



FCA NEWSLETTER

www.fcacalgary.ca

OCTOBER 2004

When choosing between two evils - I like to try the one I haven't tried before!
Mae West

Profile - Lois Fisch, B.F.A.

Coming Events

- *Program for October - A Critique by Katherine Ylitalo.*
- *Autumn Colours Exhibition, Crescent Heights, Sunday, October 17, 2004.*
- *Winter Frost Exhibition, Strathcona Christie, December 4, 2004.*
- *Winter Thaw Exhibition, Lake Bonavista Village, February 19, 2005.*
- *Art Fusion - A Collaboration of Canadian Artists - May 5 to 13, 2005.*

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On a chilly April morning, Lois Fisch (nee Urquhart) first saw the light of day in a farmhouse in the Rural Municipality of Caron, Saskatchewan. Her grandmother acted as midwife at her birth.

Lois's parents gave up the struggle of the cold reality of farming during the late 1930's and moved to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan where Lois completed her education along with her eight siblings.

Lois's first husband passed away in his early 40's leaving her with three delightful children. Love knocked on her door some years later and she married this very gentle man and moved to Calgary. She took early retirement from the Social Work Department at the Foothills Hospital and at that point in time her life took a 180 turn. She discovered art and poetry. Lois is a published writer and was the graphic artist with the Alexandra Writers Free Fall

Magazine for many years. She studied the art of watercolor under Dan Laba, art instructor at Viscount Bennett. Angelique Gillespie was her next mentor. Finally in her early 60's, Lois took the big step and committed herself to four years of study at the Alberta College of Art and Design. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 2001. ACAD instructors made a profound impact on her art career. Through their guidance and instruction, Lois discovered that when a subject is studied at great length, delightful mysteries unfold that linger hidden (undetected by the human eye) within the delicate folds in the petals and leaves of a plant. It was through this process that she was able to see the unseeable

Her paintings portray the plant as a metaphor for the life cycle of the human being. Her curiosity is continually aroused not

only by the plant's outer aesthetics, the face that meets the viewer, but also the mysterious inner core that houses its unique shapes and spaces. Vivid color, detail and many washes are important to her work.

The Gilded Gallery in Didsbury, Alberta displays Lois's work. She is and has been an active member of the Federation of Canadian Artists for many years and is now the 2004/2005 Program Coordinator with the FCA, her email is lfisch.vitalvisions@shaw.ca. She is also a member of The Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolor.



FCA Executive - 2004/2005

Position	Name	Phone	E-Mail Address
President	Natalie Kurzuk	(403) 254-6697	nakurzuk@telusplanet.net
1 st Vice President	Lorna Hannett	(403) 637-2454	lorna12@telusplanet.net
2 nd Vice President	Marg Stevens	(403) 932-6383	stevenss@telusplanet.net
Secretary	Karen Aulik-Now	(403) 277-1586	mtnpopt@telusplanet.net
Treasurer	Kathleen McCombie	(403) 288-4783	kmmccombie@yahoo.ca
Past President	Neil Locke	(403) 277-0561	nblocke@shaw.ca

"Do not stop thinking of life as an adventure. You have no security unless you can live bravely, excitingly, imaginatively; unless you can choose a challenge instead of a competence."

Eleanor Roosevelt

Jury Results - September 16, 2004



First Place: Mary Salloum
"Azalea" W/C



Second Place: Carol Little
"Kananaskis Glow" Mixed Media



Third Place: Lyla Couzens
"Apples and Lace" W/C

"Winter Frost" Strathcona Christie Exhibition - December 4, 2004



Strathcona Christie Community Centre

277 Strathcona Drive S.W., Calgary

Jury: Thursday, November 18, 2004 (at Crescent Heights)

Door Prize: Members are asked to bring a painting valued at over \$200.00 to the meeting on November 18th (members will select one for the door prize).

This is a Qualifying Show

President's Message - Natalie Kurzuk

While sipping my coffee and reading the Globe and Mail in a cafe last week, I was pondering the life of an artist in today's world, and made note of how busy and somewhat frantic artists seem to be, when an article caught my eye. It was written by Barbara Moses who is an organizational management consultant, speaker, and author of *What Next: The Complete Guide to Taking Control of Your Working Life*. "How to survive the great unknowns" dealt with the uncertainties in our working lives. As we all know, an artist's life "is filled with uncertainties that can paralyse some people with fear". Barbara lists steps we can take "to enhance our feelings of safety and security and manage the anxiety associated with uncertainty" which I will share with you. 1. "See yourself as the owner of a self-managed portfolio of skills and

knowledge that you can articulate and sell to many employers" (galleries). Remember that you are unique, and are the master of your destiny. Stop being competitive with other artists. Try to focus on positive changes you would like to see in your life. 2. "Create your own sense of security. Identify your accomplishments and skills. Whenever you are feeling anxious, remind yourself of your talents." Know that you are where you should be right now, and celebrate and value the moment. 3. "Maintain security in other aspects of your life. For example, take your vacation somewhere you know; surround yourself with things that are familiar." Complete breaks from your routine will have you come back into your studio refreshed. Remember that play triggers the right side of the brain and stimulates creativity.

4. "Most people, when thinking about a bad outcome, overestimate the negative consequences. Imagine the worst-case scenario, then think in concrete terms about how you will respond." I, personally, like to visualize the outcome I would prefer, and have alternative plans ready. 5. "Don't ruminate about a future you can't predict. Focus on what you can control. Live in the present." 6. "Don't act rashly. If you are in an uncertain situation, don't extend yourself financially." 7. "Benefit from the doubt and ambiguity. Avoid knee-jerk reactions to make it go away by, for example, jumping at the first job offer" (first gallery offer). Be selective - do you really need to enter every art show or competition offered to you? Observe and re-evaluate what you are doing as an artist, and find what is really important to you. I hope you find some of these hints helpful in your art career.

General Meeting Minutes - September 16, 2004

Attendees: 38

Meeting commenced 7:00 pm

Approval of Minutes of June 15, 2004:

Lillian Tkach-Matisons motioned to approve the minutes; Sharon Williams seconded. Carried.

President's comments and announcements

Natalie welcomed the membership to the first FCA meeting at Crescent Heights Community Centre. She announced that due to a shortage of jurors with SFCA designation the "Autumn Colours" show will be a non-qualifying show.

Treasurer's Report

Report read by Natalie Kurzuk in the absence of the treasurer.

Art Fusion, National Show sponsored by Calgary Chapter May 6-13, 2005.

Lorna Hannett reported. Letters are available to contact potential sponsors, storage space is needed for paintings, and FCA pins are available for sale as a fundraiser. Volunteers for the show can sign up on the FCA Calgary web site.

Programs

Lois Fisch reported. Discussion

followed regarding a Christmas program at the November meeting. It was decided that members are to bring a small (approx. 4x6) painting, anonymously gift-wrapped to be exchanged at the meeting. Informal demos provided by members for programs were discussed, no decision reached.

Exhibitions

Lillian Tkach-Matisons reported on the progress for Autumn Colours to be held Oct. 17, at the Crescent Heights Community Centre. The volunteer sign-up sheet was circulated. Set-up of easels and art on the walls was discussed. The displaying of bio books was discussed and it was decided that each member may bring only one bio book (if cards are brought they should be included within the book). Each person in the show should bring a plate of "goodies".

Membership

Rosemary Bennett reported. Discussion followed regarding jurying from supporting to active membership. Procedures are outlined on the FCA Calgary website.

Guests and New Members

Guests: Allison & Doug Logie of

Guided Gallery in Didsbury

New members: Donna Joplin, Krystyna Laycraft, Marg Metcalf, Joan Moore, Dee Poisson, Jean Blackall, Charlie Fong

Artist Opportunities

Natalie Kurzuk distributed a flyer from "Currys" for artist materials.

Calyx show at Crescent Heights Com. Centre, Oct. 23, 2004

Art Walk flyers and maps distributed.

Lois Fisch, show in Didsbury at Guided Gallery

Natalie Kurzuk, art in Jamaica show and art at show at Triangle Gallery, Calgary

Diane Knight, Mexican Painting Adventure Feb. and/or March 2005, register by Oct. 31, 2004

Art Theory Discussion, Art and Soul Gallery, Sept. 22, 7:00 PM, "Chaos & Creativity"

Motion made to adjourn meeting:

Carol Little motioned, Norma Barness seconded, all approved. Meeting adjourned.

Program:

Laura Pope—A Watercolour Slide Presentation

Program - Critique by Katherine Ylitalo

Lois Fisch, Program Coordinator

Katherine received her B.A. Fine Arts in painting and printmaking at Stanford University, Stanford, California in 1972 and received her M.A. Education in Art with a minor in History in 1973. She also was a Special Student of

Ceramics at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in 1975. Her exceptional career covers many areas such as Horticulturist, Instructor, Writer, Editor, Curator, Juror, Practicing Artist and Volunteer activity that spans many areas. Katherine won many award

for her written material in catalogues, reviews, essays, stories and much more... She is a very exciting individual who speaks many languages and has lectured in many Colleges and Universities. Katherine has also served as a thesis advisor and a critic for design projects in Calgary.

News - Notices - Opportunities

The Calgary Chapter

is proud to host an exhibition to celebrate Alberta's 100th Anniversary

Art Fusion

a collaboration of Canadian artists
This exhibit will be on display at both

Gainsborough Galleries

441 5th Avenue SW, Calgary, AB
May 6th—13th, 2005

Reception and Awards Ceremony:
May 6th, 2005

&

Federation Gallery

1241 Cartwright Street, Vancouver, BC
May 24th—June 5th, 2005

Entry deadline: February 5, 2005.

Entry fee: \$20/image.

Submit completed entry packet to:
Federation Gallery

1241 Cartwright Street, Vancouver, BC
V6H 4B7

For more information, contact Marg
Stevens (403) 932-6383 or email at
stevenss@telusplanet.net.

The *Art Fusion* entry form is available at
www.artists.ca

Click on *FCA Events*

FCA Programs: Program Coordinator: Lois Fisch

Thursday, November 18, 2004 -
Christmas Social and Jury night

Eveline Kolijn and Lois Fisch are working on an exciting evening for all members. We ask that each person who would like to exchange gifts to either bring a gift under \$10.00 or a painted self-made card (painted by that member). The wrapped gifts and cards will be put into a basket, everyone will take a number and whoever has number 1 will pick her/his gift first and so on. We will decide on goodies and

refreshments in the next Newsletter.

Lois Fisch has a Fall Show and Sale Saturday Nov. 6 - 7th at the Gilded Gallery in Didsbury, Alberta from 10 am - 5 pm.

Natalie Kurzuk is having a solo exhibition at the Terra Cotta Dudes Gallery in Black Diamond, Alberta. The show runs from October 22 - November 22. She is presently showing her sculptural art pieces in the show, "Format to Facet: Body Ornament West" at the Triangle Gallery in Calgary until October 30, 2004.

Kimberley Cook's painting "Summer Swing" has been accepted by the Society of Canadian Artists (SCA) for inclusion in their 37th National Open Juried Exhibition held in Montreal Quebec. Oct. 15-24, 2004 www.societyofcanadianartists.com Kimberley Cook has also been accepted into the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolour (CSPWC) this spring.

Lyla Couzens has been chosen by International Artist to be included in a 2005 book publication titled "How Did You Paint That? 100 Ways to Paint Still Lifes and Florals Vol. II.

Baja Painting Adventures - Diane Knight After a successful first year, Diane Knight is hosting her second year of "Baja Painting Adventures" in February and March of 2005. Each "adventure" lasts a week, and is intended to provide participants with the opportunity to explore the different facets of the

area around Los Cabos with a small group of artists - to paint, wander, eat and absorb the environment with as much, or as little, guidance as you want.

Mornings are typically spent sketching or painting at different locations. The afternoons are free to explore the surroundings of the quaint Mexican town of San Jose Del Cabo, enjoy the beach or other activities such as horseback riding or ATV riding on the beach. Dinners are arranged at a different restaurant each night, giving participants a chance to sample a variety of local cuisine.

In 2005, the Painting Adventure weeks run from February 6th - 12th, or March 6th - 12th. The deadline for registration is October 31, 2004 and registration is limited to the first 12 deposits received for each week. For more information please visit Diane's website at www.dianeknight.ca or contact Diane at (403) 251-1013, e-mail diane@dianeknight.ca

Invitation to the First Open National Portrait Exhibition -- Hosted by Masters Gallery and the Alberta and National Chapters of the Canadian Institute of Portrait Artists. The Exhibition viewing starts October 19-23, 2004 with the official opening on Thursday October 21, at 6:00 pm. Address-815C 17th Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta. For more information CIPA website www.portraitscanada.ca Congratulations to Calgary Chapter FCA Members -- Marija Petrecevic, Jean Pederson, Kathryn Sherman, Lorna Hannett, Jeanette McClelland and Rose Zivot for being Juried into this National Exhibition.

FCA 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 nine (9) times a year. We do not publish July, August or December. The deadline for submission to the newsletter is

five week days after 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 Marg Stevens at stevenss@telusplanet.net or phone (403) 932-6383.

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