PAINTERLOGUE #18
JUNE 2020
IAN CARTER ARTIST

Laser Photo Copy
See Painterlogue #17 for the process.

Completed Acrylic Mixed Media Painting

SPOTLIGHT ON COLOUR: SCARLET LAKE

Watercolour Stick

Oil Paint

Scarlet Lake is a vibrant red lake pigment; lake pigments are organic pigments derived from plants or the Mexican cochineal, a small scaled insect. The cochineal produces a colour that is a vivid red with a high tinting strength, but it is light sensitive and therefore historically considered a fugitive colour. Red lakes were admired for their brilliancy, but also frustrating because they were not light-fast.

Historically, in Renaissance and Baroque paintings, red lakes were used as glazes to add richness to fabrics and tapestries. Lake pigments were also a common part of the 17th-century Dutch artist's palette, despite being liable to fade. They generally used lakes as glazes and mixed with other colours. For example, Vermeer is known for using a red lake to mix purple by combining it with natural Ultramarine and he created his famous fleshy pinks by mixing red lake with Flake White. In ‘Margaret, the Artist's Wife', painted in 1439 by Jan van Eyck, ultraviolet light reveals that the opaque red of her dress is vermillion covered in three layers of a red lake glaze.

Scarlet Lake is a modern-day orange-yellow version of a red lake colour, formulated to be light fast and reliable. The name stems from a type of finest English woollen cloth called scarlet cloth which was dyed red and worn by nobility as a symbol of status.

FUN SKETCHING

Non-representational Seascape

Mary Ann bought me a calligraphy pen which was made by a company in Italy. We were in San Miguel de Allende, SMA, when she ordered it to be sent to SMA as a Christmas present for me. It arrived at our casa de San Dimas about two weeks later! Anyway, I used it a lot in SMA for non-representational works, some of which I brought back with me to Vancouver. This fun piece above, was created using the pen and India ink, watercolours and spattering.

Non-representational Rough Seas.

I am having fun exploring the use of my IndiGraph pen and calligraphy pen with some watercolour. Next I will try mixed media and maybe try this with acrylics to see what happens.

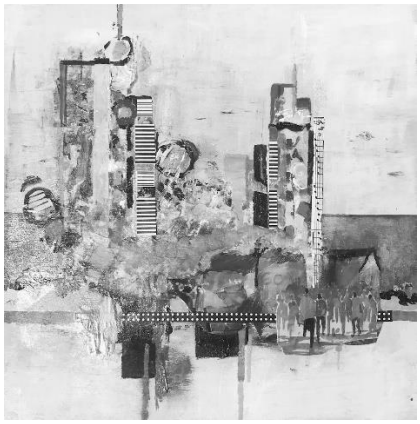
One of my artist friends asked me what type of instructional art books I read.
So, here's a list of some.
"Starving" to Success, by J Jason Horejs.
Carlson's Guide to Landscape Painting, by John F. Carlson. This is still one of the best books about painting.
Art & Fear, by David Bayles and Ted Orland.
Artist Survival Skills, How to Make a Living as a Canadian Visual Artist, by Chris Tyrell.
Mastering Composition by Ian Roberts.

This watercolour was jury selected for the FCA Online exhibition, June 15 to July1, 2020.

Rhododendron Wood and Meadow
16" X 12"

I began with a 16” X 16” X ¼” birch board, and placed somemarks on it using black acrylic paint. On a piece of tissue paper, I made marks using black, red oxide and white.The red oxide and white were mixed to create various shades of pink

Next I painted some areas with white gesso mixed with Titanium White, after that dried I painted on some pinkish areas. After it had dried I took strips and bits from the tissue paper, applied gel on the area I wanted to place the pieces, and then after placing them I applied gel over the pieces to glue them down. This concluded the underpainting for “Downtown”. The finished painting is on the left below.



DownTown and Country DownTown and Country Values

House Over The Lake

I added a “return” of trees and rocks to this painting because I wasn’t sure about the diagonal from top left to bottom right, so I added trees, two people on the rock outcrop and a lake.

The below mixed media acrylic entitled “Landscape with Trees, Rocks and Lichen”, is an interesting collection of collage, stencils, papers and paint to establish a three dimensional effect and mystery?

Previous Painting Finished Painting

I decided the brown sky was invasive and didn’t help the painting, so I painted the sky a mixture of Cobalt Blue, Cerulean Blue and Titanium White.

As of today, June 12, 2020, the Federation of Canadian Artists released the link to the "Landscapes" on-line exhibition.

https://federationgallery.com/show/landscapes

Please scroll down alphabetically to "C" to find my work. I am very pleased to make the selection process because this work is one of twelve scenes of tree landscapes, and living next to the Rhododendron Wood at UBC and having access to Pacific National Park; the Botanical Gardens and the coastline, I find inspiration in what is around me to paint. It is particularly special through the seasons.

My wife Mary Ann, has almost completed her autobiography. Her editor, Judith Hill, and her Book Designer, Mary Meade, are assisting with the final draft. I have been asked to design the dust jacket!

It was even suggested that during my show next year, probably at VisualSpace Gallery on Dunbar Street, Vancouver, Mary Ann can hold her book signing and sales! I think I will ask Adrian Verdejo, a classic guitarist to play. This is very much in the planning stages but tempus fugit!

I heard today, June 12, that my painting "Dance with Me" was not selected for the P.O.T.E. (Painting on the Edge) exhibition planned by the Federation of Canadian Artists. I have to admit I was surprised, and so were my artist friends. It seemed to suit the title very well! But c'est la vie. The painting is 20" X 20" mixed media acrylic on canvas frame.

Keep safe, keep well.

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