



Calgary Chapter  
Federation Of Canadian Artists

# FCA NEWSLETTER

WWW.FCACALGARY.CA

FEBRUARY 2008

## CALGARY CHAPTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Journey in Art**  
Leighton Art Centre  
Gallery

**Jury Date:**  
February 22, 2008

\*\*\*\*\*  
**May 3, 2008**

**Absolutely Art**  
Haysboro Community  
Center

**Qualifying Show**

## FCA CALGARY CHAPTER PRESENTS:

ABSOLUTELY ART

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Art will remain the most astonishing activity of mankind born out of struggle between wisdom and madness, between dream and reality in our mind.

~~ Magdalena  
Abakanowicz ~~

**SHOW DATE: MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2008**  
**TIME: 10 AM – 4PM**  
**PLACE: HAYSBORO COMM. CENTRE**  
**JURY NIGHT: TUESDAY APRIL 15, 2008**

**\* THIS WILL BE A QUALIFYING SHOW \***

**More show details will be announced at our next few meetings and in the next newsletter.**

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## Member's Profile - Colleen O'Brien

Member's Profiles is a new feature to help celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by showcasing one artist per newsletter from a selection of both new and long time members. **Article by Rex Beanland**



art throughout her life except for one 5 year break. Since art was always an important part of her life there was never a time when she decided to become a serious artist. "There was never anything where I said, 'Now I've got to pick up the pace'. Every time I did anything I enjoyed it so much that it rewarded itself."

Asked where she is in her art journey she replied, "I feel quite confident in my ability to express what I see. I'm insecure when I begin any painting but as I go forward I know I can say exactly what I want in paint . . . very rarely am I disappointed".

She has studied art including anatomy consistently from a very early age. At 35 she began formal training for a BFA. When her youngest child went into grade 1 she went to college in Medicine Hat to start her degree. She finished the degree in Lethbridge and then took a Master's Degree in art education in Victoria. Well grounded in the academic basis of art she applies the elements of design in her work. "At my best I take good care of a composition before I ever start." She does several drawings and thumbnails to work out lights and darks. "After several drawings . . . the compositional information is firmly in place."

she follows this procedure closely. If she has been painting regularly her preparatory work is more intuitive.

She paints in acrylics, generally underpainting first. "Then there's no white on the canvas and that makes me comfortable." She then blocks in the darkest darks with a wide brush then works toward the lights. "At some point in that working dark to light I forget all about the rules and I just work." She tries to save some of the underpainting because "that colour or colours are usually well thought out". Her subject matter varies from portraits and figures to landscapes and still lifes.

As for her future goals, "You know it's really funny, I've never set goals. I've set goals for my education but for my art, maybe I should but I think it kind of evolves. I can't imagine not painting". She added that maybe she has a vague goal of showing in a gallery. While talking about goals and the business side of art she mentioned how significant she found Elyse Eliot-Los's presentation of [The Business of Art](#) to our group last year.

She is somewhat ambivalent about really pushing the commercial side of art because she is enjoying just painting so much and "I don't feel like competing with my art. I wish I had an agent to do that hard job . . . painting, to me, is life but approaching galleries and selling myself is really hard on my nerves".

She joined the FCA when she felt

We conducted this interview when Colleen had just returned from an art show at a Granville Island hotel. She was still caught up in the excitement of having sold 4 paintings at the show and another 4 on the way out to the show. In spite of this success, enjoyable as it is, it isn't sales that primarily motivates her. She paints because she feels she has something to express. "My dominant sense is the sense of sight, I can see colour, I can see shape and I can see potential paintings."

Her interest in art began at an early age with colouring, drawing and even visiting art galleries by herself as a young girl and she has continued her involvement in

If she hasn't painted in a while

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Member's Profile - Colleen O'Brien .....cont'd

it was time to show her work. At first she wasn't even sure what the Federation was but some people in her life drawing class mentioned it and she knew she wanted to become more involved in a community of artists. "I'm really quite happy to be a part of the Federation because I think, at this time in my development it's very good to show and I think the Federation is quite a professional place to have my work shown."

She found that one of the benefits of membership is the people. "We all relate . . . as artists and creators and that's your peers . . . and that's where I'm happy." She enjoys the networking, critiquing and just working with the other members for example in setting up and volunteering at our shows.

At present, signature status isn't an overwhelming concern. "I'm just in there painting and that's me."

As for the FCA helping her career she mentions how much she enjoys the FCA Gallery in Vancouver, the quality of the work and the friendliness of the volunteers and she just thinks, "I'm part of this! I love the atmosphere there."

She became our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President because she just enjoyed the atmosphere of the group and she enjoyed the meetings. She felt it was an organization in which she could express herself.



## President's Message - Rex Beanland

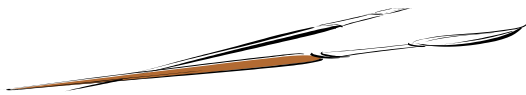
We are certainly off to a great start to 2008. I must mention how successful our January program on photography basics with Tracy Elliot was. We are hoping to have him back sometime in our next club year to do some actual photographing of paintings.

Also we are extremely pleased to announce that we will be having a two day workshop in pastels with Dianna Ponting SFCA the weekend before our April meeting. The details will be available on our website, in the

newsletter or by contacting me. And, as everyone knows, the deadline for submitting images for our much anticipated Leighton Centre Exhibition is towards the end of this month. Combined with our Spring Show at the Haysboro Community Centre this is going to be a very busy spring.

It turns out, as well, that there will be quite a turn over of volunteers this year. Many thanks to everyone who has given so generously of their time and thanks to all the members

who have stepped forward. We still have a number of positions to be filled, which we will be finalizing at our April meeting. I encourage all members to really think about volunteering. We can not function without this type of support. Finally, it was very gratifying to see how well our chapter was represented in the last issue of Art Avenue. Congratulations to all and happy painting to everyone.



## FCA Executive - 2007/2008

Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail Address
President	Rex Beanland	(403) 685-5812	beanland@telus.net
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Rosemary Bennett	(403) 249-4814	rosemarybennett@shaw.ca
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Colleen O'Brien	(403) 208-4478	colleenobr@hotmail.com
Secretary	Lois Fisch	(403) 288-7560	lfisch.vitalvisions@shaw.ca
Treasurer	Lyse Deselliers	(403) 295-3584	landr@telusplanet.net
Past President	Lorna Hannett	(250) 692-7969	lorna12@xplornet.com

## Easel Rentals

### F.C.A. has 54 easels for rent:

1-16 easels: \$5.00 each per day  
 17-25 easels: \$80.00 per day  
 26 - 54 easels: \$100.00 per day  
 (Pick-up one day drop off the next)  
 \$50.00 damage deposit please  
 Phone the easel lady:  
 Janie Lockwood 239-3769  
 janielockwood@hotmail.com

## Newsletter - Calgary Chapter

**FCA - Calgary Chapter Newsletter.** The Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA) is a not for profit organization dedicated to its aim of gradually raising the artists' standards by stimulating participants to greater heights of achievement.

The FCA - Calgary Chapter Newsletter is produced eight (8) times a year. We do not publish June, July, August or December. The deadline for submission to the newsletter is the end

of the month

We're looking for members profiles/biographies to publish in upcoming issues of the newsletter. If you are interested please submit your bio and picture to Kathy Hildebrandt at khilde@shaw.ca or phone at (403) 239-6127.

The Newsletter provides information on persons, places and events of importance, as well as technical information.

Advertise in the Newsletter to reach a premier audience of artists, rates are very reasonable:

Full Page	6 x 7.5	\$110.00
1/2 Page	3.5 x 6	\$60.00
1/4 Page	3.7 x 2.8	\$35.00
1/8 Page	2 x 2.8	\$20.00

## Chapter Meeting Minutes— January 15, 2008

**Attendees:** 38 members in attendance.

### Approval of Minutes for November 20, 2007:

There were no errors or omissions discovered in the November 20 Chapter Meeting. Dianne Middleton made a motion to pass the November 20, 2007 Chapter Meeting Minutes, second by Kathy Hildebrandt. Carried.

### President's Opening Comments:

**Rex Beanland** noted he was very pleased to see so many members in attendance, a good start to the New Year. Rex was also pleased to announce that Dianna Ponting will be our program guest on April 15; she will be showing the success slides with a follow up with a question and answer period.

Rex pointed out that there are some committee and executive positions that will need to be filled. Due to the resignation from the Program Coordinator, Shawn Gamache, the executive put together the following programs:

**February 19** – Katherine Ylitalo an independent curator, writer, artist and educator has agreed to a critique of the members' work.

**March 18** – Karin Richter, a practicing and accomplished instructor in the field of art has agreed to do a demo for the members.

**April 15** – Dianna Ponting, President of the Federation of Canadian Artist in Vancouver will show slides with a question and answer period to follow.

**May 20** – An art garage sale and social for all members to participate in.

**June, July and August** will be

holidays.

Rex would like to thank the members who have committed to the following positions:

**Program Coordinator:** the program coordinator is required to organize a program for about eight Chapter meetings with the guidance of the executive. Lois Fisch will put together pertinent information that would be required to follow for the new program coordinator. **Kathy Hildebrandt, Dawn Heinemyer and Tami Hort** has committed their volunteer services for this position.

**Exhibition Coordinator:** The exhibition coordinator organizes two to three exhibitions per year. Dianne Middleton would like to retire from this position in April. **Holle Hahn, Bonnie Marten, Leslie Scherger and Ken Lampard** has committed to helping Dianne with exhibition shows for the next couple of months. Dianne has offered to give guidance to the volunteers so that they learn the ropes and hopefully they will commit their volunteer services to this position.

**Title Cards:** This position types up all the cards for the two to three exhibitions per year. April Lund has temp plates set up for the computer to follow and she will pass her information on to the volunteer. **Dianne Middleton** has committed her services for this position.

**Jury Coordinator and Easel Lady:** This position entails getting in touch with jury members to jury approximately two to three exhibitions per year and she also rents out our easels

to organizations that require them.

Janie will be leaving this position in April, and in the meantime, Rex would like a member who is interested in this position to contact him in the near future.

### Leighton Centre Show: "Journey in Art"

Rex pointed out that the Leighton submissions are next month and that due to space limitations there is a real possibility that people may only get one painting chosen out of the three that they submit.

**Dianne Middleton** stated that she will put together a condensed package of information on how to enter the Leighton Centre show. This package will be sent to all members.

Dianne will notify the members who are accepted into this show on May 1, 2008.

### Next FCA "Absolutely Art" Show:

Our next FCA show will be on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 at the Haysboro Community Hall from 8 am to 5 pm. April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 will be the jury night. Trevor Countrymen will sponsor this Spring Show once again. He will receive a receipt for this show.

### New Business;

**Lillian Tkach-Matisons** introduced her guest, Karin Andrews who may be interested in joining the Federation.

**Rich Williams** introduced his guest, Diane Williams who may also be interested in joining the Federation.

**Meeting Adjourned** by Kathy Hildebrandt, second by Dianne Middleton.

## Program February 19, 2008 - Critique with Katherine Ylitalo

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Katherine Ylitalo is an independent curator, writer and educator working in Calgary who is pleased to return to the work of the FCA members once again.

Her background as curator of contemporary art at the Glenbow and Nickle Museum, as well as her experience as a studio artist

and teacher gives her an interesting perspective in leading critiques. Katherine graduated from Stanford University with a BA in Painting and an MA in Art Education. She has taught at many Universities and art colleges in Canada.

We look forward to Katherine's critique with great enthusiasm. I encourage all members to **bring as many works of art as you wish to be critiqued by Katherine.**

## Member News/Opportunities/Notices

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### Upcoming Federation Gallery Shows

**Human Figure** - Submission deadline: February 14, 2008

**Still Life** - Submission deadline: February 28, 2008

Visit the [Gallery's website](#) for more information.

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Do you have news you would like to share with our members. If so, please send the information to Kathy Hildebrandt at [khilde@shaw.ca](mailto:khilde@shaw.ca). Please

note that this must be received before the last day of the month for it to be included in the next newsletter.

## Workshops - Dianna Ponting S.F.C.A., P.P.C., M.P.A.C., P.S.A.

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A pastel workshop with Dianna Ponting has been scheduled for

April 12 & 13. Workshop details will be included in the March

newsletter.

## Annual General Meeting - April 15, 2008

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If you are interested in volunteering for a position or would like to nominate someone please give anyone on the executive a call to find out more or to indicate your interest. If you are nominating someone please make sure they are willing

to let their name stand for a position. We have lot's of opportunities for members and you'll enjoy meeting and making friends.

Membership lists, Chapter By-laws and the Financial Report will

be available at the Annual General Meeting.

## Calgary Chapter Meetings are the Third Tuesday of Every Month

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Haysboro Community Hall - 1204 - 89th Avenue S.W. (off Elbow Dr.) Phone (403) 253-1563.