



President's Palette

"It took me four years to paint like Raphael, but a lifetime to paint like a child"
PABLO PICASSO

I've been thinking a lot about children lately while we are in the midst of our Summer Camp. There's an energy and excitement about them that I sometimes miss. As we go about creating our art we often focus on painting a perfect tree, drawing proper body proportions, or in getting the right perspective to a point where it becomes our main emphasis. While I don't presume to know what was in the mind of Picasso, I think he may have been trying to say that by focusing on only those things we sometimes lose the creativity, spontaneity, and adventure of art that children seem to come by so naturally. They often have the ability to express themselves without concern for other's judgment.

A few months ago we had Lesley Humphrey with us for a workshop. Not only is she an exceptional artist, but a wonderful teacher. She talked to us about the "KEY" to becoming a true artist, as she was, in turn, taught by her art teacher, the late Dick Turner. The "KEY" goes something like this:

"K" is knowledge, technical skill, and technique
"E" is expression, excavation, and feelings conveyed in our work

We are usually pretty good at these and often stop at this point. But we are leaving out the "Y" and the "Y" is an essential part of the "KEY".

"Y" is to yield to what is inside us that makes our artwork ours, makes it personal and unique

While we are all in various stages of the process -- some of us prefer the "K," some the "E" and maybe even some the "Y" -- this is something we may want to think about. Not forgetting to pay tribute to that "inner child" that would like to go out and take a swing on the monkey bars for a while.

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up."
PABLO PICASSO

Keep creating,
Nancy

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Upcoming Events/Workshops

No BVAL General Meeting or Board Meeting in July

July 3—First Friday in downtown Bryan

July 8,9,10—Carrie Allbritton Workshop

*Let's Get Real about Experimental/Abstract Painting 2009—
Something Out of the Ordinary* Contact Mary Walters
More Workshop information on page 4

July 11—World Wide Sketch Crawl
See information on page 3

August 1—New calendar year for BVAL begins
Membership renewal & dues information on page 3

August 3—BVAL Board Meeting 10:30 AM
No Regular BVAL Membership Meeting

August 7—First Friday in downtown Bryan

August 24-26—9:30-4:00 PM—Vie Dunn-Harr, Contemporary Realism, oil. Cost \$300. Contact Joyce Conner of Northwest Art League, 281-440-4559, joyceaconner@sbcglobal.net.

Children's Summer Art Program

A special thank you to all those who helped make the summer youth art program a huge success.

Participants exhibited their original works of art In the Texas Gallery at the end of the program.

Electronic Newsletter

Are you still receiving the BVAL monthly newsletter in black and white days after others have already seen their color copy on line? You need only e-mail the BVAL newsletter editor, Coleen Bradfield, at sunnyscb@aol.com and request a change from U.S. mail to the electronic version of the monthly newsletter. It also helps the environment and the BVAL treasury. Thanks so much!

Local Exhibits

Texas Gallery: June 30th-July30th—A Stitch in Time-Fiber Arts Show. Reception July 9th, 5:30-7:00 PM.

Texas Gallery Hours

Monday—Thursday 9 AM—6 PM
Friday 9 AM—5 PM
Saturday 10 AM—2 PM

Brazos Center: July/August—Rose Shea
Sept/October—Shelley Janac

C.S. Conference Center: July/August—
Olive Black and Magda Zietsman
Sept/October—
Nancy Elliott and Anna Ketchum

The Frame Gallery: Travel Series by artist Nancy Elliott

Art 979 Gallery: located at 210 W. 26th St. **Portraits of People in Downtown Bryan** by Greta Watkins

Texas Gallery: August 1st-27th—
Marked Impressions-The Wood Block Prints of Kent Kissenger. Reception August 6th, 5:30-7:00 PM.

August 29th-September 30th—Urban Images
Paintings by Ernie Sherow

BVAL on KAMU TV

Works of art by BVAL artists are being displayed on KAMU during the TV Magazine show with Sharon Colson on Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. and Sundays at 5:00 p.m. Each month a different artist is featured.

For additional information and questions please contact Lina Linsey at 979-219-8019 or cslinsey@suddenlink.net.





ANNOUNCEMENTS

23rd WORLD WIDE SKETCH CRAWL

Saturday, July 11, 2009 everyone is invited to participate in the 23rd World Wide Sketch Crawl. The event is open to all ages, all levels, all media, families, groups, or individuals. There is no charge to participate.

Sketch Crawl is an ongoing event that was started by a San Francisco artist, Enrico Casarosas. The concept grew from one artist, to his friends, and is now a worldwide experience. The idea is to spend a day of marathon drawing or painting, going from place to place to record your surroundings. During the last Sketch Crawl over 50 countries registered on the website and contributed their work.

Official Sketch Crawl t-shirts are available for purchase from the Sketch Crawl website, www.sketchcrawl.com. However, they are not required.

The event will be held throughout the Brazos Valley. People in all communities are invited to form their own groups or join participants in Bryan or Calvert. Participants in Bryan register at The Frame Gallery and those in Calvert register at Mud Creek Pottery.

For more information please contact one of the following: Cecelia Heinrich grannyc_54@yahoo.com or Greta Watkins framegallery@txcyber.com or Sonny Moss at claydude@mudcreekpottery.com. Let's draw the Brazos Valley!

Frisch Auf Country Club in LaGrange, Texas is in need of Wildlife Art (Texas Species) for a wildlife dinner it is having on August 25, 2009. If you are interested in displaying your art at this event please contact, Cheryl Holt at mcholt@cvctx.com. Also the Club is interested in doing a series of one or two man shows. Please contact Cheryl if you are interested.

In the Spotlight

Shelley Harris-Janac

Shelley's art work was recently featured in both the Eagle "Home in Style" magazine, summer 2009, and the spring 2009 edition of *Flair's* Creative Sensations.



Greta Watkins and Nancy Elliott

Greta Watkins of the Frame Gallery and artist, BVAL president, Nancy Elliott were recently highlighted in The College Station Eagle "Brazos Arts"

If you know of any BVAL members being recognized in any publications please send available information to the BVAL newsletter editor at sunnyscb@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Remember that August 1st is the beginning of the new year for BVAL. Please use the updated form on the BVAL web site, bvartleague.org/

Please send the completed form and check for \$35 to: Brazos Valley Art League
c/o Membership Chairperson
2275 Dartmouth
College Station, TX 77840

Prompt payment of dues assists with financing the yearbook which is reprinted each year. Thank you for your prompt attention to payment of your dues.

Volunteer of the Year

Check out the complete list for Volunteer of the year on the Arts Council of Brazos Valley Web Site. www.acbv.org

The Arts Council recognizes an individual each year who has given his or her time, energy and heart to the arts, culture and heritage of the Brazos Valley. This year two of BVAL's members, Mary Burkhalter and Lina Linsey have been nominated.

Voting may be done on line.



Let's Get Real about Experimental/Abstract Painting 2009
Something Out of the Ordinary -Instructor-Carrie Lee Allbritton
BVAL - July 8, 9, 10

\$50 Deposit to Mary Walters by June 20, 2009
Supply List sent upon receipt of Deposit



All Carrie Lee's techniques work equally well on paper, illustration board or canvas.
Please see AllbrittonArt.com for more examples of workshop art.

Even the beginner students come away with wonderful works of art.

Carrie Lee Allbritton is an enthusiastic and energetic teacher who holds nothing back. Her students come away with a new understanding of their own creativity and how to express it using innovative tools, techniques, mediums and paint application. She also provides lots of printed information for the student to keep. The student will be learning to add realism to abstracted backgrounds, as well as creating the fully abstracted painting.

2009 Workshops will be even more exciting because we will be planning a finished experimental/abstract painting by using printed papers, fabrics, and magazine pictures to layout and plan your artwork. You will also learn to use heavy fabrics and canvas pieces to add dimensions and texture to your finished work. Carrie Lee will also have available a few 3D surprises to add to your finished work. She will bring the canvas pieces, many printed papers and some heavy fabrics. Should you have scraps of any heavy fabric, please plan to bring them.

You will come away with the knowledge and know how to complete an out of the ordinary work of art.
Please come with an "what if?" attitude and you will leave with the confidence and know how to make important works of art.

After spending years in the corporate world, Carrie Lee Allbritton returned to her first love with a passion and dedicated herself to making art through painting. Her work reflects her passion for life and love of all things beautiful. She was born and raised in Houston, Texas and now lives just north of Houston.



Brazos Valley Art League
2275 Dartmouth Street
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