

RAL NEWSLETTER **Rockville Art League**

RockvilleArtLeague.org

Vol. XXIV No. 10

June 2015

NEXT MEETING: June 4th, 6:30PM
Open Board Meeting with Dinner Provided!

Open Board/Dinner Meeting on June 4th



Dear Members,

Fred Ruckdeschel strongly encourages all RAL members to attend an open Board/Dinner Meeting on June 4th at 6:30PM. We would like your input on what you like/don't like about RAL.

It is with deepest pride and greatest pleasure that we will welcome you!
We invite you to relax, pull up a chair
and we will provide your dinner!

Be our guest! Be our guest!
Put our service to the test

Tie your napkin around your neck,
And we'll provide the rest!

RAL 2015 Spring Show Recap:

Thank you to everyone who participated in the RAL 2015 Spring Members Show! Overall there were 156 submissions from 81 different artists. We were able to hang 95 wall works and accepted all sculpture into the show. Thanks to all who turned out for the opening, despite the hot weather. I heard a lot of good comments about the show from those who came. Congratulations to Robert LeMar for winning "Best in Show" and to all our other award winners.



Now we all want to know what the “Lady on the Telephone” was talking about! Our judge, Gavin Glakas, had a lot of good things to say about the show, which you can see on video on the RAL website. Below is an excerpt from his judge’s statement:

“When I judge a show, I’m basically looking for two elements: idea and execution. I want to see work done with a high level of talent that is depicting visual or psychological ideas that I find interesting and challenging. I want to see an artist set up a difficult or intriguing problem and then try to solve it in a unique way. Sometimes I am drawn to work that looks like it was a stretch for the artist - an ambitious reach for something that is almost just beyond their grasp. Other times, I respond to the seeming ease and masterful handling of something simple and concise. Sometimes the idea is better, sometimes the execution is better, and every once in a while, when lightning strikes, idea and execution exist in a perfect harmony of excellence. I am just one person with one opinion. If your piece didn’t make it into this show, keep working so it wins an award in the next one.” –Gavin Glakas

Many thanks to the members of the Members Show Committee: Elaine Cafritz, Martha Campos, Sabiha Iqbal, Lois Levitan, Cathy McDermott, Karen Norman, and Emily Pearce; and thanks to all who volunteered. We couldn’t do it without you!

--Emily Pearce



RAL Membership Survey: It’s Complete!

Thanks to everyone who took the time to fill out the RAL Membership Survey. The survey has now ended—we had 60 members fill out the survey, which is a response rate of about 44%. Artists from all media types were represented. Several respondents had just joined RAL in the past year, others had been members for several years, and some had been members for 20 years or more. Most respondents had participated in at least some RAL activities in the past year. The activity that most respondents participated in was the Members Show at Glenview Mansion, followed by monthly meetings. The most important RAL activity, according to those who responded, was the Members Show at Glenview Mansion, followed by monthly meetings, and workshops. There was also some interest in outside shows. 71% of respondents said they would still be a member of RAL if there was a volunteer requirement. The overall consensus among respondents was that a requirement of 1-2 hours a month would be doable. The major hurdle to volunteering for RAL was lack of time, followed by health issues experienced by members or those they care for. While those responding do not represent the entire membership, this survey will be useful to the Board in considering RAL programs and membership rules going forward. A summary of the survey findings will be posted on the RAL website by the end of May.

We will further discuss the survey findings and how to apply them at the upcoming meeting on June 4. Please come and be part of the conversation!

--Emily Pearce

RAL Board Search Update:

Our many thanks go to Nancy Hannans and Sallye Mahan-Cox for volunteering to be the new RAL Program co-chairs. They will replace Liliane Blom in planning the topics and guest speakers for our monthly meetings.

There are still Board positions waiting to be filled: Vice President, Communications Chair, and Secretary. Please be in touch with Fred Ruckdeschel if you are interested: fred.ruckdeschel.and.art@gmail.com.



Also, if you don't have time to be on the Board but want to be more involved, please consider joining one of the show committees. For more information, contact Emily Pearce: ekepearce@gmail.com



RAL Members' Juried Show Reception

Thanks so much to Martha Campos, Elaine Cafritz, Maria Bhorjee, Angie Lacy for a great reception! Another thank you to Eric Goss, Merry Lymn, Sara Sittig, and Renata Vacari for helping out at the reception.

Critique by Penny Kritt

Putting *Movement* in your Art

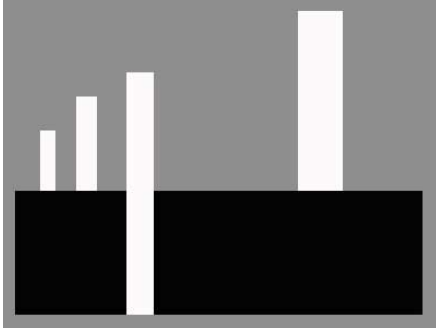
If you're looking for a way to add a little extra something to your compositions, try adding some *movement*. Even though you are capturing a moment in time, you can hint at the future. That gets the viewer more involved in the story you are telling. A few simple techniques can give your viewer *a sense of what will happen next*.

This is a powerful tool and the artist should use it wisely. Your choices in shape, size, location and direction can calm your viewer, amuse him or it can give him a sense of impending doom!

For example, a crystal wine glass standing on a table is a standard – and trite – presentation. Laying it on its side with part of it dangling off a table implies peril! Add a hand almost touching the glass and now you have created a mystery. Is the hand reaching to save the glass or does it belong to the villain who pushed it over?

Making Shapes Move:

Here are a few rules you can use to set an emotional tone to your art. Horizontal shapes are safe. Vertical shapes are strong. In the graphic below, there's a sense of order and stability.



Diagonals change everything!



Aren't you just itching to push that large white shape upright? If you don't, it might topple and hurt the other white shapes as they fall like dominoes. The more shapes lean, the more excitement or danger they create.

You can't paint *air*, but you can show its impact on things. Showing the effects of wind can give a composition anything from the serenity of a gentle breeze to the impending destruction of a tornado. Sailboats are perfect examples of how this applies. Below, when the mast is upright, it's a calm day. When the mast is tilted like in the image on the right, we feel a sense of speed and danger. It's not a case of right and wrong, but the emotional response is very different in the second photo.

A good composition shares your vision with the viewer. A great one tells the viewer how you *feel* about the subject.



A great way to show movement in art is painting people on the move. Toddlers are the best because they are always slightly off-balance, and hence the "toddle". Having one arm up and the other out to the side adds to the oblique lines of the torso. In **Run to Mama** (below), our little ballerina also has that pudgy baby fat that helps indicate her age. She is moving so fast that the breeze lifts her tutu gives us a peek at her diaper.



Run to Mama

By Penny Kritt/Watercolor on Paper

In **Run for the Bus** (below), this kid is moving even faster than the little girl above. The viewer gets that sense of speed because of how high his right foot is raised off the ground. The higher the foot, the faster the person – or animal – is moving.



Run for the Bus

By Penny Kritt/Watercolor on Paper

In abstract art, you can still give your viewer a sense of speed or a slow, tranquil pace. Look at **Happiness** below and consider all the lines that lead your eye (quickly!) to the dark shape in the upper right corner. Then, as your eye moves down the right side, toward the bottom is that horizontal shape. That stops you as you consider *why* there is this change of direction and *how important it is* in the overall composition. The diagonals create a *fast passage*, the contrasting horizontal lines create a *slow passage*.



Happiness

By Penny Kritt/Acrylic on Canvas

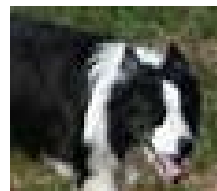
Chain Link (below) is an example of a quiet abstract. The straight lines of the link are occasionally broken up by the horizontal movement of links as they wrap around each other. The whole painting is a midtone that gives a sense of calm and order. The cool background just has a little texture to keep such a big shape from being boring. And the warm chain links also have a little metallic paint to keep the painting from being too calm. Your eye drifts from one area to another and finds something interesting in each one.



Chain Link

By Penny Kritt/Acrylic on Canvas

And last, but certainly not least, is the *gaze*. There are two photos below, each with a dog looking at something. You might be mildly curious about what the dog on the left is looking at. But isn't the stare of the dog on the right making *you just have to know what he's looking at*?



Here's the full story of each dog. Compare not only the intensity of their gaze but also way their feet do – or don't – touch the ground.



And here's a tip for those of you who enter art shows. As a judge, I'm always looking for compositions that have a unique element. Even if the theme of the show is something seemingly tranquil, say, maybe "spring flowers", things can get boring really fast. Give me a painting of a daffodil about to get sucked into a lawn mower and, even if the flower is not technically accurate, that piece would make it into the show in a heartbeat.

So, get moving!

For classes or private lessons, contact Penny at 301/989-1799

©Penny Kritt 2013

MEMBER NEWS

Patricia Zannie, Liliane Bloom and Cynthia Farrell Johnson of RAL will be joining Donna K. McGee, Kathryn Wiley (from the Foundry Gallery), and Carol Vorosmarti in an exhibition of their work entitled, "The Merry Month," from April 29th to May 23rd, 2015 at Gallery B in Bethesda, 7700 Wisconsin Ave, Plaza Level.



The Merry Month

April 29 - May 23, 2015
 7700 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda Md.
 Open Wednesday - Saturday 12 - 6 pm
Reception May 8, 2015 6-9 pm

Donna K. McGee * Patricia Zannie
 Carol Vorosmarti * Cynthia Farrell Johnson
 Kathryn Wiley * Liliane Blom

Gallery B
Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District








Do you have an upcoming show? Or an event that RAL members might enjoy attending?

Please send an email to the newsletter editor! dunnz@erols.com.

ART CLASSES

Computer Art with Penny Kritt

It's fast and simple to use MS Word to sketch out ideas. Then create a finished product to upload to the web. Learn how you can get huge printouts suitable for framing. You can also use it for a roadmap for a painting, now that you know what you want where. All you need to bring is a fully charged laptop loaded with MS Word. If you don't have MS Word, call Penny at 301/989-1799 to see if your program is compatible. Montgomery County Recreation Dept.

Class No. 412565 Tuesday, June 23, 2015
 10am – 3pm Kritt Studio

OR

Class No. 412566 Saturday, July 25, 2015
 10am – 3pm Kritt Studio

Residents: \$65

Non-residents: \$80

TWO DAY ENCAUSTIC MONOTYPES WORKSHOP

Jorge Bernal



I love the encaustic monotype painting process. It is fun, simple and fast. I encourage you to experiment with this medium and make it your own.—Jorge Bernal

Saturday & Sunday 10AM to 4PM
Location: Washington Art-Works
12278 Wilkins Avenue Rockville MD 20852
May 30 & 31

Workshop will cover:

- Equipment required to do encaustic monotypes
- Materials, techniques, and knowledge needed to experience this process
- Making encaustic medium
- Encaustic color stick making process
- Paper types, quality and absorbencies
- Work surfaces: Wood cradled panel substrates, and gesso applications
- Painting & drawing techniques, color stick applications, mark making
- The creative process, ideas and concepts
- Health and safety

Format: Lecture and demonstrations: We will experiment with several types of papers and scrolls. Introduce new tools (mark making),

stamps, soft lead pencils, charcoal, rubber tipped tools, stencils, plastic grid material, bubble wrap in a variety of sizes, soft kitchen utensils, scrapers, clay-modeling tools, etc. We will do additive and subtractive processes, and try various tools and plate temperatures in order to become comfortable with the many possibilities. All this will include plenty of time to paint! Each day we will have Q & A time and a critique of the work.

COST: \$325.00 tax and supplies included. A list of small tools and incidentals for students to bring will be sent prior to the class.

Class limited to 8. If you have any questions, please email me: jorgeluisbernal@gmail.com



Ghost Ranch, NM Art Workshop/Retreat:

Darla Bostick's 8th Annual Ghost Ranch Workshop/Retreat 2015 in Abiquiu, NM 4-10 October. Workshop includes digital photography, watercolors/acrylics, pencil, incorporating text and mixed media work with opportunity for plein air painting in the comfort of a group activity room with floor to ceiling vistas. For 7 days/6 nights relax, enjoy, and create. Lodging and meals are included at the Ghost Ranch property. The Georgia O'Keeffe Landscape Tour will take you where she painted. Visit the O'Keeffe studio/home on tour. Space is limited to 14 participants. Bring the materials you love to work with (or try something new) and join us! The workshop fee is \$495. Room and board at the Ghost Ranch are per their rates. Unclaimed rooms will be

released 1 September. Come and see for yourself why Georgia O'Keeffe loved Ghost Ranch! www.darlabostick.com.
Darla Bostick: 940.320.5660
Email: darlabostickart@gmail.com

Nadia Azumi, local chapter president of Silk Painters International for MD, VA, and DC, holds meetings, workshops and classes in silk painting at her residence in Rockville. For more information please contact her at: nadia@nadiasilk.com

ART OPPORTUNITIES

LOCAL COLOR 2015

August 3 – August 28, 2015

The Artists' Gallery of Columbia invites visual artists to submit original work for a juried show, "Local Color" in our Featured Artist space. Artists age 18 or older living or working in Maryland and DC who can hand-deliver their work are eligible to apply. Information and entry forms are available from Artists' Gallery website at www.artistsgallerycolumbia.com.



CALL FOR ENTRIES

MiniSolos@Touchstone
Guest Artist Exhibit August 7-27, 2015
Exhibition Opportunity for 38 artists
Deadline to Apply: May 26, 2015
Prospectus is attached.

More at www.touchstonegallery.com

Touchstone Gallery
901 New York Ave., NW
Washington DC 20001
Tel: 202-347-2787
E-mail: info@touchstonegallery.com
www.touchstonegallery.com

Request for Qualifications and Preliminary Proposal for Mural at Shaare Tefila Synagogue, Olney, MD--DEADLINE JUNE 12, 2015

Shaare Tefila Congregation in Olney, MD seeks an artist to create a painted mural or artwork in another medium such as metal, mosaic or glass, to fill a significant space on the front wall of its sanctuary. The space for this work is approximately 64 feet long and 7 feet high. It is located above the ark, extends to the ceiling, and surrounds a half-moon window. The artwork need not fill the entire space, but must be of sufficient scale to be appreciated from the front to the back of the sanctuary.

The artwork must be Judaic in theme and will be required to incorporate specific Hebrew calligraphy into the design -- a blessing referencing shining light. Details will be provided to those interested. To receive the details of this request, and how to submit your qualifications and preliminary proposal, please email muralproject4stc@gmail.com with Synagogue Mural Inquiry in the subject line.

Northern Virginia Art Center's new Specials Exhibitions space. The Northern Virginia Art Center is searching for talented professional artists with a cohesive body of work to exhibit in their new Special Exhibitions space in the heart of Crystal City's thriving restaurant district. 380 square feet of gleaming exhibition space available for monthly exhibits of 2D or 3D art! Their full time gallery staff will assist in exhibit installation, process sales of your work, and will coordinate your opening

reception, all for a small fee and low sales commission.

Eligibility: Open; **Deadline:** Ongoing

Entry Fee: N/A

http://novaartcenter.org/our-mission/show-opportunities/?utm_source=PROJECTOR%206-27-13&utm_campaign=Projector&utm_medium=email

Rockville Innovation Center Call for Entries

Rockville Innovation Center is interested in showcasing the work of local artists in their gorgeous location. The RIC is looking to fill its beautiful space with artwork by metro area artists and photographers.

<http://www.visartsatrockville.org/call-for-entries/feast>

Eligibility: Open; **Deadline:** Ongoing

Entry Fee: N/A



DC Photo Grid. The DC Photo Grid is an aggregated map of the city generated from user-submitted photographs, and the DC Crowd-Sourced Video Project offers a constantly looping portrait of the city as viewed by its inhabitants.

http://www.dcphtogrid.com/?utm_source=PROJECTOR+6-27-13&utm_campaign=Projector&utm_medium=email

Eligibility: Open; **Deadline:** Ongoing/**Entry Fee:** N/A

GLENVIEW MANSION CONFERENCE ROOM SHOWS

You can show your artwork in Glenview Mansion for one month if you have received a 1st, 2nd, 3rd or honorable mention award in an RAL juried show. Artists may have both rooms to exhibit in if a second artist doesn't sign up for the same month within two months of the show's start date. The receptions at Glenview mansion are 1:30-3:30 PM on the Sunday after hanging. Preferred drop-off and pick-up times for Glenview Shows are from 9 am to 12 noon. Drop off/pickups are Mondays (unless a holiday). If you are unavailable on the date for pickup, please arrange for someone to pick up for you. There is no room to store your artwork at the Mansion. Note: please contact the mansion management ahead of time if you need to modify the drop-off or pick-up times.

For artwork delivery, please unwrap your work and take the wrappings with you. Please bring pliers (needle nose are easy to work with). You may use the hand truck that is at the Mansion to move your artwork from your vehicle. There is no staff at the mansion available to help you move your artwork into the conference rooms. You are responsible for hanging your own artwork, with help from the Mansion staff. If you don't have labels for your work, please fill out the RAL cards that will be available. If you print your own, print them on card stock. Do not use the sticky Avery labels, unless you adhere them to foam core or card stock.

Contact Diane Jeang, Glenview Member Show Coordinator, (301) 871-1589

or swinedoc@yahoo.com with questions. If you need to contact Julie Farrell, please send an email to jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov.

Monday delivery and hanging: 9AM–12PM / Sunday Gallery Opening: 1:30—3:30PM

Wednesday Pickup: 9AM—11AM

2015	Meber(s)	Monday (generally) Deliver and Hang Before 12 noon	Sunday Gallery Opening 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Wednesday (generally) Pick- up Before 11 am
MAY	RAL Spring Show	Apr. 27	May 3	June 1
JUN	Board Member's Show	June 1	June 7	June 29
JUL	Diane Jeang + Elaine Cafritz	June 29	July 5	July 27
AUG	Joanie Grosfield + Cuba Ricsi	July 27	Aug. 2	Aug. 24
SEP		Aug. 24	Sept. 1	Sept. 28
OCT	Eric Gross (2)	Sept. 28	Oct. 4	Oct. 26
NOV	Emily Pearce + Regina Price	Oct. 26	Nov. 1	Nov. 30
DEC	RAL Winter Show	Nov. 30	Dec. 6	Jan. 4
JAN	Sabiho Iqbal			
FEB	Carlos Garcia (2)			
MAR	Student Art Show			
APR	Fred Ruckdeschel (2)			
MAY	RAL Spring Show			
JUN	Board Member's Show			

For additional information for members hanging in the conference rooms, please refer to the RAL web page: <http://www.rockvilleartleague.org/glenview.pdf>

At least one platter of finger foods (cookies, crackers/cheese, veggies/dip) should be supplied by the RAL artist on the day of the opening reception. Cups/napkins/water is provided by the City of Rockville for opening receptions. The Mansion will be open at 1 pm for the artist on the day of the opening reception.

Glenview/Open Show Coordinator: Diane Jeang, (301) 871-1589 E-mail: swinedoc@yahoo.com

RAL ONGOING SHOW LIST

Twinbrook Library - 202 Meadow Hall Drive, Rockville, Maryland

Shows are now 1 month in length. 5 medium to large paintings, Contact person: Chris Lindy (240)-777-0240, christinelundy@montgomerycountymd.gov

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
open	Apr. 15, 2015	June 15, 2015
open	June 15, 2015	Aug. 15, 2015

Thomas Farm Community Center – 700 Falls Grove Drive, Rockville, Maryland

12-16 medium to large paintings, Contact person: Martha Coester (240) 314-8842

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Valthea Fry	Apr. 15, 2015	June 15, 2015
Lieta Gerson	June 15, 2015	Aug. 15, 2015
open	Aug. 15, 2015	Oct. 15, 2015
Valthea Fry	Oct. 15, 2015	Jan. 15, 2016

Marilyn J. Praisner Library – 14910 Old Columbia Road, Burtonsville, Maryland

10 small to medium or 5-6 large paintings (10 hanging chains), Contact person: (240) 773-9455, Vera Ramaty.

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
open	Feb. 15, 2015	Apr. 15, 2015
open	Apr. 15, 2015	June 15, 2015
open	June 15, 2015	Aug. 15, 2015

RAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>e-mail</u>
President:	Fred Ruckdeschel	301-320-3911	fred.ruckdeschel.and.art@gmail.com
1st VP:	VACANT		
Treasurer	Patricia Zannie	301-962-8581	patriciacollages@yahoo.com
Secretary	Emily Pearce	919-699-2547	ekepearce@gmail.com
Membership	Susan Dunnell	301-949-1514	dunnz@erols.com
RAL Juried Show Coordinator	Emily Pearce	919-699-2547	ekepearce@gmail.com
Publicity/mkt.	VACANT		
Newsletter editor	Susan Dunnell	301-949-1514	dunnz@erols.com
Program coordinator	Liliane Blom	301-518-5312	lilianeblom@aol.com
Communications	Eric Goss	301-956-3099	edg16@hotmail.com
Open shows	Diane Jeang	301-871-1589	swinedoc@yahoo.com
Glenview member shows	Diane Jeang	301-871-1589	swinedoc@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Martha Campos	301-251-0643	ximenace@verizon.net
Historian	Patria Baranski	301-424-6193	geowell7@hotmail.com
Web master	Michael Auger	202-670-2789	RAL@arty4ever.com
Founder, Hon. lifetime member	Eileen Mader	301-762-6458	

