

Chris Tanner found energy hiding in his paintings and sketches.

In early March I finished a 6-week Tom Trausch Expressive Watercolor class, and his closing lesson was a revelation. He cut a 4x4-inch window in a piece of paper and used it to look for abstract potential in details of his recent work. He browsed several of his earlier paintings, always rotating the window, and kept finding 4x4 scraps that powerfully promote shape and color in an abstract way.

I later did that to many of my watercolor paintings and sketches. They are smaller than Tom used, so I needed to cut a smaller 2.5x2.5-inch window. Below is a screen shot of three samples I particularly liked. Surprisingly, the cool neutrals on the left scrap grab attention as much as the warm saturated color scraps because of abundant whites, complex edges and a single bright accent.



I see now that the generous negative space I leave in my sketches nicely frames exciting pigment and brush action that goes unnoticed as mere detail in a larger painting. Pen and ink line work seems to add a lot when it has bold variety. I now understand that to generate the energy I have always loved in my watercolor sketches I need some wet-on-dry strokes with larger brushes that wander into negative spaces, and I need to use some of my more active pigments and encourage them to mingle.

What scraps of expressive technique are hiding in your old paintings and sketches?

Teaching artist opportunities abound

Jena Mertz, Adler's program manager, wrote "The Adler Arts Center is accepting applications for drawing and water-color/painting teaching artists--classes begin the week of April 11 and continue for 6 weeks. Student ages are 5-8 years old and 9-11 years old. All classes are in-person held at The Adler Arts Center. Contact her at Jennifer@adlercenter.org.

Coincidentally, the Waukegan Park District Manager of Cultural Arts, Ty Rohrer, recently noted a similar opportunity to Chris Tanner. Contact Ty at 847-360-4744, but first contact member Pat King at journeyking378@gmail.com for and inside view of this program which she recently left.

Waukegan moving Dandelion Wine fest to August, downtown

Ty Rohrer also shared that Waukegan is planning on shifting their annual Dandelion Wine fest to the third Saturday in August, and relocating it downtown near the library. That will link it nicely with ArtWauk.

Fran Isaac recommends a creativity workshop.

"I've taken this **Sketchbook Revival** workshop series for 3 years and have enjoyed many of the classes. It might even be a source of artists for video demos." The flyer says you will watch the workshop sessions from your home, according to your own schedule, and that it is free. Registration opened on March 7 for the 5th anniversary edition of Karen Abend's **Sketchbook Revival 2022**. See more at <https://www.karenabend.com/sketchbook-revival-2022/>

Art in the Shire™ Exhibit

In March, several LCAL artists including **Jeff Harold, Clarese Ornstein, Ernest Schweit, Anne-Marie Bracken** and others, are participating in the **Art in the Shire™** exhibit at the **Shire Law Group, PC® 1 Overlook Pt., Ste. 650, Lincolnshire, IL.**

A reception will take place on **March 30th, from 5:30-7:30 pm.** Exhibition reception dinner will be catered by **Culver's**, which is partnering with the law group to bring Art in the Shire™ to the community.

Due to the nature of the event and everyone's safety, the Shire Law Group® is requesting that all attendees be vaccinated, fever free, and are encouraged to have a negative COVID test prior to the exhibit. Masks are required.

Show at the Adler Art Center

From **February 11th-March 31st**, there is a member exhibit happening at the **Adler Art Center, 1700 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Libertyville, IL, 847-367-0707**, damac@adlercenter.org. Several LCAL members including, **Jim Brooksher, Leisa Corbett, Jeff Harold, Oliver Merriam, Claresse Ornstein, Philip Schorn, Ernest Schweit**, and others will show their work in this exhibit.

GALLERY HOURS:

Monday & Tuesday: 9:30am – 8pm

Wednesday & Thursday: 9:30am – 3pm

Friday: 9:30am – 5pm

Saturday: 9:30am – 2pm

Phil Schorn's **SAVE THE DATE!!!! "Art in the Garage"**

April 23-24

“My "Art in the Garage" show and sale is coming up on Saturday and Sunday, April 23-24, at my home, 10am to 4pm rain or shine. I'm in the process of finishing up several renderings and getting them framed. All of my artwork will be displayed at my garage show, I expect that to be about 60 pieces.”



AFAF Youth Art Month Exhibit

The **Antioch Arts Foundation (AFAF)** is participating in the nationwide **Youth Art Month** with an exhibit, classes, activities and a reception on **March 12th, 2:00-5:00 pm** at The Gallery, 952 Main Street, Antioch.

Any questions may be directed to the **Gallery Director, Carol Fink Sackshewsky**, artscape20@gmail.com.

Linda Kollacks is a Finalist in Portrait Society of America Competition

Linda Kollacks' painting below, "My Grandma's Wedding Gown" has been accepted as a finalist in the **Portrait Society of America's** member competition.



Also, Linda was honored by this prestigious organization with a Signature membership. "I am really thrilled by this" she said.



Pat King's Shows and Classes

Pat King will be showing her watercolors at the **Starline Gallery** for the month of March. She also will be teaching watercolor at the **Gurnee Park District** from **March 10th thru April 14th and from April 21 to May 26**. Registration can be done on line after March 7th. Pat also teaches watercolor classes at the **Perkowitz Studio and Gallery in Grayslake** on Saturday afternoons. Information on this class can be found on the Perkowitz website:

<http://www.perkowitzartstudio.com/watercolor-painting-class.html>



Grand Opening April 29th, 30th & May 1st

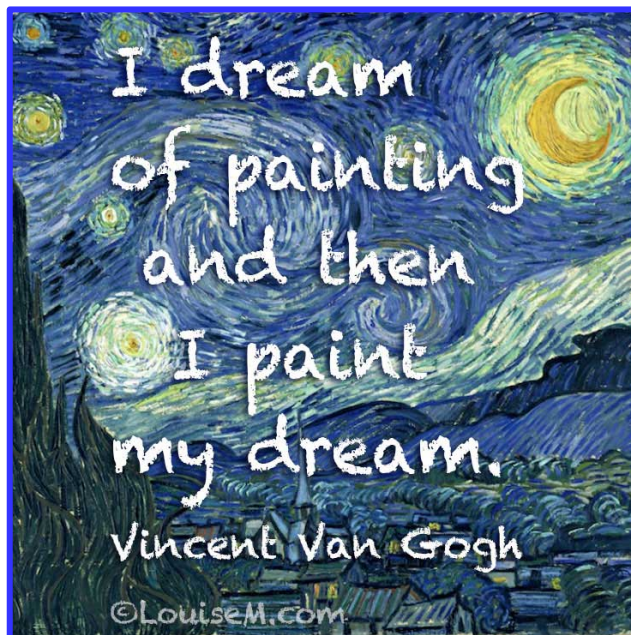
16 E. Main St., Lake Zurich, IL 60047

847-550-0016

artists@mainstreetartcenter.com

If you are interested in exhibiting in the gallery as an invited artist, or renting wall space monthly, contact Kari@mainstreetartcenter.com for an application form. All work will be juried. *(Note: Painting and drawing only. Photographs are not being featured in the gallery at this time.)*

Artist Quote



For inclusion in a future *Member News*, please send your news of exhibits, classes, awards and art-related comments to: **Anne-Marie Bracken**, amabracken@gmail.com.

Jeff Harold's Shows and Classes

Jeff says "Besides having work at the **Adler Members**, "**Art in the Shire**", and **March Starline [Factory]shows**, my "Photography Basics for Beginners" class at CLC begins **March 2nd**. Looks like I'll have a full class.

On Sunday, February 20th, I spent a few hours with Lorette and Carrie Dodt taking pictures at the **Starline Factory**. We spent the time exploring the atrium and some of the basement below it. Here are a few of the photos that I took while I was there. They're at my "artist proof" state right now but I hope to enter one or two in the **Starline Factory 4th Friday March event.**"



[Links to YouTube Videos from Jeff Harold](#)

Richard Medina's Image Transfer Demo

<https://youtu.be/tRWgy1DRXVA>

Interview with Danielle Gross

<https://youtu.be/qVXgnk6yfvE>

Birth of a Monarch

<https://youtu.be/NoTcPw3VOnA>

Backyard Cranes

<https://youtu.be/YLXJSBf4PZ4>

Featured Artists at Starline

<https://youtu.be/aKOelN3Gros>

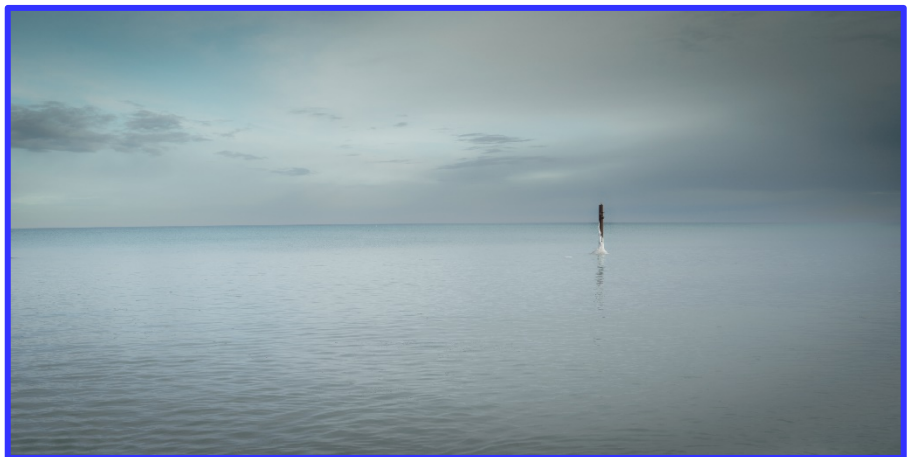
Interview with Bob Fesser

<https://youtu.be/SvUBqq07gHQ>

Ernest J. Schweit's New Work

The story behind the image per **Ernest Schweit**:

“Calm,” my new minimalist portrait of a Lake Michigan in the late afternoon, came about in part thanks to some sage advice from National Geographic Photographer Sam Abell, who played a big role in the early years of my photography journey. Read about the influence Abell had on my work and the story behind “Calm” in the new, February edition of my blog “Picture Story” now posted at www.ernestjschweitphotography.com/Esblog. “Calm” can be viewed on my [website](#) by clicking the Landscape link on the homepage.”



Starline Factory March's 4th Friday Event by *Jeff Harold*

In early February, **Lorette Dodt** from the **Starline Factory** in Harvard approached me with a request to put together a show for the **Upstairs Gallery for March**. There was no way for us to organize and set up a league show in that short of timeframe, so I suggested that I find five artists and do a small group show. Now March at the Starline Factory will be Stephen Ursino, Danielle Gross, Pat King, Aruna Sarode, and Jeff Harold. Danielle Gross will also be doing a live demo of her digital illustration techniques.

We are also looking at having **full LCAL shows over there in June and October**. Here are two links to the Starline website where you can see more info about the artists and the musicians that will be performing at the 4th Friday event.

<https://www.starlinefactoryartists.com/4th-fridays>

<https://www.starlinefactoryartists.com/4th-fridays/upper-gallery-4th-friday-artists>

Stephen Ursino

“I am a Chicagoland based artist painting abstract oil on canvas. My subject matter and technique include bright colors and simple but bold subject matter. I paint with knives, metal objects, brushes and shop rags and aim to finish a piece in one standing. I strive for a compelling mix of color, form and balance. The end result is a beautiful piece of original art that has punch and sophistication. It will capture an eye from across a room, command your attention and draw you in. They make a statement whether standalone or paired side by side. I can't help but find a personality in each piece somehow revealed... sometimes obvious but more often vague. Just give it time.”



Danielle Gross

Danielle Gross is a self-taught illustration artist who uses her artwork as a way to express emotions and reimagine the world through a more whimsical and playful lens. Through a culmination of intricate line work, shading, and interesting color



schemes, her eccentric characters and calming, escapist day dreams are brought to life on paper. She sells prints and posters of her artwork online through her Etsy Shop: danigdoodle.etsy.com and updates all of her work on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest @danigdoodle.

Aruna Nitin Sarode

“All things beautiful fascinate me, be it nature or the human spirit. I am a self-taught artist, always observing, always learning. I work in oil, acrylic and watercolor mediums. I take advantage of the unique qualities of each medium and choose the medium that best compliments the subject.”



Patricia J. King



“Nature has been my inspiration and doing art has been my calling since childhood. I was raised in Gurnee and have always enjoyed being outside. This love of nature and the outdoors has developed an artistic interest in forests, farms, birds, and wild flowers. These have given me an endless source of inspiration for my paintings. My body of work has constantly grown thru the forty-two years I have been painting. My landscapes have a distinctive style thru the use of bright colors, interesting patterns, and details. They capture the beauty of nature. I have created seventeen greeting cards for Courage Kenny Cards. My work is in many private, civic and corporate collections. My work is sold at area art shows in Lake County. It is my desire to move people and open their eyes to the beauty of nature in every season.”

Jeff Harold

“Photography has been a hobby for a good portion of my adult life. Delving into different aspects of it – moving from photographing landscapes to models to jazz musicians and artist – always finding different parts of everyday life that sustain my passion for photography.

I have recently started exploring new avenues, branching out into a fine arts approach, learning how to use software to manipulate photos to create more abstract images that I refer to as “abstract collage”. Experimenting with different techniques and taking advantage of available technologies has opened new worlds to explore. I do not consider myself just a photographer, but an artist using the digital world as my medium.”

