



Floral Park Art League

NEWSLETTER

January 2010

February 1st Demo - Kirk Larsen



Kirk Larsen, one of the most versatile, collectible artist's of our time is renowned for his love of landscapes, sculpture, portraiture and abstracts. A competitive classic yacht racer and one design enthusiast, Kirk enjoys sharing his love of the sea and his passion for sailing with his audience.

A published author, often writing about sailing it is with great joy he shares his latest collection with the public. In a series currently consisting of six graphite renderings he brings the classic regattas of current day Long Island Sound to life in

original and limited edition prints.

Kirk says he has never met a medium he didn't like. He has been drawing since he could hold a crayon and started painting at age seven. He works with a multitude of mediums but has been most passionate about oil painting and stone carving. He truly loves to go out and paint, as they say "en Plein Aire" along with the water or out in the country. He paints local scenes that he previously took for granted, such as his own street when the dogwoods bloom.



We are fortunate to have Kirk share with us his versatility and talent. We are looking forward to this demonstration. Do come and be enriched!

Artist of the Month?

We'd like to get to know our members a bit better. I'd like to resurrect the idea of featuring a member of the FPAL each month. I would run a short article about your artwork, the medium you are using, how long you have been painting, etc. Perhaps we could include a picture of you and a picture of one of your works? Would you be willing to participate for our next newsletter? If you have a digital photo of yourself, or any of your art we could use that. If not, I have a digital camera and would be willing to take a picture or two. A quick phone call to me and we could start things moving. If you are willing, please see me at the next meeting on February 1st or call me at 516 352-7327 or by e-mail at e.stattel@hotmail.com.

Welcome to New Members

We'd like to welcome Janice Derr of Queens Village and Angela Mazzella of Floral Park who have recently joined the Floral Park Art League. We are looking forward to their coming to our meeting on February 1st.

December Demo

Our meeting on December 7th was very festive, thanks to Eileen Stattel for wonderful brownies, some sinful little cream puffs, and holiday ambiance. It seems that the monthly demos just get better and better, thanks to our President, Theresa.

Tonight's demonstration by Ruth Baderian was one of the best! The first thing she did was to pass around her incredible sketchbooks, filled with paintings on location in many parts of the world – there were gorgeous Italian villas and villages, cool tropical scenes, and amazing drawings of tango dancers in Argentina. Questions arising from the sketchbooks gave us a simple way to create our own sketchbooks with the teacherly admonishment to use them, five minutes a day, then ten minutes, and so on until it again becomes a habit.

Mrs. Baderian's questions will stay with all of us a long time – why are you painting? what do you want your picture to say about your subject?. The need of being consistent, formats, values, design, color, temperature – all these topics were approached with wit and humor giving us much to think about as we plan our own work.

The subject Ruth painted for us was a cupid on a statue in the central plaza of Montevideo, bathed with light. As she worked she explained the importance of putting down as much as possible in one layer. Although she worked on dry paper, the paper eventually became very wet, and the problems that brought about were explained and we learned what to do about them.

The evening flew by and the artist entertained questions from the audience, illustrating them with sections of her work that were around the room, each one having its own story. One high point was the lottery – but instead of one winner Ruth brought many of her prints to raffle off so many went home happy. The big winner of the demo painting was Joe Syracuse. It was a great night.

Submitted by Pat Lee



News of Note

The Arts Council is pleased to announce the availability of additional exhibit space in the Freeport Recreation Center. The following dates are available. If interested in exhibiting, please advise asap. To be eligible to exhibit you must pay (or have paid) the 2009-2020 affiliate fee (\$35 for individual artists) and agree to pay the Arts Council a 20% commission for any sales as a result of the exhibit.

Available dates for the **Art Alcove** in the lobby of the **Freeport Recreation Center**:

April 29 - May 10, 2010 August 5 - August 30, 2010

June 10 - July 5, 2010 July 8 - August 3, 2010

September 2 - October 4, 2010 October 7 - November 1, 2010

The new exhibit space lines the halls of the **program wing** at the **Recreation Center**. **Available dates:**

Now - March 1, 2010 March 4 - May 10, 2010

July 8 - August 30, 2010 September 2 - November 1, 2010

November 4 - January 3, 2011

If interested, please advise as soon as possible.

Joan Savary (516) 223-2522 x 14

Long Island Arts Council at Freeport, 130 E Merrick Road, Freeport NY 11520

Artist of the Month -



Linda Michael has generously submitted her name to be honored as the artist of the month. Linda is a licensed clinical social worker and currently works in Floral Park two days a week. She has come to painting rather recently, approximately 5 years ago. Linda has taken classes at the Nassau County Museum with Steve Lampasona. She sings his praises as both a teacher and an artist. He has helped her to hone her skills and have an ever growing appreciation of her creative skills

She paints in acrylics and takes her own photos as source materials. She says the joy she finds in creating art is unmatched, is by any other activity in my life except, of course my 4 grand children and my supportive husband. I love doing landscapes of all kinds and find that color and light are most fascinating

and most difficult. Painting has the ability to transform me to a safe, peaceful haven!

Thank you Linda for sharing your story with your fellow members.

PS: A picture of Linda is not available at this time.

Pearl Paint on Merrick Avenue in Westbury is closing its store

Theresa, the president of FPAL sent me an e-mail this week informing me that Pearl Paint has signs posted on it's windows that all items are 50% off. This may be a splendid oportunity to get some of those supplies you were hesitant about purchasing. Their inventory is quite stocked and the savings are abundant.

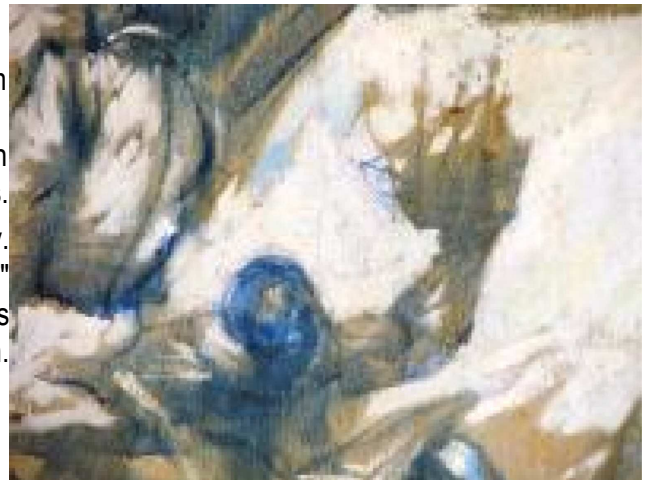
The Power of Paucity by Robert Genn

In the bar attached to the Legazpi Restaurant at Las Hadas in Manzanillo, Mexico, there are murals. Loose oil sketches painted directly onto rough, lightly-toned plaster, they are the work of the Spanish painter Fernando Calderon. Depicting dreamlike fantasies of Spanish Conquistadores and the natives they met, they fill a curved alcove above the bar and areas behind the lounges.

Some of the images merely suggest the characters and subjects they represent. They're a good example of paucity--the "absence of," a smallness of number or quantity (of strokes), and the wisdom of knowing when to stop. The depiction of a model ship, for example, held aloft in the hand of an ancient architect, is painted in minimal strokes and simply held in place by a few negative spaces.

The ship mentioned contains one of the simple lessons of paucity. The image is not contrived in its entirety but is born in "emergence" on the support itself. Quickly delineated, the ship's rigging has been cursorily added with a smaller brush to complete the illusion. Paucity requires an artist's eye.

Paucity is one of the great principles. In our struggle to say things right, we overlook the value of understatement. "The secret of being a bore," said Voltaire, "is to tell everything." Paucity invites both the artist and the viewer not to be bored.



Detailed directions to the American Legion Hall from the Cross Island Parkway

From Cross Island Parkway - Exit Jamaica Ave., Jericho Tpke., East. Make a right on 25 (Jericho Tpke). Go approximately 1 mile to **S Tyson Ave.** Make a right and go 2 blocks to **Elizabeth Ave.**, make a left. The American Legion Hall is a white building, #15, directly across from the John Lewis Childs Elementary School's main entrance. Remember, we will gather for refreshments at 7:30 followed by the demo.

Happenings of the FPAL - February 2010- June 2010

February 1 st	Meeting & Demo - Kirk Larsen - Oils American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth St., Floral Park – 7:30
March 1 st	Meeting & Demo - TBA American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth St., Floral Park – 7:30
April 5 th	Meeting & Demo - TBA American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth St., Floral Park – 7:30
May 3 rd	Juried Competition American Legion Hall, 15 Elizabeth St., Floral Park – 7:30
June 5 th & 6 th	Annual Spring Show & Sale – 10 AM – 4 PM Corner of Tulip & Plainfield Ave., Floral Park

Not a Member?

If you know of someone who is not presently a member of the FPAL and might wish to become one, please ask them to come with you to the February demo

The Power of Paucity (continued from page 3)

While paucity appears to be a natural phenomenon that comes about as the result of talent, it's actually the result of giving things a little thought before brushing. The idea is to think of a simpler, fresher and more effective look. You need to know that understated vision is both more appealing to make and more engaging to evolved eyes. Paucity, while often appearing rough and unfinished, invites participation in the creative process, and paucity helps us see the poetic potential of visual art.

Things are quiet in the bar this evening. The underworked bartender is noticing what I'm up to and taking furtive glances at my MacBook. "You're writing a letter?" he asks.

"I have a few friends," I say.

"Good to keep in touch," he says.

PS: "The action of the moment is more valuable than the thing it represents. I'm in the business of illusion

Esoterica: Fernando Calderon (1928-2003) was born in Santander, Spain and studied art in Madrid and Rome. Painter and book illustrator, he's best known for murals in the Vatican and the stately estates of titled Europeans. Passionate about opera and ballet, he was often praised as a talented guy. He drifted widely--Brazil, Mexico, France, England. The Pantheon Church of the Duke and Duchess of Alba in Loeches (Madrid) is perhaps his best known work. On his way to a solo show in Los Angeles, he tarried at a minor church in New Providence, New Jersey, and painted (because he felt like it) the Christian Apostles for \$1 per day plus room and lodging.

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FPAL Officers

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