

CHARLES ANDRATE'S TRIBUTE TO
LESZEK FORCZEK
(July 3, 1946 - May 20, 2019)



Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I inform you of the passing of master watercolorist and founder of the Illuminism School of Painting, Leszek Forczek.

Many years ago, this talented young artist found, on the verge of giving up on the artist life - renewed meaning to the creative act in the color teachings of master artist and painting therapist Liane Collot d'Herbois. In her disciplined understanding of Goethe's color theory as it applies to art therapy and artistic painting, Forczek rediscovered the fountain of creating art from a spiritual perspective. Through decades of disciplined study of color and refined technical prowess, Forczek was able to further the teachings of his 'artistic mother' Collot d'Herbois and build a solid method of art instruction in the art school he called Illuminism.

I studied with Leszek over the years, organizing several painting workshops for him. His final workshop we organized - three years ago this month... was the last he had the strength to give to students who had either studied with him previously or could demonstrate advanced technical understanding of the veil. He was an excellent teacher of the Collot method with regards to its artistic application. Truly he and Liane Collot d'Herbois are two sides of a coin when it comes to understanding the amazing gift that is Goethe's color theory.

While many who take up the Collot painting method do so with therapeutic applications in mind, it was never that approach for Leszek. He knew from the beginning of his work with her that the artistic was his goal. He has paved the road to a concrete methodology of working artistically with Light, Color & Darkness. I also studied briefly with Collot and while her magical understanding of this holy trinity of the visual world is beyond doubt, her

TRIBUTE TO LESZEK FORCZEK

by Charles Andrate

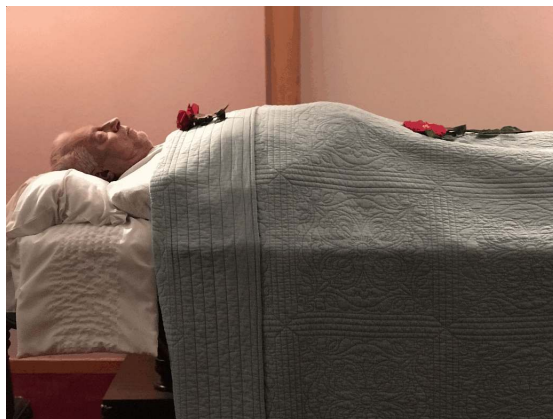
Page 2 of 2

method of teaching was intuitive and often difficult to grasp for my male mind-set when it came to moving from color space to form. Leszek's approach gave me the missing puzzle pieces (in depth understanding of value and rules of composition) born out of his own striving to artistically resolve Collot's technique and make it a complete school of Art that could stand alongside other disciplined schools of artistic instruction.

I am indebted to him for the groundwork he has laid out, and I have striven to continue his approach by developing and adding my own insights and discoveries to what he worked so hard to master. Like his teacher Collot d'Herbois, he stands alone as an artist of the utmost uniqueness and talent. He will be remembered many years from now for his contribution to an Anthroposophic approach to artistic creation. As this talented artist and teacher now moves toward the Light he so devotedly followed here on earth, I imagine him being met with open arms by his artistic mother, Liane Collot d'Herbois, of whom he spoke of with honor, respect and devotion.

Thank you Leszek for all you have given us. You will be remembered by the many students who you gifted with the true beauty of Light, Color & Darkness.

Be at peace maestro,
work.



we will carry on your