

MIXED MEDIA

Reading Art Association
P.O. Box 114
Reading, MA 01867
www.ReadingArt.org



January - February 2020

Pastel Landscape

Robin Thornhill

Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.

Guild Hall, First Congregational Church (middle side door), Sanborn Street, Reading

Whether working in oil, pastel, or encaustic, Robin Thornhill's atmospheric paintings evoke a sense of stability and peace. Strongly influenced by John Singer Sargent, the tactile quality of her work makes the timeless beauty of the New England landscape substantially present. "There is so much chaos in the world that people forget to look for beauty and goodness," says Robin. "I want to remind them it's here – as tangible as the materials I use and as real as I am." The sublime becomes grounded by the presence of her hand in the work. Best known for her landscapes, Robin's recent experiments with abstraction are also receiving recognition. In this work, her authorship becomes even more apparent as she utilizes mixed media to develop her exploration of the theme of time.

Robin is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America, a juried member of Oil Painters of America and The National Assc. of Women Artists, a member of the Newburyport Art Association and the Experimental Art Group of Rockport, and a core member of the Band of Brushes - a plein air group based out of Newburyport, Ma. Massachusetts.

Pastel Abstraction

Michèle J. Kenna

Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at 7:30 P.M.

Guild Hall, First Congregational Church (middle side door), Sanborn Street, Reading

Michèle J. Kenna, a transplanted Canadian, has lived in Massachusetts for over 30 years. Growing up in a family involved in art and theater, Michèle pursued her own artistic aspirations by completing her degree in Fine Arts at the University of Toronto. After raising two children in Beverly, MA, Michèle continued to study with nationally known American artists who taught and mentored her in the pastel medium, her primary influences being Frank Federico, PSA 2012 Hall of Fame Honoree and internationally renowned painter, Wolf Kahn. Michèle has also studied with renowned American painters such as Betty Lou Schlemm, Charles Movalli, Ted Minchin, Barbara Moody, Masako Kamiya and many more.

Classes at the Montserrat College of Art in Beverly, MA, have inspired Michèle to reach out beyond traditional boundaries and to challenge herself to more abstract ways of expression. With a studio at the Porter Mill Studios in Beverly, Michèle continues to develop her unique style of landscape painting. She has exhibited her work in numerous galleries and art associations in the Boston area and the North Shore. Michèle's commissioned work is part of many private collections in the United States, Canada and Europe.

"As time goes by I am being pulled more and more towards abstract expression. Abstract painting gives me a freedom of personal expression which encompasses emotion, gesture, spirit, passion, intensity and tone (perfect words from the Thesaurus). My abstract work can reflect what is going on around me as well as within me."

In Memoriam

Susan Manning O'Briant

On December 22, 2019 we lost a long time friend and member of RAA, Susan Manning O'Briant. Susan was an excellent artist and a good friend.

Susan's still life oil paintings were exquisite. She has most recently been exhibiting delightful landscapes. She will be missed.

President's Message

I first would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. May it be filled with prosperity, great health, happiness, joy, and creativity. As we look back into 2019, we sure had some high times as we celebrated our 60th year as an organization, had some amazing demos, and two very successful exhibits. Sadly, we also had some low times as we lost our beloved members Fred Peters, Bud Knox, and most recently, Susan Manning O'Briant. I am honored to have known them and I will miss them dearly, as I'm sure we all will. They will always be with us in our hearts and memories.

It is now 2020, I look forward to the future and seeing all of the amazing art that is being created and has yet to be created. You are a huge part of the history and tradition that has made Reading Art Association special and I look forward to keeping that history and tradition growing. We have some exciting demos coming up starting with Robin Thornhill who will be doing a Landscape in Pastel on January 8th. I hope you all can make it and I look forward to see you! Again, Happy New Year Everyone!!!

-Rick

People Doings...

Peter Cain

Peter is showing his work in the Wilmington Public Library in January.

Brian Kimerer

Brian has paintings hanging in the Pleasant Street

Center. Brian's exhibit is mostly paintings of trees, some of the which are well known around Reading. Most of them have aged out and are now gone, but the paintings remind us of how magnificent they were. Stop by and take a look. They are upstairs in the Game Room and the Lounge.

Mary Kelly

Mary will have a painting hanging in the Whitelam Bookstore through the month of January.

Lynne Cassinari

Lynne is scheduled to hang a painting in the Whitelam Bookstore during the month of February.

Danielle McCoy

Pencil and Charcoal Artist Danielle McCoy will be having an exhibit at the Wilmington Public Library for the month of March. There will be an artist reception on Saturday, March 7th from 2:00 - 4:00pm.

Opportunities...

DRAW

DRAW stands for "**Downtown Reading Art Walk**".

Last year some of us exhibited our work in the Reading 375 Celebration exhibit called "Paint the Town". Paintings were displayed in many venues throughout Reading. The exhibit was well received, so the committee has decided to make the art walk an annual event.

This is a Reading town event, not a Reading Art Association event. It is sponsored in part by the Reading Cultural Council.

Local artists are invited to create a two-dimensional work of art that fits with the theme "2020 Visions of Serenity".

Art work will be displayed in the downtown area at various venues from June 1 – June 26, 2020 as part of the Reading Hometown Days celebrations.

There will be an opening reception on June 3 at the Pleasant Street Center. Watch this space for the details. The committee can be contacted at the email address draw01867@gmail.com

Tewksbury Library Exhibit

The Tewksbury Library exhibits are continuing in 2020. Each exhibit hangs for approximately two months. Each exhibit has a theme. Here are the themes for 2020.

January 7 - 2020 **BLACK AND WHITE**

Pickup is March 24th

March 24 - 2020 **SPRING AWAKENING**

Pickup is May 26th

May 26 -2020 **UNDER THE SUN**

Pickup is July 28th

July 28 - 2020 **NEW ENGLAND**

Pickup is Sept 22nd

September 22 - 2020 No Theme – new works since Jan. 1, 2020

Pickup is Nov. 27th

November 24-2020 **WINTER'S WHITE**

Pickup is Jan. 26th

Anyone wanting to take part may get in touch with Val at vjb@valeriejeannesart.com and she will send you the information. More information and application forms are available at the web site.

tewksburycommunityofartists.com

Exhibit your work at the Reading Library

The Reading Library is hosting an ongoing series of art exhibits in the Studio. You can arrange to hang your art in the Studio for a few weeks. Contact Eileen at the library to make arrangements. Her email address is barrett@noblenet.org

Exhibit your work at the Pleasant Street Center

If you would like to show your work at the Center, let us know. There is a lot of wall space available, but you would not have to fill all of it. Bring as many or as few as you like. You can contact us at our email address webmaster@ReadingArt.org

Pencil Drawing Classes

Danielle McCoy will be teaching the Basics of Pencil Drawing Classes on Tuesday nights from 6:30 - 8:30 pm beginning March 3rd at the Shawsheen Valley Technical High School in Billerica. There are 4 classes scheduled but depending on enrollment/interest, there may be classes extended.

Whitelam Bookstore Display

We still have openings for paintings to hang in the Whitelam Bookstore, so let us know if you want to be put on the schedule to display your painting.

Wilmington Arts Center Painting Classes

Painting - The Visual Language of Art

Medium: Oil

Learn the Elements of Art - Line, Shape, Value, Texture, Color, and Contrast

Monday nights 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Level: Beginners and those who just want to hone their skills

\$120 for 8-week session

Instructor: Susan Drennan

Classes starting in 2020 - Date TBD - Please send your contact info if interested in taking this class.

Go to the Wilmington Arts Center web site, <http://wilmingtonartcenter.org/>, for the details or contact Louise Anderson, 978-664-3159.

Watercolor Classes with Susan McFarlane

This is the schedule and classes Susan will offer at the Residence at Pearl, 75 Pearl St., Reading:

WATERCOLOR (Independent and Guided)

Independent/Advanced

Bring your own project to work on. I will do demos each time to share tips and techniques, and give individual guidance on what you are choosing to work on. Previous experience required. Bring your own materials.

Mondays 9:30-11:00 am

Jan 13, 27, Feb 3, 10, 24, Mar 2

Cost: \$75 for six weeks (\$25 deposit, balance due at first class)

Minimum 3 students, Maximum 10

Guided

Focus on Still Life. Painting from the same image, the class will be guided through the entire process and end with a finished painting. No previous experience needed. Materials list will be sent with registration confirmation. Note: Materials can be provided for an additional fee.

Cost: \$85 for six weeks (\$25 deposit, balance due at first class)

Minimum 3 students, Maximum 10

Mondays 2-4pm

Jan 13, 27, Feb 3, 10, 24, Mar 2

To sign up for a watercolor class, send an email with your class preference to susanm220@byu.net.

Send a \$25 deposit via PayPal (susanm220@byu.net) or check to:

Susan McFarlane
40 Bancroft Ave
Reading, MA 01867

ZENTANGLE

Drop in class to practice and learn the Zentangle drawing method. Relaxing and meditative method to create lovely images. No previous experience required. "Anything is possible one stroke at a time."

2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 1-2pm

Cost: \$5 per person, due at each class

Materials included

Right now I am offering Watercolor classes at LexArt (lexart.org) on Friday mornings. If that time works best for you, please consider signing up there. I hope to see you soon!

*Best,
Susan*

Happenings...

Deadline for next Mixed Media

The next issue of Mixed Media will cover March and April of 2020. The issue will be published in early March so I am setting the deadline for Friday, February 28.

Email news to

webmaster@ReadingArt.org

or send using the US Post Office to

Brian Kimerer
66 John Carver Road
Reading, MA 01867

Important Notice About Your Dues

In past years your dues were due on the anniversary of your membership start date. That procedure has caused an undue amount of bookkeeping for our treasurer. Hence, we are going back to the way we used to do it: All dues are now due on September 1 for each season. Please add an event to your calendar to pay your RAA dues by September 1 of each new season.

Remaining Events for 2019 - 2020

January 8, 2020

Pastel Landscape.....Robin Thornhill

February 12, 2020

Pastel Abstraction.....Michele Kenna

March 11, 2020

Abstract Symbolism.....Raymond Gilbert

April 8, 2020

Oil Landscape.....Stan Moelle

May 1, 2 & 3, 2020

Spring Exhibit & Sale

June (Date to be announced)

Annual Dinner Meeting

RAA Contacts

President, Membership, Treasurer

Richard Corbett..... 617-997-3422

Vice President, Publicity

Rosemary Palmer 781-944-2708

Spring Show

Grace Cherwek.....781-334-4292

Webmaster, Mixed Media

Brian Kimerer 781-944-2299