



OTTAWA ART ASSOCIATION

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President's Jottings by Deborah Czernecky

Making art is a journey. — Meinrad Craighead

It must be Spring and our Annual Spring Juried Awards evening is April 11th at the OLT. I promise there will be no OAA trivia questions this year for the door prizes. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

**Reminder
Norval Morrisseau Tour
at the National Gallery
Sunday, April 9
11:45 a.m.**

Please confirm with Sue Ouellette by April 3 for this and/or breakfast at Nate's (9:30). Events follow our awards' hanging at the Ottawa Little Theatre. (613) 830-5813.

**Mark your calendars for
the May Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2006**

John Alexander Day demo on plein air painting

Nominations for the OAA Executive:

Anyone wishing to work on the OAA executive or nominate members for the executive please contact the President or 1st Vice President. Nominations will be presented at the Annual General Meeting on June 13th, 2006

Getting your newsletter by E-mail

If you have an email address and are not receiving the OAA newsletter, please contact Cindy Hauck, Membership coordinator, to verify that we have your correct email address.

Paint-outs in June--Plein Air

If you'd like to host a paint-out in your area, contact Sue Ouellette. All you need to provide is coffee and directions! The venue can be your own backyard or just down the road. Enjoy the pleasures of painting together in beautiful June.

Spring Awards Show

**Tuesday, April 11
Ottawa Little Theatre
400 King Edward Avenue**

**Reception and Presentation
of Awards 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

Please use main entrance on King Edward Street. Coat check is available at the door. Please note that the price has risen for your ticket to \$6 this year.

Visit our website: www.ottawaartassoc.ca



Guided Tour of Rideau Hall Art Collection and Paint-out

What: Rise and shine on Saturday May 13th for a 9 a.m. guided tour of the Governor General's art collection at Rideau Hall. Weather permitting, after the one hour tour, those who are interested can stay to paint en plein air on the grounds. There are picnic tables available and washroom facilities are located in the Visitor Centre.

When: Saturday May 13th 2006 – 9 a.m.

Where: Rideau Hall, 1 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ont. Our guides will greet us at 8:45 a.m. at the Visitor

Centre and Gift Shop, just inside the Main Gate, and accompany us to the residence for the tour. Best bet for parking is along MacKay Street.

Cost: No charge. You are welcome to bring a guest.

Space is limited to a maximum of 40 split between two guides.

Please confirm attendance with Sue Ouellette at (613) 830-5813 or sue.ouellette@sympatico.ca by Monday May 8, 2006.

March Presentation – Monthly Meeting Philip Craig Studio Tour

'Chez Atelier Craig' is the top full floor of a warehouse in Little Italy. It is a studio to dream on, full of large windows with several exposures, graced with high ceilings and brick walls for display. There is even room for a complete set of percussion instruments. There Philip, his wife Diane, graphic artist, and his daughter, also a painter, start their work days at 6 a.m. The studio hosts his own Open House every year, but is also expanding its uses as a venue for other artists' work, including an exhibition he sponsored for Toller Cranston. Tour members saw portraits and landscapes in oil, as well as his paints table and computer close by each other, both tools to adapt his visual memories of subjects, many inspired by travel. He answered our questions about paint companies, techniques, and promotion. With two solo shows and other minor ones each year, galleries in Winnipeg, London (UK), Toronto, and Calgary, Philip shows us it is really possible to make a living from art. Look for notices of his Fall Open House.

Workshops

Watercolour Workshop, Art Cunanan, April 10–13, 2006, 9:30–4 p.m. each day. Cost: \$300. Contact: Dorothy Hayter, 592-6639.

Upcoming Shows

Colour My World, May 2–31 Deborah Czernecky at Rothwell Hauck Gallery, 1718 Montreal Road, Ottawa. Vernissage, Thursday, May 4, 6–9 p.m.

Art Credo - 30th year. May 7-21, 2006

Over 150 original works representing 60 local artists. St. John's Church, Elgin at Somerset, Ottawa. Open every day, noon to 6 p.m., Thursdays until 8pm.

Supports for your art: Clamps and clips —By David Houlton

For me, one way of learning is to copy from one of the great masters. The problem is most works are found in rather heavy books. To get the book at eye level with the canvas, I found some rather large clamps helpful. What I do is clamp the book to a board of masonite and put it on a second easel next to the blank canvas. The only clamp large enough that I could find comes from the tool department in the hardware store. A real advantage is that they have flat pads on the ends and a ratchet arrangement which means little effort is required to get them in place or open again. With the flat pads they don't damage the books. I found these clamps in Home Depot and/or Home Hardware. I think their real use is to help carpenters clamp furniture. The price ranges from \$12 - \$14 each. I only needed two for a large book. A mat around the picture being copied helped to prevent distractions.

If you work from photos, this week I saw in Wallack's a plastic clamp designed to hold photos at eye level and clamped to the side of the canvas. The price for Wallack's "picture clip" is \$10.39.

Have you any other ideas to pass around?