



Rio Grande
Art Association

The

Palette

Volume 15 Issue 10 January 2014

**Next Meeting Saturday January 18, 10.00am Presbyterian Church
Academy & Moon, Albuquerque**

Our January meeting is a Pot Luck and a Show and Tell event. Please bring along a painting, sketch or any piece of work and tell us what inspired you to create it.

We have almost filled our diary for demonstrations and talks but there are still a few slots open for the months of June, August, October and November. For the benefit of new members there are no meetings and no Palette Newsletter in July and December.

If you have any suggestions for speakers and demonstrators for the slots available please contact Mary Julyan

on 505-298-8420 or

mdjulyan@comcast.net

A Happy New Year!

A new year is an excellent time to rejuvenate and get our creativity back on track.

This year let's focus on being passionate about art. As a member of RGAA, you have the support to take risks and move to the next level of understanding. This can be in many different forms. Volunteer to be on the Board and/or help on the many committees available. Take the plunge, learn something new, grow in understanding, and do it with passion. Another opportunity that awaits you is to enter art competitions. Passion means never giving up! Keep painting and learning.

I appreciate your trust in me as your President for 2014. On behalf of the Board, please forward all suggestions, ideas and recommendations for this year, to any one of us. Never hesitate to let me know how I can make your experience as a member more meaningful and beneficial. !

President
Bonnie Buckley



Seasons greetings! I'm sending an update concerning two classes I am offering beginning January 2. Please share this info with anyone you think might be interested. This is coming up really soon, so if you plan to attend, please register now. Registration is also open for my June workshop in Cloudcroft (see details below). Thanks.

Classes by Tom Blazier kick off the New Year

Composing the Landscape (Thursdays) 1 - 4 p.m. Jan. 2 - Feb. 20

All successful art is derived from sound compositional choices. This class will help familiarize you with the tools of composition necessary for conveying your expressive vision and intent for a given subject. Open to all 2-D mediums. Weekly sessions will explore value, color, shape, line, space, texture and direction as they apply to landscape painting. Each student will receive individual attention, based on specific needs and skill level. This 8-week class meets 1 - 4 p.m. Thursdays at New Mexico Art League beginning January 2. To register, go to the NMAL website.

Class fee is \$200 (members), \$220 (non-members). Feel free to contact Tom with questions at tblazier@hotmail.com or call 505-323-2246.

Drawing Essentials II (Thursdays) 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Jan. 2 - Feb. 20

This class is for individuals who have some experience with basic drawing and are ready to improve their skill level and pursue personal expression. Class sessions will begin with a review of principles of drawing from life and proceed to basic geometric shapes; the value scale and the use of light and shadow to create the illusion of volume; basic perspective; compositional choices; and different approaches to line quality using various mediums. Subject matter will include still life objects, flowers, landscape and personal choice using pencil, pen and ink, charcoal and colored pencil.

Class fee is \$200 (members), \$220 (non members). The class meets from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Thursdays at New Mexico Art League beginning January 2.

To register, go to the NMAL website. For questions about this class please contact me at tblazier@hotmail.com or call 505-323-2246.

DIANE BUSTER FINE ART LANDSCAPE PAINTINGS

www.dianebuster.com diane_buster_1@msn.com (505) 281 3600



A VIEW FROM THE CLINIC 12X24 OIL



Canyon Edge 11x14 oil



Lake View 11x14 oil



Otero Canyon 11x14 oil

The paintings pictured on this note are among twenty-two of my works that will be featured at The Watermelon Gallery for their January show. The works represent paintings from plein air excursions and workshops as well as some studio pieces.

I would be honored and appreciative if you could attend the reception which will be held from 4:00 to 8:00 PM, Saturday, January 4th. The Watermelon Gallery is at 12220 North Highway 14, Cedar Crest, in the Turquoise Trail shopping center. (505) 286 2164

Hope to see you there,

Diane

Below RGAA 2014 Programs scheduled to date:

Jan.-Usual potluck and Show and Tell

Feb.-Roy Sumner Johnson of Sumner & Dene, "What a Gallery Owner Thinks an Artist Should Know."

Mar.-Damien Gonzales, Albuquerque Plein Air Artists shares tips and advice.

April-Cynthia Rowland, "The Figure in the Landscape", as part of MasterWorks 2014.

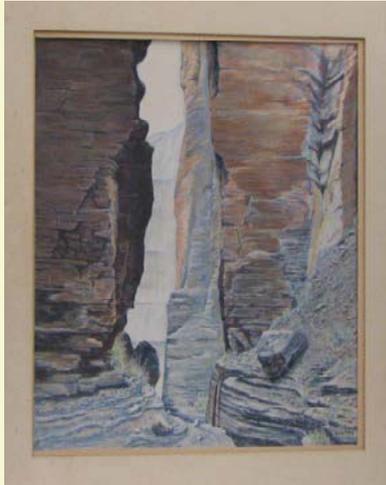
May-Jamie Kirkland, minimalist landscape painter from Santa Fe who will be celebrating ten years at Winterowd Gallery in SF. Jamie will demonstrate how she seals and finishes her paintings.

June-open, Aug.-open, October-open, November-open

Sept.-Mickey Bond returns to give a mini workshop on accidental experimental acrylic techniques for RGAA members to try.



Adair Peterson giving her presentation



Above: The Royal Arch by Adair in egg tempera



Leaves by Adair in egg tempera

Adair Peterson's Egg Tempera Presentation, RGAA's November 2013 Meeting By Diane Buster

Our founding member, Adair Peterson, talked to us about her love and understanding of egg tempera as a painting medium. Adair confided that she'd painted in oils for years before she investigated egg tempera. She knew Doris Steider, a local artist who worked in egg tempera, and took a workshop with her. Adair said, "It was like I came home!" The demands of this medium gave the discipline she was looking for as the medium necessitated that she slow down. She explained that to work in egg tempera the artist has to really understand and use good drawing techniques and know where the brush is going and why it's going there. Working in this medium Adair explained further made her feel like she was becoming a "real painter" in control of her strokes, image, and composition.

Adair explained that egg tempera is an ancient medium that reached its heights in the last third of the fifteenth century. Altar pieces and religious paintings of that era were done in egg tempera. She reminded us that artists of this time were teachers and that the artist's studio used apprentices to prepare panels and to execute parts of the paintings. Andrea del Verrocchio assigned a young apprentice by the name of Leonardo da Vinci to paint two figures in the lower left corner of the painting, Christ's Baptism. The story, Adair told us, is that when Verrocchio saw the quality of Leonardo's work, he said he would never paint again. Besides Verrocchio, masters of egg tempera include Sandro Botticelli, Edward Hopper, Andrew Wyeth, and Robert Vickery. Adair recommended reading Robert Vickery's book, *New Techniques in Egg Tempera*, which is available through the New Mexico Watercolor Society's library. She also recommends Ralph Mayer's book, *The Painter's Craft*.

Adair showed us some of her exquisite paintings. Adair's first egg tempera painting was a monochromatic painting of the Royal Arch that she painted after a hiking trip in the Grand Canyon. Another favorite painting was of leaves where she attempted to convey the feeling of their movement.

Over fifty hours of painting went into this work she explained, emphasizing that the medium slows you down. She also showed us some figurative paintings stating she felt egg tempera a natural medium for portraiture.

Panels, paper, illustration board, pastel board that's lightly sanded (Adair's current favorite), or hot pressed watercolor paper coated with calcium carbonate and also lightly sanded are suitable grounds for egg tempera. Traditional wood panels take about ten coats of ground that are sanded in between each coat and are quite a job to prepare. New Mexico's dry climate isn't helpful, but Adair will give the recipe to anyone interested in trying. To make egg tempera paints you start with one or two eggs, separate the yolks, prick the skin and use just the insides. Mix with an equal amount of water. You can use transparent watercolors or dry pigments mixed with water for colors. Transparent watercolors are less expensive if you wish to experiment. Adair explained that she finds the dark areas of a tempera painting aren't always as strong as she sometimes likes. She therefore occasionally uses acrylics over the dried tempera. You can use acrylic over tempera but you cannot use tempera over acrylic. Adair explained also that she wears brushes out quickly so she prefers inexpensive brushes. As the drawing is so important, she starts on tracing paper and uses a graphite transfer. If you like a shiny surface, egg tempera paintings can be polished with cheese cloth.

Adair said if you're interested in exploring this medium further, she would be happy to have you over to her studio. Her address is 19 Tres Pistolas Trail and her phone numbers are 294 2727 or cell 321 2724.

New Mexico Art League News

Happy New Year!

You still have time to register for January classes, but hurry...some of them begin next week!

You can take classes in watercolor, oil, pastel...learn about painting the landscape, drawing the figure, painting a portrait, or a taste of it all for beginners. Learn how to use the right side of your brain, compose a landscape, paint an interior, paint light and shadow and so much more. Plus classes for children!

Sign up now: www.newmexicoartleague.org Or call the Art League: 505-293-5034.

Hope to see you soon! New Mexico Art League, 3409 Juan Tabo, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87111

Some forthcoming events at the NM Art League:

*** Black & White** - A Juried Drawing and Photography Exhibition
Opening Reception Friday, January 10, 5 - 7:30pm

*** MASTER TALK**
With California Artist Catherine Edlinger-Kunze

FREE - Open to the Public!
January 19, 3pm - 5:30pm

Recently featured in Art Collector Magazine, Catherine is coming to the Art League in March of 2014 to give a week-long workshop. In this MASTER TALK, she will share her techniques for creating her moody and magical atmospheres in which she places her unique and mythical figures.



Artwork by Catherine Edlinger-Kunze

Report from Reebie Nolda on the 2013 Encantada

Encantada was a big success this year! We featured the work of 62 artists in 100 paintings. We received many favorable comments about the quality of the work displayed and about the diversity of styles and content. Thanks goes to all of the hard-working volunteers who made it possible. Your time and energy are much appreciated.

We had over 600 visitors in all for the exhibition and sold six paintings—congratulations to those artists who sold their work! For those of you who were not able to attend the opening reception, there are pictures and a list of awards on the website: www.rgaanm.org.

Reebie Nolda



Above some of Adair Peterson's work in glass

Editor's Note: The deadline for submissions to The Palette is the 4th of each month. If you have a show or class please ensure, if possible, that the information is in the Newsletter a month earlier should your opening or start date fall before the 4th.

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The Rio Grande Art Association is a not for profit organization dedicated to the education and promotion of New Mexico artists working in oil, acrylic and mixed media nor normally shown under glass.

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Penasco Valley by Tom Blazier