

MVAL

Art & the Artist

February 2025

Newsletter for the Mid-Valley Arts League



Monica Homer

**Demonstration by Pete Roberts
Lorena Massa Workshop in March**

MID-VALLEY ARTS LEAGUE 2024 - 2025 BOARD OFFICERS

President ----- Dilmit Singh
 First Vice President (Programs)
 ----- Elana Goldheimer
 Second Vice President
 (Membership) ----- Mary Archibald
 Third Vice President
 (Exhibits) ----- open
 Treasurer -----
 Recording Secretary
 ----- Monica Homer
 Corresponding Secretary
 ----- Pam McGuern
 Parliamentarian -----

Membership in MVAL:
 Membership is open to artists and art lovers
 of all levels.
 If you are interested in membership
 contact:
 Mary Archibald
 archibald.m@gmail.com

WEBSITE:
 Midvalleyartsleague.org
 or MVAL.org
 Website Editor: Jennifer Zapp

Art & the Artist Editor:
 Joyce Nunamaker

All articles and announcements
 to be included in the
 Art & the Artist may be sent to:
 253 Windsong Court
 Azusa, CA 91702
 626-334-1646
 E-mail: janunamaker@verizon.net

Deadline is the first Wednesday of the
 month. If you have an event that takes
 place in the first half of the month - be
 sure to get it in the month before.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



Dear Members,

With the advent of the lunar new year, my hope is that we have a second chance at declaring good tidings for the coming year. January is behind us and the destruction and devastation that friends, colleagues and others have faced is a reminder that unforeseen events can rob us of hope and optimism. But, as we well know, resilience is the hallmark of the human spirit and I strongly believe that our communities will soon grow and thrive.

Many individuals at MidValley have risen to the occasion assisting anyone impacted by the Eaton Fire. I am particularly inspired by Pete Morris’s art fundraiser and applaud him for helping not only the art communities but donating to the cause of finding space for people before they can rebuild and reclaim “home.” Let me hear from you if you or someone you know has done something that should be highlighted in our newsletter.

As we continue to construct and share our work, think about activities that provide opportunities to get together and share in the creative journey. Coming to the MVAL meetings in person is a start. I would love to have more in-person attendees as we engage talented demonstrators and workshop providers. This month we have Pete Roberts with a watercolor demonstration for us. Read more about Pete in the newsletter.

Spring brings in longer daylight hours and more time to spend outdoors. Be inspired!

Sincerely,
Dilmit Singh
MVAL President

MEETING DATES

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

IN PERSON and ZOOM MEETING

February 19th, 2025 - 7:30 PM
 Church of the Good Shepherd
 400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA 91007-6819

MARCH BOARD MEETING

March 5th, 2025
 Virtual Meeting via Zoom.

FEBRUARY DEMONSTRATION

PETE ROBERTS

In person and via zoom.

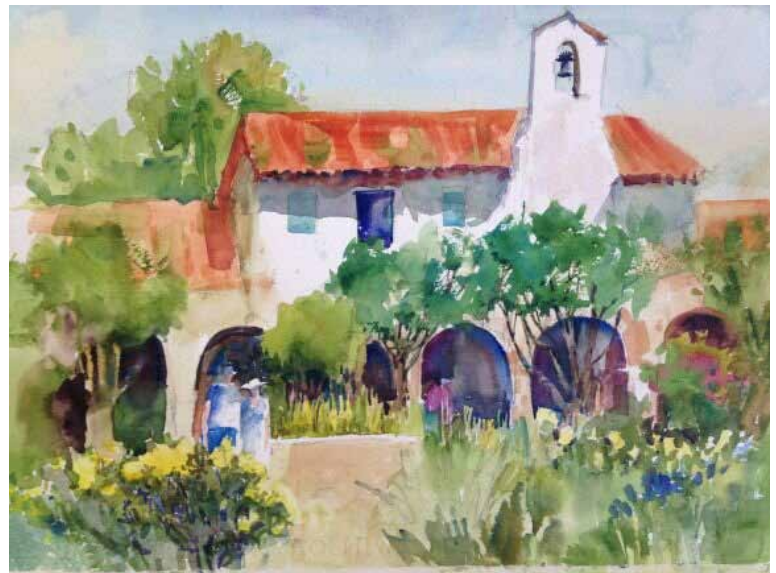
Pete Roberts is a local Orange County artist who grew up in Tustin and has been a resident of Orange for over 30 years. Pete credits the women in his life for much of the impetus for his art career; his mother for sending him to his room where he spent hours drawing and his wife for purchasing his first formal watercolor lessons as a Christmas gift.

Pete works exclusively in watercolor and the majority of his work is done plein air. Pete's vibrant watercolors include colorful landscapes, seascapes and florals from Tuscany, Cape May New Jersey and multiple California venues including coastal views from Oceanside to Santa Cruz and street scenes from Orange County to Claremont.

Though gifted with natural talent and love for being outdoors in nature, Pete's work has also benefited from over 20 years of workshops and classes with top watercolor artists such as Eric Wiegardt, Brenda Swenson, Joseph Stoddard, Mel Stabin, Judy Schroeder, Marge Chavooshian, Gerald Brommer and Marie Natale.

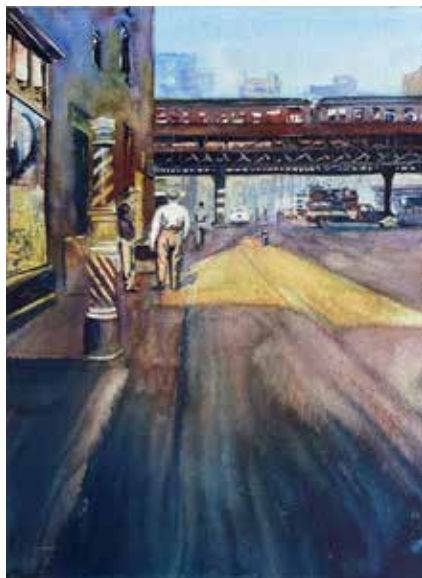
Pete has been married to Elise for 51 years and they have two adult children and seven grandchildren. In addition to painting, Pete enjoys ballroom dance, fishing and travel, activities that allow him to observe, sketch and develop subjects for his artwork.

Pete is a Signature Member of Watercolor West. Currently, Pete's art is displayed in Chamers Gallery in Tustin, California.



IN PERSON MEETING

Church of the Good Shepherd
400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA
91007-6819



David R. Smith's finished demo

ZOOM MEETING

For those preferring to stay home. You will receive an email before the meeting telling you how to log on ZOOM to attend.

The meeting will be open for log-in starting around 7pm.

Upcoming demonstrations:

- March - Lorena Massa -via zoom from Italy
- April - Robin Driscoll in person - alcohol ink
- May - Debbie Abshear in person

ART OF THE MONTH

Art of the Month is going back to being in person, at the meeting only.
Work may be framed or matted so that it can be displayed on an easel.
If you have an easel, floor or table style, PLEASE bring it.
WINNER RECEIVES A RIBBON!

All subjects are welcome.



Nikki Thomas
Art of the Month Chair

January 1st place
Jean Essa

SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE

This month's Scholarship Raffle paintings
The Scholarship committee has several donated paintings by Daryl Bryant and Peter McDonald. There will be tickets available at the meetings - \$1 each or 6 for \$5 and a painting will be raffled off at the general meeting. The possibility of getting a beautiful painting for \$1 should be a great incentive for you to come to the meeting IN PERSON!



Daryl Bryant



Peter McDonald

THURSDAYS IN PLEIN AIR

To confirm or ask questions Call Lynne Fearman (626) 355-7562 cell: (626) 487-6566
Bring lunch or take a chance there will be a place to buy.

If you are on Facebook, join the
"Thursdays in Plein Air" Facebook Page.
The Facebook page will keep you updated on any changes and connected with the other painters!

Meet at the designated location at 9:00am and paint till 12:00.
At noon we gather for lunch and sharing of sketches and paintings. After lunch is the critique/share.
The critiques are informative and instructional. In the event of rain the paint-out will be canceled.
We have done our best to give accurate directions. Since we are based in San Gabriel, our directions stem from there.
It is each person's responsibility to carry a map, GPS, or double check direction.

Bring a folding chair, hat, bug spray, and umbrella if you have one.

FEB 13 - Michelle Lofthouse home

1145 Orange Ave, Monrovia CA 91016.

FEB 20 - DESCANSO GARDENS

1418 Descanso Dr., La Canada
Flintridge. Meet at the cantina for lunch.

FEB 27 - PECK ROAD PARK, ARCADIA

Take 210 Freeway to Monrovia. exit at Myrtle Ave. heading south towards El Monte. South of Valley Blvd Myrtle becomes Peck Rd. Continue south. Look for tall pines in the middle of the road. Entrance at the right.

ON THE COVER

Cover Art by **Monica Homer**

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

We all know artists that have lost everything in the fires and there are places you can donate to help.

There are also a lot of musicians in Altadena. I have a friend who has set up a non-profit where people can donate instruments, records, sound equipment etc. that they are no longer using to replace instruments lost in the fires. Check out - altadenamusicians.org or Altadena Musicians page on Facebook.

- Joyce Nunamaker - editor

“Interpreting Portraits: An Artistic Process” An Online Watercolor Workshop with Artist, Lorena Massa

March 24, 25, & 27, 2025

The instructor in this workshop is international artist, Lorena Massa. In this workshop Lorena will present her approach to interpreting portraits. Her intent is to show her artistic process. She will explain how she chooses her subject, why she uses certain colors, and the characteristics of facial features. Seeing these features correctly would result in a good portrait.



The workshop will follow these stages:

- **Drawing:** Participants will receive the reference image some days before, to independently prepare the drawing prior to the workshop.
- **Color testing:** Lorena will explain how to create accurate skin tones (the colors of complexion) with a fresh appearance. We will explore main color mixes and the characteristics that the colors must have to achieve this, e.g., transparent and opaque, which colors to avoid.
- **The Face:** We will try to obtain soft layers by painting on wet paper. We will learn to see shadows and paint them in the right places to arrive at a three-dimensional face.
- **Study of facial features:** Eyes, nose, mouth—we will learn some useful tips to make these features more expressive and natural, as well as what common mistakes to avoid.
- **Painting hair:** Lorena will show us how to paint thin strands of hair that are soft and natural.
- **Painting the background:** This can be challenging in a portrait painting. Lorena will help us evaluate which colors can contribute to the expressive force of the painting and create a unity between the subject and the background.
- **Final analysis and last touches:** We will assess the portrait and make final adjustments to assure that there is harmony in the composition.

Workshop Artist Instructor: Lorena Massa



Lorena Massa, from Italy, has always loved drawing and painting since she was a child. This led her to pursue studies in the arts. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Cuneo, Italy, receiving degrees in Restoration and Conservation of Cultural Heritage in 2005 and, later, in Painting in 2009. Along her artistic journey, she realized that watercolor was the medium she felt most connected to, and she was especially drawn to portraiture.

In 2014, Lorena proudly became a member of the prestigious Italian Watercolor Association (Associazione Italiana Acquerelli). In 2021, she became the Leader of the Italian Group of FabrianoInAcquarello, which is an important international watercolor event. That same year, she was designated a Brand Ambassador for Daniel Smith, which has been a fruitful and inspiring collaboration.

Lorena has received numerous awards, both nationally and internationally, and she has participated in exhibitions and competitions in various countries around the world.

During the past 20 years, Lorena has been organizing painting courses, which is an aspect of her work that she deeply loves. In recent years, she has begun teaching online courses in collaboration with national and international associations.

Lorena's studio is in Cuneo, a little town on the slopes of the Alps, in the north of Italy, where, nourished by the beauty of nature that surrounds her, she works in watercolor.



REGISTRATION

Please use this form to register for the workshop.

Lorena Massa Online Workshop, "Interpreting Portraits: An Artistic Process"

MARCH 24, 25, 27 (Mon, Tue & Thur), 2025,

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (PST); includes a half-hour noon break

This three-day workshop is for all levels, but experience with the watercolor medium is highly desirable.

PC/iPad/Phone and Internet access will be needed.

Fee: \$225 MVAL Members /
\$255 NonMembers

No Refunds after March 20, 2025

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ZIP

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____

Check one: MVAL Member Non Member

Mail to: MVAL c/o Liza Carrillo, 418
Charleston Dr., Claremont CA 91711

Questions: lzcarrillo418@gmail.com