



# THE Palette

www.manotickart.ca

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

October 2008

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## A logo for MAA

There has been some discussion about creating a logotype for the MAA, a visual image that immediately says *MAA* and *art*. In this day and age of competing brands, it is suggested that a symbol can be an effective and esthetically pleasing way of broadcasting the MAA ideals and its membership.

As of today, there are no firm plans about how to create a logo.

We could

- have a design contest, with a winner receiving a prize
- create a logo design group to create the logo and present to the membership for review and approval

What do you think? Please speak to or write to the editor or any member of the executive with your ideas and we can present them to the membership at a future meeting.

## Ideas for Workshops

Over the years, MAA has held a number of workshops ranging from plein air adventures to intense one-on-one sessions with well-known artists.

If you have any suggestions for workshops, please make them known to the membership, either during the meetings, or through the MAA executive.

MAA can provide some of the funding for these ventures – such as paying for a venue – to help with the overall cost of the workshops.

## 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!

Please make your suggestions to our Program Chair Danielle Nahon during the MAA meetings, or through the MAA executive.

## October's guest speaker: Suzanne Warren-Powell

Dear MAA Members:

We are fortunate to be having Suzanne Warren-Powell, well-known artist - mentor, who will speak on her own creative journey as an artist, and how this was shaped by her teaching as well; she will also offer a demo.

Hoping to see you in October,

Yours in art,

Danielle Nahon  
Program Chair

## Our September speaker: Robert Hinchley

Our September guest speaker and demonstrator was artist Robert Hinchley.

Robert spoke of and ably demonstrated that abstraction in art is a deliberate process, rather than just a consequence of happy accidents.

He demonstrated a certain thrill in creating colour relationships a step beyond the colour-and-its-compliment basics, pushing natural interplays into bolder directions, juxtaposing colours that typically do not share the same space.

Robert helped to peel away much of the literal ideas we might have about abstraction, making it more of a deliberate exploration, and less a mystery

of unfathomable discovery.

In addition to the conventional considerations of composition and imagery, he also demonstrated the importance of fusing the energy of the artist and the contributions of the artist's tools into the work. His delightful use of found ingredients such as sand and collage literally transformed works on canvas to sculptural planes, not to mention resulting in some rather *heavy* canvases!

Thank you Robert.

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## November workshop

The MAA is delighted to announce that renowned Toronto artist Brian Smith has agreed to give a two-day workshop for MAA members on the weekend of November 15 and 16. Venue will be Carsonby hall where we have held courses in the past. Brian comes highly recommended by MAA member Catherine Clarke who has taken his courses at Haliburton.

### **Brian's bio**

Brian graduated from the Ontario College of Arts and Design in 1969 and for more than 35 years, he has been both a professional, award-winning graphic designer and a practising fine artist focusing on classical figure drawing and painting. His works are in collections across North America and he has exhibited in numerous juried and invitational shows, recently winning "Best in Show" in both the Etobicoke Annual Juried Exhibition and the Colour and Form Society Annual Juried Exhibition. In 2005 he was awarded the title of "Honourary Drawing Master" by the Drawing Society of Canada (previous inductees include Robert Bateman, Peter Mah, Eric Freifeld and Ken Danby).

Brian has taught classes and workshops on life drawing and portraiture for more than 20 years and has been on the faculty of the Ontario College of Art and Design, the Koffler Centre for the Arts, Haliburton School of the Arts, Curry's Art School, Visual Arts Mississauga and Neilson Park Creative Centre. To view Brian's work, visit his website at <http://www.drawn2life.com/>

### **Course outline:**

The MAA course in November will focus on painting the costumed (meaning 'not nude') figure and will be useful for all level of artists. It will cover composition, elements of design, colour theory, thumbnail sketches and painting techniques. There will be a model each day. Brian will give a few slideshows through the weekend and will also bring a few examples of his work to use during the teaching portions.

### **Materials:**

Brian suggests that, in addition to acrylic paints or watercolours, participants should bring a small (18"x24") newsprint pad for doing thumbnails, some conté or charcoal, a few sheets of cheap heavy watercolour paper OR a couple of mid-size canvas boards (approx. 16"x20") to do quick rough studies on, as well as one larger canvas (min. 18"x24") for the final all day Sunday painting.

### **Timing and facilities:**

The course will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on each of the two days. There are tables, chairs, good washroom facilities, free parking, a small kitchen etc. at Carsonby. Materials may be left overnight on Saturday.

### **Registration:**

The hall can accommodate only 15 people. If you are interested, please register as soon as possible by contacting Maureen Johnson at 613-692-4236 or e-mailing her at [mojo.3@sympatico.ca](mailto:mojo.3@sympatico.ca) Cost of the course is . This includes coffee and snacks (we suggest you bring your own lunch as there are no restaurants or take-out in Carsonby village).

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

Visit the MAA website. Place your works online. Go online [www.manotickarts.ca](http://www.manotickarts.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)

Please contact a member of the MAA executive for information.

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## A new opportunity to show

Susie Shapiro is opening a new coffee shop (formerly Village Perk), in the Village Mews in Manotick. She is looking for local artists to display their work in the shop :

Brown Bag Sue  
5562-C Main Street  
Manotick 613 692-7375

Susie says :

*That would be great if you could*

*let the members know that they can contact me directly; I hope you'll consider exhibiting your work at Brown Bag Sue sometime.*

Vic Dohar

## 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.manotick.ca](http://www.manotick.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.

## 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

## 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.

## MAA member News

11 MAA artists have their work in a 1 month show at the Branch restaurant in Kemptville, opposite the old bridge on Clothier Street.

Vernisage was on Wednesday 10th Sept at 6 - 7.

The food is great. Please researve with the restaurant.

Participating Artists.....

- Ann Gruchy
- Sheila King
- Catharine Clarke
- Lisa Maidens
- Trish Savoie
- Gerda Wolker
- Kathleen Wright
- Rob Fowler
- Carol Malcolm
- Jackie Burke
- Marie Paquette

Sheila King

## 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.

## Working your muses

September 2, 2008

The first thing you have to do is separate your true muses from your false muses. Your true muses are those that turn you on, interest you, excite you and motivate you to explore further. Both true and false muses are generated in early childhood, and sorting them out can save a lot of trouble in later art and life. Fact is, we're often pretty true to ourselves until our teenage years. That's when derailment happens--jobs, obligations, family and social pressures, love interests.

Artists often find themselves trying to sort things out in middle life. These folks need to go back to their earliest dreams. By recalling the places and occurrences of childhood, they can bring up and clarify both positive and negative muses. You need to go with the positive ones--the ones that give good feelings. There are such an abundance of positive ones. Here are a few of my own so you get the idea: collecting stuff, drawing stuff, observing wildlife, countryside rambling. My list would also include cars, boats, planes, libraries, museums and art galleries. I'll not bother you with the negative ones.

Identifying your early positive muses gives keys to life's direction--at least to paths worth checking out. As a kid I was

struck by the design of things. On my ramblings by bike and on foot I noticed design in trees, rocks, clouds, water, darned near everything. My earliest drawings were fancied designs based on Nature. They were doodles like automatic writing on the margins of school books. For a while I turned to automobile design--but the spectre of "design teams" and the auto bureaucracy sent me packing. This was a breakthrough--my muse needed me to be my own team--to design alone.

Artists who dig up true muses need to connect them to exploratory work. Without this step muses stay dreams forever. The works themselves need only be seen as assays. They become a continuing evaluation of the nature of the given muse. Some are infinite in complexity and may require many lifetimes. Here lies the miracle of making art. Connected to the part of you that is true is the key to an eternity of somewhat pleasant frustration, occasional quality and joyous satisfaction. Not a bad job when you think of it.

Best regards,

Robert

PS: "So cheat your landlord if you must, but do not try to shortchange the muse. It cannot be done. You can't fake quality."  
(William S. Burroughs) Best

By Robert Genn  
edited (lightly) and reprinted with  
his permission

now available at:

[http://www.brushstrokemagazine.com/issues/2008/hires/2008\\_09\\_hr.pdf](http://www.brushstrokemagazine.com/issues/2008/hires/2008_09_hr.pdf)

### Contributors

Danielle Nahon, Vic Dohar, Sheila King, Robert Genn and Douglas Laing have contributed to the October 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 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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### Canadian Brushstroke Magazine



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

The September/October issue is