



Mt Pleasant Art Society Newsletter

April 2016

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Phil Starke**

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About April's Guest Artist

Phil Starke

Phil Starke maintains his home and Studio in Tucson, Arizona when he is not on the road painting or leading workshops. In addition, he offers a teaching website and blog.

Phil credits his first artistic influence to a great uncle named Terry Brooks, a commercial artist in St. Louis. Brooks had taken life drawing from Oscar Berninghaus (well known not only for his paintings but for co-founding the Taos Society of Artists in 1915). He was full of information about the Taos and other American artists.

Starke knew he would be an artist at about age 13. Because his father was in the army, the family moved to Germany for several years when Phil was growing up. He was exposed to the great museums of Italy and Germany. Their works inspired him and piqued his interest in drawing and sculpture. On returning to the United States, he attended the Art Institute of Chicago and the American Academy of Art in Chicago, where he studied under Bill Parks. He credits the American Academy of Art for giving him the tools and teaching him the skills he needed to



become a painter.

After college, he began selling and showing in small gallery/frame shops and worked at other jobs to earn a living for several years before becoming a full-time artist.

Today he continues to study and find inspiration from the works of artists such as George Innes, Alfred Sisely and John F. Carlson. The Taos painters and the California impressionists from the early 20th century are of particular interest to him, including Ernest Blumenschein, E. M. Hennings, Hanson Puthuff and Edgar Payne. Of his contemporaries today, he keeps up with the work of Len Chmiel, Clyde Aspevig and Bill Anton among others.

Bulletin Board

**Hope everyone
has a safe, healthy
and happy Easter
Sunday.**



NEWSFLASH

It will soon be time to renew your MPAS membership. Remember May Day is pay day, so renew your membership in May by paying \$35 to the MPAS.

Email any news items, including recognition/awards, show, workshops etc, to admin@mtpleasantartsociety.com by not later than the 10th of the month for next month's newsletter.

**MPAS 2015 -2016
Schedule**

May 1, 2016

Guest: Suzanne Cromer

Medium: Sculpture

Food: Patty Pilgrim and

LaVerne Arnett

Painting Tips

Oil Paint

Mixing the perfect browns and Greys

Mix 'ideal' browns and grays that harmonize with a painting by creating them from complementary colors (red/green; yellow/purple; blue/orange) in the palette you've used in that painting, rather than colors you haven't used. Varying the proportions of each color will create quite a range.

Don't Over mix

When mixing two colors together on a palette, don't mix and mix until they're totally, utterly, definitely combined, stop a little bit beforehand. You get a more interesting result when the color is put on paper or canvas. The result is a color that's intriguing, varies slightly across the area you've applied it to, and it's not flat and consistent.

Water Color

The heavier the paper, the thicker it is
300lb weight paper is the thickest and can take a lot of water without buckling. 140lb paper is the most commonly used and may still need to be stretched depending on your painting style and whether you use a lot of water. 90lb paper is really too thin for anything other than experimenting and practicing.

Use damp fabric to retain moisture

If you need paper to stay wet for a longer period of time, you can take a moisture-resistant surface (e.g., glass from a photo frame), place a thin damp cotton fabric on it, and then put a sheet of paper, moistened from both sides, on top of this "sandwich". With this simple trick, the paper will lay flat and retain water for several hours.

(Tips copied from internet site)

March's Art Demo by Tina Bohlman

In less than two hours, during our March meeting, Tina Bohlman painted a lovely landscape artwork using watercolor. She shared helpful tips for how to achieve vibrant hues. She also talked about a new type of paper which can be used for both watercolor and oil painting. We enjoyed her work and hope she visits us again.



MPAS New Officers Election

Below is the new slate of officers to be voted on at April's meeting. They are:

President: Delores Wright

First Vice-President: Patricia Crain

Co-First (New Position) Vice President: Sandy Hinds

Second Vice-President: Shirley Clay

Secretary: LaVerne Arnett

Treasure: Linda Pepper

Assistant Treasure: Michelle Lawler

Webpage Administrator (position started in 2014): Donna Monroe

Our gratitude goes out to members who volunteered their time and effort serving in officer positions for the past one to two years.

**In Our Backroom Featured Artist, Tuesday's
Painting Group**

This month the MPAS Tuesday oil painting group will present some of their paintings.

This group is so dear to my heart. We drink coffee together, eat lunch together and share conversation.

Painting is a passion we all share. Even though we are all at different levels on our art path, we all love each other and provide support. What a wonderful group! Thrilled to be a member.

**Dolores Wright
MPAS President**