

Biggs Museum of American Art

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Art À La Carte

Biggs Museum to Host Five Workshops with Local Artists in Fall 2010
Participants invited to bring basket dinner and wine.



Art À La Carte



Dover, DE – Fall evenings will be filled with beautiful foliage and art at the Biggs Museum with the launch of a new workshop program: *Art À La Carte*. In September 2010, the Biggs Museum will introduce this new workshop program: a series of four painting workshops and one demonstration featuring local artists. Each artist will discuss modern painting techniques in reference to their own personal style. Instruction on finding a suitable subject and creating a preliminary drawing will be provided along with painting techniques and critiquing by the instructor. An exhibition of artwork by each of the participating artists will be featured for the week leading up to the class, providing Museum visitors the opportunity to support local artists and learn about contemporary artists in the area.

Local artists that will lead the workshops are Gavin Standish, H. Earl Abbott, Maria Keane, Susan Johnston, and Mary Putnam. Techniques to be taught at the workshops include decorating painting, still life painting with acrylic, still life painting with oil and watercolor, landscape painting using acrylic and water color painting. Participants will have an opportunity to dabble in art and dine at *Art À La Carte*; leaving the workshop with a painting and a full stomach! Participants of this program are invited to bring their own picnic basket and beverage to enjoy during the workshop. Wine is welcome!

Each workshop will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise notes). The participation fee for each *Art À La Carte* workshop is \$18 for members and \$20 for not-yet members.

Event Quick-Stats

Event: *Art À La Carte*: Decorating Painting Using Acrylic with Gavin Standish

Date: Thursday, September 9

Time: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Price: \$18 Members/ \$20 Not-yet Members

Description: Enjoy an evening with local artist Gavin Standish and learn how to paint a simple landscape using acrylic paint on canvas. Gavin will give instruction on finding a suitable subject and creating a preliminary drawing will be provided along with painting techniques and critiquing. Bring your own basket dinner and beverage to this workshop. Wine is welcome! Gavin Standish is an artist with an avid interest in American History and the decorative arts. In the past thirty years, she has studied all over the United States with numerous master painters in an effort to continue to develop her painting technique and grow as an artist. She mainly focuses on early American styles like the Pennsylvania Dutch and early Tole panting. Both these styles feature stroke work and are often antiqued to give them an aged look. Gavin has been teaching decorative painting using a step-by-step method for more than thirty years.

Event: *Art À La Carte*: Still Life Painting Using Acrylic with H. Earl Abbott

Date: Thursday, September 23

Time: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Price: \$18 Members/ \$20 Not-yet Members

Description: Enjoy an evening with local artist H. Earl Abbott as he instructs you how to complete a still life painting using acrylic. Earl will give instruction on finding a suitable subject and creating a preliminary drawing will be provided along with painting techniques and critiquing. Bring your own basket dinner and beverage to this workshop. Wine is welcome! Gavin Standish is an artist with an avid interest in American History and the decorative arts. In the past thirty years, she has studied all over the United States with numerous master painters in an effort to continue to develop her painting technique and grow as an artist. H. Earl Abbott, Jr. is a native of Dover, Delaware and has been a practicing professional artist since 1987. He specializes in realistically portraying Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore marine and agricultural landscapes through both plein-air and traditional studio painting.

Event: *Art À La Carte*: Still Life Painting Using Watercolor and Oil Pastel with Maria Keane

Date: Thursday, October 7

Time: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Price: \$18 Members/ \$20 Not-yet Members

Description: Enjoy an evening with local artist Maria Keane as she instructs you on the proper technique for using watercolor and oil pastels to create a still life. Maria will give instruction on finding a suitable subject and creating a preliminary drawing will be provided along with painting techniques and critiquing. Bring your own basket dinner

and beverage to this workshop. Wine is welcome! Maria Keane works in Wilmington, Delaware as a painter and printmaker. Her paintings and drawings inspire her digital printmaking studio work. Maria is an adjunct professor of Fine Arts at Wilmington University in New Castle, Delaware. She is a juried member of the National Association of Women Artists, N.Y.; a member of the Da Vinci Art Alliance of Philadelphia, PA and the Howard Pyle Studio Group in Wilmington, DE.

Event: *Art À La Carte: Art at Lunch: Watercolor Demonstration with Susan Johnston*

Date: Wednesday, October 13

Time: 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Price: \$18 Members/ \$20 Not-yet Members, Includes lunch

Description: Enjoy lunch with Susan Johnston as she shows the audience how a watercolor painting evolves from an idea to a completed work of art. Susan Johnston's involvement in the arts has involved teaching in the public schools as well as producing fine art for exhibitions and juried shows. Over the years, she has developed several series that reveal her interests in history and architecture. Her work was accepted into the prestigious Juried Exhibition at the Cultural Center in Charleston, West Virginia.

Event: *Art À La Carte: Landscape Painting Using Acrylic with Mary Putman*

Date: Wednesday, October 21

Time: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Price: \$18 Members/ \$20 Not-yet Members

Description: Enjoy an evening with local artist Mary Putman as she demonstrates and instructs participants on how to paint a landscape using acrylics. Mary will give instruction on finding a suitable subject and creating a preliminary drawing will be provided along with painting techniques and critiquing. Bring your own basket dinner and beverage to this workshop. Wine is welcome! Mary Putman is a well known folk landscape artist of the Mid-Atlantic region. She has been featured in group and individual shows in Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. Born and raised in rural southeastern Michigan, she became accustomed to painting wide, flat stretches of lonely farmland. However, her home town later became a suburb of Detroit leaving her with ambivalent feeling about land development which has served as inspiration and an ongoing theme in her artwork.

About the Museum

The Biggs Museum seeks to serve a diverse public as a regional museum of fine and decorative arts, made from 1700 to present, representing the State of Delaware and the surrounding Mid-Atlantic region. The Biggs Museum engages audiences through a compelling program of temporary exhibitions and programming. The Biggs Museum encourages the development of creativity and an appreciation for art by offering a comprehensive slate of educational programming for all ages. The Biggs Museum of American Art is a private, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

Registration Information

All events and programs are held at the Biggs Museum. Pre-registration and prepayment (where applicable) are required for all programs and events (including *Biggs Kids* and *Mini-Masters*). Pre-registration can be completed by:

Phone: (302)674-2111, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

On-Line: visit the Gift Shop at www.biggsmuseum.org. Visit the Education Section to register for *Biggs Kids* and *Mini-Masters*.

Pre-registration for *First Friday* programs are accepted only by phone.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday through Saturday; 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Sunday; 1:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Admission: Biggs Museum is free to the public year-round. Fees may apply to certain programs and special events.

The Biggs Museum of American Art

406 Federal Street

Dover, DE 19901

302.674.2111

www.biggsmuseum.org

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Top Images:

Left: *Silkscreen Workshop, July 2008*

Center: Art À La Carte Logo

Right: *Watercolor Workshop, November 2008*