



OPEN CANVAS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE LEAGUE OF MILWAUKEE ARTISTS

NOVEMBER, 2020

Presidential Perspective

LMA President's letter, November 2020

Happy November League of Milwaukee Artists!

As we come to November of this most unusual year, we have to find the many things that we are grateful for. I am very grateful to be volunteering my time with LMA. This is a wonderful organization filled with so many talented folks. We are a premier artist group that has offered so many opportunities to our members to show their work at the best galleries and museums. We offer friendships and mentoring. Our meetings give you the opportunities to see some of the best programming around. Even during the pandemic, we are trying to maintain our high standards. Please consider joining us for the November meeting on the 14th.

See you soon,
Judy Gahn Murphy



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LMA Meeting Information

This year our meetings will all be held on the virtual video platform Zoom.

YES! We are still having meetings and they are still at 9:30 on the 2nd Saturday of the month. This year, however, all our meetings will be on the virtual meeting site Zoom. Here is the link for all meetings: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83374691314?pwd=N1JvRkloUGNqRExscRkxS2VMa29ydz09>

Meetings will then be posted on our new YouTube Channel accessible via a unique link that will be sent to you by email. This protects our meetings from being viewed by non-members.

This being a most unusual year due to Covid-19, all meetings will have a guest artist who is also one of your colleagues in LMA! Our Vice President Marcy has created a new activity called: **KNOW YOUR FELLOW ARTISTS**.

Just for the 2020-2021 year, we will pay **\$100** to any of our **OWN fellow artist members** to present a **30 minute or so presentation** following an outline that will be provided. This will include samples of your work and a Q and A as well. Presenters will simply be a part of our Zoom meetings. We know that we have a very talented membership, so let us REALLY get to know you and your work AND get remunerated for your effort. Please send your response to mweinsheim@gmail.com to get on the roster as soon as possible or click here for more information: <https://www.milwaukeeartists.org/know-your-fellow-artists.html> **Our Next presenter is:**



Bob Fesser

Bob Fesser is an encaustic artist who lives and works in the Milwaukee, Wisconsin area. Bob is a relative new comer to art and encaustics and is largely self-taught. He continues to experiment with new techniques and explore the possibilities of encaustic. Bob has participated in shows in Chicago and Milwaukee, received an award of excellence for his submission to Manhattan Arts International and is currently in galleries in the Milwaukee area.

Artist Statement

For me it is about creating a “wow” moment when someone views my work. My abstract pieces explore the possibilities of texture and depth that can be created with encaustics. In stark contrast, my realism pieces explore the detail and near photographic qualities you can achieve in encaustic painting. Ultimately for me, it comes down to the process. What can be created with resin, pigment, and beeswax is limitless and is taking me on an amazing journey in search of wow!

Join us on the 14th for what will be a fascinating presentation

Artist Opportunities

This month I'm letting you do the work. Below are some websites which have many different artist opportunities. Take some time and look them through-you never know what show you may find to enter!

<https://www.artshow.com/juriedshows/>

<https://www.artworkarchive.com/blog/5-opportunity-sites-every-artist-should-know-about>

<http://www.portalwisconsin.org/opportunity.cfm?oppvar=op2>

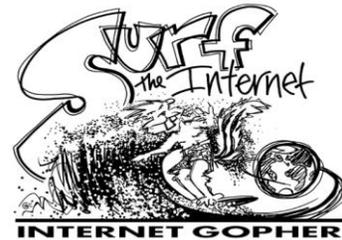
<https://www.onlinejuriedshows.com/preDefault.aspx>

In my never-ending quest to make this "Open Canvas" an interactive newsletter with information you can use, I scour the internet for artist opportunities!

Around the web

Surfing the web!

Here you'll find a link or 2 to an interesting art related article, blog post, or whatever! You will need to put your cursor over the link and press CTRL, then click to read the entire post. Email me with any links you'd like to offer to share! Try something-you'll like it!



Disclaimer: some of these sites are commercial and may have the bane of pop ups or ads trying to get you to sign up for their newsletters, etc. They all are safe however and I've visited them and find them worth the look.

November is the month for stories! Get a libation of your choice, pull up a cozy chair, and click on some of these links. You are sure to be entertained! Yes, there will be some pop-ups and ads, etc. but just weed through those so for some great art stories!

<https://www.grunge.com/231293/famous-works-of-art-with-messed-up-backstories/>

<https://www.dailyartmagazine.com/category/artists-stories/>

<https://listverse.com/2015/07/27/10-great-stories-behind-famous-works-of-art/>

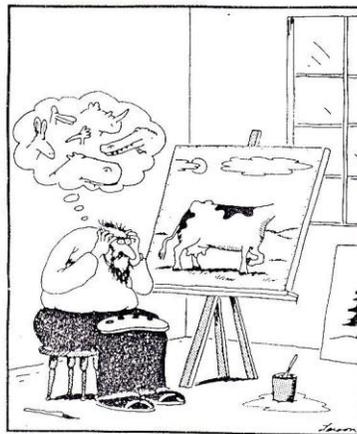
<https://www.ranker.com/list/quirks-of-famous-artists/machk>

<https://www.parkwestgallery.com/6-facts-you-may-not-know-about-famous-artists/>

<https://www.history.com/news/most-controversial-art-in-history>

<https://www.outdoorpainter.com/funny-plein-air-bizarre/>

The Funny Page!



Works Of Art That Weren't Meant To Be Funny, But Really Are:

When you drop some chocolate and ur dog tries to eat it



When they say 'pens down' and you just noticed another page



How your grandparents describe what their daily trip to school was like



When you're trying not to be awkward today but someone says "hey" and you reply "good, how are you?"



You Must Be An Artist If...

You talk about going to a show where the pictures don't move.

You are over age 50 and still have no health insurance.

When you go out, you are always stopping and gazing at the world around you.

You travel far to sketch a place of scenic beauty.

You clean your brushes in your coffee.

You carry pencils instead of pens.

You have watercolor swatches on cardboard in your pocket.

You explain your deplorably bad housekeeping by saying, "it's a work-in-progress ..."

You know which art does not match your sofa.

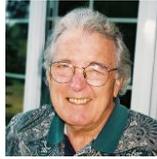
You think colors look good together that other people don't.

You know there is no such thing as an ugly color.

Dust bunnies are part of your mixed media.

You buy expensive brushes and have nothing to do your hair with.

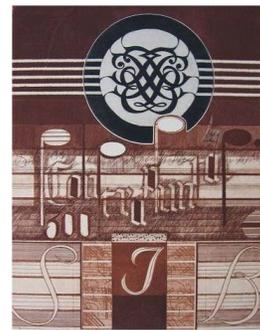
Artist of the Month



Arthur Thrall

This year I am going to search out artists who are from Wisconsin or have strong Wisconsin ties. I'll try to find artists that may not be entirely known to you (sorry Georgia) but that you may have heard of.

Born in Milwaukee on March 18, 1926, Thrall was the second of nine children born to Irving and Helen Thrall. Upon graduation from Washington High School, Thrall enlisted for duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and served from 1944 to 1946. This allowed him to pursue an education on the G.I. Bill, and he began his studies at the Milwaukee State Teachers College (now the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee) for undergraduate studies, followed by graduate degree work at the University of Illinois-Urbana. Among his teachers he counted Robert von Neumann, Joseph Friebert, and Alfred Sessler as among the most influential, inspired by the Social Realism they brought to the curriculum. Modernism had not yet made headway in much of the Mid West and the populace was still recovering from the Great Depression and World War II, and for Thrall it was his teachers' frank and empathetic imagery that held the most power for him. As Thrall pursued art, he discovered a love of typography, graffiti, and the layers of architectural decay exposed in the process of rebuilding, as Milwaukee underwent the kind of urban development that had gained speed across the country after the end of World War II. Thrall's fascination with these subjects led to a grant in graphics studies from the Louis Comfort Tiffany foundation. He was then able to travel to the Morgan Library in New York and Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., studying the aesthetics of manuscripts from throughout history. By the mid-1960s the loops of Western cursive and the elegant lines of Middle Eastern characters were a prominent fixture of his work. Music, calligraphy, typography, and texture: these are the hallmarks of Arthur Thrall's printmaking and painting. In 1974 he took a position at the London campus of Wisconsin's Lawrence University, for a year, and upon his return became the Ferrar-Marrs Fine Arts Chair, teaching art until his retirement in 1990. He continued to work in his studio at his Milwaukee Nut Factory studio on Fratney Street until just weeks before his death on March 11, 2015.



You can watch "Orchestrated Lines," a short documentary of Arthur engraving a print by clicking on this link:

<https://www.vimeo.com/72071>



Exhibit News

Exhibit: Grohmann Museum ~ Juried Show ~ Exhibition is postponed to 2021

New Dates: May 21 to August 22, 2021

Look for an announcement of another virtual show! It's in the works!

A show has tentatively been planned for October 2021 at the Plymouth Arts Center. More to come!

Know an artist friend who should join LMA? Tell them to go to our website to find out how to join! Below are the submission and announcement of acceptance dates for the rest of 2020.

Upcoming New Member Jury Dates 2020

Submission Deadline	Announcement Date
11-16-2020	11-23-2020

Check our website <https://www.milwaukeeartists.org/> for all the news you need to know about LMA in this confusing time we are in!

Please continue to be safe and well!



