

May Demo Artist – Paul Oman



Paul Oman

Hello fellow watercolorists! I am excited to share with you at the May 2012 MNWS meeting. What an honor to be invited to do so. I have been painting for over 30 years with my

greatest passion being in the medium of watercolor. Having taught science in the Hopkins School District and later serving as a Lutheran pastor in Birchwood, Wisconsin until 2011, my full-time work is now as a “Drawn to the Word” artist, where my interests in the arts, science, and theology have merged together. I work ecumenically with churches, colleges, conventions, seminaries, camps, schools, and more, painting murals (up to 12 feet x 5 feet or larger) live before audiences of any size in under an hour during worship services and events. While doing this, I use an “alla prima” approach with acrylic latex (which will behave much like watercolor as water is added). These murals depict stories, mission statements, and themes of choice, usually painted in collaboration with music and narration. The mastery of watercolor has been the key which underlies this large-scale mural painting approach. During our May meeting however, I will paint a start-to-finish watercolor as a demonstration while also sharing about my approach to mural painting.



“Road to Emmaus” by Paul Oman



“Drawn to the Word” by Paul Oman

Painting the landscape has been my earliest and most profound inspiration due to my upbringing on a farm. With numerous influential people along the way, including my elementary school art teacher who assisted me in painting a watercolor at age 10 for the Governor of Wisconsin when I was selected to represent the state for Youth Art Month in 1979, to people I meet as I teach workshops, to artists of some renown who have helped me to “see” watercolor in new ways, I am grateful. I anticipate that the same will happen as I engage in watercolor with you in May. My hope is to both share insights which will inspire you in your painting, and engage us in a dialogue so we can mutually benefit. See you soon!

To learn more about Paul visit www.PaulOmanFineArt.com.

Selected Awards and Honors

- 2010 Fine Art Views International Painting Competition — Finalist, Outstanding Watercolor, “Mexico City Morning.”
- 2008 Minnesota Watercolor Society, Award of Merit, Fall Exhibition.
- 2007 Minnesota Watercolor Society, Award of Merit & Honorable Mention, Spring & Fall Exhibitions.
- 2002 Iowa Artist State Show, 1st Place, “Voices of Loon Lake.”
- 1997 Minnesota Loon Art Competition, Brainerd, MN, 3rd Place, Peoples’ Choice, acrylic.

from the President

I was out painting in March, trying to warm up with bare branches and my mastery of browns and grays but before I could get into that groove there were buds and flowers and leaves and butterflies! With the fair weather I had a chance to comfortably sit and paint the rebirth of ferns and the blooms of snowdrops. I try to stay in my yard and find art in little bits rather than in large areas. If it's a really mundane subject I feel it's a good time to explore composition, technique, color and some of the wonderful serendipity in watercolor. I paint in oil as well but I find that watercolor frees me to explore. I've been in a private phase of art for some time so that I have no pressure, just personal growth. It has been a very rewarding time but I am so grateful for the Minnesota Watercolor Society since it is my major connection to the art world beyond my back yard!

I hope many of you have had the opportunity to see our Spring Exhibition. The Opening was fun and very well attended and the awards presentation was excellent. I loved seeing the many new artists showing in the last two shows. It's gratifying to see that this organization is still drawing new artists and that artists feel good about showing in our Exhibitions. Our monthly demos have also been well attended and our workshops are giving our members opportunities to grow. It's been a good year!

So many artists have contributed to that success, helping with board work, hospitality and participation in shows, workshops and social networks. The best part of my job has been the opportunity to see how people work together to give us the quality we expect. I was recently at a meeting at the Bloomington Art Center where planning for a fall watercolor festival is underway to coincide with their hosting of the Road Show of the National Watercolor Society's Juried Exhibition. It reminds me once again that we are fortunate to be artists in an area that promotes and nurtures the creative spirit. It will be another opportunity for our members to see demos and participate in workshops and just help in getting the Show ready. Spring is an awakening and we are well on our way to an interesting and inspirational year!

"A Painting My Mother Would Love"**May 10 Mini-Show**

What is a Mini-Show? It's a way for members to display one painting at our monthly meeting. Participants have the option to submit their work for a critique. The critique is strictly volunteer and not mandatory. Members with a painting on display will be entered into a drawing for a prize. This is a great way to share your work.

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MNWS MEMBER happenings

Send member news to:

BrushStrokes, 10910 Quebec Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55438 or email tweseman@earthlink.net. Images are welcome and used as space permits.

- ▶ **Bonnie Dyer Featherstone's** pastel, with watercolor lay in, "Holland Remembered" won Best In Show at Burnsville Visual Arts Society's 30th Annual Art Fete at Burnsville Performing Art Center Gallery.



"Holland Remembered"
by Bonnie Dyer Featherstone

- ▶ **Andy Evansen's** watercolor "Scene from the Rooftops, Izamal" won the AWS Bronze Medal of Honor in this year's American Watercolor Society Exhibition.

- ▶ **Stephen Nesser** received the 2012 Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame Art Award. The award is given for a body of aviation paintings. The award was presented to him at the annual induction awards dinner on April 28.

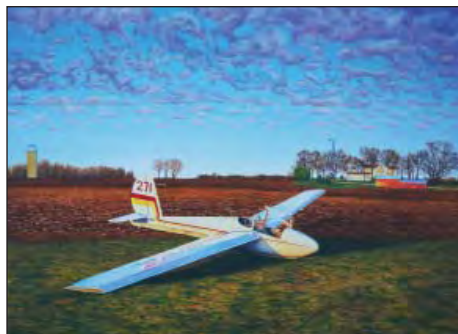


"Scene From the Rooftops, Izamal"
by Andy Evansen

- ▶ **Terry Genesen Becker** received an Award of Merit at "Arts in Harmony '12," National Juried Exhibition, Elk River, MN.

- ▶ **Tara Sweeney's** watercolor, "Angel Voices" has been accepted into the National Watercolor Society's 2012 All Member's Exhibition. She has been awarded a Grangaard grant to walk the Francigena pilgrimage from Lucca to Rome, Italy to create a plein air sketchbook in watercolor and ink.

- ▶ **Sandra Muzzy** has a show at the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge through May 31. The show is entitled "Nature's Treasures (or The Stuff I Bring Home in My Pockets After a Walk)." The refuge is located at 3815 American Boulevard East, Bloomington.



"Jim Hard: Diamond in the Rough"
by Stephen Nesser

- ▶ MNWS members **Kathy Braud, Barbara Duffy, Marilyn Jacobson, Deb Magelssen, Barbara Parisien** and **Wendy Westlake** have a show "Paths of Light" at The FrameWorks Gallery in St. Paul. Show runs through May 26.

Northstar Meetings

Held at The Roseville Oval at Roseville Skating Center, 2661 Civic Center Dr. Directions from MPLS, take Hwy. 280 to Hwy 36 and East to Snelling North Exit, turn right on County Road C, drive past Hamline Ave. and left into Civic Center Drive before Lexington Ave.

Art on a Line: May 18-20, 89 artists participating, free demos daily at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m. & 5 p.m., artists at work daily at 12 noon, 2 p.m. & 4 p.m. More info is on the Northstar website: www.northstarwatercolorssociety.com.

Summer Plein Air Opportunity

You are welcome to join other artists to paint "plein air" (on location) Wednesday mornings during the summer months. Organized by members of Northstar Watercolor Society, this allows artists to enjoy camaraderie while painting some of the scenic areas in the metro area. This is open to all artists, using any medium. The event is 9:00 a.m. to noon. Having lunch together afterward is an option.

The schedule is posted on the Northstar Watercolor Society website www.northstarwatercolorssociety.com under the heading "opportunities." Directions to each location are provided, in addition to a restaurant near the site.

This event is a great way to meet other artists, and to try painting on location.

Minnesota Watercolor Society 2012 Juried Spring Show

The Society's Juried Spring Show, "Spring Splendor!" has come to a close at the Silverwood Gallery in St. Anthony. The show presented 57 paintings from 55 artists. The artist's reception took place on April 12 and was a wonderful night of fellowship, food, art and artists. The judge for awards was David Feinberg, Associate Professor of drawing and painting at the University of Minnesota, where he has been a professor for the past forty years.

All of the award winning pieces are currently posted on the MNWS website at www.minnesotawatercolors.com

The People's Choice Award will be determined and announced at the May meeting.

A special thank you to Eileen Cohen at Silverwood Gallery; Judge, David Feinberg; MNWS President, Deb Chapin; Show Hospitality Chair, Carol Wingard and Steffanie Reopke of Artist's Choice for sponsoring the awards for the show. Thank you all volunteers who helped with art delivery, hospitality, food, photography, and art pick-up.

*Deb Magelssen & Laura VanderMolen,
MNWS Spring Show Chairs.*



◀
Artist: Nanci Yermakoff
Title: "Series 7 #1"
Award: Best of Show



▶
Artist: Gail Vass
Title: "Early Bird gets the Word"
Award: Emrich-Stordahl
Founder's Award



Artist: Peter Herzog
Title: "Homage to Morandi"
Award: First Honor



Artist: Susan Zavadil
Title: "Nicollet Mall"
Award: Second Honor



Artist: Diane Posselt Monroe
Title: "Old Nice-Red Awning"
Award: Third Honor

New Signature members are Deb Magelssen, Kathleen Miller, Gail Vass and Carol Wingard.

ing Show, “*Spring Splendor!*” Award Winners



Artist: Julie Allen
Title: “Serenity”
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Christine Halvorson
Title: “Early Snow”
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Susan Mclean-Keeney
Title: “Summer Dining”
Award: Award of Merit



Artist: Marilyn Jacobson
Title: “The Catch”
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Judy Lieber
Title: “Spring! When the World is
Mud-Luscious and Puddle-Happy”
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Diane Jandt
Title: “Spring Flowers”
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Deb Magelssen
Title: “One Among Many”
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Barb Parisien
Title: “Alone”
Award: Honorable Mention



Artist: Jim Turner
Title: “In and Out”
Award: Honorable Mention

Watercolor Reflections

Column by Vera Kovacovic, MNWS member

How many times have you come across a reference picture that has cast a spell on you as the great reference photo for your next painting — only to realize that the actual painting came out a complete flop and fails to “pop?” Yes, we can manipulate exposure, adjust and crop but the essence of success lies in something beyond these adjustments. Today, I will share with you from Frank Eber’s blog. Frank is one of the AWS 2012 competition winners. I look for inspiration and check what other watercolor artists are doing and what they are saying in their blogs.

A Picture Tells A Story ... Not!

By Frank Eber

Not until you do some ‘visioneering.’ I have adapted this term from the great watercolor painter Robert Wade, who is in his eighties now but still going strong!

What he means is basically what I preach in my classes as well: Do not just copy the photograph! Being able to paint something as it is, or copy what’s on the reference is irrelevant! Treat the reference as exactly that, a reference!



Reference photo

The goal should always be to capture the character, a feeling, a mood etc. Only then do we rise to the next level. Not an easy thing to do, but no one said that painting well is easy, right?

The reason I wanted to paint this was the lovely shadow on the building in the late afternoon light. Also, there’s not a whole lot going on in this picture, is there? We need to do some visioneering! Add a few figures, some lights and a vehicle and, voilà, we might just have a painting!



Painting

Please note that I didn’t try to copy the building too closely, yet ironically, it looks a lot like what’s on the photograph, doesn’t it?

I didn’t use any chinese white. Not in any of the lights, nor in any of the dark washes. Texture was achieved by spattering water or pure pigment. The lighter shutters in the dark areas were lifted while the wash was still damp, i.e.

wet. I try to avoid lifting when the washes are dry. To me, it feels too much like ‘fixing’ things ... but that’s just me, if you’re happy to lift and use chinese white, go for it. I just prefer not to!

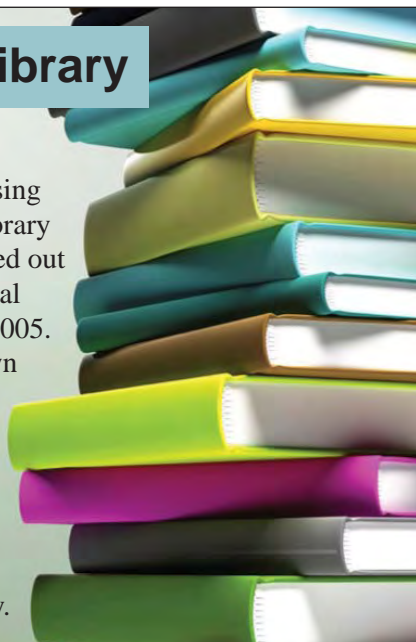
Find Frank Eber’s blog at <http://frankeber.wordpress.com>.

You are invited to send your reference picture and your painting to show the difference in the finished painting. Please e-mail Vera at vkovacovic@comcast.net.

From the Library

Dear Members,

We are currently missing 75 books from our library that have been checked out a year or more. Several have been out since 2005. Please check your own book collection for possible MNWS books. Books can be returned at the May meetings. Thank you for supporting our library.



Call for Entries

NWS National Watercolor Society 92nd Annual Exhibition, Opening & Reception are Sept. 29, 2012

Deadline to enter is May 24, 2012. \$25,000+ in Awards. Prospectus at www.nationalwatercolorociety.org or SASE to Penny Hill, 1145 Barham Drive #130, San Marcos, CA 92078 or call 303-955-8750.

MNWS Upcoming Workshops:

- ▶ Sandy Muzzy 4 day in September 2012 (see insert)
- ▶ Karen Knutson 2 day weekend in January 2013
- ▶ Nancy Carney 2 day weekend in March 2013
- ▶ Linda Baker 4 day May 17 - 20, 2013
- ▶ Don Andrews 4 day October 3 - 6, 2013

"Watercolor Journaling"

4 Day Watercolor Workshop, sponsored by the Minnesota Watercolor Society and Bloomington Center for the Arts

Instructor: Sandy Muzzy



Date: September 27 – 30, 2012 (Thursday through Sunday)

Location: Bloomington Center for the Arts, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN

Hours: Thur. 6 pm to 9 pm; Fri & Sat. 9 am to 4 pm; Sun. 12 noon to 4 pm

Cost: \$295 (MNWS or Bloomington Center for the Arts members) **\$325** (non-members) A deposit of \$125 or more will secure a spot in the workshop. Registration is due **September 5, 2012**. The balance due must be received by **September 12, 2012**.

Workshop content:

Let artist Sandy Muzzy introduce you to the pleasures of watercolor journaling. She will show you fun and easy-to-manage techniques in watercolor, ink, colored pencils, markers, mono-printing, and collage to help you develop your own personal style. She will also show and discuss a variety of book binding options. This is a fast-paced workshop designed to get you to jump into personal journaling with small intimate paintings and sketches of who we are, what moves us and what is happening in our day and the world around us. Sandy Muzzy is a Bloomington resident, an award-winning watercolorist and a popular teacher. Previous watercolor experience is helpful but not required. This workshop is offered in partnership with Minnesota Watercolor Society and Bloomington Center for the Arts.



About the artist: Sandy Muzzy: As I child, I was taught that boredom was not an option; this is a philosophy that has guided my life. I teach my students that they must not wait for the extraordinary, but rather to paint the ordinary. We must look inwardly at what moves us and what is happening in our daily life and the world around us. Creativity is what I teach. It is the process of creating art that inspires me – how we all bring our different strengths to the table. I live in Bloomington, Minnesota, where I teach from my home studio as well as at various locations in the Twin Cities and greater Minnesota. My work can be seen at www.sandramuzzy.com.

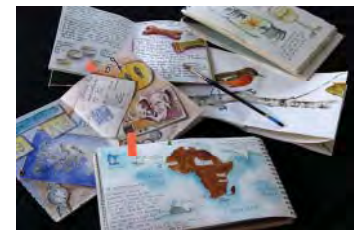
Cancellations: in writing must be received no later than two weeks prior to the workshop to qualify for a full refund. If the workshop is cancelled, money will be promptly refunded.

Lunch Bring a bag lunch. There is a refrigerator plus local restaurants are close.

Supply list will be sent upon receipt of registration form & payment.

Registration form with deposit payment is **due September 5, 2012**.

Final payment is due September 12, 2012



Send Registration form with payment:

Make checks payable to: MN Watercolor Society

Mail to: Susan Zinschlag, 2353 Glacier Way, Hastings, MN 55033-3757

Phone: (651-437-9327) **Email:** s.m.zinschlag@att.net

-----Detach and Return-----

Sandy Muzzy Workshop Registration

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Email: _____



Workshop fee in full: MNWS Members \$295. Non-Members \$325.

Deposit needed to hold a spot in the workshop \$125.

Make check payable to MN Watercolor Society

Mail registration form and payment to:
Susan Zinschlag, Workshop Registration
2353 Glacier Way
Hastings, MN 55033-3757

Amount Enclosed

Balance Due

MNWS *calendar*

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

May 10 Paul Oman

Location: Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Blvd., Edina, MN
(Corner of 70th St. S. and Hwy 100)

MNWS March Board Meeting Highlights:

- Over 75 books and 8 DVDs are overdue
- Members who send workshop information to the web master should also include a link to their website
- Still seeking a site for the Fall member show
- The member survey produced helpful information for planning workshops to meet member interests and needs, and resulted in recommendations to the Board
- Andy Evanson workshop is full; there will be an attempt to schedule a “repeat” workshop to accommodate those who are on the waiting list

2012 Juried Spring Show Award Winners Inside!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail your application and check payable to Minnesota Watercolor Society to:

Carol Wingard, Membership Chair
10427 Fawns Way
Eden Prairie, MN 55347

MNWS Membership Dues:

- College Student \$15
- Single \$30
- Couple/Family: \$40
- Seniors (65+) \$25

Name _____

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Email _____

Check here to have your name removed from the list sent to our exhibition award donors who mail product information to our members.

— MNWS Mission Statement
“To further development
of the watercolor artist
by providing a
supportive environment
with education and exhibition
opportunities, and to promote
public appreciation and greater
visibility of the art.”

10427 Fawns Way, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-5117

