

OPAL Nov. 2, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Board members present: Pam Hartford President, Nina Hawranick 1st VP, Chris Hall 2nd VP, Diane Ruck Past President/Programs chair, Lynn Carty Recording Secretary.

Members present: 9 and several joined online.

Next Meeting: Thursday December 7th, 2023, Christmas Potluck and small painting exchange 6:30-8:30 COhatch-The Library 752 High St. Worthington, OH 43085

Meeting delayed due to Library's communication error with Diane. We were put in a small room with no screen for Robie Benve to give her presentation. Pam and Robie worked through it, and we had a successful meeting.

Pam opened the meeting.

Nina announced a new member, Lori Newsome from the Cincinnati area.

Welcome Lori! **We are still in need of a New Member chairperson!**

Chris has **Spring Show set for April 19-May 25, 2024, at High Road Gallery in Worthington.** High Road will provide food for the artist's reception on April 21st. They take care of social media advertising and hanging the show. We can take 35-40 pieces. This is a judged show and Bob Sako will find a judge for us. **Paintings are limited to those not shown in previous OPAL competitions.**

January 2024 meeting will be presented by Bob Sako on quick and gesture drawing. More details to follow.

The Dawn Emerson 4-hour Pan Pastel workshop was held on November 4th. It was full, with 14 attendees. It was a fun, interesting and enlightening session. Look for a Pan Pastel meeting announcement in 2024!

Diane introduced Robie Benve (robiebenve.com) our guest speaker for tonight. She was an interesting speaker and prolific artist in many mediums. She moved to the U.S. from Venice Italy, eventually ending up in Columbus when her husband started a position at O.S.U. She began painting with dollar store craft acrylic paint. She moved on to oil and then to acrylic paint because she developed an allergy to the oil paint. Currently she is an acrylic paint and mixed

media artist using fiber, ink, and paper, which she attaches to the substrate with acrylic gel. She uses stenciling in her work with stencils she makes with card stock. The effects she gets are fascinating and beautiful. She works in her studio from photos she takes. She works on gessoed stretched canvas or wood panels. Robie is represented by several art galleries. She used the ISSUU.com website to create a book of her work which she presents when looking to galleries to show her work. Robie is extremely active in the arts locally, belongs to many artists groups and is the art coordinator at the O.S.U. Faculty Club. Her advice on exhibiting art is to have a cohesive exhibit, that takes in to consideration, theme, technique, colors and/or presentation (size and or framing). She gave this final piece of advice, "Embrace challenges, have no fear and try something new."

Apologies from your secretary for spelling Todd Loe's name "Low" in the October minutes. I'm blaming spell check..... just saying.

Thanks to Deb Shatzer for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Carty, Recording Secretary 11/08/2023