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PRESIDENT'S JOTTINGS

Autumn is well under way and our Fall Awards Show just around the corner. It is our opportunity to see some of the group's best work as well as socialize for a couple of hours, have some great food and wine, and generally relax.

I thought for next Spring's award show, we might do a "theme" of SPRING-- the word being broad enough to suit landscape as well as abstract & still-life artists. I will be surveying those at the awards show to see if the theme appeals, and get their input-- so think about it, and let me know.

Good luck to all the participants.

REMINDERS FOR THE AWARDS SHOW

Please note that you must be a paid-up member to exhibit your painting at the Awards Show. Our membership secretary, Kerstin Peters, will not be taking memberships at that time. The deadline for payment for your membership is the end of October. The membership application is available on the OAA website. The hanging date for the show is

Sunday, November 11, doors open from 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Also, of course, for this show, each member is allowed one painting only, not larger than 30" by 40", including frame. Other details about the hanging requirements are printed in your Members' Guidelines, or can be reviewed on the OAA website.

IN TOWN

CUBE GALLERY hosts its show **RED** from October 31 to November 25. Our member Aili Kurtis has work included in the show.

MAINWORKS Artists' Cooperative has its annual **Open House** on the weekend of November 2 to 5 at 200 Crichton St. (Avon Entrance). Hours are Friday, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. Alberta Dickson is a member there.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

**FALL AWARDS SHOW
Reception and Presentation
of Awards
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Ottawa Little Theatre
400 King Edward Ave.
Ottawa**



UPCOMING OUTINGS WITH THE OAA

The Past and the Present

Our next gallery visit will be to see an outstanding exhibition of aboriginal art at the Carleton University Art Gallery (CUAG) on **Saturday, November 10, at 1:45 p.m.** This blend of historical and contemporary art will start with a look at a selection of 19th century Dene artifacts assembled by Scottish traders working for the Hudson's Bay Company. Originating from Yellowknife, this exhibit makes its only other Canadian stop at Carleton before returning to the National Museum of Scotland.

Then, fast forward to the present with selected pieces of contemporary First Nations art from the private collection of Ottawa architect John Cook. Additional information about this temporary exhibit, along with directions to the gallery, is available at www.carleton.ca/gallery.

The gallery is located in the St. Patrick's building and admission is free. Parking on the campus is free on weekends. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP by sending an email to Sue at sue.ouellette@sympatico.ca, or call her at (613)830-5813 before November 7, 2007.

CALL FOR HELP

We have need of a back-up typist to help out with the hangings at the Ottawa Little Theatre. If you can be available on short notice, please contact Keith Yach.

MONTHLY PRESENTATION

October's meeting featured an instructive talk and demonstration on mixed media techniques by local artist Rene Deschamps. In the first part of her presentation, Rene spoke about the history of mixed media in art, explaining the wide range of possibilities covered under the umbrella of mixed media; also, that mixed media is nothing new. Artists have been busy with mixed media techniques for thousands of years. We may all be a bit familiar with the idea of encaustics these days, but even when watercolour tints are heightened by inks, we have mixed media. In fact, as Rene pointed out, when Neolithic cave artists painted with charcoal and earth pigments, they were using mixed media; illuminated manuscripts of egg tempera and gold leaf were mixed media; and Renaissance drawings with charcoal and chalk pastels were mixed media, too. Many artists whose work we are familiar with, such as Klimt, Degas and Cassatt, used techniques like these mentioned. And from the time of Picasso and Braque, when ready-made articles were being introduced, a loosening of the 'rules' of art influenced all 20th century art styles which followed, and even collage began to be accepted as art. Today, mixed media usually employs acrylic paints plus other materials.

A number of books and magazines were on display and added to the interest of the subject's possibilities: for example, [Arteffects](#), [The Art of Encaustic Painting](#), [Creative Collage Techniques](#), and [Celebrate Your Creative Self](#).

In answer to the question of why our speaker became a mixed media artist after initially being a watercolourist, not surprisingly Rene said it was for the great flexibility it afforded. There are mediums with a variety of glosses, soft modeling pastes, canvas and rice paper, as additions to the work. And so on. Rene has also moved into the pleasures of very sculptural pieces of work. Her art samples were delights of colour and shapes-- lovely to behold.