



## Minnesota Artists Association November 2015

November 9, 10 AM-7 PM or  
November 10, 10 AM-9 PM  
Pick up your paintings at the  
FrameWorks Gallery.

November 17, Finger Painting  
for Adults. 6:30-9:30 PM.  
Bloomington Art Center. Come  
get messy!

December 15, 6-9 PM, Our  
Holiday Potluck and Show &  
Tell, Party Room, City Bella  
Condominiums on Lyndale  
Avenue, Richfield

Would you believe there are artists who make a living finger painting? Adult interpretations of this medium from our childhood days are being seen increasingly on the internet and in some brick-and-mortar galleries. And, apparently, they are selling! Styles range from realistic to abstract expressionist. The medium might be colored gel, tempura, pastel, and even oil paint, but all are manipulated with the artists' fingers. Call it art, call it therapy, it appears to be a trend that's going to be around for a while.

So why not come to our meeting in Room 2020 at the Bloomington Art Center on November 17 at 6:30 PM and try your hand at it? Paints, paper, and even gloves will be provided. Just bring some newspaper to keep your table clean. Paint any way and any thing you want – just dive in and get messy! And, most importantly, have fun!

### Visit Our MAA Exhibit at the Plymouth Arts Fair 2015



The Plymouth Arts Fair is on Saturday, November 21st from 10 AM-5 PM and Sunday, November 22nd from 11 AM-4 PM at the Plymouth Creek Center, located at 14800 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue North. There will be over 30 local & regional juried artists (including us!) that will display, demonstrate, and sell their artwork. Enjoy entertainment for the entire family, including a special children's activity area on Saturday. Listen to talented musical performers throughout Saturday & Sunday. Admission is free and parking is available at the Plymouth Creek Center.

Directions: Take Hwy 494 to Hwy 55 and go west on Hwy 55. Turn right on Plymouth Blvd, then right on 34th Avenue and follow it to the Plymouth Creek Center.

## Permission By Terrie Christian



Cal DeRuyter, our demo artist for October, shared with us how at first he did not particularly enjoy working with watercolors. In fact, it was no fun at all. An important turning point for him was a workshop he took years ago from Skip Lawrence, who gave him permission to have fun. Cal described how all of the rules he was learning early in his watercolor life were not working for him. As a result of Skip's observation, Cal was able to get to a place of experimenting for himself and he discovered that he likes to paint directly from the tube without a palette, he likes blooms, he paints with non-watercolor brushes, and he likes Kilimanjaro paper that holds up to a lot of scrubbing to get the affect he likes.

Skip also told Emmy White years ago that he wanted her to paint without photo reference. That changed Emmy's life, and she began painting very much out of her memory in a colorful abstract way. She now paints from life and memory but photo references are a thing of her past.

Years ago, I started at the Atelier and did portraits for years. I was proud of my ability to draw and paint watercolor portraits and had feedback that affirmed my ability including a top prize from another group for one of my paintings. But, I was not having much fun and found it to be stressful. One day I realized for myself that my art should be more about having some fun. I gave myself permission to go my own way. I had taken Marian Alstad's class "Beyond the Beginner," and one lesson she gave was to put down paint without a plan, and then look at what was there and if there was something we saw, to develop that. It was one of the most fun things I had done. I reflected on that and started to experiment. I am still doing that process. Sometimes I see things and other times a viewer will tell me what they see in my paintings that I do not see. But when others tell me, their vision often becomes obvious. This is one of many fun parts of abstract painting for me. Sometimes I also plan representational ideas that tell me things about myself that I did not see before the painting came out. My rabbit series is an example.



Like Cal, I too like blooms, and I also have thrown away the rule that I must mix my own black. Mostly, I use sharpie permanent markers. I was interested to hear that Cal says Fabriano paper is also very durable, and my favorite is Fabriano hot press.

If late 19th century artists did not give themselves permission to go a new way, Impressionism would have never happened. Last month, we shared a meeting with other groups where Joe Paquet talked about leaving inorganic ideas behind and allowing ourselves to follow our own organic path. For me, allowing myself to break the rules and do art because it is something that feeds me creatively has been an important part of life. We get many helpers along the way who can give us a clue that can cause us to change.

Are you sticking with rules, using materials that are everybody else's lead, or are you allowing yourself to experiment. Are you playful or is this a chore? What discovery about yourself as an artist is waiting for you? Do you let yourself just have fun? Allow the child in you to come out. That may just be your best success!

Welcome new member Barbara Guhanick!

## Members News: Shows, Shows, Shows!

Here are a few of the shows our members were in this autumn. Congratulations all!



Top left to right: Annie Young at the Northfield Arts Guild; Jim Geisinger at the Hopkins Bam Bam Grafix Gallery; Bonnie Crouch at the Patisserie Margo in Edina. Bottom left to right: The Art Circle (Terrie Christian; Bonnie Crouch, Rachel Trockman, Jenifer John, Diane Haas) at Curran's Restaurant; Jeanne Emrich at the Patisserie Margo in Edina; Marjorie Moody at her annual home show.

Jeanne Emrich's paintings will be on the walls of the Patisserie Margo from November 1 - January 3, 4510 Valley View Rd, Edina, MN 55424. Go to [patisseriemargo.net](http://patisseriemargo.net) for hours. (952) 926-0548

The studios of Emmy White (321), Tom Dimock (183), Rita Corrigan & Marjorie Moody (392), Laurie Salmela and Mandy Sadler (425) will be open for First Thursday at the Northrup King Building (1500 Jackson St. NE, Minneapolis) on Thursday, November 5, 5-9 PM and Thursday, December 3, 5-9 PM.

**CAN YOU HELP?** We still need just a few more volunteers to continue the great service we've been getting as members of the MAA. Would you be willing to be the hospitality host/hostess for our meetings or help to find new venues for our fall and spring shows? How about rounding up some exciting new programs for next year? If you have been enjoying the MAA and want to help in some way, please contact our president, Jim Geisinger at [jim@geisingergroup.com](mailto:jim@geisingergroup.com). We have a strong board of directors ready to help you!

**JUST A REMINDER** to pay your dues if you haven't already. Make your check out to "MAA" and mail it to Diane Gilbertson, 5275 Oxford St N Shoreview, MN 55126 or bring it to our next meeting.

**KEEP IN TOUCH!** Please send news, announcements, and low res.JPGS of your latest work to Jeanne Emrich, your newsletter editor, at [jemrich@aol.com](mailto:jemrich@aol.com) or by snail-mail to Jeanne Emrich, 6566 France Avenue South, #508, Edina, MN, 55435). The deadline is the 20th of the month.