

NYVA President's Message Fall 2011

Another year is upon us at NYVA and my first as President. This is a humbling experience. There are so many talented and capable people [in the North York Visual Arts](#) that I feel privileged to represent you, and look forward to working with you and for you during the next two years.

This past summer saw us mount a beautiful group show at the McKay House in Unionville. This year's show, although only one week in duration, was seen by many in the Markham Unionville area. The works featured were of exceptional quality. It is an important aspect of the NYVA; I feel to show together as a group. We get to see each other's works and get to know one another as artists a little more fully. I for one always look forward to the group show and to seeing how talented and varied are all the artists of our group. Thank you goes out to **Elaine Sugar** and her organizing committee for a job well done.

Several of us also tried our hands at Plein Air. Two outings organized by **Sheila Mitchell** saw us go to Phyllis Rawlinson Park in June and to the Scarborough Bluffs in July. Both were fun outings with other NYVA artists, a non-threatening way to try plein air work and a great learning experience. I strongly recommend you try it next summer.

The Fall has been a busy one so far with three excellent demos already and another two scheduled for November, two more than usual. Sept. 21, **Susan Chater** wowed us all with her Watercolour Demo using terra skin and other non-traditional surfaces, giving great possibilities and motivation for our many Watercolour Artists. Perhaps she has even influenced a few non-watercolourists to give it a try.

In early October the NYVA presented Cuban Oil painter **Ramon Fuentes** who gave an excellent demo on Alla Prima Painting (completing a painting in one sitting) producing a beautiful 16" x 20" oil painting IN LESS THAN TWO HOURS, which was then given as a door prize to our lucky winner **Marta Alvarez**. This was most fitting as Marta acted as Ramon's translator during the Demo. By selling our raffle draw tickets, we also raised money for Senor Fuentes School in Cuba. In addition several members also donated art supplies to be taken back to Cuba.

October 19th saw another interesting and informative demo given by the husband and wife team of **Ona and James Kingdon**. She shared her beautiful portrait watercolour studies with us and James gave a talk on how to improve the quality of photos of our art works. He also gave information about his business which makes high end giclee prints.

Our next demo, **November 7^t** saw **Barry Coombs** doing a critique of members' art works. [...] It was a good learning experience: We all came away with pointers on how to improve our work.

November 16th our fifth demo will feature **John Anderson** who does Impressionist oils. Another one you don't want to miss

More on the next page....



NEWSLETTER / FALL 2011

Hello from your Webmaster/Newsletter Editor **Oksana Romanov!** The NYVA is on [Twitter](#) as [@nyvaCanada](#) now. As always, we continue to provide news bits and updates on our [Blog](#) and [Facebook Fan Page](#). Send your news to me at: Oksana_Romanov@yahoo.com. Below are our artists' Summer & Fall 2011 updates. Enjoy!

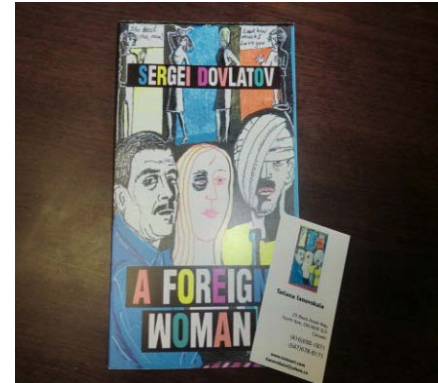


THE NYVA MEMBER NEWS & UPDATES

Joan McGivney's music-themed paintings won the 1st place for Exterior Windows at [#YongeLawrenceBIA](#).

Tatiana Ianovskaia:

The jubilee of writer Sergei Dovlatov is being celebrated in libraries across the globe. The Russian Library in Toronto held an exhibition in his honor. It featured Tatiana Ianovskaia's colored illustrations of his book "A Foreign Woman", the



only one of its kind. This exhibition was running in October.

John Rzewuski: John was on a 4-week trip in Poland over the summer. He took many photos and has recently completed 2 paintings based upon them: a landscape from [Wroclaw](#), last painting in my Landscapes and one painting of people, from Cracow, also last painting in [my "Portraits" gallery](#). In Poland, John visited a unique museum that has only one painting. The painting was done in 1894 by two well-known Polish painters. It took them 9 months and they used 1500 pounds of paint. [The painting](#) is 45 feet high and 350 feet long. Finally, John had an exhibition at **the Fairview Library**, October 1-31.

Mickey Katz and **Shirley Katz** participated in the WGA's Fall Art Show & Sale in addition to the NYVA one.

Maggie Doswell is now at [Wychwood Barns in Studio 162](#).

This is an extension to the very successful [Karma Creative Art Studio](#) where creative classes happen every day. Karma caters to the individual needs of the artist and many classes are specifically tailored to the student. Visit her on Nuit Blanche and check out what's going on in art at the Barns!

ART Tour & Sale

September 24 & 25
October 1 & 2, 2011

September 24th and 25th saw 26 NYVA artists involved in our [11th Annual Art Tour & Sale](#). Two group venues were featured this year, 8 artists at Mitchell Field and 10 artists at Edithvale CC. Also featured were 8 artists who were showing in their homes. The show continued Oct.1& 2 in the home studios only. The Tour was a great success and raised over \$1100 for the [North York Women's Shelter](#). Overwhelming thanks must go to **Maggie Doswell** and her publicity team of **Wendy Hobbs-Blackstock** and **Larry Blackstock, Oksana Romanov** and **Tatiana Ianovskaia** who put in countless hours promoting and delivering brochures to local businesses. The planning, brochure design and organization of this year's tour were all outstanding. Bravo Maggie and crew.

December will see us meeting once again to celebrate the festive season, so make sure you mark your calendar for Wed. Dec. 21

In the meantime, continue to create, in whatever discipline, medium, technique and style moves you. Ward off those chilly fall days with passion and warmth for the soul in wonderful works of art.

Joan McGivney, NYVA President

###

Special thanks to [MPP Kathleen Wynne](#) for supporting The North York Visual Artist in the past 4 years!



John Nussbaum:

During the summer, John conducted three demonstrations on mounting watercolour & acrylic on paper to solid surfaces. Among the many benefits are elimination of glass



reflection & 80% reduction in framing costs. At a recent watercolour exhibition in Belgium, Jake Moll, a noted Toronto artist & senior member of **the Toronto Watercolour Society**, saw about one third of the roughly four hundred paintings displayed in this way. The method is also referred to by Stephen Quiller, a prominent US artist, in his latest book. He describes the growing interest of galleries who have generally tend to avoid glass-framed paintings. It is clear that the method is gaining popularity. Despite the fact that all materials used are artists' quality & have been proved archival, it is still not accepted by some traditional societies for exhibition purposes. In the opinion of many, it is only a matter of time before these changes. The workshops were conducted at **SOYRA** (Society of York Region Artists) & **the Artists Garden Co-operative**.

Sheila Mitchell: Thanks to our members who attended the Plein Air sessions at **PHYLLIS RAWLINSON PARK** and **Scarborough Bluffers Park** this summer. We had fun as usual and [photographs](#) were sent to all members. Since this time I have joined the **Ontario Plein Air Society**. I do enjoy being outdoors and have painted with OPAS in Rouge Park, near the Zoo. The day I was there some of the staff were catching and showing the different types of dragon



flies in the park, seemingly an endless amount of them. It was a Sunday Morning, bright and sunny; there was an air of excitement from the staff, visitors to the park that was quite infectious. I hope to go back soon to paint a scene of the river. I've been using soft pastels for these excursions and now have a French easel dedicated to pastel supplies.

Joan McGivney, John Nussbaum, [Tony Cook](#) & Patricia Stamp participated in the Plein Air outing at Phyllis Rawlinson Park on June 15th. As they scouted for a location to paint and photograph, the group visited the heritage farmhouse of the founder of the farm, George Forster, who built the log cabin in 1934.

