **Resources** provides listings of members providing services, other area art associations, past newsletters, and articles of interest (not all available initially).
- ▶ **Gallery** notes that our physical Gallery in Westfield Wheaton is currently under renovation and also provides links to the **Online Sales Gallery** (a future capability planned for implementation during 2012). (Before we learned we would have to close the current Gallery location, this page as well as material on the **Home** page would have supported our members in setting Gallery sitting times, entering shows, etc. With the Gallery closure, we've disabled these features, but if we are able to re-open in another location, the website is designed to support Gallery store requirements.)

Your Board of Directors has worked very hard to bring its members the best website possible. Once it's available, please take the time to explore the new site and review its current and planned features. Your suggestions and comments are welcome. The initial site is just that—initial. The plan is to grow and enhance the site so that the needs and interests of MAA and its membership are fully supported. Check it out!

New Online Show Registration Process

To reduce the administrative effort for arranging MAA exhibits with the new website, MAA is moving to an online registration process. Artists will be able to enter their information, including the specifics on their pieces (title, media, price) online, and if desired, pay the entry fees (where they're required) online by credit or debit card.

If there are no fees for the exhibit, and we have many exhibits where fees are not required, once you complete the registration information, you are done. If there is a fee and you don't want to pay the fee online, that's okay, too. You can send in your check to the show registrar separately. Just please use the online show registration process for entering your information—it will help us immensely in completing the materials required for the show.

Or, just use the mail-in form or email (where a form is not required) and send together with any payment required to the show registrar. We do, however, encourage you to use the online service, if at all possible.

For the June member shows, before you do your registration, just check the MAA website, www.montgomeryart.com, to see if the online capability is available, and if it is, please use that new capability. If it is not available, or you choose not to do the registration online, then just follow the "manual" instructions that are also included with the show instructions.

Computer Assisted Art: How Technology Aids the Creation of Original Artwork

by Debra Halprin

Editor's Note. Debra Halprin will be the featured speaker at the May MAA meeting at Plaza Art. She prepared this article to supplement her presentation.

I am a conventional watercolorist as well as a Giclee' Print Artist (a title I coined myself). Through the giclee' print making process, I discovered so much more than just a way to reproduce my original artwork. For example, I learned:

- How to make an exciting reference photo,
- How to critique my artwork,

- How to make a better painting, and
- How to create new artwork from my giclee' prints.

Giclee' prints are a wonderful tool for artists. It allows us to duplicate an image which we created that is as beautiful as the original and to sell it over and over again at a greatly reduced price.

Most of you may already know about giclee' print-

ing, but for those with questions, I will provide some background about the process.

Giclee' (pronounced *zhee-clay*) is a word derived from the French meaning "to squirt or spray". The term describes how the ink jet printer sprays color onto the substrate (watercolor paper or canvas in my case) to create a high resolution image which is difficult to distinguish from

the original artwork.

In order to produce a giclee' print, the original artwork is either scanned or digitally photographed and downloaded to the computer.

Photography is key to creating a great reproduction of your work. You must have the right lighting and a crisp, clear photo to work with. Using a tripod is a must. For the creation of larger prints you will

want to shoot RAW. Shooting RAW utilizes all the available pixels that your camera has to offer. As for lighting, daylight is best but don't have the sun shining on your painting. I shoot my photos inside with indirect sunlight. It gives the most natural tones. If you are shooting on a darker day, you may set the light adjustments of your camera to control

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Computer Assisted art

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ABOVE: Brookside Path, by Debra Halprin, the finished enhanced gicleé
Preceding Page: Steps from the original photo to the finished computer assisted art

the shutter speed to allow in more light. Once you have photographed a high resolution image of your painting you are ready to begin color matching it on the computer.

Take out the camera card and insert it into a card reader attached to your computer. Once the image is in the computer, a software program (usu-

ally Photoshop) is used to make any needed corrections to replicate or improve upon the original artwork.

This is where the magic happens. Once you see your artwork on the computer screen, it's like looking at it in a mirror. Suddenly, any problems become apparent. The beauty of critiquing your

work on the computer screen is that you can make changes to the image first to see if you like them before you touch your original.

Once I realized my ability to critique an image, I took it one step farther and began to critique my reference photos. I can make a boring reference photo exciting by adding color and contrast on the computer screen. I now use this enhanced image as my reference material to create my original artwork.

Here is a brief explanation of how I go about enhancing my photos after placing the image on the screen:

Using Photoshop 5 I go to Enhance – Adjust Lighting – Levels

Once in Levels. I move the far right arrow to the left to brighten up the photo.

While still under Enhance, I then go to Adjust color.

Here I increase the saturation of the image. Next I go to FILTER – ARTISTIC – CUTOUT. Play with the arrows until you are happy. While still in Filter – Artistic I then go to Watercolor. I then go back to Enhance – Adjust Colors and play again with the saturation and colors.

Giclee' printers do not use ordinary printer ink. Special light fast inks are used which will hold their color for up to 200 years. The prints are also waterproof. You can put the print into a tub of water and scrub. The paper may tear but the color will not run.

The quality of the giclee' prints has been recognized by Fine Art Museums such as the NY Metropolitan Museum and the Museum of Modern Art. Recent Auctions of giclee' prints have fetched \$10,800 for Annie Liebowitz and \$9600 for Chuck Close.

I enhance my giclee' prints with watercolor, acrylic or gouache, in order to bring in a higher selling price. That's the benefit of printing on canvas or watercolor paper. You can enhance your print or totally paint over the giclee' making it a unique piece of art in its own right. Many times, my enhanced giclee's have sold for more than the original.

For answers to your questions about giclee' printing, or if you would like to have giclee' prints made from your original artwork, contact me at halprinart@aol.com or call 301-260-9701. Current prices are .09 cents per square inch on paper and .12 cents per square inch on canvas with a \$25 set up fee which includes photography.

Welcome New Members!!! Still Pushing Toward 200!!

As the summer approaches and our fall schedule of events looms, we welcome three more new members to our MAA family of artists. They are Susan Karp, Terry Pellmar, and Susan Nerlinger. As of this issue of the MAA News, our membership number stands at an all-time high of 180!! Please welcome Susan, Terry and Susan to the best art association in the area.

Again, we are close to our goal of 200 members. In the March issue, President Cathy Hirsh laid down a membership challenge. The current member who recruits the most new members between now and the Labor Day Show in Kensington will receive a gift certificate from MAA. And, the new member who represents number 200 will also receive a gift certificate. Let's have some fun with this and see who can sign up the most members. We all know artists who could benefit from membership in our terrific organization. As Cathy points out, over the last few years, we have developed a reputation as one of the most progressive and exciting local art associations in the metropolitan area.

To reach our goal we only need 20 new members over the next five months. That's just 4 per month between May and September!! If you recruit a new member, be sure to have them list you as the "sponsor" so that we can keep tabs on who should win the gift certificates.

Why is this important to our association? It's important because it allows us to continue to expand the benefits we can offer to YOU, the member. We have launched some exciting new initiatives this year with the development of a new MAA website. But it's not just a website.

It will help us automate much of what we do during the course of the year such as registration for events, signing up for Gallery times, submitting work to the gallery, tracking our membership records, and so much more. Those developments are not possible without continued growth in our membership. We lose a certain number of members each year and those have to be replaced just to allow us to stay even. So when we lose a member we have to recruit two new ones in order to grow.

Membership is the life-blood of any association. One of the many things we have learned from the Gallery is that there is a pool of local artists whom we have never been able to reach. These artists are hungry to find a home for their talents and a place to be able to share their art and learn from others. So let's go for it.

There is no better membership deal in the Washington area art association market than MAA!!!!

We apologize to any members whose names are not listed. We will catch up with you next month.

Susan Karp

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MAA—serving its members since 1954.

MAA MEMBER SHOWS

June to September

There are four member shows between June and September. Stay busy and enter pieces in all of them!

Annual Judged Members Show, June 4 - June 30 at the Friendship Heights Village Center

Once again, we are doing our annual members show at the Friendship Heights Village Center. This is a judged show with monetary awards. You must be a current member to participate. There is an entry fee of \$10 to cover the submission of two pieces with additional entries \$5 each.

Five categories are used in judging submissions: Landscapes; Portrait (people/animals); Still Life; Abstract and 3-Dimensional; and Miniature (no larger than 8" x 10" framed). Note in your registration the categories where you feel your pieces fit best.

Works submitted must be originals and must never have been exhibited in another judged MAA show. All pieces, other than miniatures and sculptures, must be equipped with hanging wires (no brackets).

The "hand of the artist" must be visible and dominant in constructing the artwork. Photographic and digitally manipulated images are not acceptable unless they are used in a secondary manner to the artwork as a whole and are clearly described in the media description. Tastefully-done nudes (no explicit views) are permitted.

Our judge this year is **Michael Sellmeyer**, a Professor of

Art at Montgomery College-Rockville Campus. He earned his Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Michael has taught a variety of college studio courses for eighteen years including all levels of drawing, design, color theory, printmaking, painting, and computer art.

While in college, Michael worked as a sign painter, summer camp art director, picture framer, gallery partner, graphic designer/illustrator, and built stained glass windows. Creating with the tools from this array of professions influenced Michael to expand his use of media for his own art making. These materials range from drawing with cattle markers to creating collages from computer-scanned trash. Originally working in realism and expressionism, Michael's art evolved into nonobjective paintings, drawings, collages, woodcuts, and etchings. This art is often grounded in Michael's interest in surface textures and irregularities found in nature.

Important dates—Registration information must be received by May 24 (no late submissions will be accepted). Drop-off is Sunday, June 3, 10 – 11 am. Judging is at 11 am with the show hung promptly after that (help is requested!). The reception is Sunday, June 10, 11:30 – 12:30 with the judge's remarks beginning at 12:30 pm. Participating artists are asked to come to the reception and bring something to eat or drink. Pick-up, concurrent with the drop-off time for the next show at the Village Center,

the Red, White and Blue! show, is Sunday July 1, 10-11 am. Sales will be handled by Village Center staff. Checks are written to the artist for the sales amount plus Maryland sales tax. The artist is then responsible for paying the Village Center a 20% commission and for sending the sales tax to the Comptroller of Maryland.

For more information, and to register for this show, go to the online registration process for the "Annual Members Show" on the Home page of the website (if available—see the president's message and the article on the new online registration process). That link will allow you to enter the information about yourself and your pieces. You will also be able to pay the entry fee online if you want, or payment can be sent to Elizabeth Stecher at the address shown (10812 Margate Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901). If artists are not comfortable providing information online, or if the online capability is not yet ready, then use the standard, mail-in form that has been sent to the membership.

Any questions may be directed to Elizabeth Stecher, the show registrar, at estecher7@verizon.net or 301 593-8305.

Special Members Show, June 4 – July 21 at the Artistic Gallery, Wheaton

We are pleased to announce the first MAA show at the newly remodeled Artistic Gallery located in Wheaton in

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one of the strip malls between Blue Ridge and University, just off of the west side of Georgia Avenue. The address is 11410 Georgia Avenue, Suite L. Artistic Gallery is owned by Hassan Lolavar.

The space will hold about 80 paintings, depending upon size, on walls and easel stands. There is a glass stand for miniatures and sculptures. We will also have a few bins, probably 5-6, and maybe card racks (to be decided later).

Using a combination of the owner's client list and our own, we will do a postcard mailing to around 1600 addresses to "get the word out." We will also ask our participating artists to do their part to get their friends and family to visit the show and also come to the reception. If all goes well, Hassan would like us to consider his gallery a regular MAA showing opportunity, at least a couple of times a year.

Terms: Hassan takes a 30% commission on framed works and 20% on unframed bin pieces. If a contact is made between an artist and a customer during the show and a sale happens soon afterwards, he asks that the artist provide him the 30% commission. All pieces for the walls must be original and framed. Bin pieces can be either original or giclees. He has insurance for show contents. He will send checks to the artists making sales within 30 days after the show closes.

Each member can submit 3 pieces for the wall and 5 pieces for the bins. There is limited space for miniatures and sculptures, but because there are usually fewer artists with those types of pieces, we are not placing a submission limit on those types of pieces at this point. Whether

for the wall, the bins, or the miniature/sculpture stand, we will do our best to include all the received work. However, depending upon the number of pieces received, that may not be possible. We will hang the show so that participating artists are fairly represented as much as possible. If necessary, we will notify artists to pick up any work not included at the Artistic Gallery location as soon as possible.

Dates:

Show registration – Thursday, May 24. Artwork information (title, media, price) completed via online registration (if available on the website's Home page) or by sending the information via email to Elizabeth Stecher (estecher7@verizon.net). No exceptions will be made for late submissions.

Drop-off times – Saturday, June 2 4-6 pm or Monday, June 4 10:00 to noon. Hanging of the show will occur Monday afternoon and help is requested.

Reception—Saturday, June 23, 5-7 pm. Participating artists should bring something to eat or drink to the reception.

Pick-up—Saturday, July 21, 4-6 pm.

We will also have our July 11 MAA social get-together at this location so that will be another opportunity to see the show.

Annual Kensington "Paint the Town" Labor Day Show and Plein Air Event

September 1 – 3 at the Kensington Armory

MAA's, "Paint the Town" Labor Day Weekend Art Show has been a major event in Kensington, Maryland for sixteen years. Thousands of people visit this show, and many works sell. Awards are also given.

The event is held in the Kensington Armory, located at 3710 Mitchell Street in Kensington, MD 20895, over the Labor Day Weekend.

There are two requirements for show participation:

1. One of the pieces of artwork must reflect or be representative of the Town of Kensington. (Abstracts are fine. Your representation of the town may be in the artistic style of your choice).

2. All artists are required to assist with the show in some capacity. This may be accomplished in many ways: assisting with the reception, publicity, soliciting donations, hanging flyers, cashiers, greeting guests, setting up and hanging, etc.

Works submitted must be originals and must never have been exhibited in another judged MAA show. All pieces, other than sculptures, must be equipped with hanging wires (no brackets).

The "hand of the artist" must be visible and dominant in constructing the artwork. Photographic and digitally manipulated images are not acceptable unless they are used

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in a secondary manner to the artwork as a whole and are clearly described in the media description. Tastefully-done nudes (no explicit views) are permitted.

Five categories are used in judging submissions: Kensington subjects (1 piece required); Landscapes; Portrait (people/animals); Still Life; and Abstract and 3-Dimensional. Note in your registration the categories where you feel your pieces fit best.

The show will be judged by award winning artist and instructor, David Daniels. David earned a Masters of Arts Degree from Central Michigan University. After 15 years of teaching in the Michigan public school system, he moved to Washington, DC to pursue an art career. In addition to being a working artist, David teaches painting at Montgomery College, the Smithsonian Institution, and privately.

Each artist may submit up to 10 pieces. All accepted artwork will be hung in the show, and award winners will receive cash and prizes. Members can display bin works and cards for sale. We will have some MAA bins available, but if an artist has more than 5 bin pieces, they must bring their own bin. MAA will handle all sales, report the sales tax collected, and take a 25% commission.

Important dates--Registration information must be received by August 24 (no late submissions). Drop-off is Thursday, August 30, 5-7 pm or Friday, August 31, 10-noon. Judging begins Friday at noon with the show hung promptly afterwards. The reception and awards presentation will be Saturday, September 1, 6:00-7:30 pm. Participating artists

are asked to come to the reception and bring something to eat and drink. Pick-up for unsold artwork will be Monday, September 3, 5:30-6:00 pm.

Use the online show registration process and the online membership renewal process on the new website or use the manual form that has been sent to the membership and that is also on the website.

Additional Plein Air Event:

In addition to the Kensington Armory exhibition, there is also a Plein Air Event that takes place on Saturday, September 1st from daybreak to 3:00 pm. This event is free for members of MAA and \$5.00 for non-members.

You do not need to participate in the general show in order to participate in the Plein Air Event. It will be judged separately from the general show at 3:00 pm on Saturday, September 1st.

These artworks will then be on exhibit at the Armory Show and available for sale, if so desired.

Registration for the Plein Air Event will be held at the Kensington Armory at the following times:

- Thursday, August 30th between 5:00 – 7:00 pm
- Friday, August 31st between 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Saturday, September 1st between 9:00 – 10:00 am

Bring blank canvases or art paper with you. We will stamp the back. Painting must not begin until daybreak on Saturday, September 1st.

Member Show—Town of Kensington Public Rooms

Participation in the MAA annual “Paint the Town” Labor Day show requires that one piece reflect the scenery or spirit of the Town of Kensington. Seeing the wonderful depictions of Kensington prepared for the show, Mayor Peter Fosselman asked if MAA could orchestrate an ongoing art exhibit for the town’s public meeting rooms--the Conference Room and the Town Council Room.

The duration for this exhibit is one year—Labor Day Show to Labor Day Show—although if an artist requires a piece before then, it can be removed from the show. Artists should simply tell MAA and the Kensington Town staff (on the third floor) that they are picking up their work.

To make it simple for drop-off and pick-up, the show will be hung right after the completion of the Labor Day Show on Monday, September 3 at 6:00 pm. Artists wanting to participate are asked to bring their Kensington piece(s) to the Town Council Room on the first floor of the Armory along with the Labor Day Show label for their piece(s). Those artists who participated in the previous exhibit are asked to pick up their piece(s) from that exhibit at the same time as well.

The show is hung immediately that evening. Artists wishing to help hang the show are welcome.

Town staff will handle any sales and do not take a commission.



First Chair, by Natalie Falk



Ebony and Ivory, by Natalie Falk

REMEMBER THESE:

UPCOMING dates

Wed, May 9, 6:30- 8:00 pm.

Monthly meeting at Plaza Arts, Rockville, with Debra Halprin as our speaker. Social period begins at 6:30 with business portion beginning promptly at 7:00 pm. This is our last monthly meeting until October 10.

Sat, May 12, noon to 5 pm.

Children's Mother's Day Activity in Westfield Wheaton.

Sunday, May 20, 11 am to 5 pm—

Taste of Wheaton Festival—MAA art sale and children's art activities

June Shows

Annual Judged Members show at Friendship Heights Village Center. Registration by May 24; drop-off Sunday, June 3, 10-11am; reception, June 10 11:30-1:30; pickup July 1, 10-11 am.

Special Members Show at Artistic Gallery in Wheaton.

Registration by May 24; drop-off Saturday June 2, 4-6 pm or Monday, June 4, 10 am to noon; reception, Saturday, June 23, 5-7 pm, pickup, Saturday July 21, 4-6 pm.

Sat, June 16, noon to 5 pm.

Children's Father's Day Activity in Westfield Wheaton

July 11, 6:30-8:30 pm.

Summer Social Get-Together at the Artistic Gallery in Wheaton

Sept 1-3—

Kensington "Paint the Town" Labor Day Art Show and Plein Air Event—Kensington Armory

Registration by Aug 24; drop-off, Thursday, August 30, 5-7 pm or Friday, August 31, 10 am to noon; reception, Saturday, September 1, 6:00-7:30 pm; pickup, Monday, September 3, 5:30-6:00 pm

Sept 3—

Show change for the Town of Kensington public rooms immediately after the close of the Labor Day Show on Monday, September 3. Bring paintings for the show (and their Labor Day Show labels) to the Town Council room on the first floor of the Armory.



GALLERY NEWS AND NOTES

This part of the newsletter is designed to provide you with art news and information about interesting shows at the many local art galleries. If you are aware of an event, news or an exhibit, large or small, that you think would be of interest, please send an email to JULevineRN@aol.com. If going to one of the galleries you have not been to we urge that you contact the gallery or its web site to ask about directions and transportation. Many of the galleries in DC are accessible via Metro and parking can be a problem. Unless otherwise noted, admission is free.

The Corcoran Gallery of Art

510 17th St NW,
Washington, DC
(202) 639-8574

NEXT at the Corcoran: Class of 2012

April 14–May 20, 2012
This annual show gives visitors a chance to see what the Corcoran's graduating class has been doing and where it is going.

Crossing the Line

April 14–May 20, 2012
This is the matching exhibit to NEXT at the Corcoran. It showcases the works of 27 graduates of the school dating back to 1985.

The Phillips Collection

1600 21st St., NW, Washington, DC 20009
Information- 202-387-2151
\$12 -adults, \$10 -62 and over and students, free for

members and visitors 18 and under

Intersections

Intersections, a series of projects explores the way two, sometimes radically, different objects relate and join together. Each project explores new traditions, modern and contemporary art practices, and museum spaces and artistic interventions. It branches into both traditional and non-tradition exhibition spaces with some surprising and intriguing results.

Lee Boroson: Lunar Bower

May 26, 2011–May 27, 2012

Alyson Shotz: Ecliptic

February 16–May 27, 2012
"Ecliptic—three interrelated large-scale drawings made of yarn looped over thousands of nails—investigates

spatial perception and engages the architecture of the gallery. The installation, like much of Shotz's work, is inspired by science, referencing the solar system and the perpetual rotation of planets. At once monumental and delicate, flat and three-dimensional, Ecliptic transforms the room into a weightless environment."

Sandra Cinto: One Day, After the Rain

May 19, 2012–December 30, 2013
Cinto's intricate ink and acrylic drawings on canvas pay homage to Arthur Dove (1880–1946) landscapes, also in The Phillips Collection. Like Dove, Cinto combines a fascinating melding of representation- alism and abstract form.

The National Gallery of Art

4th and Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20565
General Information:
(202) 737-4215

The Baroque Genius of Giovanni Benedetto Castiglione

January 29–July 8, 2012
Giovanni Benedetto Castiglione (1609–1664) has long been considered a major master of the Baroque. He was both a master of drawing and print making. The influences of Rembrandt and Claude Lorrain can be seen in many of the 80 works. Castiglione would eventually go on to influence later artists including Tiepolo and Piranesi, Watteau, and Boucher.



By Joan Miró

Modern Lab: Material Interventions

February 11, 2012–August 2012
The term mixed media refers, for this exhibition, not only to materials but also to type. Sculpture, painting, drawing, photography are all made with often unexpected materials. It may give a viewing artist inspiration to try something completely out of his/her comfort zone.

Joan Miró: The Ladder of Escape

May 6–August 12, 2012
Spain's Joan Miró (1893–1983) earned the right to be called a modern master,

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something most evident in this 120 work exhibition. Though best known for his paintings with their undulating forms and pure, brilliant colours, Miro explored many other media in his nearly century long career. This exhibit also examines his less well known political works.

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

Independence Avenue at Seventh Street SW Information: 202-633-1000 or 202-633-5285 (TTY) This gallery focuses on contemporary artists.

Dark Matters: Selections from the Collection

February 3, 2012 to May 13, 2012

This show explores the use of darkness, including the absence of light. Sculpture, painting, photography, and video are used to see what the artists find in the dark.

Ai Weiwei: According to What?

October 2012 to February 2013
“This major survey of his work will include examples from the broad spectrum of his artistic practice, from sculpture, photography, and video to site-specific architectural installations, and aims to reveal the rich and varied contexts that he has continuously interwoven.” Please come and see why the government of China is so afraid of this remarkable artist.

The Sackler Gallery/ The Freer Gallery

1050 Independence Avenue, SW. 202-633.1000
The joint galleries house one of the world’s great collection of Asian arts.



Dog Zodiac Head, Au Weiwei

Perspectives: Ai Weiwei

May 12, 2012–April 7, 2013, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery

A companion to the Hirshorn’s Circle of Animals/ Zodiac Heads. “Noting the abundance of antique wood on the market, Ai had a number of pieces transported from Guangdong to his studio in Beijing to create a series of objects and installations. Fragments is a culmination of that body of work. Working with a team of

skilled carpenters, Ai turned pillars and beams of ironwood (or tieli) salvaged from several dismantled Qing dynasty temples into a large-scale, seemingly chaotic work, which he calls an “irrational structure.” Yet examined more closely, one discovers that the installation is an elaborate system of masterful joinery and delicate balance relations.

Seen from above, the entire complex is anchored by poles marking out the borders of a map of China. Through his simultaneously destructive and creative process, Ai highlights the bewildering reality that we live in the midst of a world undergoing rapid spatial and social transformations.”

Hokusai

January 28–July 29, 2012
Through July of 2012, the Sackler will present a series of exhibits of masterworks including 36

Views of Mount Fuji. It is very rare that the Japanese government allows this great master’s works to leave the county, especially in such large numbers. Hokusai’s paintings are as lush and alive as when he painted them. Treat yourself to the extraordinary work of this genius.

Art of Darkness: Japanese Mezzotints from the Hitch Collection

April 7–July 8, 2012–Arthur M. Sackler Gallery

These prints let the viewer see how the European mezzotint technique is re-visualized within the vision of modern Japanese print-makers. This exhibit encompasses only part of the Hitch collection which will eventually all come to the Sackler.

Goryeo Buddhist Paintings: A Closer Look

February 25–May 28, 2012

These rare silk paintings, made with mineral pigments and gold overlays are part of a group of less

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than 150 Korean icons still remaining. Buddhist painting specialist Chung Woothak has prepared a joint exhibit that will allow the visitor to see the elements that are hard to distinguish today secondary to darkening of the silk.

Winged Spirits: Birds in Chinese Painting

February 11–August 5, 2012

Explore the exquisite birds of China in this group of 10th Century artworks. 35 species of are represented, and the earliest also qualify as true botanical paintings.

National Museum of the American Indian

Fourth Street & Independence Ave, S.W. Washington, DC 20560 202-633-1000

Vochol: Huichol Art on Wheels

March 20, 2012–May 10, 2012
A Volkswagen Beetle named “Vocho”. Yes, you



From Winged Spirits: Birds with Berries

got it right- a Volkswagen Beetle named “Vocho” I was so excited when I saw this because the Center for Folkife and Culture has its sister vehicle from Pakistan. The vehicle is covered using glass beads and fabrics. This a true piece of Mexican folk art and worth the trip.

Behind the Scenes: The Real Story of Quileute Wolves

January 13, 2012–May 9, 2012

Many people only know of the Quileute people as the tribe in the Twilight series. This exhibit will allow the visitor to experience the actual Quileutes. This people who are both Native

Americans and Canadian First nations have a history that spans more than 3000 years.

A Song for the Horse Nation

October 29,

2011–January 7, 2013
Allow yourself to explore the relationship between Native Americans and horses. This exhibit includes regalia, a 16 foot high Sioux tipi, and paintings from the time of Columbus to modern day.

National Museum of African Art

950 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC (202) 633-1000

Lalla Essaydi: Revisions

May 9, 2012 - February 24, 2013

Born in Morocco, now living in New York, Essaydi explores the dichotomy of her Western and Eastern cultures. Seeking to

destroy stereotypes, she infuses her painting and photography with her personal experiences, giving the viewer an intimate look at women in Eastern society.

Renwick Gallery

1661 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC (202) 633-7970 The Renwick’s main focus is on the decorative arts.

National Portrait Gallery/Smithsonian American Art Museum

8th St. at F St., NW, Washington, DC 202) 633-1000 (voice/tape) The National Portrait Gallery (NPG) and the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) both contain many permanent exhibits that easily allow for many visits. These two connected galleries, which are part of the Smithsonian Institute, form a national treasure of American paintings and sculpture. The buildings just reopened recently after a nearly 6 year renovation which has restored them to

their original states. This included restoration of the exquisite stained glass windows in both ceilings and walls, and the repair of the beautiful floor and wall tiling.

A Will of Their Own: Judith Murray and Women of Achievement in the Early Republic

April 20, 2012 through Sept. 2, 2013

Portraits of eight American women who helped shape the course of American history. These women could be seen as early fighters in the struggle for gender equality.

African American Art: Harlem Renaissance, Civil Rights Era, and Beyond

April 27, 2012–September 23, 2012

This is a group of 100 paintings, sculptures, and drawings from an enormously talented group of American artists including Jacob Lawrence, Lois Jones, and Romare Bearden. This exhibition allows the visitor

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to experience this exciting period from the eyes of those who knew it most intimately.

In Vibrant Color: Vintage Celebrity Portraits from the Harry Warnecke Studio

March 2, 2012 through September 3, 2012
Warnecke pioneered this type of colour photography for the New York Daily News' Sunday News magazine. The 24 portraits include Lucille Ball, Jackie Robinson, Babe Didrikson, Gene Autry, Ethel Waters, Generals Eisenhower and Patton, and comedians W.C. Fields and Laurel and Hardy.

Recent Acquisitions

current-November 4, 2012
This is an exhibit that highlights the 40 newest acquisitions includes Hirschfield, Chuck Close, and Zaida Ben-Yusuf, and Philip Grausman.

Portraiture Now: Asian American Portraits of Encounter

Current-October 14, 2012-Portrait Gallery
An insightful look at the way seven contemporary Asian Americans see the American experience. This show includes CYJO (Cindy Hwang), New York, Hye Yeon Nam, Atlanta and New York, Shizu Salda-mando, Los Angeles, Roger Shimomura, Lawrence, Kansas, Satomi Shirai, New York, Tam Tran, Memphis, Tennessee, and Zhang Chun Hong, Lawrence, Kansas. Many of these tiny gems are watercolour on ivory. The exhibit contains 25 images. Many were originally painted as keepsakes. A small show with a big impact.

Annie Leibowitz: Pilgrimage

January 20-May 20, 2012
This Maryland-born photographer's show moves in a very different direction than her portraits. These photos of places where taken origi-

nally only for personal reasons. Places and buildings in this show all have special meaning to the artist, none are posed and the viewer will see Leibowitz in a whole new light.

National Museum of Women in the Arts

1250 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20005-3970 202-783-5000, 1-800-222-7270

Women Silversmiths from the NMWA Collection

March 23, 2012 - September 23, 2012
If you thought that this craft was solely the province of men, think again. These thirty exquisite pieces were produced by English and Irish craft makers. The show is in honour of the museum's 30th anniversary. It makes a lovely counterpoint to the Royalists to Romantics: Women Artists from the Louvre, Versailles, and Other French National Collections exhibition.

Royalists to Romantics: Women Artists from the Louvre, Versailles, and Other French National Collections

February 24, 2012 - July 29, 2012

This show contains 77 paintings, prints, and sculptures dating from 1750 to 1850. Many of these works have only been seen in France.

The visitor will be able to explore France's social and political worlds from just before to about 30 years after the Revolution.

R(ad)ical Love: Sister Mary Corita

March 9, 2012-July 15, 2012

OTHER SHOWS and GALLERIES

Walters Gallery

600 North Charles Street
Baltimore MD
(410) 547-9000
Wednesday through Sunday, 10 A.M. — 5 P.M.

Hashiguchi Goyo's Beautiful Women

Saturday, May 19, 2012–
Sunday, August 12, 2012
Hashiguchi Goyo was the last of Japan's great ukiyo-e printmakers. In this group of 13 prints the viewer will be able to see the beauty and spirit of these people, 8 of whom are female. He made these during the last two years of his life from 1918-1920.

Goldman Art Gallery

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington

6125 Montrose Road,
Rockville, MD 20852
301-881-0100

Monday, Wednesday,
Friday-9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Thursday- 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m.-2 p.m

BlackRock Center for the Arts

12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown, MD 20874 301.528.2260 (administrative offices)

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Brady Wilks

Wednesday, May 02, -
Friday, June 22, 2012
photographic gel transfers

The Mansion at Strathmore

10701 Rockville Pike North
Bethesda MD 20852
For more information call
(301) 581-5125. Free and
Open to the Public

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery

Glenview Mansion at Rock-
ville Civic Center Park
603 Edmonston Drive,
Rockville, Maryland 20851
Information- 240-314-8682
or 240-314-8660.

Rockville Art League

April 29-May 29

Hillyer Art Space Exhibitions

9 Hillyer Ct. NW, Washing-
ton, D.C. 20008
Mon 12-5 , Tues-Fri 12-6,
Sat 12-5 ,and by
appointment
202-338-0680; gallery@
artsandartists.org

Erin Bernard: Rolled Dice and Flicked Matches

Greg Schmigel: Imperfect Strangers—An Exhibit of Mobile Street Photography

The Artists' Gallery

4 East Church Street,
Frederick, MD 21701
301-696-8187 www.the-
artists-gallery.org

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