



BRUSHSTROKES

Newsletter of the Auckland East Arts Council

Oct/Nov 2018 Issue

www.aucklandeastarts.org.nz

P O Box 55-162

Coming events in Oct/Nov.....

**Framing Workshop Session
On Tuesday 2 October
Commencing 5:00 – 5:30pm at
Factory Frames establishment
70 Lunn Ave., Mt. Wellington.**

Those attending are invited to bring along a piece of their artwork and the staff of Factory Frames will be available to help advise the various framing options that can be applied to best enhance each art work. Please register as soon as possible to secure a place.

Contact: Elaine Law – 0220213369 or
elly.art@gmail.com

**A guided tour of selected Art
Galleries during Auckland Art Week,
will be held on Wed. 10 October
12 noon – 2:00pm**

Your tour guide will be Chris Seager.

(Further information phone Chris on 09 5758717
or email – cpseager@yahoo.com)

**6 November 2018
Tuesday Group – ‘Do your own thing
painting group’ will be moving from
St. James Church Hall.**

From that date this group will commence weekly art sessions at Orakei RSA 178 Kapa Road, Orakei.
New time for this group – 12:30 – 3:30pm

**Annual Merit Awards Exhibition
On 9-11 November at St. Thomas
Church Hall, Cnr. Kohimarama Rd/St.
Heliers Bay Road, Kohimarama.**

This is an annual event and not to be missed. Please take this opportunity to exhibit your art work or go along and support the participants. The lighting at this particular venue is excellent and shows off paintings to their best advantage. Tell all your friends and neighbours what a special venue this is!

Friday evening will be prize giving from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Exhibition hours for Saturday/Sunday will be 10:00am – 4:00pm. There are three categories in this exhibition – Acrylic/Oil – Watercolour – Mixed Media/Dry Media. Each member can enter five pieces of art works. Entry fee - \$8 per work to a maximum of 38cm - \$11 per Large size to a maximum of 100cm & \$16 per extra large to a maximum of 120cm. All sales prices must include a commission of 15%.

**4 December – This will be our last
Tuesday group session for this year.
(More information on the completion of
arrangements for this event will follow via
email)**

AEAC – WATERCOLOUR WORKSHOP held at St. Thomas Church on Saturday 8 Sept. 2018.

This workshop was presented by Bev Herridge an accomplished water colourist of over 40 years' experience and a popular member of the Tuesday group. A friendly group of eight ladies attended.

Bev demonstrated the first stage of painting which involved the sky and base colour of the building and when all were comfortable to move on to the next stage, we all assembled for another demonstration of the next stage in our painting.

Bev suggested morning tea or coffee, but everyone was very engrossed and only a few took advantage of the offer, they enjoyed a break in the sun. Between times Bev moved around the room and spent time with each artist individually giving advice and tips. The demonstration continued with painting the foreground and this involved either masking daisies or else using salt sprinkled onto the paint to bleach out spots. Many of the artists had not used this technique and were fascinated by it. We also used pens to capture the detail on the building of cracks and this made an interesting effect.

We had a lunch break and then all were keen to continue. Bev had another picture but most were keen to complete their masterpieces and took the second picture home. Just after 2pm we started to pack up and gave a vote of thanks to Bev with everyone saying how much they had enjoyed it. One lady asked to be notified if it was to be repeated and Bev had had some complimentary emails since. A very pleasant day was enjoyed by all and I think we all came away feeling as though we had learned something and achieved a presentable painting.

At the end of the session we lined all the paintings up along a wall and photographed them which displayed interesting interpretations by all.

Thanks to Bev for being so generous with her knowledge and the preparation she put into making the occasion such a success.

Report written by Donne Jorgensen



(If you participated in this workshop and wish to see more Photos, please contact Margaret on 02108537034)

How to Acrylic Paint.....

If you're looking for the vibrancy and quality of oil paints without spending nearly as much money or time, then acrylic painting is for you. Picking up acrylic painting is a fulfilling hobby and a great way to produce artwork for your home and friends.

Getting the Right Supplies

Choose your acrylic paint. Acrylic paint comes in dozens of brands and is available in either tubes or jars. Purchasing acrylic paint is one of the rare instances in which it is better to splurge and get a pricier brand, such as Golden or Liquitex. Cheap brands of acrylic paint aren't as thickly pigmented as the more expensive brands, and will therefore require 2-3 more coats of paint to get the same vibrancy and color of a single coat of a higher priced paint brand.

- To start, buy the most basic colors: titanium white, mars black, ultramarine blue, alizarin crimson, and yellow ochre. Most of the paint colors you'll need can be made from a combination of those few hues. As you paint more and more, you'll know which colors you want to add to your collection.
- Tubes of paint are typically preferred by beginners because you can purchase smaller quantities to start, but there is no difference in quality between a tube or a jar of acrylic paint.

Select a handful of paintbrushes. Paintbrushes are rather diverse and are categorized by two factors: the shape of the brush tip, and the material of the bristles. There are three different brush tip types: flat, rounded, and filbert (rounded and flat). There are many materials used to make paintbrush bristles, but the most common are synthetic and boar hair. Most beginner painters prefer synthetic brushes in an assortment of tip points.

- Visit an art supply store and feel a few different brushes for a good idea of what you prefer. Synthetic brushes are softer and easier to clean than real fur brushes.
- Unless you're in it for the long run, don't splurge on the paintbrushes. Although having good paint brushes to work with can be beneficial, it is more important to have quality paint.

Find a palette. You'll need something to mix paint on, and to store paint on between painting sessions. If you're feeling frugal, a paper or plastic plate will work just fine. Any wide, flat, clean surface can be used as a workable palette. However, because acrylic paints dry so incredibly fast, it may be beneficial to invest in a stay-wet palette. These incorporate a wet sponge and special stay-wet paper that keeps your paint moist and workable for several weeks at a time.

- Keep plastic wrap or another cover of some sort on hand to preserve paint on your palette that you aren't using at the time.
- If you're mixing large quantities of paint at once, it may be beneficial to have small cups/lids to store your paint between sessions. This will better preserve the acrylics than a plastic wrap covered palette.

Decide what to paint on. Acrylic paint is thick and heavy, and therefore can only be used on a few surfaces. The most common and popular acrylic surfaces are stretched canvas or canvas board, watercolor paper, or treated wood. You should have success painting on anything that isn't greasy, oily, nor very porous.^[1]

- If you're afraid of painting on something expensive, start with watercolor paper and work your way up to canvas or wood.

Gather other small items. With all of the aforementioned big-ticket items out of the way, you will need a few additional items that you likely have in your home. You will need 1-2 jars/cups for water, a palette knife, an old rag or cloth, a misting spray bottle for water, and soap to clean your paint brushes. These are all available in art supply stores if you don't happen to have them, but none of them need to be specialty items.

- Because acrylic paints dry notoriously fast, mist your painting/palette from time to time to keep the paints moist.
- Consider wearing a smock or old shirt while painting to prevent staining your clothes with the acrylics.
- Some painters like to lay down newspapers on their tabletops to prevent large messes.

Getting Started

Select a good location. As with most things, painting is done best in natural light. Set up your painting station near an open window or a room that has a lot of natural light. You'll be able to see small nuances in your brush strokes and colors that you wouldn't otherwise be able to pick out.

Lay out all your supplies. Each artist has their own way of setting up their supplies, but it is best to get them all placed how you like them before you start painting. Fill your jars with water, get out the paintbrushes and paints you want to use, and put your palette in the most ideal location. You may want to put on your smock or old T-shirt at this time as well.

Decide on your subject. As a beginner painter, you may have an idea of what you want to paint, or you may be looking for some direction. Think about possible subjects or models you could use for your first painting. It is easiest to work from a 3-D object or photograph, rather than putting paint to something a mental picture.

Create a rough sketch. If you feel confident in your ability to paint exactly what you see, then you can go ahead and jump right into the painting. Most people, however, require an outline to follow along with their paint brush. Use a regular pencil to roughly sketch the outline of major shapes directly onto your canvas; don't worry about details or shading too much.

- You can do multiple sketches on paper before ever turning to do one on canvas, just to make sure you are confident with your drawing of your subject.

Mix your paints. It is a common mistake to mix paints as you work, rather than mixing them all before you start. Use your time and paint efficiently by mixing all your paints - in all the colors you need - prior to starting your painting. In this case, it is better to be safe than sorry by mixing more paints than you are likely to use. You can store extra paint for future paintings, but it will be nearly impossible to mix the exact shade of paint twice.

- Use a color wheel as a helpful reference for mixing your paints. All the basic colors can be made by mixing the primary hues (red, blue, and yellow), and more specific colors can be made by mixing the primary and secondary hues.
- Remember, if you can't get the exact shade of paint that you're looking for with a limited paint palette, you can purchase nearly any color pre-mixed in tube or jar form from an art supply store.

Find your light source. Color changes depending on the way light hits it, so before you begin painting your subject, locate the primary light source. Pay attention to this throughout the painting process; you should have lighter colors nearer the light source and darker colors further away. It may seem elementary, but picking out the light source before you begin will help keep your colors on track.

Examine the composition of your subject. Even if you're only painting a single object, it must be layered with other surfaces or backgrounds. Look over your subject and determine what is nearest to you and what is furthest from you. Pay attention to overlapping, color changes, and texture. You will be recreating each of these things in your painting, so make sure you have a good idea of how to do it prior to starting.

Begin painting the background. When you paint, you will be layering upwards; therefore, painting from the back to the front is the easiest method. Start with your medium value colors, followed by your darkest colors, and then brightest, for the easiest application.

Add in background details. Finish building up the basic colors, and then add details to the background. If it is a solid color, you should add shadows and light points. If your background is patterned or busy, add texture and movement with brush strokes in order to complete the layer.

Paint in objects. As you begin to paint your subject, break it up into identifiable shapes and paint those in solid hues. As you build up shapes and colors, your subject will begin to appear. Work in small sections at a time, to make the painting process a bit less daunting.

- Some beginner painters find it easy to use a grid system when painting their subject. Split up your canvas into parts using an imaginary grid, and paint an entire grid space to finality before moving onto the next one.
- Remember to add medium value colors first, followed by darker, and then lighter colors. It is hard to go over a dark color with a light one, so working in this way will make layering of hues much easier.

Add details using different painting techniques. When you've gotten the basic colors and shapes added, you can add the details with a few different painting techniques. These each focus on adding texture and movement through different paintbrush strokes and color applications.

- Stipple on paint by holding your paint brush vertically and tapping it onto the paper. This works best with a dry paintbrush and a small amount of paint, and will give the appearance of many small dots.
- Use a palette knife to sweep on broad strokes of color. For a rough, unedited paint looks, paint with a palette knife. Coat the knife in a thick layer of paint, and move it across your canvas to load up thick layers of textured paint.
- Create a wash of color by thinning your paint with water. This gives an effect similar to watercolors, where the paint gradually lightens on your canvas. This is great for creating a gradation effect.

Finish your painting. Paying close attention to your subject matter, add any finishing details you think are necessary to perfect your painting. Often this includes last dabs of light and dark, any outlines you may want to include, and finishing washes of color.

Finishing Up

1. **Consider adding a varnish to your painting once the paint dries.** Although it isn't required, many painters add a finishing coat of varnish to seal the acrylic paints. This helps the paint to chemically bond to the canvas, and protects it better from damage.

This article came from Wiki How.com

NOTICE BOARD

MAIRANGI ARTS CENTRE

MAC SHOWCASE

Opening: 6pm Thursday 15 November

MAC Showcase is a survey exhibition of artworks created by students and tutors in 2018. The exhibition will be complemented by our Open Studio Week, where prospective students are invited to observe our classes and enjoy a discount on any memberships purchased.

15 Nov to 16 Dec
Mon-Fri: 9.30am-4.00pm
Sat/Sun: 10am-2pm

OPEN STUDIO WEEK

Open Studio Week offers the opportunity to observe any class on our adult or children's art programme. You may come along to as many classes as you like to take a look, making it easier to choose your class for Term One, 2019. You will also receive a discount off any Mairangi Arts Centre memberships you purchase while attending Open Studio Week. Memberships entitle you to a cheaper member rate for classes and a range of discounts with our associated art suppliers. To book for this event, please email office@mairangiarts.co.nz, giving us your name, contact details and the name of the class(es) you would like to visit.

19 Nov to 24 Nov

St Heliers Library

Artists displaying their art work at St. Heliers Library

**October - Andrea Armishaw
November - Mary Young**

**To display your art work in the library
contact – Judy O'Brien
0276818821 or judynoel@hotmail.com**

UXBRIDGE ARTS & CULTURE

Exhibitions – Showcase Benedict Miller Keeley
11 October to 18 October 2018



Benedict Miller Keeley was born in Gisborne but has spent most of his life in Howick. He recently changed his career path from teaching to focus on painting and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Visual Arts from AUT in 2018.

Gabriel Tiongson 20 October to 25 November

2018 Gabriel Tiongson completed his Visual Arts degree at Unitec and continues to develop his art practice. His work has been shown in various galleries around Auckland and internationally throughout Asia. This October, we look forward to displaying a suite of new paintings by the artist.



