



ISEA ePalette Newsletter

Summer 2014



Rock On!

I have been deeply touched by the book *The Hidden Messages in Water* by Dr. Masaru Emoto. In each of my workshops I share some of the information I have learned from this book. Emoto has done research that indicates that water has a far greater response to stimulus than was once thought.

When frozen water forms crystals. The crystals are impacted by their exposure to certain conditions. Water exposed to lullabies or love songs freezes into beautiful crystals. Rap music and heavy metal music impact the water enough to

cause the crystals to be grossly misshapen and unpleasant. Water surrounded by written messages of love and gratitude form beautiful crystals, messages of hate or negative concepts produce the ugly and deformed ice crystals.

So, as a painter using watercolor as my medium and a human with a body composed of a great percentage of water I considered how I might have a positive influence on the water in my paints or my body. I realized that encouraging awareness of positive thoughts might be important to the water in my painting process and the water that was part of my body.

I have been a lifelong collector of beautiful rocks and shells and realized the rocks and shells could be the vehicle, for the positive. I gathered several of my rocks and shells. I wrote upon them words of love, praise, joy, beauty and gratitude with a permanent marker. I keep them on a windowsill above my sink and when I fill my water bucket I select a rock or shell and drop in into the water bucket. As I drop it into the water I think of the words upon the rock and realize that even though it might not change the water (or maybe it truly does) I have been changed by the beautiful thoughts each and every time I do this.

If you are an artist working in another medium perhaps writing inspirational words on your rocks or shells and moving them with you to the location where you work will somehow impact your results. I know it has impacted me, and my work. Positive and uplifting thoughts will, at the very least, alter your outlook on the process and I believe elevate the results.

Mary Ann Beckwith ISEA, AWS, NWS
Director of ISEA



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

ISEA received the following letter from member Renate Trapkowski:

It's been quite a while since you had sent your letter to the membership asking for help to recruit new members. I have sent copies of your memo on to several of my art friends/ acquaintances and don't know what will become of it. Hopefully, ISEA's membership drive has, so far, been very successful!

You had also addressed the need for members to help ISEA with the enormous workload. While I am not able to commit myself to any of those responsible positions, I would like to offer what I did last year; namely, offer the club another monetary gift.

As I had mentioned previously, ISEA means so much to me; I respect and love the people who make this wonderful organization work, and seeing the success of what you have created under the guidance of Maxine Masterfield. The caliber of the members and their fantastic art is what I need to grow as an artist, and I am thankful to be a member of ISEA.

Fondly, Renate Trapkowski

The response from Patti Sevensma, ISEA President 2014 is as follows:

We appreciate your generous gift, and want to remind everyone that donations are just as helpful to the organization as volunteer hours. We all have our own way of contributing to the growth and care of our organization.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to help support the ISEA, we will gratefully accept it. If your gift is in the amount of \$300.00 or more, an ISEA award will be given in your name (or in the name of someone near and dear to you). All other monies will be combined with others for ISEA awards. You will also receive a special acknowledgment in our catalog, to be later posted on our website.

Thank you for being part of ISEA.

To make a monetary donation online please visit our donations page at <http://www.iseaartexhibit.org/donations>. To make a donation via check please mail your check to:

ISEA
7332 SPARHAWK RD
WAKE FOREST NC 27587-5493

Benefits of being an ISEA Member

- Members have priority to sign-up for symposium workshops (before they are open to the public).
- Members receive a discount for workshops (usually around \$40.00)
- Members save \$10.00 on exhibit entry fees
- Members receive a yearly show catalog (a \$20.00 item for non-members)
- Electronic newsletters are sent to members 3 or 4 times per year
- Members have online access to "memberlodge" via the ISEA website where they can find others in their area whom are part of ISEA.

Do you have a suggestion for how we could improve our membership benefits? Please email us at support@iseaartexhibit.org.

Spreading the Word about ISEA to Other Artists

Several years ago, one of my local watercolor society members (who knew that my work was a bit more experimental/less realistic than some of my peers), encouraged me to submit work to ISEA. I not only got in, but I won an award, and am now a Signature member. I am now on a mission to spread the word about ISEA to other artists. I talk up ISEA to artists in my critique group, and tell them liberating it is to work in whatever medium I want without worrying about "rules".

Recently, one of my artist friends said he'd thought about entering a painting into ISEA but he felt a little intimidated by the term "experimental". He feels his watercolors are very whimsical, but he maintains that there's nothing "experimental" about the materials he uses. This made me wonder if we should more clearly define what "experimental" is so that more artists are encouraged to join? Here's how ISEA defines it on their website:

EXPERIMENTAL = CONCEPT, ATTITUDE, TECHNIQUES + MATERIALS!

ISEA Artists are 3D artists, 2D artists, working artists, educators, workshop instructors, beginning artists and seasoned artists - all with a love for Experimental ART.

Patti had this to say when I asked her to define "experimental" art: "you can work with very traditional materials, subject matter, design, etc. But being experimental is really about taking a new approach or interesting direction, regardless of the materials you use."

I couldn't have said it better myself. Armed with this new information, I hope to recruit some new ISEA members in my home state of Oregon.

--Submitted by ISEA member Liz Walker

Michigan ISEA Contingency On Mackinaw Island

A group of Michigan ISEA artists started getting together on a yearly basis to study and critique each other the year after the ISEA convention held at the Dennon Museum in Traverse City, MI. We have been meeting up in a different location every year since then. This year our week together was on Mackinaw Island. We call ourselves 12+1. There are about 25 artists in the group, but every year a slightly different crew attends. We had a wonderful time painting and even had some time for ISEA talk.

Patti Sevensma
ISEA President

Pictured in the photo is: front bottom, L to R: Cherie Correll, Sheila Currie (Canada), Diedre Wingelaar, second row, Patti Sevensma, Wanda Anderson, Dr. Merle Plagge, Mary Ann Beckwith, back row, Helga Flower, and Marylu Dykstra.



EXHIBIT NEWS

ISEA Wales Exhibit

Those of you attending the ISEA event in Wales might enjoy a visit to Llancafán Church and a lunch afterwards in the local pub. The church is carefully revealing some medieval paintings that have been covered up for political reasons. This is a short trip after your journey. "A village in the valley of the Carfan brook, a feeder of the Thaw. It was the site of a famous Celtic monastery founded by St. Cadoc in the sixth century. The church has a transitional Norman arcade, and the remains of a fine screen. On a neighbouring hill is an ancient camp." [Glamorganshire, 1911]. If you would like to read more about Llancafán, visit the website: www.stcadocs.org.uk

On the following day, those who are interested in photography might enjoy the following exhibition in the Ffotogallery in Penarth:

<http://www.fffotogallery.org>

Thurs 26 June - Sat 19 July

Exhibit: "At Home He's A Tourist"

Featuring works by: Luke Boland, Catarina Fontoura, Freddy Griffiths, Claire Kern, Jorge Lizalde, Bartosz Nowicki, Kirill Smolyakov, Sissel Thastum

As we say "That is just for starters". Best wishes,
Jean Walcott

If you are going to Wales, please let me know what dates you will be there and we will try to connect as a group. Contact me at:
pattisevensma@gmail.com.



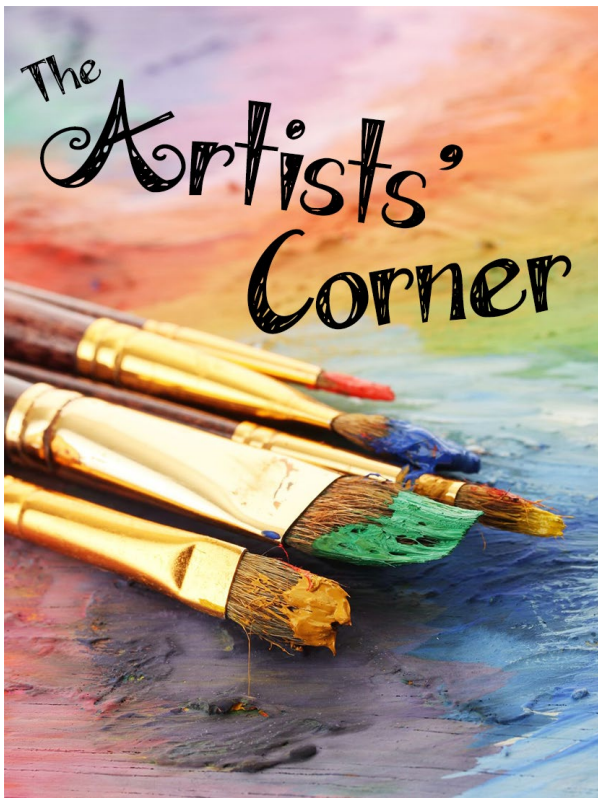
For more details about the exhibit please visit the Wales Exhibit page on our website. www.iseaartexhibit.org/wales

To discuss your travel plans with other ISEA members who might be going to Wales please join our discussion forums. www.iseaartexhibit.org/forum

Deadline to enter the
ISEA 23rd Annual Inter-
national Art Exhibit tak-
ing place in San Pedro,
CA on September 12th is

June 30th!

Submit your entry in TODAY!



Questions and Answers with Award-winning artist Carol Staub

Our members have expressed interest in learning more about some of our ISEA artists, so we plan on making this a regular newsletter feature. Florida artist Carol Staub (ISEA-NF) agreed to be our first participant.

Q: When did your art career start?

A: I started in 2000 after retiring from my 26-year career with the airlines.

Q: Have you always done experimental art? If not when and how did you decide to go in that direction?

A: Yes, my art has always been experimental and abstract. It all started when I couldn't find anything I liked to hang on my walls when I finally started to decorate my house. This led me to make my first wall sculpture with PVC, fabric, ribbons, and twine. (I'm sorry that I don't have a photo of this; it has faded and been put to rest). I then started studying Silversmithing and was making

one of a kind award winning jewelry pieces. At this point, a friend of mine talked me into taking a watercolor class and I have been painting ever since.

Q: Do you have your work in galleries? Which ones?

A: The Wit Gallery in Lenox MA; Gallery 14 in Vero Beach, FL; Gallery 37 in Milford, DE and the Boca Museum of Art Artist's Guild Gallery in Delray Beach, FL

Q: Do you also teach art?

A: Not anymore—I gave it up 2 years ago

Q: What societies other than ISEA do you belong to?

A: SDWS, FWS, ISAP, NAWA, TWS, SWS, WSA, W-ASH and many more

Q: What other passions do you have?

A: Altered books, reading, golf, cooking, baking

Many thanks to Carol for her response; future issues will feature other ISEA artists.

Patti Sevensma
ISEA President

