



Illiana Artists

PO Box 3150, Munster, Indiana 46321
<http://www.illianaartists.org>

your guide to art news, events and opportunities

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Membership

Kathy Los Rathburn / Ann Noldin

Publicity

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Executive

March 14, 2011 Meeting Agenda

Business Meeting: 6:30 - 7 pm

Demonstration by Ron Wennekes and Valerie Taglieri

Figure Drawing Portraiture / Oil Paint Application and Color Theory
 Techniques 7:15 - 8:30 pm

A special thank you to Tom Brand and Carol Stodder for the insightful presentation on oil painting and abstraction during our February meeting.

Exhibit Hall Opening April 1, 2011 to Illiana Artists Members

Indiana South Shore
 Convention and Visitors
 Authority – W.F. Wellman
 Exhibit Hall inside the Indiana
 Welcome Center



South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority
 7770 Corinne Drive • Hammond, IN 46323

Exhibits Chair, Mary Kuric recently secured an exhibit opening at the Indiana Welcome Center. Please note that is a member show. The South Shore Convention and Visitors Authority will provide postcards for exhibiting members to distribute and ALL members are highly encouraged to help promote this event through attendance, postcard distribution, etc. Labels for artwork including name, title, medium and price are also provided. The Illiana Artists are responsible for promoting this event.

Artist Demonstrations during exhibit hours are also encouraged. Member artist Kathy Los Rathburn will be conducting a demonstration during the exhibit on April 17 at 2 pm. Anyone interested in participating during the exhibit should contact Mary Kuric, at mary.kuric@illianaartists.org or call Mary at 219-838-4487.

EXHIBIT DETAILS AND MORE...

EXHIBIT DATES

Friday, April 1 and Friday, May 6, 2011
 8 am - 5 pm • 7 days a week

EXHIBIT SET-UP (Delivery of Artwork)

Monday, March 28th and Tuesday, March 29th.
 8 am - 5 pm

MEETING LOCATION

Westminster Presbyterian Church,
 8955 Columbia Avenue
 Room 305, Munster, IN
 (Located on the South-side of the
 church across the street from
 Community Hospital).

Welcome NEW MEMBERS

■ **Laurie Schirmer Carpenter**
Valparaiso, Indiana

Published Works

Kathy Los Rathburn has recently been published in the Richeson 75 International Small Works book for her 2 watercolor paintings (pictured below).



Kathy Los Rathburn
Cup of Soup, Watercolor



Kathy Los Rathburn
Nature's Treasure, Watercolor

Upcoming Exhibits

Mary Kuric submitted a painting that has been recently accepted with the SAN network of Chicago. Mary is currently exhibiting at the Palette and Chisel on Dearborn in Chicago during the month of March.

Thomas Hagen exhibit on display at the Co-prosperity Sphere, 3219-21 South Morgan Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Date: March 11 at 6pm.

Mail Fraud Scam Alert Continued from Illiana Artists Member Beverley Topa

In the event you have sent in any personal information to a potential scam artist, notify the State's Attorney General's Office and the Office of Consumer Counsel, as well as the national office. If you have been contacted via email you should also notify your email server, as they have used the internet to carry out a scam and can be prosecuted for violating laws and regulations governing the illegal use of the internet.

The scam artist pretends to be an art collector/dealer who is being transferred to the UK, but who is, at present, on his way to Asia, China or India. He may claim to have an associate handle the business end of the transaction with the artists, picking up their artwork, etc. He claims to be purchasing art with which to decorate his new condo in the UK. The check is bogus, but he always claims there is an error in what he or his associate figured the shipping charges would be, so the amount for which the check he sent to the artist is written, is over what it should be and the artist needs to send him a refund of that amount. In actuality, the individual is somewhere in California, and has been under investigation by the authorities out there for some time. If you have been contacted by this scam artist, you may wish to contact the States Attorney General's office, in California, and provide them with more ammunition for their investigation.

In The Spirit of Giving

In support of our mission "Artists Helping Artists", the Illiana Artists have issued a \$100 donation to be distributed towards the 2011 Secondary School Showcase held at the Brauer Museum of Art in Valparaiso, Indiana. This is our second year in support of the Secondary School Showcase.

Brauer Museum of Art • Secondary School Showcase (SSS) • March 30 – April 17
Center for the Arts • 1709 Chapel Drive • Valparaiso, IN 46383 • 219-464-5365

2010 (SSS) photos courtesy of Richard and Karen DePirro.



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Artists are responsible for delivering and removing packaging on their artwork. The SSCVA will not be responsible for storing packaging during the exhibit. Each individual piece of artwork will need a loan form filled out for it.

NOTE: All artwork must be labeled to include – Name of Artist, Title of Artwork, Size, Cost, Medium and Artist's Phone Number.

MEDIA

All media is accepted. Paintings must be wired and ready for hanging. No nude paintings or objectionable work will be accepted into this exhibit.

ENTRY ALLOWANCE

Artists may submit up to 6 entries for this exhibit.

RESUMES

All participating artist are asked to submit a resume that might include an artist statement/documentation of education background for the hall.

**EXHIBIT REMOVAL**

Saturday, May 7th, 2011
8 am - 5 pm

Illiana Artists will be responsible for taking down and removing artwork from the exhibit hall. All artwork must be removed from the building by 5 pm on Saturday, May 7, 2011. The SSCVA has no available storage space to hold the artwork after the exhibit ends.

Artists are responsible for repackaging and removing their artwork.

OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday, April 7 • 4pm to 7pm.

Food will be provided by the Visitor's Center.

MEMBER DEMONSTRATIONS

Members who would like to provide a demonstration during the course of the exhibit are asked to contact Mary Kuric at mary.kuric@illianaartists.org or call 219-838-4487.

PUBLICITY

The Illiana Artists will be responsible for hanging up posters and sending out postcards that the SSCVA prints.

INSURANCE

Each individual piece of artwork will need a loan form filled out. Artists can elect to maintain their own insurance on their artwork or have the artwork insured through the SSCVA for the duration of the exhibit. SSCVA is not responsible for any damage beyond our control and due to acts of God. SSCVA agrees to insure the pieces in the Illiana Artists exhibit for the values as provided by the artists for the time period that covers the exhibit's presence in the Indiana Welcome Center.

Demonstration by Ron Wennekes and Valerie Taglieri

Ron Wennekes and Valerie Taglieri, husband and wife, will give a presentation together and individually. They will open with a dialogue about their creative processes. Ron will then further



the conversation about how the creative process is involved in the fine art, illustration and portraiture. Ron will give a demonstration of figure drawing/portraiture.



Valerie will speak about her sources of inspiration living in the Dunes area and how she nurtures it within her creative process. She will give a demonstration on how she composes her paintings as well as a demo on the oil paint application she uses involving color theory techniques.



What I Didn't Say.....My paintings by Tom Brand, February, 2011

What I'm trying to do is to bring order that is beyond what is called abstract expressionism. I am expressing, yes, but my works are more organized using composition and an awareness of forms; all of this by using a more complete arsenal of oil painting. My paint quality uses impasto, smooth, opaque, and transparent. In addition to this, I am working to guide the eye of the viewer with compositional devices: repeated motives with variations is but one, and within this a felt necessity of active and lively shapes.

■ What I am talking about here is a visual language (an oxymoron). I see a parallel here with music. It is admitted that serious music is the most abstract of the arts, even in music that has been labeled programmatic. In listening to music, I have first of all have an appreciation of its beauty and excitement of music and interestingly this precedes my understanding that it has subject matter. As in music, my painting deals with allusion...not illusion. The subject matter of symphonic music is music itself. Abstract art similarly uses self reference and if done with serious intent and not afraid of complexity, then a complete statement can be realized.

In the renaissance, the artists were contracted (rarely today) to paint mythological scenes, portraits, biblical narratives, etc. Without my knowing the narrative of these works, I have appreciated fully the artistic import. In a word, the subject matter is secondary to the aesthetic import. In abstract art, the subject matter disappears almost completely, but not entirely. The viewer can bring his/her own meaning to the work and this could actually be a narrative of some kind. And they almost invariably do and as an artist I have no control over this. The burden on the viewer is to bring to the work an openness and sensitivity based on experience in matters of art. The burden of the artist is to make his work provocative enough to give the viewer enough "handles" through provocative shapes and forms painted richly which will in turn let the imagination work of the viewer.

Method...

The method I have devised for painting in oil is an old one. It is an indirect method used famously by Renaissance artists and developed before then. I start by thinly painting a sketch in an extemporaneous way until I am satisfied with the overall statement.

Then I add to and adjust the composition, color balance, interrelationship of form and all the other components that make up a satisfying work of art. I continue to build up from this point with heavier and more saturated paint, keeping in mind where I can make changes along the way. As with the Renaissance artists, I work with glazes (they called them "tints"). Adding them to certain finished areas gives the color great depth and intensity.

Before the use of canvas, artists painted on wood panels. If you visit art museums and read the attributions, you will notice that many earlier paintings which seem to have aged well were painted on wood panels. Wood is very accepting of oil paint. Not so with canvas - canvas shrinks and expands with conditions and when oil paint dries completely, it doesn't, causing cracking. This doesn't seem to be a big problem using acrylic paints. Canvas must be isolated from the paint layer to maintain its integrity. Wood has its downside, as the necessary thickness and cradling made the works heavy and not easily transportable.

I choose to paint on wood today, but a modern wood. I paint on 1/8" untempered Masonite. This was developed by Mr. Mason of Chicago in the past century. It takes paint very well after an initial coating of shellac which seals and makes the panel less absorbent. I cradle this wood with strips of wood glued to the back. It is a durable, relatively light-weight vehicle for an oil painting.

My method is adapted from the past; my imagery is definitely of the present. I do not paint nature scenes (photography does it better), or portraits, or scenes from mythology, or domestic narratives. This subject matter was so well done in the past, I do not attempt to repeat it.