

tidings

april 2008

1954-2008

Interplay: Humanity and Nature—the April Membership Show in The Art League Gallery

The investigation and exploration of the positive and/or negative interaction between humankind and the natural environment.



Big Gulp by April Juror Rosemary Lockett

Artists may also use natural, found, biodegradable, and recycled materials. The juror will award the Marshall Award and the Carol Bruce Pastel Award. *Juror information on page 4; “Call to Artists” in the gallery online.* ■

Since cave painters carefully illustrated their hunting expeditions on the walls of Lascaux, artists have rendered the interaction between humanity and nature. Contemporary artists such as Robert Rauschenberg have shown us the ways that people have attempted to control the environment.

Artists may depict contemporary issues such as global warming, the protection and/or destruction of the planet, the effect of humans on the environment, or endangered species. The human presence in the environment must be felt in any work submitted.

Works may demonstrate an awareness of the fragility of nature (through photography, painting, drawing, printmaking, and sculpture). One may also investigate natural phenomena and how humans have had an impact, for example; the struggle of the polar bear to survive due to the melting ice caps at the North Pole.



Strength, colored pencil

Interaction, Amy Lin’s Solo Artist Show

Amy Lin’s drawings explore the interactions among little circular “dots,” each having their own personality and direction. The premise of Lin’s work is that her colored pencil dots are analogous to people; from far away we all look the same but up close we’re all quite different. In “**Interaction**,” Lin’s solo artist exhibit at The Art League Gallery, the intermingling of dots symbolizes an interaction of generations.

Since Lin’s first dot drawing in 2004, Lin’s dots have been featured in five solo exhibitions including one at DCAC, which was curated by Anne Collins Goodyear, Assistant Curator at the National Portrait Gallery. Lin’s dots have been reviewed in *The Washington Post* and included in the Mid-Atlantic Edition of *New American Paintings* (curated by Stephen Bennett Phillips, formerly with the Phillips Collection). Lin, who was named one of *Washingtonian Magazine’s* “40 People Under 40 to Watch,” recently signed with Heineman Myers Contemporary Art and had her first solo

show at Heineman Myers last fall. ■

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from the president

Interested in becoming a board member? The Art League (TAL) membership will be electing their 2008-09 board members at the annual meeting on Thursday, June 26, 2008 at 6:30 pm. If there are members who would like to run for a board member position, or if you know of someone who would be a good candidate, please speak to the staff or notify Jane Coonce, our Nominating Co-Chair by phone: 703-524-7049 or email: Jane.Coonce@verizon.net The deadline for nominations is April 25, 2008.

What are the responsibilities of a board member? We:

- ✓ Serve the best interests of our members and students.
- ✓ Act as the fiduciary and guardian of the organizational assets.
- ✓ Review/approve TAL's budget, review financial reports, select an auditor.
- ✓ Set policies for the overall management and operation of TAL.
- ✓ Participate in strategic planning, establish goals and assess progress.
- ✓ Elect board members when a vacancy exist.
- ✓ Prepare for, attend and actively participate in board and committee meetings.
- ✓ Evaluate the performance of the executive director.
- ✓ Maintain confidentiality of information; disclose conflict of interest.
- ✓ Support board decisions.
- ✓ Comply with Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
- ✓ Contribute financially according to ability.
- ✓ Act as an informed advocate of TAL.
- ✓ Participate in fundraising activities in a variety of ways.
- ✓ Attend as many additional events as is practicable.

What are the qualifications for board members?

- ✓ Be a member in good standing at the time of nomination.
- ✓ Ability to draft/edit word documents, send/receive email and attachments.
- ✓ Ability to provide verbal and written summary reports.

- ✓ Ability to read simple pie charts and financial statements (training provided).
- ✓ Willingness to serve a two-year term of office.
- ✓ Previous experience as a non-profit board member desirable but not required.
- ✓ In 2008-2009 we are particularly interested in individuals who have a background in law, real estate, financial management, fundraising or public relations.

Strategic Planning

We have kicked off our strategic planning efforts and are looking forward to your involvement in the process. We are building an outstanding committee chaired by Linda Maldonado, a very capable leader and fellow board member. The following is the first of many updates that you will be receiving from her.

TAL Strategic Planning Overview. What do we want The Art League to be in 2013? What opportunities and challenges face us? What should we be planning for in terms of facilities, services, and activities? These questions are the subject of The Art League's strategic planning initiative during 2008. And you can be involved! We'll be inviting members, staff and students to give your ideas and opinions through a survey. Later, focus groups will zero in on key areas to give greater perspective and definition to what you have identified. Your board will look at all the information and set goals and priorities for the near future. These will guide us in writing our budget, planning our most important actions, and focusing our energies. We'll be keeping you updated as we work through the steps of this effort.

—Linda Maldonado, Chair,
Strategic Planning Committee

Now that spring is here, I hope that you are enjoying the good weather and will take advantage of the many classes and workshops that The Art League has to offer.

All the best,
Miki Guilmain, President
The Art League Board of Directors
e-mail: boardofdirectors@theartleague.org

*If you would like to contribute to
The Art League through the United Way or
Combined Federal Campaign, our designation
numbers are UW #8069 and CFC #56520.*

[Please Note: we have been assigned a new # for the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).]

March Gallery Awards
La Femme: Celebration of an Icon
Juried by Sarah Tanguy

Best in Show
Avis Fleming

Honorable Mention
Sarah Canadine Bayne
Christine Cardellino
Peggy Fleming
Louise Marlowe
Peter Reynolds
Virginia Sanaie
Paula Soderlund
Courtney Stevens

Entered 424, Accepted 65

March Juror Dialogues—Excerpts

La Femme: Celebration of an Icon
Sarah Tanguy with Erica Fortwengler

New juror Sarah Tanguy came into the gallery open-minded in terms of how she expected our artists to interpret the theme of, “**La Femme**.” She was pleased to see such diversity and was happy with the broad interpretation of the subject matter. “I am glad that much of the work dealt with the theme in a narrative, interpretive, and symbolic way.”

“Many of the submissions dealt with the theme in a classical way. There were many pieces depicting mother and child, for example. There were not a lot of pieces tackling gender issues or differences, feminism, or political issues, though there were some.”

When jurying a show that has a theme or focus, subject matter takes on increased importance. “A piece needs a combination of process and technique in order to successfully deliver a message or feeling. It needs balance. For this show, works needed to be relevant to the theme, but they also needed to hold up technically,” she remarked.

“I was most drawn to pieces with recognizable expressions and feelings. I wanted to create a mood, a sense of mood, and a state of mind with the show.” For the best in show award, she selected “Mother and Daughter” by Avis Fleming. “I chose this piece for its sense of openness, movement, experimentation, and the sense of found narrative within all the little studies.”

Tanguy is a curator in the ART in Embassies Program, as well as an independent curator and critic based in Washington, DC. ■

All-Media Show
Juried by Jack Boul

Board of Directors' Award
Norma Lasher

Honorable Mention

Peter Reynolds
Cora Rupp
Jane Thomas
H. Trainor Roden
Peter Ulrich

Entered 532, Accepted 95

March 2008 All-Media Show
Jack Boul with Erica Fortwengler

Frequent juror, Jack Boul was pleased with the consistent, high level of work. He was also impressed to find that not one school of painting or of thought was solely dominant throughout the submissions. Boul felt that there was diversity in subject matter and media, and that our artists are working in their own directions—which he was happy to see represented.

“There are certain qualities a painting or work of art must have in order for it to be successful – shape, color, light, movement, and space, for example. These qualities can be present regardless of an artist’s choice in subject matter, or even if there is no subject matter. Sometimes artists sacrifice these qualities in order to make a statement, but they need to strike a balance,” stated Boul. The works selected successfully encompassed those qualities. He remarked that artists need to be aware of the space in which they are working, and to make sure both the positive and negative space is utilized and active. “If I can take away an inch from the perimeter of your piece and it doesn’t change anything, then there is a problem,” he remarked.

The piece Boul selected as for the Board of Director’s Award, “Tuscan Grapevines” by Norma Lasher, excelled at portraying these qualities. “The space worked, the color worked. There’s great movement, and I was drawn to the interesting arrangement of edges.”

“It is encouraging to know that there are so many people painting. Artists rarely get to see what other people are doing. The Art League is a great outlet for artists and the public. There really just aren’t many other places like this,” complimented Boul.

Boul is an accomplished artist and instructor in the Washington, DC arts scene. After teaching at American University for fifteen years, he became one of the first faculty members at the Washington Studio School. An instructor in drawing, painting, and monotype, Boul has been teaching in the Washington area for over fifty years. ■

in the school

Workshops

The last weekend of our Spring workshop season offers several interesting choices. Call to check availability.

Graphite Drawing with Lisa Semerad

Friday, April 4, 3:30-9:30 pm Saturday and Sunday, April 5-6, 10:00 am-4:00 pm \$250

The Figure—Abstracting in Color, Value & Line

with Steve Fleming

Tuesday-Thursday, April 1-3, 10:00 am-4:00 pm \$250

Painting Nature Up Close in Watercolor

with Rachel Collins

Saturday and Sunday, April 5-6, 10:00 am-4:00 pm \$165

Polaroid Transfer with Libby Cullen

Saturday and Sunday, April 5-6, 10:00 am-4:00 pm \$165

Spring Classes

Spring Term starts April 7th and there are still plenty of spaces available in many of our classes as well as our popular summer art camp for kids. Be sure to check out our new camp offerings on the website. Here are some of our exciting possibilities for Spring:

Painting Interior and Exterior Views with Sarah Demas

Tuesdays, 1:00-4:00pm \$180

Plein-Air Painter Weekends with Ross Merrill

Friday, May 1, 6:30-8:30 pm

Saturday and Sunday, May 3-4, and May 10-11, 9:00 am-4:00 pm \$200

Contemporary Mix: New Methods—Old Materials with Delna Dastur

Mondays, 7:00-10:00 pm or
Wednesdays, 9:30 am-12:30 pm \$165

Gesture a Creative Approach to the Figure

with Jackie Saunders

Thursdays, 9:30 am-12:30 pm \$180

Copper Sculpture with Michael Brehl

Sundays, 9:30 am-12:30 pm \$155

Please visit our website for full details on the above and all other spring courses.

For details, please contact Kathi Cohen, in the school office at 703-683-2323. ■

ART CAMP FACULTY & PAID INTERNS NEEDED

As the school gears up for a big summer season we will be interviewing instructors for our summer camps. Those with expertise in teaching drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, or mixed media to kids of all ages are encouraged to apply. Innovative projects and high energy are musts! Part-time and full-time internships for rising seniors and college students are available. Ask us about college credit. For details please contact Elizabeth Frownfelter or Ali Wunder in the school office at 703-683-2323.

from the gallery

“Paint” Alexandria 2008

“Paint” Alexandria 2008 will be held on Saturday, May 17 and Sunday, May 18 throughout historic Old Town Alexandria. This all-media plein air event is open to all artists. Our own outstanding Art League instructors will conduct instructional sessions and demonstrations throughout the weekend, and artists are invited to attend as many sessions as they like. A welcome breakfast will be held Saturday morning. There is a \$40 registration fee to participate. Visit the school office or website to register.

New Art In City Hall Exhibit, April 14-October 17, 2008

Receiving is Saturday, April 12, 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Artists may enter three pieces. Entry fee is \$3.00 per piece. A complete “Call to Artists” is available in the gallery. Work may be for sale or “Not for Sale.” Work juried into previous Art in City Hall Exhibitions is not eligible. The juror is Barbara Wolanin, Curator of the Capitol.

April Juror— Rosemary Luckett

Rosemary Luckett is a working artist and instructor in the Washington, DC area. Her most recent work is inspired by the natural world and explores relationships between humanity and other living creatures. Her ink, watercolor, and collage pieces reveal a reality that goes beyond the natural world we perceive, because of the atypical juxtapositions of elements within each composition.

Luckett’s work has been exhibited in many galleries and art centers including the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Montpelier Cultural Arts Center, Franz Bader Gallery, Catholic University (Washington, DC), School 33 Art Center (Baltimore, MD), Grounds For Sculpture (Hamilton, NJ), Woman Made Gallery (Chicago), Visions Gallery (Albany, NY) and numerous other galleries around the country. She is represented by the Touchstone Gallery in Washington, DC.

May All-Media Membership Show

Juror, Brandon Fortune

Fortune is the Associate Curator of Painting and Sculpture at the National Portrait Gallery. Fortune’s specialty is American and British portraiture. He recently curated “RECOGNIZE! Hip Hop and Contemporary Portraiture.” The hip-hop exhibit is the third in a series called “Portraiture Now,” which focuses on contemporary artists and new ways of producing portraits. Fortune will award the Amelia T. Clemente Family Award and the Bertha G. Harrison Award.

Summer Gallery Receptions

Move to Thursday Evenings

Beginning in April, Gallery Opening Receptions will move to Thursday nights to coincide with Second Thursday Art Night. Please make a note on your calendars!

Volunteer Appreciation Day, April 22

To show our appreciation for all of our wonderful volunteers, we will have a volunteer appreciation ice cream social

in the gallery Thursday, April 22 from 2:00- 4:00 pm. All volunteers who have helped The Art League over the last year are invited to attend. Please RSVP to the gallery.

Professional Photographic Services

Pete Duvall of Anything Photographic, Inc. will offer Art League members and students special discounted rates on photography services of artwork (digital images, slides and prints). Drop-off of two-dimensional work will be at the Art League Gallery on the third Tuesday of each month. The next drop-off of work to be photographed will be Monday, April 14 between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm. Interested artists please RSVP to the gallery at roseo@theartleague.org or 703-683-1780, or to pete@anythingphoto.net.

For further information, please call the gallery at 703-683-1780. ■

travel workshops

English Villages and Gardens: Painting the British Landscape The Cotswolds and Beyond, Great Britain with Peter Ulrich May 14-23, 2008

A wonderful opportunity for plein air painting in one of the most intensely scenic areas of England. Located approximately two hours west of London, the Cotswolds encompass ancient villages and towns rich in some of Europe's finest domestic architecture. Situated here are the uniquely beautiful and historically protected thatched cottages of this region. Visits to Bampton, Oxford, Windrush House, the home of James Fletcher-Watson, Burford, and Blenheim Palace (painting in the palace gardens) are on the agenda. \$2,150 per person, double occupancy. Limited single rooms and some larger rooms available for an additional charge.

Santa Fe, New Mexico: Painting From Within with Dominique Samyn-Werbrouck June 2-8, 2008

This class is for artists who are ready to take risks in their work. Through simple exercises, walks in the high desert, and meditation, your approach to painting will be more meaningful. Your artistic strengths will be explored. You will trust your intuition and paint without fear. Open to painters of all media.

Chesapeake Bay, Tilghman Island with Ross Merrill June 20-23, 2008 *Plein air painting*

The sleepy eastern shore awakens in early summer. Join Ross for plein air painting in one of his favorite scenic locales, featuring coastal views, watercraft and wooded inland areas.

AUTUMN 2008 TOURS:

Southwestern Ireland: with Avis Fleming October 3-12, 2008 *Plein air painting and sketching*

Experience the wild and beautiful Dingle Peninsula, and the scenic seacoast town of Kinsale in County Cork, also deemed the "culinary capital of Ireland." Painting and drawing excursions will feature scenic, historic, and prehistoric coastal

sites. Bunratty Castle on the River Shannon in County Cork is also included.

Napa Valley, California with Bobbi Pratte October 6 – 12, 2008 *Plein air painting*

This Napa Valley workshop will combine the worlds of art and wine. Paint the vineyards and visit impressive art collections. A day at Copia, The American Center for Wine, Food and the Arts is on the agenda. An exclusive Taste of Copia Luncheon is included.

Details are being finalized on some of our workshops. For additional information, please call Margaret Cerutti at 703-683-1780 x 13 or email, margaretc@theartleague.org. ■

Got Email?

For interested members, we are asking for member email addresses in order to develop an e-version of *Tidings*, and to be able to communicate with you between newsletters as needed. Due to the strong response and interest in receiving *Tidings* via email, we plan to offer this new option to members starting in the new membership year. An e-version of *Tidings* will be faster, less expensive, and environmentally friendly.

Please let us know how you would like to receive *Tidings*! (Check box and return to gallery, or email us: gallery@theartleague.org to let us know your preference, and to update your email address or add your email address to our files.)

Mail Email Website

April Gallery Aides

Tues.-Thurs., 11:00 am-2:00 pm

Sat., 11:00 am-4:00 pm/Sun., 1:00-4:00 pm

No Gallery Aides on Monday or Friday

Tuesday 1	Mary Eggers
Wednesday 2	Jill Brantley
Thursday 3	Joe Schubert
Saturday 5	Marilyn Milici
Sunday 6	Ann Cardoni
Tuesday 8	Linda Lawler
Wednesday 9	Mike Carter
Thursday 10	Della Belle Quillian
Saturday 12	Dan Huddleston
Sunday 13	Leigh Fulton
Tuesday 15	Brenda Barthell
Wednesday 16	Marcia Bowen
Thursday 17	Joe Schubert
Saturday 19	Drew Parris
Sunday 20	Elizabeth Marshall
Tuesday 22	Katherine Sullivan
Wednesday 23	Leigh Fulton
Thursday 24	Betsy Anderson
Saturday 26	Jennifer Kozlowski
Sunday 27	Anne Madden
Tuesday 29	Debbie Wursel
Wednesday 30	Torrey Watson

april 2008

"By nurturing the artist, we enrich the community."

Gallery 703-683-1780
School 703-683-2323
School Fax 703-683-0167
Store 703-548-8127
Fax 703-683-5786
Website www.theartleague.org

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calendar

april

7/Mon., 6:30-8:30

8/Tues., 10:00 am-12:00 noon

8/Tues., 6:30-7:30 pm

10/Thurs.

10/Thurs. 6:30-8:00 pm

10/Thurs. 6:00-9:00 pm

22/Tues., 2:00 -4:00 pm

Receiving, Interplay: Humanity and Nature and Bin Gallery.

Pick-up of work from all March Shows.

Receiving and pick-up continues.

Gallery open for early pick-up of unselected works.

Interaction, Amy Lin's Solo Artist Show Opens

Opening Reception *Interaction* and *Interplay: Humanity and Nature*. Awards, 7:00 pm.

Gallery open Second Thursday Art Night

Volunteer Ice Cream Social

may

5/Mon., 6:30-8:30 pm

6/Tues., 10:00 am-12:00 noon

6/Tues. 6:30-7:30 pm

8/Thurs.

8/Thurs., 6:30-8:00 pm

8/Thurs., 6:00-9:00 pm

17/Sat.

18/Sun.

Receiving, All-Media Show and Bin Gallery.

Pick-up of work from all April Shows.

Receiving and pick-up continues.

Gallery open for early pick-up of unselected works

Inner Harbor, Phoebe Twitchell Peterson's Solo Artist Show Opens

Opening Reception *Inner Harbor*, All-Media Show.

Awards, 7:00 pm.

Gallery open Second Thursday Art Night

"Paint" Alexandria 2008 Plein-Air Event

"Paint" Alexandria 2008 Plein-Air Event

Sign-Up now for "Paint" Alexandria 2008! May 17 and 18, 2008.



The Art League appreciates the support of the Alexandria Commission for the Arts, the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the United Way.