

Dan Mondloch, January Demo Artist

Dan Mondloch is a third generation painter of landscapes in watercolor, following in the footsteps of his parents and great grandfather. A native of St. Cloud, MN, Dan has received numerous awards and honors throughout the state. He operates a studio in his home and balances studio painting, plein air painting, mural painting, and teaching. To learn more about Dan and to see additional examples of his work, visit his website at www.danmondloch.com.

Join us on **January 14** as Dan demonstrates his approach to creating a studio painting that is based on a plein air study. In Dan's words: "Often when painting outside, weather or other elements hinder us from completing a satisfactory piece. However, this does create an exciting opportunity to revisit the subject back in the studio. I find the time spent on location is a valuable resource to the studio painting. My process includes working from photographs, plein air paintings, and value studies to create a new painting. With an emphasis on big shapes, I will use a three-wash approach and finish up with gouache at the end, as needed. My goal is to try to capture the emotional intensity and essence of a place while preserving the beautiful properties of watercolor."



Dan Mondloch painting en plein air



Ice Fishing



Glensheen Afternoon

From The President



Hello Members!

I hope you are enjoying our mild winter weather. You just never know what to expect in Minnesota.

It was so great to see so many of you at our Fall Exhibition. What a wonderful show! There were so many amazing paintings. Congratulations to all our award winners. Thank you Suzi McArdle for doing such a great job with the show.

Our Spring Show will be held at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum which will be a beautiful venue for us. Please see the notes in this newsletter and make sure to read your prospectus carefully as there will be some special guidelines due to the park's entry requirements.

We held our December meeting and although attendance was light it was so good to have a casual evening and get to know some of you better. We also saw some really beautiful mini paintings donated for Art4Shelter. We will be collecting the 5 x 7's for a couple more months so remember to bring in your little gems. The sooner you get your pieces in, the more options Simpson Housing has for promotional materials. Remember to sign the back and include a form which you can find online.

I look forward to seeing you at our January meeting where Dan Mondloch will demo for us. Then in February, we'll have a representative from mnartists.org give us a presentation regarding their organization and the benefits offered to Minnesota artists. In March we have an exciting opportunity to collaborate with the American Swedish Institute. We'll be meeting at the Institute and viewing the exhibition of contemporary Swedish watercolor artist Lars Lerin.

We are still looking for a Program Chair so if you have an interest in helping steer our Society please consider getting involved on our board.

See you soon,

Wendy Westlake

Changes Ahead! A Note from the Editor

This will be my last newsletter. I have thoroughly enjoyed being editor of BrushStrokes and getting more involved with the Minnesota Watercolor Society. I have met some wonderful people! I will still be around, but I am handing over the editor position to Gail Vass. In her capable hands, the newsletter will undergo a new look. Watch for the changes with the next newsletter, the March/April issue. --Virginia Dudley

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Northstar Liaison OPEN

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www.minnesotawatercolors.com

BrushStrokes Newsletter

Published January/February, March/April, May/June, Summer,
September/October, November/December

MNWS BrushStrokes Editor

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MNWS NEW MEMBERS

Linda Carter

Jeannie Abbey Ferdinande

Barbara Geisert

Jessica Hallock

Susanne Heck

Karen Holmes

Mary Keenan

Karen Nestingen

Welcome New Members!

We have 281 current paid members.

Nourishing Life through Art

2016 MNWS SPRING EXHIBITION

University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum



Family Roots | KAREN KNUTSON

2016 SPRING EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

- Fri | 3/4 Entry deadline
- Sat | 3/19 **NEW:** Selected works posted online
- Thu | 4/7 Drop off at Arboretum (2-8pm)
- Thu | 4/14 Opening reception (6-8pm; awards at 7)
- Wed | 6/29 Exhibition closes
- Thu | 6/30 Pick up at Arboretum (2-8pm)

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY

This juried show is open to all MNWS members in good standing who have paid their dues through May 2016.

ENTRY FEES AND REQUIREMENTS

First entry is \$20. Second entry is additional \$10. All fees are non-refundable and support MNWS exhibitions.

PLEASE NOTE: Two entries allowed. One entry must be priced for sale.

For complete information or to submit an entry, please visit minnesotawatercolors.com.

Northstar Activities

Members' Meetings are usually the third Thursday of each month, 7 pm, at the Roseville Skating Center, 2661 Civic Center Drive, Roseville, MN.

- January 21 - demo by Edie Abnet
- Workshop: Paul Oman, April 19-21, with demo April 21
- Workshop: Skip Lawrence, Sept. 12-16, 2016
- October 1-30, 2016 - NorthStar Watermedia Society 2016 National Exhibition, Lakeville Art Center

For more information about the Northstar Watermedia Society and their activities, visit the website:
www.northstarwatermedia.com.

Brilliant Passages: 2015 MNWS Fall Exhibition

Congratulations to all the award winners! See the display of winning artwork on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter. Thank you to all the volunteers who so willingly gave their time and effort to make the show a success, and a special thank you to Suzie McArdle, Fall Show Chair, for organizing everything!

Minnesota Watercolor Society 2015



Artist: Catherine Hearing
Title: Beach Walkers
Award: Best of Show



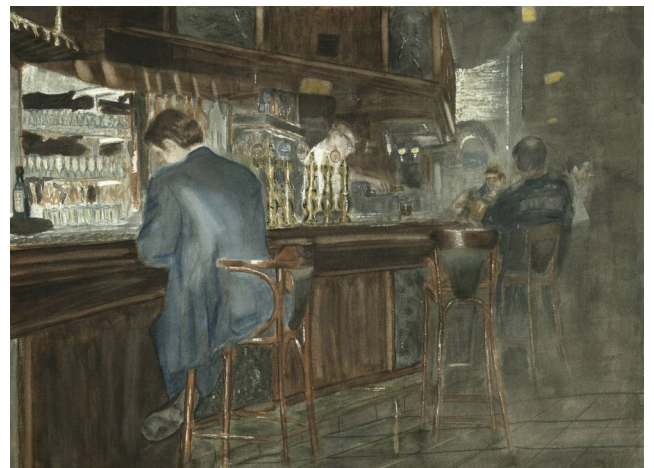
Artist: Andy Evansen
Title: Life on the Isthmus
Award: Emrich-Stordahl Founder's Award



◀ Artist: Wayne Sisel
Title: Back Alley
Award: Second Honor



Artist: Susan McLean-Keeney
Title: Holding on to Summer
Award: First Honor



Artist: Gary Lee Marquadt
Title: Smokey Bar in Beleax-
Just Before the Fight
Award: Third Honor ▼

Fall Members Show Award Winners



Artist: Lisa Stauffer
Title: Loyal Red
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Daniel Green
Title: Ta Prohm
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Tara Sweeney ▲
Title: She Can Fly
Award: Award of Merit

◀ Artist: Mary Deziel
Title: Summer Shade
Award: Award of Merit

▶ Artist: Martha Elchert
Title: Arches and Laundry
Award: Award of Merit



▶ Artist: Bonnie Crouch
Title: Kona Breezes
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Joel Kaplan
Title: Hollywood Road in
Hong Kong
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Diane Posselt Monroe
Title: Day Into Night
Award: Honorable Mention

▶ Artist: Jim Turner
Title: Kirstin's Garden
Award: Honorable
Mention



Watercolor Reflections

Column by Vera Kovacovic, MNWS Member

ART AS A MEANS OF REBALANCING

The following passages are from *Art as Therapy* by Alain de Botton and John Armstrong, found online in Maria Popova's *brainpickings* (<https://www.brainpickings.org/2013/10/25/art-as-therapy-alain-de-botton-john-armstrong/>). These thoughts are an insightful reflection on why we are drawn to a certain kind of art instead of another. Even though these excerpts do not address the actual impact of our preferences on the art we create, I venture to say that the connection is implicitly there.

Few of us are entirely well balanced... We may, for example, have a tendency to be too complacent, or too insecure; too trusting, or too suspicious; too serious, or too light-hearted. Art can put us in touch with concentrated doses of our missing dispositions, and thereby restore a measure of equilibrium to our listing inner selves.

Popova comments: "This function of art also helps explain the vast diversity of our aesthetic preferences - because our individual imbalances differ, so do the artworks we seek out to soothe them."

Why are some people drawn to minimalist architecture and others to Baroque?... Our tastes will depend on what spectrum of our emotional make-up lies in shadow and is hence in need of stimulation and emphasis. Every work of art is imbued with a particular psychological and moral atmosphere: a painting may be either serene or restless, courageous or careful, modest or confident, masculine or feminine, bourgeois or aristocratic, and our preferences for one kind over another reflect our varied psychological gaps. We hunger for artworks that will compensate for our inner fragilities and help return us to a viable mean. We call a work beautiful when it supplies the virtues we are missing, and we dismiss as ugly one that forces on us moods or motifs that we feel either threatened or already overwhelmed by. Art holds out the promise of inner wholeness.

UPCOMING MNWS WORKSHOPS

CATHERINE HEARDING: 2-day, February 27-28, 2016, "Take the Fear out of Color." This workshop is full. There is a wait list.

ANDY EVANSEN: 3-day, May 5-7, 2016, "Plein Air Watercolor." Description and registration can be found in the November/December issue of the newsletter and on the website at: minnesotawatercolors.com/event/andy-evansen-plein-air-workshop/

Questions? Call or email Clare Ritter: 612-618-7274, ritte009@umn.edu.

Program for February 11: All About MNArtists.org

Learn how you can increase your visibility as an artist! On February 11, Jehra Patrick, the program director of Mn Artists, will present the wonders of MNArtists.org. This website is an invaluable resource for artists. It has the largest search engine in Minnesota for artists; it is easily accessible; and it's free! MNArtists.org is an effective way for an artist to not only have an impressive web presence but also to be part of a creative community.



After the presentation, there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions. Also, if you would like to bring your laptop or tablet to follow along during the presentation, you are welcome to do so. But it is certainly not necessary to have your device with you in order to get plenty out of this program.

Mn Artists, a program of the Walker Art Center, is a dynamic online community dedicated to supporting and improving the quality of art and artists in the Midwest through responsive arts reporting and criticism, and by connecting artists with collaborators, influencers, and audiences. Mn Artists recently completed a major redesign of the website that launched in November 2014.

MNWS MEMBER happenings

Send member news to:

Brush Strokes, 1455 Jefferson Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105 or email
v-dudl@umn.edu. Images are welcome and used as space permits.

Janet Green, Robert Jeffery, Georgia Kandiko, Judy Lieber, and Heidi Nelson each had a painting accepted into the 39th Annual Members' Juried Art Exhibition at Artistry (formerly Bloomington Theater and Art Center).

Dick Green's painting at the Watercolor West juried exhibition in Brea, CA, was awarded the Chartpak/Schmincke Art Material award.

Kathy Braud received an Award of Excellence in the Northern Showcase art exhibition Nov 1 - 27, 2015, for her watercolor painting, "Four Clucks." This same painting received "Best Watercolor – North Star Watermedia Society" award at the 2015 Minnesota State Fair Fine Arts Juried Exhibition this past August.

Opportunities for Artists

Call for Entries: Red River Watercolor Society, 23rd Annual National Watermedia Exhibition. Deadline for entries is February 1, 2016. Juror is Tom Francesconi. The show will run from May 17 through September 4, 2016, at The Plains Art Museum in Fargo, ND. For full information and prospectus go to: www.redriverws.org/Wordpress/events/

Artists' Breakfast on Wednesdays: Each Wednesday at 8:30, artists meet for breakfast at Curran's Restaurant, 4201 Nicollet Ave. S. All are invited to join them to talk about art and to network in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Bring artwork to share if you wish.

MNWS *calendar*

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m., **except** June, July, and August. Also, see exception below.

- Jan 14** Dan Mondloch Demonstration
Location: Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN (Corner of 70th St. S. and Hwy 100)
- Feb 11** Presentation on MNArtists.org
Location: Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN (Corner of 70th St. S. and Hwy 100)
- Mar 11** Lars Lerin Watercolors at the American Swedish Institute
Location: American Swedish Institute, 2600 Park Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN

Information about the Spring Show on page 3!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail your application and check payable to Minnesota Watercolor Society to:

Carol Wingard, Membership Chair
10427 Fawns Way
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

MNWS Membership Dues:

- o College Student \$15
- o Single \$30
- o Couple/Family \$40
- o Seniors (65+) \$25

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

o Check here to have your name removed from the list sent to our exhibition award donors who mail product information to our members.

“To further the development of the watercolor artist by providing a supportive environment with education and exhibition opportunities, and to promote public appreciation and greater visibility of the art.”
--MNWS Mission Statement

10427 Fawns Way, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-5117

