

ICAN Pastel 2018 ARTIST BIOS and SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Session Code Legend:

First or first 2 digit(s): (Type of Session): **FD=Full Day workshop (\$150); HD=Half Day workshop (\$75); D= Demo (\$50); + \$50 conference fee for non-PAC members**

Second or Third Digit: (Day): **M=Mon; T=Tues, W=Wed, R=Thurs, F=Fri**

Last Digit: **Session number**

ROBERTA COMBS

IAPS/MC, PSA/MP, MPAC, SFCA, CIPA/F, NPS, PAC

Roberta Combs is a representational painter who lives in Western Canada. The rich texture and velvet colors of soft pastels make them her favorite medium to work with. Roberta Combs' paintings have been seen in International Artists Magazine, Southwest Art Magazine and in the Pastel Journal Magazine. She has exhibited in the Butler Institute of American Art, the Vose Gallery in Boston, The National Arts Club Gallery, and the Salmagundi Club in New York City. Website: robertacombs.ca Email: rcombs@shaw.ca

HDW2 Don't be Afraid of the Dark

One of the key features jurors look for is the initial visual impact a painting projects. This session includes several demos highlighting the dramatic differences that a broader range of pastel values can make on your paintings. You will receive personal input as you create your own version after each demo.

FDR2 Portrait Features

This is a new approach to improving portrait skills by focusing more specifically on the individual features that capture the likeness. We will concentrate on the shape, contours and skin tones of each feature and the path that connects them to their proper placement. You will gain more confidence in your continued portrait studies.

DF1 Moving Forward – Assessing Your Artistic Self

Do you ever think "Where do I go from here? What is my next step forward with my art and how do I achieve it?" We will discuss information that includes how you can assess your own work more constructively and successful ways to achieve goals that keep you moving forward on your artistic path.

MARGARET FERRARO

Once described as "Tom Thompson on uppers", Margaret Ferraro's art plays with colour and energy. Developing simplified compositions allows more time in spontaneous colour exploration, giving voice to her work. Ideas are developed first in pastel, the most versatile, forgiving and spontaneous medium.

Exhibiting widely nationally and internationally for over 20 years, Margaret teaches for art organizations, arts schools, and conducts workshops in Ottawa, Toronto and the Georgian Bay area, plus international painting trips to Italy, France, Spain, Ireland, Costa Rica, and Peru.

HDM1 The Charm of Miniature Pastels

Let the ease of a small picture plane allow you to play creatively, develop style in your compositions, and simplify, allowing only the most essential elements. Experience the charm of working small, and your stroke becomes your creative power. Harvest more ideas in order to see their potential for larger work.

DR1 Pastel Inspiration

This session will get you fired up! Learn how to self motivate by making the best use of regular studio time: plan, write, document images for future paintings, and initiate other practices to help you stay

inspired. As an example, one image will be used to experiment with mood and expression using a multitude of elements: underpainting or ground colour, split of picture plane, perspective, value range and colour.

SUZANNE GODBOUT

A pastelist since 1995, I studied with the very best and was president of PSEC from 2005 to 2011. My work has been shown in many international exhibitions in America, France, Italy, Spain, Russia and China, and has appeared several times in Pratique des Arts (read articles: www.suzannegodbout.com/blog). I paint mainly landscapes and still lifes and am best known for portraying metal dishes. Understanding colour is an endless quest for me, so I can share what I know for sure will help you in your practice.

DR2 Painting Gray Metals

There are differences between silver, pewter and stainless that lie in the subtle colour temperatures, value ranges, and transitions. I will be painting from a live set up of some of my favorite things. The best observation exercise ever!

DF2 Colour Carries Emotion

Colour is the hardest element to master but the most expressive, especially in landscape. This is a colour crash course where I'm going to share lots of secret theory that I discovered in my search and tools I've developed for choosing the 'right' colour. Examples and demos will illustrate along the way.

Wednesday Evening Free Public Lecture/Slideshow

Suzanne will present a unique and informative talk on the history of pastel painting.

KATHY HILDEBRANDT

ASA, SCA, PAC, MPAC, AFCA, ISAP, PSA, IAPS/MC

Kathy is an international award winning artist specializing contemporary realism. She is a signature member in numerous art organizations, is a PAC Master Pastelist and a member of the IAPS Master Circle. Her work has been included in numerous books and magazines as well as received awards in the Pastel 100 competitions as well as PAC and IAPS exhibitions. Kathy is the current President of Pastel Artists.CA

FDT2 No, It's Not a Photo!

This workshop will give participants the basics on creating more realistic work. Students will be encouraged to work from a photo supplied by the instructor of a simple still life setup. Learn some of the pitfalls of working from photos and how to compensate for them. We will use a variety of pastels and pencils, as well as an underpainting using watercolors or pastel/alcohol.

DW1 The Devil's in the Detail

This demo will give participants a glimpse into various methods to achieve details in a realistic painting. It's the little things in a painting that can make viewers stop in their tracks and look closer at your work. The ability to create the illusion of different textures is what will make the painting come to life.

Thursday Free Plenary : Making The Most of the Submission Process

Jurors may only see your work for a few seconds, so make them count. This session will cover: Picking out the important prospectus information; Tips for getting better photographs of your work; Photo editing tips to crop, correct and resize images; What jurors are looking for; Why some works are accepted while others are passed by.

Friday Free Plenary: Exhibition Walkabout

Kathy will lead an 'exhibition walkabout' during which she will discuss critical features of a selection of works in the juried show.

JOAN LARSON

SFCA, AAEA, PPC

Joan's original passion for horses led to her interest in art and she has never stopped to look back. Joan has an extensive CV chronicling 25 years of professional achievements that include international shows, awards and documentaries. However it is the present and future that hold her attention. Her recent ground breaking series of artworks honouring the RCMP Musical Ride has been used for exhibitions supporting non-profit organizations. This was followed by a series based on her trips to remote and restricted Sable Island to paint its most famous denizens, the wild horses. Next on her radar is a series of paintings based on "Life at the Race Track."

Joan is a Senior member of the Federation of Canadian Artists (SFCA), a full member of the American Academy of Equine Artists (AAEA) and holds the Premier Pastelist designation with the Pastel Society of Canada (PPC).

Joan and her husband Paul Smith own and operate Creekside Studio from their acreage in the rural area of Coombs where they live with their family and assorted animals, including horses . . . which Joan states "are simply necessary."

FDR1 Animals in Pastel

This one day workshop will give students a step by step process including selecting the initial image (assessing your photos), to drawing and creating a pastel painting of the animal of their choice. Part 1: learning the techniques to create an accurate drawing of the structure of the animal. Part 2: how and where to start; how to render short and long hair or fur so that it looks realistic; great life-like eyes in pastel; the common problem of all-white or all-black animals; finishing touches and when to stop. Part 3: I have an extensive background in painting horses and creating animal portraits and will share my knowledge of what is involved in having a career as an animal portrait artist.

KIM MARTIN

Kim Martin has been painting pet portraits for almost 50 years. She has plenty of experience in painting eyes and loves to pass this self-taught knowledge on to others who share the same passion. www.KimMartin.ca

JESSICA MASTERS

I paint things that are important to me, things that have an impact on my life, like my family, my history, and the landscape around me. I've lived in Ontario, Britain, and Quebec, and these places and experiences come out in different ways in the work that I do. Regardless of my subject matter or medium, I strive to create an atmosphere and mood in each piece that viewers can connect with.

I work from my own studio in Guelph and teach courses in both painting and dry pastel. My work is held in private and corporate collections throughout Canada, United States, Australia and New Zealand. I also show my work in several galleries in Toronto, Oakville, Waterloo and in Guelph.

FDM1 Bring Out Your Focal Point with Colour Contrast Strategies

"Don't bury the headline." That's the refrain of every good editor. Through this session you will discover how to simplify your visual information, use colour strategies to bring out your focal point, and draw upon your personal experiences to create more expressive and interpretive paintings. I will demonstrate how to identify your focal point, simplify the details, make your focal point POP with colour strategies (including contrasts in hue, temperature, and value) and provide techniques in pastel application that can help you loosen up and bring your image to life. Participants will work on one supplied subject for exercise and one of their own images to practice the principles taught during the demonstration (images can also be

provide). Participants are also welcome to bring in past work for support on to how to make corrections (max 1 per student).

DW3 Pastel Painting with Spectra Fix and Acrylic Inks.

Come see how using a variety of wet mediums can capture the essence of your subject and loosen up your style. I'll start by identifying the light patterns across the subject; dividing the light and the dark in a "notan," then choose the most effective colour palette to suit my subject and engage my viewer. Using broad pastel strokes and loose washes of spectra fix and colours of intense inks I will block in the main shapes of the composition. Using Spectra Fix and Acrylic ink as my base helps keep subsequent layers of pastel clean and fresh while maintaining the fluid look of these wet mediums. As I continue to capture the essence of my subject with layers of dry pastel I will demonstrate how to fix mistakes and rework areas by washing out the details and reworking the image...with no fear!

DT3 Make Your Own Pastel Paper

Premade pastel paper can be wonderful to work with but they can be hard to get, expensive and limited in sizes. Knowing how to prepare your own papers can be a convenience that will save you money, and give you flexibility with size, colour and surface texture. This demonstration will show how to prepare several pastel ground recipes and show you great options of papers and substrates available to use. You will also learn how to refresh the tooth on papers for reworking instead of throwing them away. Students will be allowed to practice making paper and test surfaces for final effect.

ANDREW MCDERMOTT

Andrew is the past President and a senior member of the Federation of Canadian Artists. Andrew was born in Bolton, England and moved to Canada at a young age. Upon College graduation in Graphic Design and Illustration, he studied and further refined his own unique style, winning top awards in both Canada and the US. His most recent is the Master Circle Medallion for the International Association of Pastel Societies, presented in New Mexico in 2013. Andrew has had coverage in many published articles, included *The Artist Magazine 25 under 40*. Andrew has also had full feature articles in top art magazines such as *International Artist*, *The Artist UK*, *Magazin'art*, and the *Pastel Journal*. Andrew is a popular workshop Instructor and gives demos and lessons at many educational facilities, he is a life/figure drawing Instructor for the Illustration department at Capilano University, Langara College, and for the 3D Animation department at the Vancouver Film school.

FDW1 Painting a Master Work

In this session you will learn how to develop a finished work in pastel using studies and references along with some painting and drawing principles. We will create believable mark making and use techniques to guide the viewer's eye through lush impressionistic pastel paintings. Andrew will share both technical knowledge and his thoughts about what makes a great work of art.

DF3 Speedy McDraw

In this demo, Andrew will show how to work loosely and use colour effectively. By watching this time-limited painting process, you will see how to achieve striking punchy scenes that have visual impact.

ROBIN SHEARD NYIKOS (EXHIBITION JUROR)

Robin S. Nyikos graduated from the Ontario College of Art and Design which included studies at OCAD's facilities in Florence Italy. She then worked in several countries in Europe for the next seven years painting landscapes and commissioned portraits in pastels and oils before returning to Canada. Her pastels have won a number of awards and have been written about several times in the Pastel Journal Magazine. Robin's artwork is in collections in Canada, England, Europe and the U.S.A. "As someone who has loved painting in pastels for over thirty-five years, I'd like to share what I have learned with others." www.robinsheardnyikos.com

DT2 One Approach

I'll use examples to briefly discuss how I use sketches, lighting, various objects and my own reference photos to create a sustained painting. In a series of short film clips I will show how I develop a painting using the "thin to thick, hard to soft" technique of building up a pastel from the initial, loose block-in through to refining the drawing in the middle stages of work, to near finish (in real time this might take me several days or even weeks). Then I will work on the actual painting to show finishing techniques on some areas to achieve a painterly, buttery finish, while choosing to leave other parts of the painting less resolved.

CLARENCE PORTER

The street signs and factories of my Hamilton home became the content of my first group and first solo show. "Ottawa Street North" and "steelVIEWS" were a celebration of the contrast between the sharp angularities of Hamilton's industrial architecture played against the smoky white plumes that animated the sky. After having turned to doing natural landscapes for the last several years, the beauty of the stark cityscapes has drawn me back yet again.

KARIN RICHTER

CSPWC, SCA, ASA, PAC, MPAC

A lifelong artist, Karin has been teaching for 20 years. Competent in all mediums, her work reflects her love of nature and travel. She has exhibited her award-winning work extensively in Canada, the U.S. and Europe and is a member of many prestigious art societies. Her commitment to the arts community earned her the 2010 Immigrant of Distinction Award. She conducts classes, workshops and painting holidays on land and at sea in Canada and abroad. www.karinrichter.com

DT1 Make Colours Sing

In this 2-hour demo, Karin will show how important it is to choose colours according to what your painting requires rather than painting what you see in front of you. It works and makes painting more fun!

DW2 Back Alleys

In this short demo, Karin will share her love of back alley scenes. They make for fun paintings as we explore perspective, great shapes and random colour.

HDF1 Direct Approach: Floral Scene

In this mini-workshop, Karin will share her approach to painting pastels without underpainting. Based on a quick thumbnail sketch, she shows how to achieve a colourful floral scene without much fuss!

RUTH RODGERS

MPAC

Ruth Rodgers is the past president of the Pastel Artists Canada, and the coordinator of ICAN Pastel 2018. She paints in pastel, oil, and acrylic, and teaches in her home studio in Halfmoon Bay on B.C.'s beautiful Sunshine Coast.

www.ruthrogers.com

Monday Free Plenary: Exhibition Walkabout

Ruth will lead an 'exhibition walkabout' during which she will discuss critical features of a selection of works in the juried show.

Thursday Banquet Presentation: Around the World in Eighty Pastels

This new presentation will showcase the growth of pastel painting in twelve countries around the world.

GAIL SIBLEY

Gail Sibley writes a blog at HowToPastel.com. She loves teaching whether online or in workshops worldwide. She's a primary contributor to the pastel section of DK's book, *Artist's Drawing Techniques* (August 2017). Gail loves the painterly and drawing aspects of pastels. She's also fascinated by the power of social media. Gail is a Signature Member of the Pastel Society of America and of Pastel Artists Canada.

HDW1 Better Drawing for Better Painting

Ever look at a painting and think, 'That's really good but something's off'? That 'something' could be the drawing. We're going to explore ways to really see and then look at how to accurately translate what we observe to paper. This workshop will also include the basics of linear perspective.

DR3 Make Instagram Work for You

Let's dive into Instagram - why you should be on it, what to post, figuring out hashtags, creating a cohesive and visually exciting feed, and understanding the value of commenting. We'll also look at InstaStories and why you should create them. This will be fast, furious, and fun!

HDF2 Moving Towards Abstraction

Feel the pull to make your work more abstract? Using still life, landscape, and figures as inspiration, we'll explore ways to see the world differently and record that vision. Abstractions, like realism, are marks of colour on a surface in a particular arrangement. Come prepared to have fun and experiment!

GARY SMITH

I have gratefully had many years of enjoying the artist's life. Even in business, my main focus was on people and art. It is no wonder that the hats I have worn are salesman, teacher (grade one to the MBA at McGill University) and finally art coach. I gravitate toward people in my art and have done well over 2000 portraits and nudes. My murals are noteworthy and have always been adventures in themselves. I do commissions and my paintings are represented by the John A. Libby Gallery in Toronto, by my agent Eureka Global Fine Art, and by Yan Lu Gen (significant collector of art and supporter of artists in Nanjing, China). My work is personal and energetic in nature. My motto is "People Are Worth Remembering" and that applies to pets and older buildings too. I am not the first to say it but it is worth repeating: "The first art is the art of living" so I live a full and exciting life and hope my paintings reflect that.

HDM3 Urban Scenes

We will cover styles, subject matter, creative colours, aerial perspective reflections vs shadows in windows on a sunny day, adding people and movement. This ½ day session includes a slide show of concepts with great examples; demonstrations of techniques; practice from life outdoors weather permitting or from photos supplied.

FDT1 Nude Figure Drawing

Figure Drawing is something I have enjoyed for many years. It is my time to try out ideas of drawing and painting. One improves with practice and experimentation and study of both drawing and anatomy. This one-day workshop will focus on a few tips that I believe will help you spot some subtle clues to really make your finished drawings look more accomplished. We will draw from a nude model but will focus on specific studies.