

Markham Group of Artists

APRIL 2011 NEWSLETTER

Breaking Boundaries

Mar 14 – Mar 28

Art Square Gallery on Dundas St. West, Toronto, featured an impressive Exhibition showcasing 55 pieces of artwork produced by 33 members of the Markham Group of Artists. The MGA was truly breaking boundaries, geographically and personally, as individual members were breaking their own boundaries by painting larger. Several paintings were 4-5 ft wide. The Breaking Boundaries Show travelled to the hospitality Loft at Markville Mall where the show continued until April 7. For this show extension, the number of pieces displayed was increased by 38 to a total of 93 pieces of work. Thanks to the many individuals who worked to make these successful shows.



*Juror's Choice, Dundas,
Opus Incertum, Judith Livingston*



*Best in show, Dundas
The Diner, Glenn Bernabe*



*People's Choice, Markville
Pine Ridge, Elaine Saliani*

SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

Do You Speak the Two Languages of Art?

No, not Spanish or Italian or French. An artist needs to be fluent in the languages of realism and abstraction. By realism I mean the formal aspects of art--the painting techniques and drawing skills we develop over time through experience. Abstraction is the other side of the coin, the visual language that frees us to paint and draw what is going on inside our heads. It means that you may be looking at a tree, but you want to paint power, life, majesty, and wisdom. The tree becomes a vessel for the message, not the message itself. When you sit in front of nature and make a response that isn't determined by stylization, what you will have is "*no worrying*" about what it is going to look like--just painting.

The results can be paintings where a cityscape vista is abstracted into a striated grid and loosely coloured geometric forms. Or the intense heat of a summer day translates into a vision of hot pink and orange. The artist can attempt to capture a sensory moment, not document every detail the eyes take in. After all, your art does not have to be a compulsory or mandatory inventory of what's in front of you, "*The point is to learn how to edit and make choices.*"

Being fluent in realism and abstraction means getting in front of nature on a regular basis, and being ready to do something more. "*Look and respond,*" "*Hard looking doesn't kill anything*". It nurtures your capacity to see and the quality of your vision. You can look out there and copy nature, but how about looking at your painting as well? Ask yourself hard questions about "*what is going on in your work?*"

Does that ring true for you? It certainly does for me and my work. Art isn't about painting only one way, or being a slave to your subject. It is about seeing and interpreting, feeling and reacting.

(From an article by Courtney Jordon, In Artist Daily)

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mapereira@rogers.com or (905) 477- 0774

MGA Fall Juried Show, 2011

November 29 - December 4, 2011
McKay Art Center, Unionville
MGA will be returning once more to the McKay Art Center for our fall show. This year, the show will coincide with the Unionville Holiday Street Festival.

MGA EXECUTIVE

**President And
Information Systems Director:**
Allen Class

Vice President: Laurette Wijetunga

Membership Registrar: Pat Wheeler

Past President: Ed Meade

Program Director: Karen Grimshaw

Publicity Director: Vita Keeling

Secretary: Sally Mason

Show & Sales Director: Grethe Jensen

Treasurer: Ruth Rea

Workshop Registrar: Rose Lin

Newsletter Editor: Marg Pereira

SPECIAL VOLUNTEERS

Show Volunteers: Gail Mikkelson,
Lynn Ross, Linda McIntosh

Hearts & Flowers: Jessie Chin

Historian: Gloria Persaud

Member Communications : Joy Godfrey

Contact Manager: Jennifer Ferdinand

www.markhamartists.org

M G A: AWAKENING: EXPRESSIONS IN ART

MGA Spring Juried Show 2011 May 25 – June 5, 2011
Calling all MGA Artists! It's show time again!!

Once more the Markham Group of Artists will be showcasing their best work at the McKay Art Center in Unionville. Our Juror for this show will be Christina Sealey. Christina is based in Hamilton and has extensive international experience. You can learn more about her at <http://www.christinasealey.com/>

All members of the Markham Group of Artists are eligible to enter the show.
Each member is eligible to enter 1 or 2 pieces in the show.

New for this Show: Entry fee of \$10.00 per artwork (1 piece - \$10.00; 2 pieces - \$20.00) is payable on Registration Day.

LOCATION: McKay Art Center, 197 Main Street, Unionville

Important dates and times:

Registration deadline: Sunday May 22

Registration/Jury Day: Wednesday May 25:

Artwork Drop off: 9:30am – 10:30am

Pick up unselected work: 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Reception: Thursday May 26, 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Show close day: Sunday June 5

Pick up artwork: Tuesday June 7

Pickup artwork: 10:15am – 11:00pm

Our **Opening Reception** will be held on Thursday May 26, 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Light refreshments will be served, and the awards will be presented. All members are encouraged to attend, and to **invite *family and friends to join us.***

Throughout the show, our guests will be encouraged to participate actively in our show by voting for their favourite piece of artwork for the "Peoples' Choice" award. The winning artist will be presented with a certificate at the end of the show.

All guests who cast a ballot for the "Peoples' Choice" award will be entered in a draw. (Note: MGA members and immediate family are not eligible to win – this one is for our guests.)

Email Invitations:

With our new and improved website, the MGA has the ability to create and manage an email list. We will be using this functionality to send personal invitations to previous guests and other interested parties to our show. We would like to grow this list in order to bring more guests to this and future shows. We encourage all our members to forward names and contact information for everyone whom you would like to have added to this email list. To add names to the list, please send name and contact information (email address required, but also phone number and mailing address will be stored if provided) to Rose Lin at rosewoods728@hotmail.com.

AWAKENING: EXPRESSIONS IN ART

Show times:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:15am – 5:00pm
Thursday May 26: 10:15am – 8:00pm (reception from 6:30am – 8:00pm)
Saturday: 10:15am – 5:00pm
Sunday: 12:15pm – 5:00pm

Sales of Artwork:

Sales will be by cash or cheque (made payable to the Markham Group of Artists).

MGA will retain 20% commission on all sales.

If artwork that is displayed in the show is consequently sold within 30 days as a direct result of the show, we request that the artist honour the 20% Commission.

Procedures for Entering the Show

1. **Review the MGA Juried Show Policies on the MGA website.**

http://markhamartists.org/member_opportunities

2. **Pre- register your artwork:** Deadline: Sunday May 22, 2011.

Register your work using the "Call for Entry" website function on the MGA website.

Please note that you need to be logged in with your username and password in order to register your work. If you need a username and password, please contact Rose Lin at rosewoods728@hotmail.com

When registering your work on-line you have the option of adding an image of your work.

This image will be used to display our work on-line if your work is accepted into the show. It will not be used for jury purposes. Adding an image simplifies the work for our volunteer photographers.

-To register you will need to provide the following: Title, Size, Media, Price (or indicate unavailable if not for sale) Image is optional

-Following on-line registration, the system will email you an invoice inviting you to send a cheque. **We would prefer if you bring your cheque on registration day instead of mailing it.**

-Members without internet access can register by contacting Linda McIntosh by telephone at 905-943-9949.

-Questions – please contact Linda McIntosh at lmcintosh@rogers.com

3. **Select a volunteer role and/or hosting time**

Logon to the MGA website to view the available roles, select your preferred role and send an email to Linda McIntosh lmcintosh@rogers.com indicating your preference. Each registrant will be required to commit to one **role**: choose from volunteering on registration day and/or hosting the show and/or preparing homemade finger foods for the reception. Those members whose work is selected for the show will be asked to fill in any roles that are still open. http://markhamartists.org/member_opportunities

4. **On Registration/Jury day (Wednesday May 25):**

Bring your artwork(s) along with your payment of \$10 or \$20 to the McKay Art Center between 9:30am and 10:30am. Jury Selection will be complete by 1:00 pm. and you are required to return to the McKay Art Center to pick up work not selected between 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm.

5. **At the closing of the show: Tuesday June 7:**

Pick up any un-sold artwork: 10:15 am – 11:00 am

(Work may be removed from the show on Sunday November 28 at closing time of 5:00 pm.)