



Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts

November 2023

EAC

in this issue...

critiques	2-4
inspired by artists	6
acaca update	7
from "story listening" to personal narrative	9
our sponsors	12

MEMBERS ONLY

meeting minutes	13-14
committee phone list	16-17

cover photo by Rob Guetre

EST. 1921
EDMONTON ART CLUB
edmontonartclub.com

CRITIQUES



Meet Allen Ball, critic for the November meeting.

BORN IN LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, Allen completed his undergraduate training at the Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts (achieving First Class Honours in Painting and a commendation in Printmaking). As a Commonwealth Scholar, he graduated from the University of Alberta Master of Visual Arts program. An active visual artist and researcher, Allen has been honoured to receive awards from the Killam Trusts, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and Canada Council of the Arts, among others, and is a Canadian War Artist, having served in the Sinai Peninsula in 2007. Allen's works can be found in public and private local, national, and international collections, and have been featured in galleries throughout Canada, the United Kingdom, and Korea.

Allen's painting practice is marked by discrete series that arise from conceptual and discursive ideas, particularly relating to subjectivity and representation. Always drawing on personal experiences and resisting a "signature" painting style, he consistently seeks methodologies that realize the crux of conceptual ideas. His projects reference photographic sources, often incorporating visual cultures beyond the Western canon of art, from decorative arts and abstract symbolism to religious iconography. This exploratory approach has driven him to screen-based projects, public art, photography, film, video, and digitally-mediated imagery. Across his works, Allen embraces collaborative opportunities to experience art as a socially intrinsic process.

He is currently Associate Dean of Student Programs in the Faculty of Arts, and Professor of Painting in the Department of Art & Design.



LEXI ZHU

A nice scene and the gold fish are thoughtfully positioned revolving as they are around the quietness in the centre of the composition.



RHEA JANSEN

I enjoy this painting and your artistic licence in the use of blues. A captivating work.



MARY FITZGERALD

Vibrant, lively, and enjoyable. Nice palette.



FRANCES HESSELS

A powerful piece capturing a moment in a child's life. Adding a touch of blue in the shadows of the hair will play off of the red.

CRITIQUES (continued)



NOLA BUKVI

The boat is the highlight! A little more definition in the forward waves would serve to place the main subject. Beautifully painted.



MARG SOMKUTI

A very familiar scene in Hawrelak Park. The two hats in the foreground are adorable providing a counterpoint to the more abstract treatment of the crowd.



DONNA CHAMBERLAND

Beautifully rendered background and powerful composition with the diagonal lines. The foreground towards the bottom could use increased tonal temperature by adding darker values of blues leaving the lighter areas. It's a good idea in general to darken the darks, leaving the lighter areas and then they will resonate more.



LINDA NELSON

The middle ground is powerful and draws you in. You could darken the darks to build up intensity. Painting around the sides is a good idea.



JANET FRASER

Nicely rendered movement in this tree, magical. Reminds me of Van Gogh's Orchard paintings. You really captured life.



HELENA BALL

Reminds me of Europe and the pigeons of Trafalgar Square. Perhaps darken the top part of the painting a little to add some weight.

◀ RUTH BAKER-BAILY

A beautifully composed arrangement. The colour shift is skillfully done.



CRITIQUES (continued)



GAIL FAREWELL

The graphic quality of the composition is half of a painting. A very good choice of material used to show off the work. The use of white space is elegantly done.



ADA WONG

A successful painting which could be divided up into separate paintings. The upper left quarter could be a picture on its own.



RICHARD ST. AMANT

This theatrical sculpture reminds me of the Cycladic sculptures of ancient Greece. Because of its simplicity, also reminds me of African stylized sculptures.



DIANA PANIZZON

This group of pictures tells a story. Pictures within a picture. Compositionally, simple shapes within shapes work and have real power.



KERRI HASKELL

This drew me in. Very developed artistically. The viewer's eyes are drawn nicely throughout this piece. I hope to see more of this style and perhaps bigger. Your signature was well done and unobtrusive.



YVONNE BILAN-WALLACE

Sophisticated, complex, and concrete. A lovely piece. Nice simple powerful shapes with a great story.



◀ **JANI GALARNEAU (WIP)**

A pleasing personalized theme. I love the idea of the resin coating after completion.

ANDREW BEDINGFIELD ▶

The obvious lyrical lines and curves draw you in. The figure moves and dances. The orange and green in your palette is a good choice.



Jake's Framing

10441 123 St, Edmonton, Alberta T5N 1N8 P: 780.426.4649 E: jake@jakesframing.com

Jake's Framing offers superior custom picture framing including museum-grade picture framing, specialized mat-cutting, canvas painting stretching, dry-mounting, and engraving.

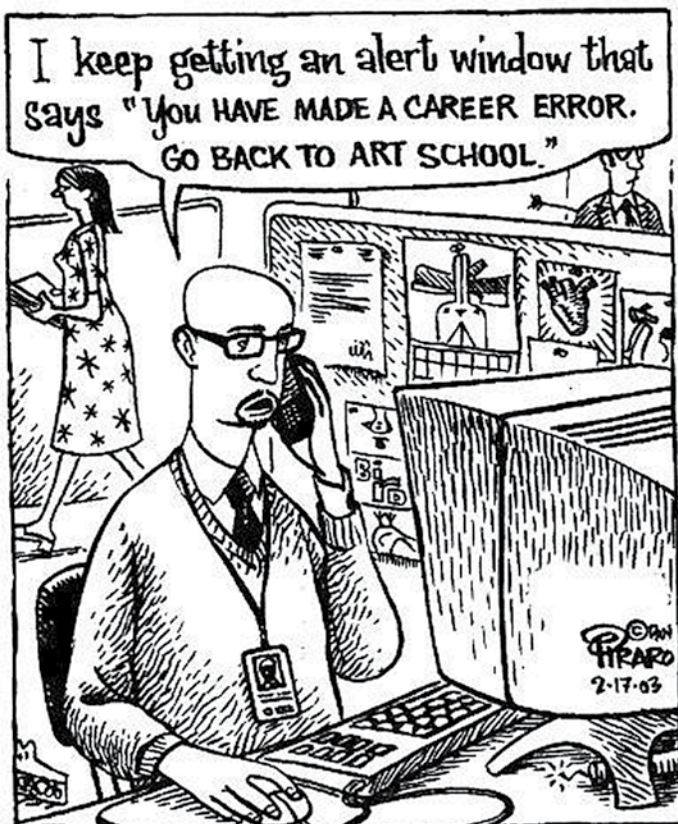
"I strive to provide the best customer service in the industry at a fair price. Please give me a chance to frame your artwork and I promise you won't be disappointed."

Jake Lewis *Owner of Jake's Framing since 1993*

Looking for pre-made frames?
Jake recommends VESTATE



16602 - 114 Ave NW
Ph. 780 433 1695



Meet Our Executive



Seraya Smit
President



Jani Galarneau
Vice President



Penny Lamnek
Treasurer



Rhea Jansen
Past President



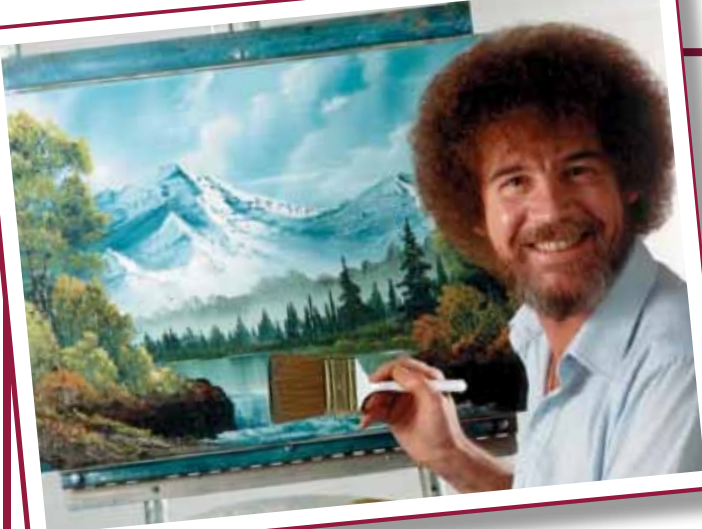
Michaela Yanish
Recording Secretary



Diana Panizzon
Secretary

Inspired by Artists

M F Fitzgerald



Kudos to the Famous Art Mentor, Bob Ross!

I MAGINE MANY OF YOU HAVE FAVORITE art websites. I know that during my art journey, I have explored and learned many art techniques and ideas from Facebook and YouTube. As I share some of my favourites, I hope you will share some of yours; as well as inspiring artists and their sites in upcoming newsletters.

I am introducing Nicholas Wilton who is the founder of the *Art2Life Creativity workshops and classes*. This highly effective system of teaching returns authenticity, spontaneity, and joy back into the creative process. Nicholas has also established the *Creative Visionary Mentoring Program*, which offers artistic, business, and creative coaching to artists. He speaks and writes extensively on the subjects of creativity, purpose, and inspiration. I always thought my work was an abstract style, until I began taking art seriously. I then learned and realized while always exploring his paintings and processes. He often meets with other artists and his blogs and vlogs are informative. The feedback on his courses is always informative and full of great learning.

For example, this term I teach a University Foundations



course and we explore topics such as Discipline, Synthesis, Respect, Ethics, and currently Creativity. As part of Nicholas's vlogs, he invites creative people to explore their ideas with him. My students will be introduced to Nicholas and his guest Dawson Church, author of *Bliss Brain*, who discusses neurobiology and creativity. Here, Dawson discusses universal brain waves, brain patterns, and brain wave signatures. Dawson references the term FLOW. FLOW was coined by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi and is simply stated as "a state in which people are so involved in an activity that nothing else seems to matter". Dawson states that during flow our Gamma brain waves are active and are involved in *binding*, which means "binding together disparate pieces of information to create something". In my University course we call this "synthesis".

I suggest that artists of all types experience a level of flow/binding. We usually have a set of goals giving direction and structure to our work in progress. We receive immediate feedback on our work by pausing and checking on our progress. This way we naturally adjust to the evolving nature of how satisfied we are with our work. Finally, we find challenges within our personal artistic tasks and enjoy observing our skill set and product. Yes, often we do not feel our work is finished or complete however, yet we can let it rest until we are ready to continue.

Therefore, next time you are working on your art project, and you realize you have become completely absorbed in your efforts and the time has flown by, understand that you have had a *FLOW* experience. It is great for your mental health and well-being.

Watch this episode: *Sculpting Your Creative Brain – Dawson Church – The Art2Life Podcast Episode 104*

Explore Nicholas Wilton's website at

<https://www.art2life.com/>

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023, the Alberta Community Art Clubs Association held its Executive Meeting in Red Deer, Alberta. As the new Vice President I have been learning about art communities throughout the province. I remember when transferring from Edmonton Public Schools to Alberta Education, I was awakened to the scope of provincial thoughts and practices, versus Edmonton local activities. When thinking province-wide I developed a greater perspective about Education. This pertains to our Art Communities and Clubs throughout Alberta. I am amazed at the variety and number of Art Clubs and groups in Alberta. I've learned so much about organizing and setting up an art show, met numerous Alberta artists, observed master artists jurying and critiquing artworks, and appreciated the community networking. At each of the Zone shows I've seen our Edmonton Art Club members' entries. As an educator I was excited to see a large representation of youth work in the Northern Zone.

Some quick facts:

- Different entry levels into the ACACA: Youth, Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced, Masters and Signature members
- Art Categories include: Painting, Sculpture, Fibre Arts, Digital Art (DA-I: Illustration and DA-M: Photo Manipulations)
- ACACA member Art Clubs may apply for a \$400 grant, see the website for details

- If you are an ACACA member and your art club belongs to the ACACA, your art club will fill out the grant form for you.

Some new ideas for the ACACA are:

- Updating the ACACA website
- Refreshing the Facebook Page
- Including Instagram for publicity purposes
- Formatting a new newsletter
- Developing new promotional material
- Invigorating the idea of "Uplifting Your Art"

Finally:

Individual and Club memberships can be renewed now to meet the deadline of FEBRUARY 28, 2023.

How about an ACACA Virtual Art Show in February 2024? Stay tuned.



ACACA Executive



Our EAC members at work for the Night Of Artists Weekend Event

more photos next page

Our EAC members at the Night Of Artists Weekend Event



Watercolour Gifts

1. **Art Toolkit Mini Watercolour Palettes**
Pocket size metal tins with metal pans to be filled with your favourite watercolours. **SALE \$5.95 - \$52.95**
2. **Magnani Round Watercolour Paper**
140 lb. hot press, cold press, and rough
6" Circle List \$39.95 **SALE \$27.97**
12" Circle List \$83.95 **SALE \$58.77**
3. **Schmincke Akademie Watercolours**
Best value in watercolours; limited edition metal tin set 12 x 1/2 pans List \$105 **SALE \$69.95**
4. **Etchr Accordion Watercolour Books**
3.8 x 5.7" and 5.2 x 8.3" cold press or hot press. **SALE \$16.76 - \$23.96**
5. **Callia Watercolour Brush Sets**
Designed by Willow Wolfe in Canada **SALE \$36.76 - \$47.96**



6. A gift card always fits.
Buy in store or online.



10032 81 AVE
EDMONTON AB
info@paintspot.ca
P: 780 432 0240
PAINTSPOT.CA

GALLERY

ART SUPPLIES

ART CLASSES

From “Story-Listening” to Personal Narrative

ANCIENT ART FORMS often depicted events and values of cultures. They mostly served as record-keeping—a simple way of telling the stories of the time. As time passed, artists were not content with just keeping record because we all yearn for a deeper level of connection. Story tellers started to present different perspectives and subjects that encouraged the viewers to engage and connect.

Since I started my art journey quite young, I didn’t understand the power of connection. My art was often a retelling of events rather than seeking connection. My journey from “story-listening” to “storytelling” happened when I was given Michael W. Smith’s music album. The words and music were both powerful. What captured my heart was an instrumental piece entitled “Freedom”. It was inspired when he was living in Franklin, Tennessee, where Civil War battles were fought. As the piece progressed, I visualized chains falling off my body and the feeling of freedom enveloped me. Right there and then, I knew I wanted to be a storyteller as a visual artist—sharing my personal narrative in my paintings, seeking a deeper level of connection with the viewers.

Emily Carr was an unusual story teller, she was able to capture people’s mind with both her writings and



paintings. The subject matter of her writings came from her surroundings – people she met and animals she kept.

They were ordinary subjects but there was so much “life” between the lines. The subject matter of her paintings was also ordinary, but her paintings powerfully pulled me into her forest of trees and skies. Her paintings and stories allowed me to enter into her world and her inner sanctuary.

Her art journey was rugged, full of hurdles and challenges, but it didn’t discourage me. In fact, it gave me strength to face the uncertainties. I too had gone through a prolonged period of inactivity with my brush. When my love of art was rekindled, with fear and trembling hands, I picked up my brush and started to work on my personal narrative.



This painting was created after a time of searching for peace and balance. Finally, I found strength from this place of quietness. The image I painted depicts that time of searching.

When I started looking for subject matter to communicate my vision, I realized I was most at peace when I was out in nature. Rocks and water became my favorite subject matter. I always felt anchored when I was painting rocks, and I felt alive when I was painting water. My hope was that the feelings I had about rocks and water would transfer unto the paper and that the viewers would experience the stability of the rocks and the vitality of the water.

Though I truly believe that honing our skills as visual artist are a must, I learned that storytelling is more powerful when the teller is convinced of the message he/she wants to communicate. Speaking from the heart and

From “Story-Listening” to Personal Narrative (continued)

willing to be vulnerable can be risky but worth it!

Finding the right title for my paintings is very important to me. Though I am not very good with words, I still try hard to find a precise description for the moment the image was envisioned. The process of conceptualization doesn't always happen in an orderly fashion.

Destination is tied to arrival, but destination is insignificant if there is no



Destination

story to tell about the journey. I was curious what stories these boats would tell if they had mouths! A couple months after I finished this painting, my siblings and I were grieving the loss of our mother. My mom had lived a full life. It seemed natural that her destiny was to “rest in peace”. When my niece shared her memories about Grandma and some of the life stories grandma told her, I realized that it was the journey she took that defined my mother. So, the painting was somewhat of a prelude to my mother's story.

I grew up in a family of six children and I am the youngest with quite an age gap between my older siblings and me. It seemed like they all grew up together and then left home while I was still quite young. I really don't have a lot of memories of my siblings' grow-

ing up years. When some friends gave me a set of old black and white photos from the 50s, I was captivated by a particular photo depicting three boys finding some small treasures. I have three older brothers and I had no idea



Morning Treasures

how they spent their days. This photo allowed me a glimpse of what might have been their activities. In fact, the photos evoked a desire to find out more about my family and heritage. Maybe someday I will attempt to paint a series of paintings about the time of my childhood. I titled the painting “Morning Treasures” to capture the golden moment the boys were having. (Reference photo credit to Mr. Man Luk Chun)

When I began to do plein air again, as much as I love painting outdoors, it was quite overwhelming. To help me focus, I started to keep a visual journal. Sometimes it was a quick sketch to capture the landscape that caught my eye. More importantly, I recorded my feelings and frame of mind at that moment –why my heart resonated

so much with my eyes and why the scenery spoke so loudly to me. All those bits and pieces helped me stay focused on the message I wanted to communicate.

In our journey of life, there are many touchstone moments. Those are turning points. Some people use words to remind themselves about the important milestones in their lives. Other people use visual images. Whichever method, I believe we become who we are because of those moments. When we go through struggles and doubts, those images, words or music notes become our anchors. They help us remember and refocus.

Some of the visual entries may seem to be just a record but revisiting them proves otherwise...

My paintings reflect the journey I have been travelling. At the beginning, painting was like therapy, a tool to help make up for lost time. As time passed, they reveal my experiences and the vitality of my spiritual growth. I think I have arrived at a point of embracing the idea that my art journey is not all about how well I can paint, but how much I have grown. The final measure is not the approval or praise I receive but how well I have shared the message and celebrated the gift that was given to me.

Ada Wong



your one resource for

art supplies

PAINT • BRUSHES • MATT BOARD • PENCILS
PENS • SKETCH PADS • CANVAS • EASELS
AND MUCH MORE!



Check Out our App!!
Download our app and access our vast selection of products anywhere



11116 - 120 street, edmonton, alberta
Ph: 780.455.7983 fx: 780.454.5204
e: info@deltaart.ca 1.888.455.1606

www.deltaart.ca



THE
**GILDED
RABBIT**

Art Supplies & Framing

20% Discount for EAC
Members


10% Discount for All
Students and Seniors

10104 149 Street

780.481.6950

thegildedrabbit.ca

 @gilded_rabbit

 thegildedrabbit



THANK YOU!

Thanks to Colours, Delta Art and Drafting Supplies, The Paint Spot, and the Strathcona Art Society for their ongoing support in helping to distribute the EAC newsletters!

And thanks to the following businesses who give generous discounts to EAC members!



11116 - 120 Street NW, Edmonton



West Edmonton Mall
8882, 170th St NW, Edmonton



10032 - 81 Ave NW, Edmonton



10660 - 105 St. NW, Edmonton
7359 - 104 St. NW, Edmonton



10441 123 Street NW, Edmonton



Art Supplies & Framing - Discounts for students, seniors, and art memberships

10104 149 Street 780.481.6950 thegildedrabbit.ca



Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts

We're grateful to the Alberta Foundation of the Arts for their continuing support.

As the primary arts resource and grant-funding body in Alberta, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts helps to unleash the potential of every artist through funding, arts promotion, and capacity-building. We provide behind-the-scenes support to artists and arts organizations, giving them the power to inspire minds, encourage expression, foster creativity, and contribute to Alberta's economy. From story time at local libraries to annual festivals on neighbourhood streets, the arts are active in your community. Albertans celebrate and support the arts as artists, volunteers, donors, and attendees at local arts events and activities. Experience, celebrate, and take pride in the arts—they're all around you!

Read more at affta.ab.ca/home.



CARFAC
ALBERTA

Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC is a Provincial Arts Service Organization funded provincially and municipally that provide a communications hub between members of the visual arts community and the general public. Visual Arts Alberta – CARFAC is the affiliate for the national arts organization Canadian Artists Representation/le Front des artistes canadiens (CARFAC) in the province of Alberta.

CARFAC Alberta Office & Project Space:

3rd Fl., 10215-112 St., Edmonton, AB

Hours: Wednesday to Friday, 10–4pm and Saturday 12–4pm

t 780.421.1731 tf 1.866.421.1731

carfacalberta.com

general@carfacalberta.com

CARFAC Alberta is becoming a Visual Artist Online Resource for your information and perhaps to download, share or simply enjoy with a sip of coffee or tea:

<https://www.carfacalberta.com/becoming-a-visual-artist/>