



# THE Palette

www.manotickart.ca

Newsletter of the Manotick Art Association  
Box 1167 MANOTICK, ON K4M 1A9

November 2009

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## MAA needs a program chairperson



The Program Chair performs the vital task of finding and engaging the guest speakers we have at our meetings. We need someone with a wide-ranging knowledge of art who regularly attends art shows or art gathering places for artists and artisans of all varieties.

Guests in the past have included our own members demonstrating

techniques, professional artists (and philosophers on art), teachers, photographers, printmakers, sculptors ... we will need a lot of space to list them all.

In order to carry on this fine tradition, we need someone to be MAA's contact with the world of art, and encourage artists to come forth and share their view of the world.

Our guests are paid an honorarium. Any special set-up or transportation can be arranged through contact with the MAA executive.

## Friday Paint-In

This Friday the Library has been booked from 9.00am 'til 1 pm ish... for open painting-drawing workshop.

Just to remind you of the reservations

The room has been booked for

- Tuesday November 3rd
- Tuesday November 10th
- FRIDAY November 13th

We start at 9 am and can stay until just before 1 p.m.

Good light, plenty of table space and chairs are available.

Remember, the Library full of books for reference and inspiration!!!

Any medium welcome but please bring a plastic table cover.

Drop in for a visit and view our members' artwork in the *Slash* gallery in the Library.

Thanks.

Sheila (613 692 6281)

## Guest Speaker for October 2009:

### Dave Leonard and Soapstone Carving

Dave Leonard is a local artist, landscape designer by profession and entrepreneur as a gallery owner. He visited us to show



some of his work in soapstone, to invite us to give it a shot, and provided us with

information on his Kemptville gallery.

Dave spoke about his background in fine arts through school and how he made what might be seen as an abrupt turn into horticulture and landscape design. He explained that the logic of the jump is sound, as much of what he learned of composition, design and other aesthetics were instantly applicable to gardens, lawns, estates and any other use of the grounds around buildings.

In recent times, he has been drawn back into art, primarily soapstone sculpture. He took lessons with Keith Taylor, a North Gower sculptor, and brought several examples of his work.

Soapstone is a variety of metamorphic rock, composed mostly of talc and rich in magnesium. It has a Mohs hardness scale of 1, making it the softest mineral on the scale.

Soapstone is workable with a vast array of tools, from scrapers, gouges, chisels, files, rifflers and many other tools commonly used in woodworking and metal trades.

Dave's favourite stone is a fairly soft stone, quarried in Brazil, having a warm coffee colour. A wide array of colours, harnesses and patterned stone is available. Stone can be purchased by the pound from Keith Taylor; visit <http://www.indiantrailcarvings.com> for details and directions.

Dave's gallery is also in North Gower. Visit his website at <http://www.homestead-gallery.com/index.html>.

One site that describes various methods, uses of the uses and care soapstone is <http://members.shaw.ca/steph19/Soapstone%20Carving.htm>

Thank you Dave.

Douglas Laing

## Member news



Brian Seed, FOWS, received a Jurors Award for his painting titled *Blue on Green* at the 60th Ottawa Watercolour

Society Exhibition held at St. Bridgid's Art and Cultural Centre from Oct. 3rd to Oct. 11th.



The painting and a number of Brian's other work can be viewed at <http://ottawaartassoc.ca/gallery.htm>

## Speakers, demonstrations

No, no ... not the placard-waving variety (though that might be a hoot).

Please suggest names of artists and artisans who might be of interest to the MAA membership, to speak on art or art-related topics, or demonstrate a technique or rare skill that makes everyone want to stay up late at night, and do it!

## Put your work on the Internet through the MAA Website

Visit the MAA website. Place your works online. Go online [www.manotickart.ca](http://www.manotickart.ca) and follow the links.



For members who do not have electronic access, contact one of the members of the Executive.

## Opportunities to show

As a member of the MAA, you have the opportunity to exhibit your work in the Manotick area:

- The Miller's Oven (contact Heather Presley)
- Manotick Library (contact Sheila King)

## Member Galleries on the MAA Website

We invite all members to submit images of their work for display on the MAA website.

Go to the site [www.manotickart.ca](http://www.manotickart.ca) and click the Galleries button.

When the Gallery is displayed, you are instructed to send an e-mail to the MAA webmaster for instructions on how to post images of your work and other information such as a biography, artist's statement, and other important information for members and the public alike to get to know you the artist.

To get some idea about what to say, CHEAT by looking at the artist pages already displayed!

For members without computer access, please contact a member of the Executive and instructions will be mailed to you to create your web page.

## MAA workshops

The Manotick Art Association attempts to host approximately three workshops per year, presented by well-known and respected professional and established artists in various mediums. Workshops generally take place at Carsonby Hall providing a cozy and productive venue. Members in good standing can participate in any of the workshops delivered and organized by MAA. Suggestions for workshop themes can be directed to any member of the MAA executive.

## Please contribute to the Palette

Please contribute to the Palette. Our deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for items to appear in the

Palette. Items of interest can be:

- art shows you are in
- courses you are teaching
- awards you have received
- courses you have taken and recommend

Opinion pieces are also sought. For example, what do you think about Robert Genn's article in this issue? He's saying, in effect, that art is essentially a frivolity, more of a bling thing in keeping up (and surpassing) the Joneses! Say it isn't so!

## Canadian Brushstroke Magazine



Serving the Canadian art industry • [www.brushstrokemagazine.com](http://www.brushstrokemagazine.com)

This is your Sept/Oct issue of Canadian Brushstroke Magazine. Feel free to forward this to others in the art industry. We now have subscribers in 65 countries, in addition to our huge Canadian audience. We are proud to present Canadian artists to the world through this magazine, and we welcome all subscribers from here and around the globe. Please remember that Canadian Brushstroke Magazine and all images in it are protected by copyright.

This issue features winners of the 'Waterscapes' competition, a story about BC artist Grant Fuller, coverage of the controversy about a mural at a Calgary art supply store, and a story about a new Bravo! Television series called StarPortraits. This issue also includes a story about a military artist who was sent to Khandahar, Afghanistan by the Canadian military to record the exceptional work of the medics there, only to find that once her work was completed, the military wasn't at

all in favour of having it exhibited.

The upcoming competition is 'Artists' Favourite Subjects' and the deadline is Nov. 30, 2009. We will also be doing another plein air issue featuring winter plein air scenes, so be sure to keep your brushes hot during the cold, winter season.

To access this issue, click either the high resolution or low-resolution pdf files highlighted below. If you don't have high speed Internet or you have an older computer with limited memory, we recommend using the low-resolution version.

Canadian Brushstroke Magazine is released every two months and the next issue after this one will be released between Nov. 9 and Nov. 12.

HIGH RESOLUTION VERSION of Sept/Oct issue of CANADIAN BRUSHSTROKE MAGAZINE, 6.9 MB:

[http://www.brushstrokemagazine.com/issues/2009/hires/2009\\_09\\_hr.pdf](http://www.brushstrokemagazine.com/issues/2009/hires/2009_09_hr.pdf)

LOW RESOLUTION VERSION of Sept/Oct issue of CANADIAN BRUSHSTROKE MAGAZINE, 1.3 MB:

[http://www.brushstrokemagazine.com/issues/2009/lores/2009\\_09\\_lr.pdf](http://www.brushstrokemagazine.com/issues/2009/lores/2009_09_lr.pdf)

Through the coverage in Canadian Brushstroke Magazine, we hope to increase the profile of Canadian artists and serve the art industry with important news and information. We hope you enjoy this magazine as much as we enjoy writing it. We welcome any and all input to make sure we are serving you in the best way possible.

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## Robert Genn writes ...

Canadian artist Robert Genn writes regular online articles (some call it a blog) directed at artists, about art and especially about the profession of being an artist. From time-to-time, a copy of a topical article is reproduced in The Palette.

### *For the love of it*

I'm lap-topping you from Table 6 in an intimate restaurant in the Carlisle Hotel in New York City's Upper East Side. Just a few feet away there's a small stage where seven seasoned musicians, including Woody Allan, are energetically belting out a Dixie version of "Midnight Train to Georgia." We're getting the moisture from their instruments all over us.

We've just emerged from the adjoining bar; a genuine period piece if ever there was one. Here are the murals and decorations of Ludwig Bemelmans--the adventures of Madeline--a character from seven of his books written for children. Bemelmans, born in Austria, was a restaurateur and gourmet. He had a compulsion to decorate every bar and restaurant he ever entered. This one, right down to the table lampshades, was a

commission executed in 1947. The dark corners of the Bemelmans Bar has become a crossroads for the literary and artistic glitterati. Decades of smokers have not dulled the charm of his decorations.

Ludwig Bemelmans (1898-1962) took to writing children's stories rather late in life. The Madeline books, first published in 1939, all began with, "In an old house in Paris, that was covered in vines, lived twelve little girls, in two straight lines. The smallest one was Madeline." Propelled by love and as an entertainment for his daughter, Bemelmans parlayed his passion into green feedback. Plays and movies followed. He became a serious painter and was represented in both public and commercial galleries. The rich and famous sought his childlike fantasies. So you can get an idea of Bemelmans' work, we've posted a few at the top of the current clickback.

Bemelmans was not attached to any of his works. Like food, they were to be enjoyed in the making and eating.

Creative people often build their steam in a private and current world of their own devising. Complexity and difficulty demand focus and attention, modifying personality. Passion is the coal that becomes the greater part of talent. The locomotive is unstoppable when powered by love.

Best regards,

Robert

PS: "I don't keep my books around... they would embarrass me. When I finish writing my books, I kick them in the belly, and have done with them."  
(Ludwig Bemelmans)

Esoterica: Woody Allen and his colleagues are swept up in the joy

of Dixieland. Living a lifelong passion, Woody is a picture of humility and vulnerability. With charming internal repartee and knowing glances among band members, he toots his clarinet tolerably well. Why is he here? He certainly doesn't need the money. In a way, it's a private jam with a few chosen guests. The room feels his love. In the current clickback we've also put up a few shots I took during this remarkable evening.

To subscribe to Robert's newsletter, click <http://painterskeys.com/pal/>

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## Contributors

Sheila King, Robert Genn and Douglas Laing have contributed to the October 2009 issue.

Please plan to contribute your personal news and items of interest to the membership by e-mail to Douglas Laing (the editor) at [thepalette@manotickart.ca](mailto:thepalette@manotickart.ca), or by mail:

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The Palette  
P.O. Box 659  
WINCHESTER Ontario K0C2K0

You can also reach Douglas by telephone at 613 774 5180.

You are also invited to submit opinions under the *Perspectives* by-line, and express viewpoints on art and the art of living that enfolds it.

## The MAA Executive

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## Information privacy

Under the privacy policy of the MAA, e-mail & geographic addresses and telephone numbers of members are private information, and are not to be used or broadcast for any purpose without the consent of the member.

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