



rideau lakes
artists' association

www.rideaulakesartists.com

The Paint-In

Rideau Lakes Artists' Association Newsletter

Summer 2023

AUGUST 26 & 27

RLAA members all set for annual Paint The Summer art show and sale

With 42 booths confirmed, this year's *Paint The Summer* annual show will see the Westport Arena full of art and artists. (Some of the booths are shared so there will be likely close to 50 individual talents on display.)

The show committee will set up on Friday morning. Artists will come in after 1 p.m., that day to hang their works.

Final details and last-minute art show business will be finalized at the July 14 RLAA general meeting.

NEW RACKS

The new racks ordered by the executive in the spring arrived in mid June and were quickly unloaded, painted and stored by a team of RLAA volunteers who took half an hour off from the Wednesday Paint-In activities when the delivery truck arrived in the North Crosby Hall parking lot.

The following weekend another team



of RLAA helpers, many of them the same players, met at Susan Leslie's home and removed all the RLAA racks and other

paraphernalia from her garage.

It was loaded onto a trailer and into the backs of other vehicles and also delivered to the storage shed at North Crosby Hall.

Now all the RLAA gear has been consolidated in one place.

Well done, crew!

Inside this issue

PAGE TWO:

Dali gets the immersive
treatment

Events

Honour for Leane

PAGE THREE:

Our logo is 10 years old

PAGE FOUR

Workshop Update

Briefly..

PAGE FIVE

No fries needed

President's Message

"Art does not reproduce what we see. It makes us see." (Paul Klee)

In my biography for my paintings I conclude with the statement that art has made me see the ordinary as extraordinary and I truly believe that.

Since I have been a member of this art association (1997), I have seen so many of our members take an ordinary everyday scene or idea and produce some of the most outstanding works of art.

Over the years our association has grown and shrunk and grown again to its current inspiring group of artists, and I think I can safely say that we produce a wide variety of ideas and styles that cover the whole spectrum of tastes.

With our upcoming *Paint The Summer* show I believe we will be presenting works of art that will appeal to everyone's tastes and we have the ability to produce an amazing event.

The Show Committee is working hard to ensure it is well presented and is well advertised; now it is up to those artists participating to do the rest.

I wish everyone participating, whether presenting your art or helping with the various activities at the show, the best of luck and I am sure that you will enjoy the experience.

Take care and keep painting.

Sherry Rogers
RLAA President

AT THE ARSENAL CENTRE IN MONTREAL

Now Dali gets the immersive treatment

On the border between imagination and reality, *Inside Dali* invites visitors on a journey full of dreams, and allows them to discover the life of one of the 20th century's greatest painters.

The show runs from July 19 to September 4 at the Arsenal Contemporary Art space in Montreal.

Inside Dali is an artistic and multimedia exhibition articulated around the life of Spanish artist Salvador Dali (1904-1989).

Combining cutting-edge technology, imagery, illusions and numerous references to the unique world of the Catalan artist,

The show is presented to the public in three sections:

- An Immersive Room that provides visitors with a 35-minute "Daliesque" immersion.

- An Educational Space to help visitors learn more about the work and life of the artist.



•A Mirror Room where visitors are exposed to Dali's surrealist work in a 360-degree setting. The exhibition is produced in Montreal by Tandem Expositions, the company behind

the success of several immersive and 3D exhibitions including *Imagine Van Gogh* and *Lasting Impressions*.

Ticket prices range from \$38 to \$48.
<https://tickets.inside-dali.com>

Events

July 14: Next RLAA meeting, North Crosby Hall, 1.p.m.
www.rideaulakesartists.com

Now until September 4: Guided tours of the National Gallery of Canada and its art. Duration: 45 minutes, \$3 per person, free for members.
www.gallery.ca

July 19-September 4: *Inside Dali*, Arsenal Contemporary, Montreal.
www.arsenalcontemporary.com

August 26-27: RLAA Paint The Summer show—Westport Arena.
www.rideaulakesartists.com

September 16-17: RLAA Workshop with Wendy Quirt—Wildlife and nature painting. Contact Deborah Jodoin (jdjodoin@hotmail.ca)

October 15-16: RLAA Workshop with David Gilmore—Urban watercolours. Contact Deborah Jodoin (jdjodoin@hotmail.ca)

October 27, 2023 -April 7, 2024: *Riopelle: Crossroads in Time* — National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa. Retrospective exhibition examines the 20th-century artistic trail-blazer through a 21st-century lens.
www.gallery.ca



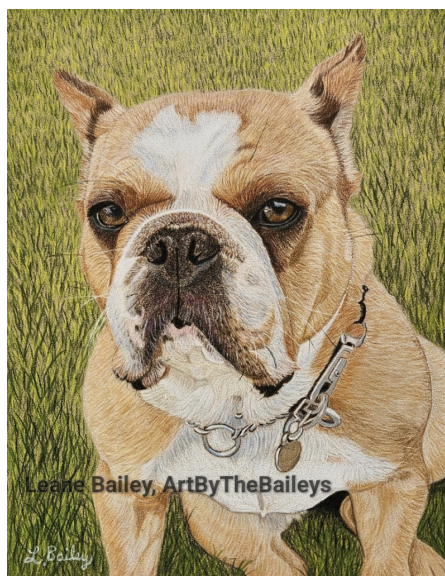
The satellite paint-ins at Deborah Jodoin's home have now been going on for almost a year, and continue to be popular, particularly among those who cannot get to the mid-week sessions at North Crosby Hall. Barbara Osborne Monahan, pictured here on the left along with Laurel Wilson and Deborah, has a full-time job teaching but has joined the RLAA and plans to attend both paint-ins and meetings in Westport this summer.
(Photo by Renee Thibodaux.)

Facebook honour for Leane Bailey

RLAA member Leane Bailey was selected to be one of the featured artists of the month (June 2023) in *The Pencil Box Monthly Art Showcase*, a competition for coloured pencil artists.

The drawing, shown right, was a commissioned pet portrait of a dog named Scarlett, done in Faber Castell Polychromos coloured pencils on Pastlemat paper.

It was a surprise Mother's Day gift for a client's wife. The Facebook link follows (Leanne's is the third one, starting at 0.28 minutes): <https://fb.watch/I9JPBO593F/?mibextid=Nif5Oz>



10 YEARS YOUNG

Our logo celebrates its anniversary

By David Gilmore

At the beginning of 2013, RLAA's president Wayne Williams declared that one of the association's goals was re-design of its logo. The logo in use had been around since the RLAA was founded in the 1990s. It consisted of a horizontally-positioned paint brush



It was felt a new logo would benefit conventional visual communications, as well as a new website which was in the planning stages.

Earlier discussions had looked at the pros and cons of obtaining a more contemporary logo. Eventually the pros won and it was proposed either to hire a designer or call on members for a design via a contest.

It was decided to use the latter approach and all members were encouraged to submit ideas by April 2013. Each member could submit more than one entry and it had to be in colour as well as black and white, if possible.

Several submissions were made and they were narrowed down to three. In the end, based on comments received, some modifications were made and I was fortunate to have my logo design chosen.

So how had I developed the design? For starters, I had to keep in mind the primary requirement to have the logo reflect the art aspect of our organization and the location aspect of RLAA in the Frontenac Arch Biosphere.

Since there would be a graphic and a text component to the logo, these could be dealt with separately.

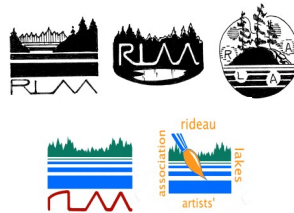
I had always been fascinated by the idea in the Canadian National Railway (CNR) 'worm' logo so my initial ideas used that approach.

I hand drew early ideas then used Word Draw to refine them.



However, these designs did not reflect the unique location of the RLAA.

The next ideas tried to marry up the 'worm' with location symbols.



The breakthrough came with incorporating a palette with the lake-and forest theme. This was refined into the final design.



However, it was still incomplete; it needed to be coloured and have the text added.

The initial colour scheme below based on using complementaries was rejected.



In order to make the logo design suitable for reproduction we hired a commercial artist, Catherine Orfald, who had some experience with internet applications.

After some thought and discussion between Catherine, Wayne Williams and myself, the final version was developed.

You'll note there is a hint of the complementary to green just under the foreground trees.

This version was ultimately accepted by the membership.



Various versions of text were tried once the logo graphic was established.



rideau lakes artists' association



rideau lakes artists' association

The latter text arrangement has been chosen for the masthead on the newsletter and correspondence, with the addition of the website address at the bottom; although the graphic without text has been used occasionally instead.

Logos are largely symbolic but need to follow the principles of good art such as pleasing composition, tonal arrangement, colour balance and format.

It was an interesting exercise to deviate from the usual pleasures of making landscapes and portraits, and, was a source of some satisfaction.

(David Gilmore, an RLAA member for many years, arranges speakers for the association's monthly meetings.)

Workshop update

By Deborah Jodoin

Since taking over the workshop role I have spent quite a bit of time thinking about RLAA history and where we are now. I am a regular paint-in attendee and though I am probably quite biased I think interacting with other artists and volunteerism is the heart of RLAA.

I consider myself in the middle of the skill level when I think of the variety of skills of our members, which suggests to me that what interests me will likely interest other people as well.

All this to say that I am enthusiastic about having members of RLAA come and share their skills with the rest of us, who may want to explore different mediums. And the workshops are great for this.

Kanata-based wildlife and nature painter Wendy Quirt has

been booked to teach a workshop September 16th and 17th. We don't as yet have enough people signed up to cover expenses, but we're getting close. So if you are interested please sign up ASAP.

On October 15th and 16th. David Gilmore is going to be teaching a workshop on urban painting with watercolours. You will have access to David's impressive experience and teaching skill. I am signing myself up for that one!

In late winter/early spring I have talked Riley Garner into doing a workshop focusing on oil painting. More information on that later.

In May of 2024 Aili Kurtis (see below) has agreed to come back and do a pastel workshop. More on that coming as well. I will have sign up sheets at the July meeting.

Briefly...

Donna McPhail to show at the Perth Union Library

Donna McPhail has been booked for a show at the Perth Union District Library for the months of August, September and October.

TVO's The Agenda asks about immersive art

Why are millions of people flocking to hi-tech immersive shows like *Van Gogh Alive*, *Frida Kahlo*, *King Tut*, and Shakespeare's *The Tempest*? Or cultural monoliths like *The Office* and *Stranger Things*? In April, TVO's *The Agenda* asked art critics for their take. To learn more visit: <https://www.tvo.org/video/is-immersive-art-real-art>

National Gallery tours

There will be public guided tours from Sunday, July 2, 2023 to Monday, September 4, 2023. Explore the National Gallery of Canada and its extensive art collections with a Gallery guide. Learn more about the building's iconic architecture, and discover must-see works of art. www.gallery.ca

New Elliot Clinic venue Co-ordinator needed

The RLAA is looking for someone to take over as venue co-ordinator for the Elliot Clinic in Perth. Currently, the change-overs are every four months, but could be every two months for someone with more time. There are currently 13 spots at the clinic. Please contact Ben Bennett (bbc@rideau.net).



Aili Kurtis, a well-known local landscape artist based in Westport, who has years of experience teaching, gave a session on portrait painting in May. She spent the first morning discussing the history and the development of portrait painting, outlining the anatomy of the head and working from establishing form, light and shadow to detail. The first day's afternoon session included a model. The second day each student worked on a chosen subject.

(Photo by Deborah Jodoin.)

The fine print

The Paint-In is the official newsletter of the Rideau Lakes Artists' Association. Our activities include oils, watercolours, acrylics, and other mediums. We hold our monthly meetings at the North Crosby Hall, south of Westport. They are scheduled on the second Friday of each month at 1p.m., except for the month of February when no general meeting is held. For an up-to-date monthly meeting and paint-in schedule please check our website at www.rideaulakesartists.com.

Advertising

Business card ad (3.5 ins by 2 ins) - \$25 for one year
Display ad (3 ins by 6 ins) - \$50 for one year.

If you have workshops, seminars etc., that you would like to advertise in this newsletter we have a one-time cost of \$10 per ad.

To submit articles to the *Paint-In*, or for more information on advertising, please contact newsletter editor Ben Bennett at bbc@rideau.net.

A BIG FAN OF A SMALL PROJECTOR

No fries needed with this Burger....

By Barb Rielly

Have you ever tried to use an old-style art projector? You know the one. It has an incandescent bulb in it and only enlarges so far before everything goes fuzzy. Unless the room is completely dark it is effectively useless and those bulbs burn out fast. These old-school projectors aren't cheap either and given that they don't work very well they become expensive paper weights. Digital mini-projectors are not a whole lot more than the old-school ones, and solve a lot of problems.

I had written an entire product review on my own two-month-old mini-projector, only to discover they don't make it any longer. So instead, I will tell you what I want from a mini-projector so you can figure out what you want and what you are willing to pay for.

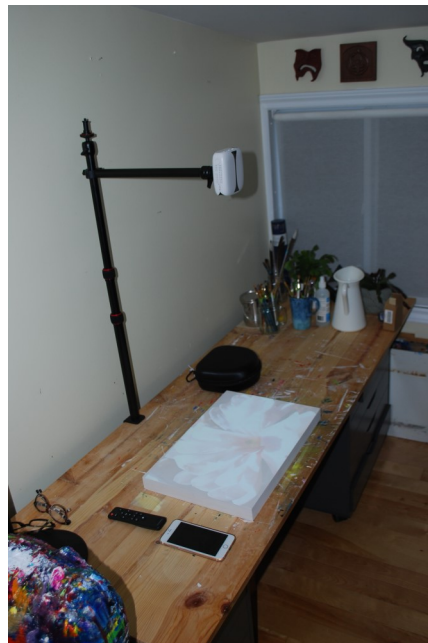
My projector is a *Vankyo Burger 101*. If you can find one, BUY IT. I paid \$169 plus tax. Not bad. I also paid an additional \$100 more or less for a two-part mount, and will get into why I chose that shortly.

WHAT I LOVE

Here's what I love about my Burger, and what you should think about when looking at a mini-projector.

The ability to scale the size of your work up and down is a biggie. A fixed projector will not do that. Look for one that can be mounted on a tripod or armature, preferably with a 1/4 screw mount, as it is really easy to get bits that fit. I purchased a very stable two-part mounting system that lets me move the projector up or down to get the size I want. The arm of the mount allows me to change the angle so I can project down or forward. I prefer to project downwards so I can work easily at my desk. It may be possible

to put a fixed projector on an adjustable mount IF the projector is very lightweight and IF it has Keystone, a feature that adjusts for parallax (when the angles aren't perfect). The Burger can also project images up to 100 diagonal inches. That is plenty big enough for me, though there are many that can project larger images.



My Burger has Bluetooth and wi-fi, which means if my phone (or iPad) is on the same wi-fi connection as the Burger I can mirror images from my phone to the Burger. I can adjust the image to suit from my phone. Love it. HDMI, memory stick and card ports etc., are also good features, and some allow you to mirror from your computer. Alas, my Burger does not let me use my Mac but nothing is perfect. If you prefer to work from your computer you will want to ensure that your choice can do that.

AWESOME

Built-in batteries are awesome. Think about working in a darkened room, having spent time getting everything

exactly where you want it and then tripping over a cord. Need I say more? Some units have built-in batteries; some do not.

Brightness. The Burger is bright enough that you can work in broad daylight. Pulling curtains helps for sharpness but isn't necessary. Nice. Some mini-projectors are brighter than others. Brighter is better, so the higher the lumen number the better. Don't check by looking right at the bulb. Did I mention the LED light won't burn out every few uses? Most mini-projectors are LED these days.

My Burger is not recommended for use with PowerPoint, Word or Excel but honestly, these days, that doesn't matter so much to me. It will play movies and music, apparently, but again, I don't care.

DO MORE

You might care about being able to do more than just enlarge images with your projector and may want to go more upscale than my humble Burger. Look for projectors you can add speakers or headphones to as the built-in speakers are often found lacking.

We are all artists; we can all draw, and I am sure we have all tried the many ways of enlarging images. Grids work, to a point. If you can find a *Vankyo Burger*, buy it. There are many mini-projectors on the market. Some are better than others, but I suspect all of them beat the light bulb and magnifying glass style projector. There are too many YouTube video reviews to list, and some of them are getting older but might be valuable to help inform your decision, so have a look. I love my Burger and I hope you can find one of your very own, or at least a good substitute.

(Barb Rielly is the lady who keeps us up-to-date about meetings, minutes etc., as RLAA's secretary.)