July 2017 Watercolor Newsletter

Exhibitions of Note

American Watercolor Society Exhibition
Ambleside Gallery
Greensboro, NC
May 12-July 15, 2017
Organized in 1962 by the Springfield Art Museum, Watercolor USA 2017 exhibition aims to attract the best in contemporary American watermedia and strives to exhibit work by artists who are pushing the boundaries of the medium.

http://www.sgfmuseum.org/200/Watercolor-USA-2017
Andrea Chung, *Filthy water cannot be washed*, 2016-2017, cyanotypes and watercolor
Courtesy of the artist

**Andrea Chung: You Broke the Ocean in Half to be Here**
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego Downtown
San Diego, CA
May 19-August 20, 2017

For her first solo museum exhibition, San Diego-based artist Andrea Chung presents a new immersive installation together with selected prints and collages that explore legacies of colonialism and migration. Chung’s research-based practice finds surprising intersections between materials, processes, and places, often examining the histories of the Caribbean island nations. [http://www.mcasd.org/exhibitions/andrea-chung-you-broke-ocean-half-be-here](http://www.mcasd.org/exhibitions/andrea-chung-you-broke-ocean-half-be-here)

Charles Burchfield, *The Lighted Window*, 1917, Watercolor

**A Treasure Hunt:** American drawings and watercolors at DC Moore Gallery; plus, a brief homily by Israel Hershberg
“Thank heaven for Charles Burchfield (1893-1967). The originality and breadth of modern American painting, evolving alongside European models, would not be complete without him. An uneasy regionalist, he defies categorization with the enchanted melancholy of his natural forms. As a boy, he loved copying the work of Charles Dana Gibson. You can see the curvesome swing of a Gibson girl in the cursive trees and undulant foliage of “The Open Road in September” (1917)." by Maureen Mullarkey

http://www.maureenmullarkey.com/essays/burchfield.html

Demonstrations, Workshops and Lectures

Olga Litvinenko – Landscapes in Watercolour
Dalvaro, Spain
July 16, 2017 a 5 workshop

http://www.dalvaro.co.uk/courses/olga-litvinenko-landscapes-in-watercolour-16-07-2017

Fall Transparent Convention
Watercolor Society of Oregon
Gresham-Troutdale, OR
October 6-13, 2017

Columbia River Gorge is ready for you to discover your inspiration for painting at the 2017 Fall Convention Columbia River Colors in Troutdale. The western gateway to the Gorge, Troutdale is an emerging center for artists, packed with small galleries and antique shops.
American contemporary watercolorist and world traveler, Paul Jackson will be our juror and instructor for the 2017 Fall Convention and Workshop. The workshop, October 9-13, will be located within walking distance of historic Troutdale at the newly built and spacious Harvest Christian Church. www.pauljackson.com.

Books, Catalogues and Publications

Paint Yourself Calm: Colourful, Creative Mindfulness Through Watercolour
by Jean Haines
Meditative, peaceful and calming, watercolour painting offers a sense of control and self-worth to everyone, with no judgement or goal beyond the joy of painting itself. This book shows you how to calm and enhance your outlook through the movement of brush on paper. Master artist Jean Haines leads you on a journey through paint, showing you how to wipe away your worries with the soothing, gentle strokes of watercolour paint.

If You’re Bored With WATERCOLOUR Read This Book
by Veronica Ballart Lilja
You know watercolour, don’t you? The perfect medium for tasteful landscapes, light seascapes and delicate still-lifes. Conventional, easy to manage, inoffensive... boring... Right? Wrong! In this book you’ll discover a host of innovative techniques that will open your paint box to a whole new realm of possibility: luminous colour, dynamic composition, distinctive mixed media and more. Professional fashion illustrator Veronica Ballart Lilja shares a wealth of new techniques that will open up watercolour for beginners, and give experts a host of new tricks and techniques.
Explore your creativity with Natalie Goldberg’s newly revised and expanded book Living Color: Painting, Writing, and the Bones of Seeing. First published in 1996, Living Color: A Writer Paints Her World focused on living a more creative life. Goldberg’s writing and her approach to making art will speak volumes to a new generation of aspiring artists and to those who dream of leading a more creative life. 

http://nataliegoldberg.com/

Delicate Watercolors Combat Oversimplified ‘Strong Black Woman’ Stereotype
“I hope that others take solace in my work and just exhale with me.”
By Priscilla Frank
October 14, 2015

“In my work, I show another side of black women,” artist Debra Cartwright explained to The Huffington Post.
The Harlem-based artist creates whispered watercolor portraits of stunning black women that seem to float with a feminine buoyancy, one often ascribed to waifish — and white — models in whimsical fashion editorials. This ethereal aesthetic, Cartwright notes, is less often attributed to women of color, who are often stereotyped as tough or powerful.

“There’s enough heaviness around black women with stress, societal pressures, beauty standards,” the artist noted. “We’re seen as ‘angry’ when we have opinions, our hair [is] ‘unprofessional’ or ‘militant’ when it’s just how it grows out of our head. I seek to portray us as soft, feminine and carefree. The fluidity of watercolors really lends to that message. I continue loosening my technique with watercolor and it feels even more powerful. Other mediums are too tactile. I love the ethereal quality of that medium.”

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/debra-cartwright-watercolors_us_561be728e4b0082030a34a8f

In the News

UK explorer’s 118-year-old painting found in Antarctica

The painting labelled 1899 Tree Creeper has the initial T on it and is believed to be by Edward Wilson, who died on the ill-fated Scott expedition to the South Pole in 1912.

A 118-year-old watercolour painting was discovered inside a hut in Antarctica.

Photo: @InspireExplore on Twitter

Jun 13, 2017
Press Trust of India, London
A 118-year-old watercolour painting of a dead bird by a celebrated British explorer has been discovered inside a hut in Antarctica, researchers said Tuesday.

The painting labelled 1899 Tree Creeper has the initial T on it and is believed to be by Edward Wilson, who died on the ill-fated Scott expedition to the South Pole in 1912.

The Scott Expedition, officially the British Antarctic Expedition, which took place between 1910 and 1913, was led by Robert Falcon Scott of the UK.

The painting was found in a pile of papers covered in mould and penguin excrement in a hut built by Norwegian explorers, ‘BBC News’ reported.

“There was this gorgeous painting, I got such a fright that I jumped and shut the portfolio again,” said Josefin Bergmark-Jimenez, paper conservator at the Antarctic Heritage Trust in the UK.

“I then took the painting out and could not stop looking at it - the colours, the vibrancy, it is such a beautiful piece of work,” said Bergmark-Jimenez.

The discovery was made last year but had been kept as a secret so that conservators could restore some 1,500 other artifacts from two huts built by Norwegian explorers in Cape Adare in 1899.

Although buried under paper covered in mould and penguin excrement the darkness worked in favour of the watercolours, preserving the painting perfectly.

“Watercolour paintings are particularly susceptible to light so the fact this work has spent more than 100 years tightly packed between other sheets of paper in completely dark and cold conditions is actually an ideal way to store it,” said Bergmark-Jimenez.

Wilson was born in 1872 in Cheltenham, England, where an art gallery and museum are named after him and display permanent collections of his work.

http://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/uk-explorer-s-118-year-old-painting-found-in-antarctica/story-3z8l3WSEDzhPA7kQFW0DWP.html
This Watercolor-Inspired, Hand-Painted Wood Furniture Is Vibrant and Dreamy

“The water evaporates within a few hours to leave a singular pattern of streaks, smudges, and color variations, each sheet resembling an abstract watercolor painting. Once it’s completely dry, she seals the wood with a transparent finish.”

http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_eye/2015/05/01/wooden_aquarelle_by_meike_harde_uses_an_unusual_painting_technique_to_create.html

Edith Dora Rey, Joy # 345 of beautiful skin tones, 2011, 8 x 10, Watercolour
A Swiss/Canadian artist making sense of the world via art in Montreal + the Eastern Townships, Quebec, Canada reydora@sympatico.ca, http://www.circuitdesarts.com/en/artistes/edith-dora-rey/ @EdithDoraReyPainting

Alexandra Davies 2 Detail, Whalers Bay, Atmosphere, 2013, 760 X 560 mm, pencil, watercolor, coffee, thread, gesso, and lead shavings on paper
https://www.pinterest.com/pin/518054763361598899/

Fred Poisson, Broken Water, 22.5 x 30 inches, watercolor on paper
http://www.fredpoisson.com/
Create Watercolor Hair
Hair isn't just hair - it's a blank canvas ready for creation.
http://www.beautylaunchpad.com/watch-create-watercolor-hair

White plates are my favorite dishware staple and we use them everyday, but with this technique, you can create beautiful DIY watercolor plates that will add a pop of color to your dishware collection! You can also add this charming look to bowls, cups, platters, etc. Use any color of paint to go with your theme and get your craft on because these were extremely fun to make! We used porcelain paint with a paint thinner on oven-safe porcelain plates as the foundation for the look. Then we used brushes, droppers and sticks to make them look like watercolor! Abstract art at its best! Once they are baked, you can wash them in the dishwasher and they're safe to use.

http://sugarandcharm.com/2015/05/diy-watercolor-plates.html?section-1
I Watercolor Superheroes With Big Splashes
I work mostly with watercolor, I need it to be fast and I like the spontaneity of it. Sometimes paintings seem like they are moving on their own, alive, like clouds in the sky. Shapes can appear from a part you didn’t control, letting your imagination do the work, like a Rorschach test.


Viviva Colorsheets: Portable Watercolors
Watercolors you can carry in your pocket and paint mess free on the go.


Wearable watercolors Gudruns Joden
Advertisement in the NY Times Magazine, June 4, 2017

www.gudrunsjoden.com

On-line Newsletter Editor
Kathy Gaye Shiroki, International Center for Watercolor at the Burchfield Penney Art Center