

MVAL

Art & the Artist

March 2023

Newsletter for the Mid-Valley Arts League



Mary Gilman

DEMONSTRATION - Valya Hristova
Meeting In-Person or via Zoom!

**MID-VALLEY ARTS LEAGUE
2021- 2022
BOARD OFFICERS**

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First Vice President (Programs)
----- Elana Goldheimer
Second Vice President
(Membership) ----- Mary Archibald
Third Vice President
(Exhibits) ----- Dilmit Singh
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Recording Secretary
----- Carmen Daugherty
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:

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:

I took one of MVALs’ many workshops this year — this one with Alison Watt. What an amazing experience (3 days with on-your-own days in-between).

We’ve been able to restructure the costs for the workshops, lowering our base amount and also offering packages; so, if you have the chance, look into what’s coming up. Liza Carillo and Carol Ling are doing a splendid job of securing some national and internationally recognized artists.

The new MVAL bylaws will be included in the April Art & Artist Newsletter. Please review them. Soon after, you will receive a letter with a voting form enclosed to send back in so that the bylaws may be formally adopted. This will streamline operations and bring us into compliance with State nonprofit requirements.

Last month, Gary Friedman provided a wonderful exhibition of his artwork with a narrative. I couldn’t follow which was recorded and which was live, but I enjoyed every minute. Thank you, Gary!

I heard some lyrics from a Country song (my wife likes country music, sometimes) and I’m paraphrasing:

Can’t tell if I was leadin’,
or if I was bein’ led.
And even though I might get lonely, I’ll always know I’m not alone.
‘Cause we’re all just walkin’ each other home.

I don’t know if it’s an original thought or something pilfered from the ‘70s. I suppose creating art can be a very solitary activity; but my recent workshop and these lyrics reminded me of what a joyful encounter can be had when “we’re all just walkin’ each other home!”

John Byram
MVAL President

MEETING DATES

MARCH GENERAL MEETING

IN PERSON and ZOOM MEETING

March 15th, 2023- 7:30 PM
Church of the Good Shepherd
400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA 91007-6819

APRIL BOARD MEETING

April 5th, 2023- 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting via Zoom._

MARCH MEETING

VALYA HRISTOVA

Artist Statement

The inspiration for my work as an artist comes from all areas of my life. I try to capture and transform any subject into expressive visual language. I have been fascinated by the human figure – especially unique gestures, moods, facial expressions, light and relationship with the surrounding color. All of these evoke an impulse to make a painting. However, to create is not just to copy surroundings. I strive to lay down my emotion and passion through composition and harmonious color. I have tried to capture people revealing their hidden beauty.

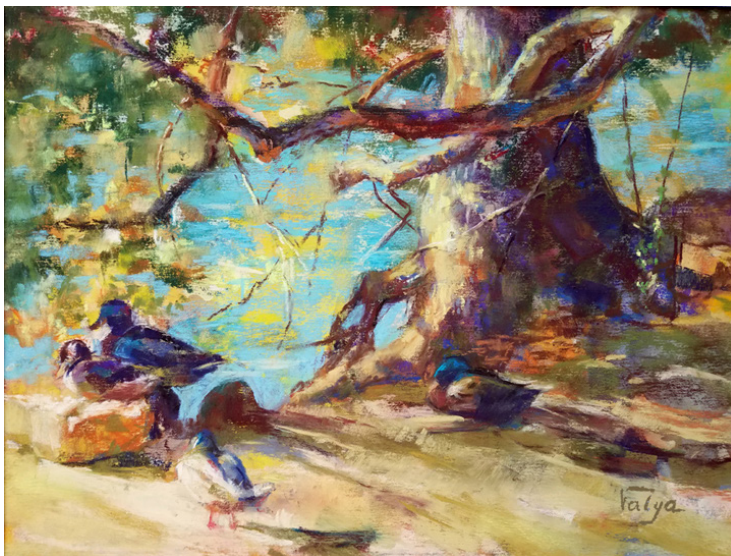
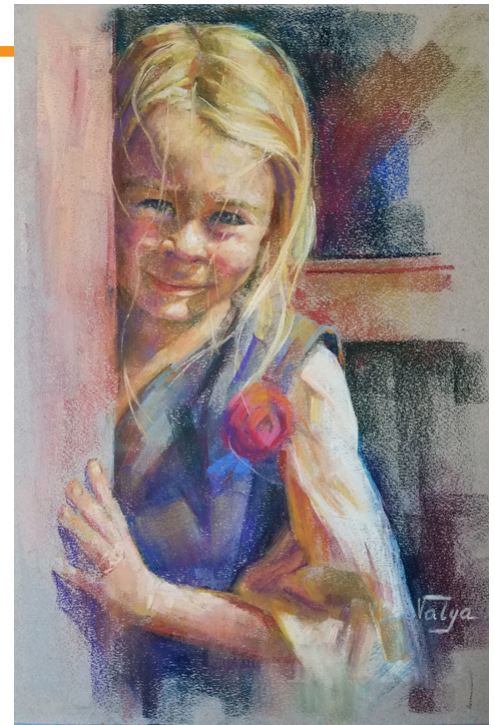
When I paint I like to be spontaneous...to stop thinking, just trust my intuition. Sometimes I just leave something out or give little hints, this way I awaken my viewer to use their imagination to (mentally) complete my piece in a personal way and engage them deeper into my work.

Bio

Valya Hristova, is born and raised in Sofia, Bulgaria. She has a Masters degree in Conservation and restoration at N.Pavlovich University, following a Bachelors of Art, in addition to intensive 4yr Art High School. She received a "Best of show" award 1978 at Contemporary National Gallery at Sofia while still a student. She worked at Archeological museum for 12 years, giving her the opportunity to work on pieces from great masters of the past from prehistoric age to 20th century. These allowed her to learn about different art techniques and their evolution.

She came to USA 1991

She worked as a restorer, professional artist and art instructor. She taught oil and pastel painting at Monrovia College, watercolor at Brand Art studio at Brand library in Glendale, Burbank Creative Art Center and Arcadia. Her work has been juried in many national and international exhibitions: Brand National, WW, Annual Signature American Watermedia International Exhibition, CWA, PSME(pastel) International, PSSC international online.



IN PERSON MEETING

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

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.

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

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

The March Art of the Month show will be in-person only. Please bring an easel. As usual, you may submit any work to the Open Theme category.

April will be an online-only show again. crisgordywatercolor@gmail.com

Art of The Month: February Winners

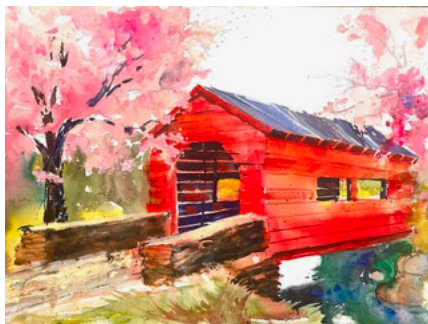
We had our first online-only show in February with a small but excellent exhibit. Mostly watercolors and figurative art; with one dynamic abstract and an exquisite oil painting.

<https://www.midvalleyartsleague.org/art-of-the-month.html>

Cris Gordy - *Chairman*



"San Antonio Chilled,"
oil by **Lynne Fearman**
won in the
Open Theme Category.



Carmen Daugherty and
John Byram tied for the Theme
Category (I See Red) with
"Covered Bridge" and
"Iris of My Heart".



SCHOLARSHIPS

It's almost time for the 2023 MVAL Scholarship Auction. Bidding will be online at BiddingOwl.com from April 12 to April 26. Specific site information will be emailed to everyone before April 12. Tell all your friends and let's make this year's auction as big a success as last year's.

WORKSHOP SPECIALS

Mid-Valley will help you to achieve your New Year aspirations with a bundle discount. In addition to lower individual workshop price, you get a special discount if you are taking the following 2 online workshops together.

George Politis - March 17 - 19 • 8AM - 2PM
(\$230/\$260)

Learn to see and find a subject; paint dream isle of Santorini/Oia; convey emotions and feelings in your portrait; create a large poster with stenciled image; use textures and different media

George Politis has been working with Daniel Smith to develop two sets of Master Colors to depict the beauty of Greece; include Primatek colors with their unique granulation diffusion; and introduce impressive metallic for adding the richness of texture.

Come and share George's love and passion for colors and texture.

Tom Francesconi - May 15, 17 & 19 • 9AM - 4PM
(\$230/\$260)

Painting Fresh and Expressive Watercolor
Learn to create stronger paintings through a better understanding of value relationships, color, and design. Tom endeavors to create a workshop atmosphere that is relaxed with a focus on exploration and discovery. Subjects for this workshop include a landscape, urban scene, water scene and the figure.

\$400/members, \$460/ non-members for all 2 workshops.

Carolyn Lord - April 20 -22 • 9 AM - 4PM
Plein air workshop

(\$390 for members, \$450 for non-members)
The first day will be at the Church meeting room in Arcadia, the other 2 days will be in local gardens. Space is limited to 15 attendees. We have 3 registrations at this time.

Kathleen Scoggin -

Contemporary Abstract in Watercolor, Acrylic, and Multimedia in Arcadia
September 21-23.

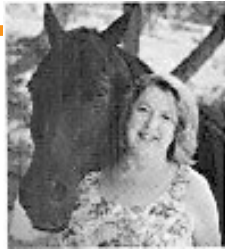
Any questions, contact Carol Ling, carol_ling@sbcglobal.net
Liza Carrillo, lzcarrillo@hotmail.com

ON THE COVER

Cover art this month was painted by **Mary Gilman**. As much as we needed the rain, we are all glad to see a hint of Spring!

NEW MEMBERS

Ginger DeValue Valencia, CA



Ginger earned her BA Fine Arts in 1984 from Cal Poly Pomona.

She has worked in acrylic, watercolor, drawing, and print-making. Ginger has been a member of Urban Sketchers. Landscape and equestrian subjects are her current focus using watercolor, ink and multi media.

She enjoys riding and caring for her horse, reading, painting, traveling, sketching on site and quilting. Ginger is a retired elementary teacher.

Ginger says she is eager to find a group of artists to grow, learn and socialize with.

You can see her work on Instagram as @Ca_valkyrie



Michelle Sullivan La Crescenta, CA

Michelle has a BA in Botanical Sciences-Botany and a UCLA Ext. Landscape Architecture Certificate.

She began drawing in pencil as a young adult. She has a long career in landscape architecture and also worked at Walt Disney Imagineering for a while. She was taught watercolor by Ron Pekar and influenced by many of the WDI artists. Additional watercolor teachers are Virginia Mein and Donna Barnes-Robers and she is currently taking from Pete Morris.

Michelle enjoys watercolor and in pen with watercolor sketches. Her paintings are a personal exploration and recording of the world around her, including natural and built landscapes and other personal interests.

Interests include designing landscapes, gardening, painting watercolors, visiting museums, sketching, hiking and anything botanical, horticultural and environmental related.

She is looking forward to deepening the opportunity to learn and share with MVAL artists and participating in the organization.

SHOWS TO SEE

Exploration of the ‘San Gabriel Mountains’

California Art Club Gallery at The Old Mill

January 26 - May 21, 2023

1120 Old Mill Road San Marino, Calif. 91108

The California Art Club Gallery at The Old Mill is open Tuesdays – Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In this exhibition, artists explore the rich history and plentiful scenic views of the majestic San Gabriel Mountains. Open Tuesdays – Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A virtual gallery will launch to the public on the same day.

ARTIST’S NEWS

Carmen Daugherty

will be doing a Zoom negative painting demonstration on May 11th at 7pm and a half day workshop on Saturday, May 20th for Valley Watercolor Society. (can you just keep putting this announcement in the newsletter till it happens, please?)

She is also doing a Zoom Demo for VHAA on April 7th at 7 pm.



SHOW OPPORTUNITY

Now available for entry:

Watercolor West Prospectus for the 55th Annual International Exhibition

is available on their website

www.watercolorwest.org

Entry period Jan 1 through March 15, 2023.

THURSDAYS IN PLEIN AIR

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

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

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!

MARCH 9th - MEMORIAL PARK, SIERRA MADRE

222 West Sierra Madre Blvd. Lunch at the Only Place in Town.
Bring \$\$\$.

MARCH 16th - PASADENA CITY HALL

100 N Garfield Ave. parking lot \$10
in a lot on Ramona across from City Hall.

MARCH 23rd - FERN DELL PARK TRAIL, LOS ANGELES

Located in Griffith Park on Fern Dell Dr. off of Los Feliz Dr. Look
for a parking lot further up the road. Bring Lunch.

MARCH 30th - DESCANSO GARDENS, LA CANADA

1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011

APRIL 6th - MATER DOLORSA PASSIONATE RETREAT CENTER, SIERRA MADRE,

700 N. Sunnyside Ave.

APRIL 13th - OLD MILL, SAN MARINO

1120 OLD MILL ROAD. 10AM ARRIVAL TIME!

APRIL 20th - CASTLE GREEN , PASADENA

E. Dayton St. at Raymond Ave.

APRIL 27th - LOWER ARROYO AT THE CASTING POND.

Bring lunch.

SHOW AND PAINTING OPPORTUNITY



HUNTINGTON HARBOUR ART ASSOCIATION

PLEIN AIR COMPETITION

Saturday, March 25, 2023

Artists paint from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Awards at 4 p.m.

&

ANNUAL FINE ART AND FIBER ART EXHIBIT

Saturday and Sunday, March 25 and 26, 2023

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Open to the public



HUNTINGTON HARBOUR ART ASSOCIATION PLEIN AIR COMPETITION

Sunset Beach a small coastal neighborhood of Huntington Beach, is the perfectly protected California Beach community most people dream about. A funky enclave that still feels like one of the coast's best kept secrets. There are still plenty of traces of the past that you can discover and paint.

Saturday March 25, 2023

Artists paint from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Awards at 4 p.m.

Location of Plein Air Competition and Art Exhibit

Sunset Beach Nobles Family Community Center

16861 12th Street Sunset Beach CA

Plein Air sign in: 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Sunset Beach Community Association

Request Plein Air registration form and entry details at

HHAAArtShow@gmail.com

6 Questions Call Carrol Wolf at 714 856 8561.

NEWSLETTER

ART and SCHEDULING

Thank you for all the submissions for cover art. I think I have enough to carry me through June, but don't quite sending your work - September comes quickly!

In April and May I am involved with having a booth at The Renaissance Pleasure Faire in Irwindale.

This means that I am busy every weekend through the end of May. I won't be able to work on the newsletter through the weekends those months. Please help me by sending what you can BEFORE the first Wednesday of the month, or by that Thursday at the latest. Thank you.

Joyce Nunamaker

Editor Art and the Artist



George Politis Online Watercolor Workshop

March 17, 18 & 19, 2023

Internationally renowned artist, George Politis will teach watercolor and watermedia in this 3-day workshop. You will learn to see and find a subject (often far from the obvious). Through George’s thinking process and technique, this workshop aims to boost creativity by finding inspirational ideas. Various subjects might include:

- Painting the dream island of Santorini/Oia
- Painting portrait to convey emotions and thoughts
- Creating a poster in large format with stenciled image
- Using textures, and different media

Artist Statement

I love painting in watercolor and mixed watermedia.

Selecting whether going in the “pure” direction of totally transparent watercolour, or using acrylic inks, collage and other media is based on the subject and on the personal reaction to a potential subject.

The medium is not the most important thing. The result is. Thus, I like to experiment a lot and find new ways to express my ideas. I experiment with various materials and processes, very often disregarding rules. Especially in my “Wall Series”, I like to create some controlled chaos and find ways to compose and create a balanced painting out of this chaos.

I like aged material, rusty metal, weathered wood...

Time plays a very basic role in my paintings; particularly the way it leaves its mark on varied objects and on nature itself fascinates me. I see in the old, rusty and ravaged both truth and excitement. I can find inspiration in ordinary and commonly overlooked items, responding to them with dramatically different feelings each time, whether emphasizing the serenity, the loneliness, the atmosphere, the melancholy.

My aim is to make the viewer share my feelings and share my love for such objects that have “lived” in glory once... and that can still have sparkle today!



George Politis Online Watercolor Workshop

This workshop is for **All LEVELS**
PC/Mac and internet access needed.

Dates: Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, March 17, 18 & 19, 2023 8:00 AM -2:00 PM daily(6PM- 12PM Greece time)

Fee: \$230 MVAL member/\$260 non-member.

A deposit of \$100 or full amount must be submitted with registration. **Remainder due** on March 12.

No Refunds after March12, 2023.

A supply list will be provided upon registration.

Questions: carol_ling@sbcglobal.net



All 3 workshops for \$600/member, \$690/non-member.

Registration

(Check payable to Mid-Valley Arts League)

Name _____

Address _____

City Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

George Politis Online Workshop
Friday, Saturday & Sunday, March 17, 18, 19, 2023.

Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____

Check one: MVAL Member Non Member

Mail to: MVAL, c/o Carol Ling, 4715 Lasheat Dr,
La Canada, CA 91011

George Politis

Website: <http://www.georgepolitis.gr>

E-mail: anliv28@yahoo.gr

George Politis paints in watermedia and lives in Thessaloniki, Greece.



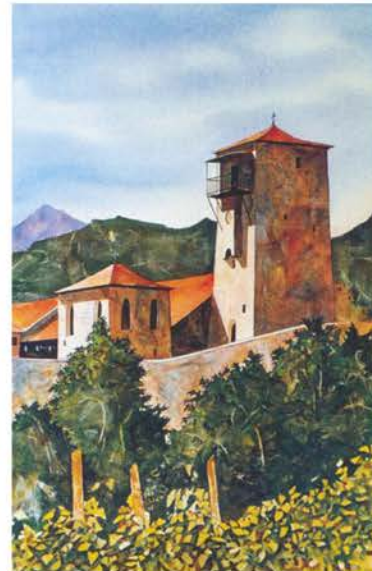
curator of the Thessaloniki Biennial of Watercolor ("Watercolor International Greece").

His paintings are featured in art books and magazines (International Artist 2001, L' Aquarelliste 2000, L' Art de l' Aquarelle 2012, 2016, 2017, 2018, The Artist 2000, 2002, Artissime 2013, American Artist 2018, Le Grand Livre de l' Aquarelle by J. Gallizia, etc)



He is a signature member of AWS (American Watercolor Society), RI (Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolors), San Diego Watercolor Society (SDWS), MoWS (Missouri Watercolor Society), AWA (Arizona Watercolor Association), NEWS (North East Watercolor Society), IAF (Institut des Arts Figuratifs) and has served as President of the Artists Society of Northern Greece (2009-2015). His paintings have been awarded in many international exhibitions.

His recent solo exhibitions include Govedarou Art Gallery (Thessaloniki 2022), Ydria Gallery (Thessaloniki, 2022), and IFT Gallery (Thessaloniki, 2020).



He has participated in numerous group exhibitions in Greece and in international exhibitions and contests. He has served as juror in National and International watercolor exhibitions and he is the organizer and





Tom Francesconi Online Watercolor Workshop

May 15, 17, &19, 2023

Painting Fresh and Expressive Watercolors

Emphasis of this workshop will be on creating stronger paintings through a better understanding of value relationships, color, and design. Tom will share his thoughts about these topics and how they can play a more meaningful role in our paintings. During the workshop, Tom will share specifics of how he creates loose, interpretive watercolors that entertain and delight the eyes. Painted examples will support the information being discussed. Tom endeavors to create a workshop atmosphere that is relaxed with a focus on exploration and discovery.

Subjects for this workshop may include a landscape, urban scene, water scene and the figure. Each morning begins with a discussion about the day’s topic, followed by a full demonstration where Tom always encourages lots of questions. Afternoons are reserved for student painting time during which Tom will be available for guidance and questions. Every day will end with a class critique.

Bring your smile.



Tom Francesconi Online Watercolor Workshop



This workshop is for **All LEVELS**
PC/Mac/Smartphone and internet access needed.

Dates: Monday, Wednesday & Friday, May 15, 17 &19, 2023 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM daily

Fee: \$230 MVAL members /\$260 non-members.

A deposit of \$100 or full amount must be submitted with registration. **Remainder due** on May 5.

No Refunds after May 5, 2023

A supply list will be provided upon registration.

Questions: carol_ling@sbcglobal.net

Registration

(Check payable to *Mid-Valley Arts League*)

Name _____

Address _____

City Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Tom Francesconi Workshop: May 15, 17 & 19, 2023 (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday)

Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____

Check one: MVAL Member Non Member

Mail to: MVAL, c/o Carol Ling, 4715 Lasheart Dr., La Canada, CA 91011

Tom Francesconi

AWS, NWS, TWSA

Website: www.tomfrancesconi.com

E-mail: info@tomfrancesconi.com

Tom Francesconi's paintings have become nationally recognized for their unique, interpretive style, flavored with a richness of color and decisive brushwork. Tom studied watercolor at the American Academy of Art in Chicago.

Tom Francesconi has earned signature membership in numerous watercolor societies, including the American Watercolor Society, National Watercolor Society, Watercolor West, Rocky Mountain National Watermedia and the Transparent Watercolor Society of America, of which he has been honored with 'Master' status. Tom has served as President of the Transparent Watercolor Society of America.

His paintings have been exhibited in many national and international exhibitions which include the 2020 NWS: 100 Years Exhibition and the Shenzhen, China International Biennial Exhibition. He has received

over 35 national awards. In 2021 Tom received an Honorable Mention Award for his painting, "Unleashed", published in The Best of Watercolor: Winners From the 22nd Annual Splash Competition.



Tom has written articles for Watercolor Artist, Watercolor Magic and Watercolor magazines and his work has been published in eight books on American Watercolor. Along with his weekly classes in Chicago, Tom has conducted watercolor workshops throughout the United States, Canada, France, Italy and Croatia.

"As an artist, I have chosen to express myself through the language of paint. Stirred emotions are the essential beginnings of that language. It is my hope that my paintings will echo that emotional response and the viewer will share in my spirited statement.





Carolyn Lord Plein Air Workshop

April 20, 21, & 22, 2023

The portability of watercolor makes it an ideal medium for plein air garden painting. This 3-day workshop by renowned watercolorist Carolyn Lord will begin indoors, with presentations on how to organize the watercolor palette; pigment quality; etc.

On the first day, after lunch, we will go outside in the garden for a painting demonstration with ideas on drawing and composition; painting strategies; interpreting complex motifs; importance of silhouettes; division between light and shadow.

The second day will be in the garden and the workshop attendees will paint, while the instructor provides individualized attention.

The third day is in the garden, with attendees painting in the morning and receiving individualized attention. After lunch there will be a final painting demonstration.

Students should have a familiarity with drawing, composition, and plein air painting in any medium.

Carolyn has taken atelier drawing classes and has done some painting in oils, so she is prepared to explain her concepts to artists who are new to watercolor painting.

Take the variable Spring weather into account –wear the appropriate clothes, hats, gloves for protection from the sun.

Carolyn’s presentation to MVAL members prior to the workshop will be on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, 7:30 PM – 9 PM. This talk may be attended on-site or through Zoom. Detailed information for this presentation will be sent to registered workshop attendees.

In this talk, Carolyn will cover composition, color, values, with numerous examples of her drawings, watercolors, and oils. There will be no demo.



Carolyn Lord Plein Air Workshop

This workshop is for All LEVELS. Space is limited.

Dates: Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, April 20, 21& 22, 2023, 9:00 AM -4:00 PM daily with an hour for lunch.

Fee: \$410 MVAL Members /\$450 Non-Members.

A deposit of \$100 or full amount must be submitted with registration. **Remainder due** on April 10.

No Refunds after April 10, 2023.

A supply list will be provided upon registration.

Questions: Lzcarrillo@hotmail.com

Registration

(Check payable to Mid-Valley Arts League)

Name _____

Address _____

City Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Carolyn Lord Plein Air Workshop: April 20, 21, &22, 2023

Enclosed is my check for: \$ _____

Check one: MVAL Member Non Member

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



Carolyn Lord

www.carolynlord.com

www.facebook.com/CarolynLord,CaliforniaArtist/

www.instagram.com/carolynlordca/

Videos at <https://www.carolynlord.com/video>

Carolyn Lord was introduced to plein air watercolor painting and the bold color and design of the California Watercolor Style while in college. Since then, plein air watercolors have defined her career as she paints the landscape, gardens, and architecture of her native California.

Carolyn's mid-career work has been focused on the vernacular architecture, landscapes and gardens of the western United States as well as many international places. Through continued study, aspects of Tonalism and Impressionism have been integrated into her watercolor, and oil paintings.

Her paintings are represented in California, Utah, and Colorado galleries. Carolyn is a Signature member of the California Art Club, National Watercolor Society,

California Watercolor Association, and American Women Artists.

Her work has been profiled in American Artist, Watercolor Artist, and Plein Air Magazine, with podcast interviews with Savvy Painter, Creative Catalyst, and Art Chat.

