

# MNEWS



March 2009

MINNESOTA ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION / SINCE 1937

*The First all Media Art Organization in Minnesota*

## *For the Love of Abstracts*



Three  
paintings  
by  
Terrie  
Christian

Blue Hot  
Matches

Diabolical  
Bunny, &

Leaf Dog  
Searches  
for Rabbit

### What is an Abstract?

Our speaker for March, **Jill Ewald** will present to us about abstracts. See her information on page 3. I wanted to challenge your thoughts about abstracts from my point of view as well. Some would think that an abstract is only unrecognizable shapes that make a pattern. I think abstract paintings can be much more than that. I think of Emmy White's paintings as being Representational abstraction. Many of mine fall in that category too. Diabolical Bunny falls somewhere in between. In that case, I did a drawing first with the idea in mind of having the bunny and the egg. The rest is pretty pure abstract. In Leaf Dog Searches for Rabbit, I had no goal in mind and did not do a drawing first. I simply began laying down colors with my brush, then looked for shapes that reminded me of something representational. I then develop what I see with pen and ink, or more paint. Some paintings where I see nothing representational will be viewed by others who tell me they see something. There is a painting currently in the Robbin Gallery where the judge told about the many shapes he saw and how he could live with that painting for a long time searching for new things to see. Like me, the artist told me she had no plan in mind and saw things later. It was my favorite painting in the show. It is so much fun to have the freedom to let the painting take us where it will.



More Art by Terrie  
Above: Metamorphosis  
Below: Cat on a Hot Red Horse



March 2009

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## Newsletter News

*By Terrie Christian*

Much of the news has been focused on "Brag Box". We would like members to send paintings you are proud of. **Be your own judge!** Paintings do not have to be ones you entered in shows or have won any awards. You can all be in the Brag Box! Send a few words with your images! Thanks a bunch for news!!

As you can see from all of my paintings in this issue, when I don't have entries from members I use my own stuff. This worked out well this month as I have been in love with abstract for some time now.

We are trying to send out as many newsletters by e-mail as possible. If you have e-mail, would you please send me a message so I can add you to the list. It is a big cost savings to MAA! Please sign up for this by sending your message to:

[terriepc@msn.com](mailto:terriepc@msn.com)

MAA News

## *March Program By Jill Ewald*

**Date:** Tuesday, March 17th

**Time:** 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.

**Place:** Bloomington Art Center

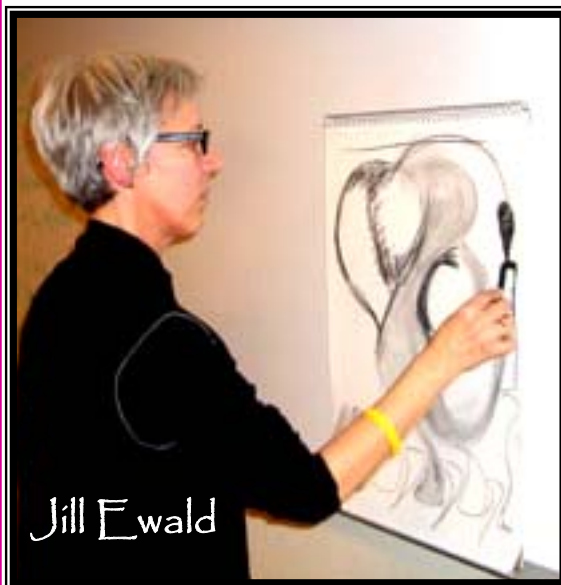
I am pleased to work with the MAA again; I had a great time a couple of years ago. This time I will show some of my own work & different approaches to abstraction.

Each person could bring materials he/she would like, as many or few as desired. We'll use them to paint/draw/collage (ideas: charcoal, pens, watercolor or acrylic paints & brushes, inks, fabric or paper scraps, natural objects, sky's the limit). Bring scissors! Everyone can have as many or few materials as s/he wishes. We'll create a colorful abstract piece. I'll bring some materials as well and glue.

"Since the mid-1990s, Northfield, Minnesota artist Jill Ewald has explored how to visualize interior and exterior human connections through painting and drawing.

In 2000, Ewald began to investigate the power of the sphere. She questioned whether this simple, reductive form could convey human connections and still project a sensuality that would be grasped by the viewer. Depicted in various numbers and configurations, the spheres recall a stack of buoys, billowy clouds receding to the horizon, grapes suspended on a vine, a pyramid of billiard balls or an avalanche of balls cascading to the center of the composition. Ewald is also a passionate colorist. Sometimes the spheres are depicted in a moody black, grey or midnight blue ensconced in dark, empty grounds. In other compositions, the spheres are vividly colored in saturated hues, perhaps symbolizing the various connections she is seeking to portray. A red tendril-like form and a shifting,

For Ewald, the former symbolizes a woman's blood and, thus, the artist's presence in the work. The latter is a formal compositional device that grounds the image within the picture plane like a horizon line, giving the work a conceptual time and a place. Regardless of hue or scale, a monumentality, even a gravitas permeates her works."



## *Coming Attractions*

### April Program:

**Topic:** We will have a model

**Place:** Bloomington Art Center

**Date:** Tuesday, April 21st.

**Time:** 6:30 to 9:00

### May is our Spring Exhibit at the Eden Prairie City Center.

**Calendar:**

**Deadline for entries April 24th**

**Deliver paintings May 4th from  
5 to 7 p.m.**

**Opening Reception 6:30 p.m. May  
5th Entry Form in this newsletter.**



**MINNESOTA  
ARTISTS'  
ASSOCIATION**  
Since 1937

9910 South Shore Drive, Plymouth MN 55441

**MAA Membership Registration:** Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Active Member dues \$25/year  
Family Member dues \$40/year  
Supportive Member (tax deductible-donor's  
choice) \_\_\_\_\_

*Make Check payable to Minnesota Artist's  
Association and mail to: Jeanna Meyer  
1220 Polk Street, Apt. 1, Shakopee, Mn 55436*

**The Burnsville Visual Arts Society (BVAS)**

presents "Art Fete," an annual BVAS member exhibit to promote original art by regional artists. This year, "Art Fete" will take place at the brand new Burnsville Performing Arts Center's beautiful 2,000 square foot art gallery. The exhibit will be open to patrons from April 9 - June 6, 2009.

**Deadline to Enter:**

March 20, 2009

**Important Dates:**

Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony:  
Thursday, April 16, 6-9pm. Free and open to the public

Art Sale: Thursday, May 14, 6-9pm. Free and open to the public

For a registration brochure, complete with eligibility information and requirements, please email [burnsvillevas@gmail.com](mailto:burnsvillevas@gmail.com) or call BVAS Board Chair and Burnsville Performing Arts Center Gallery Director Alejandra Campbell at 952-895-4685.

**BVAS is a current member of MAA!**



*Soft Quilted Tulips*  
by Kathy Braud

Many thanks to Kathy for all the wonderful images she sends to our news.