

Fraser Valley Watermedia Society

—Artist Members Bio Book—

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Judi Edwards

Judi was born in Grand Forks. She has lived in many regions of British Columbia over the last several decades. Only after she became interested in painting did she come to appreciate the beauty in the landscape and especially the detail in all of nature.

Painting in both watercolors and acrylics, Judi enjoys the company of and is inspired by other like-minded artists in the community. Her favorite subjects are the ever-changing skies, trees, and especially finding subjects in the abstract!





Irene Enns

Canadian born, educated and a long-time resident of Abbotsford, B.C., Irene is passionate about capturing scenes with a strong focus on British Columbia landscapes, portraits and images garnered from her extensive travels. A melting pot and an avenue for creative painting, Irene also developed her individual technique called "Sepia Washout" as she studied under the late Elsie Grace,

inducted into the College of the Desert, Hall of Fame. Under the tutelage of the late Jack Rowe, a Signature Member of Watercolour West and Member of the National Academy of Design, she continued her pursuit of and her studies of watercolour painting from 2000 to 2004.

Her many exhibits include the Royal Bank of Canada, HSBC Bank, duo shows including a "Mother and Daughter" exhibit with Michelle Brown, "A Mix of Oil and Water" with Robert McCarthy, "Mennonite Girls Can Paint" with Marilyn Vooy's and many other shows from New Westminster, Maple Ridge and throughout the Lower Mainland.

Included among her many other awards, Irene was honoured to receive the "Artist of the Year Award", Abbotsford Arts Council in 2011 and the "Artists' Choice Award", Fraser Valley Watermedia Society, 2017.





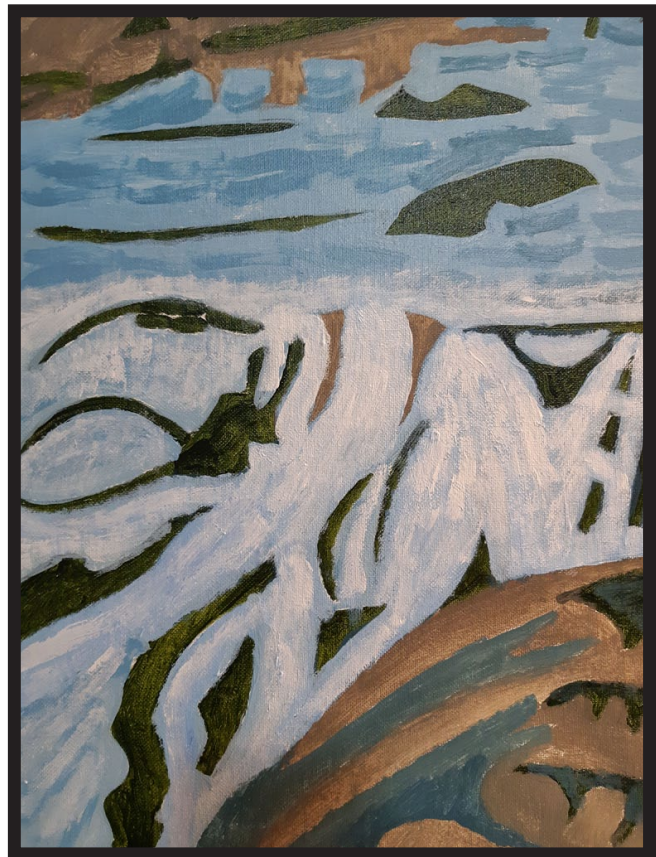
Attila Jacob Ferenczi

I was born June 28, 1960 in former Yugoslavia, Europe by way of borders moving around in the first half of the 20th century. My family is of Hungarian ancestry.

I had come to Canada docking in Halifax in 1966; living in Toronto for ten years, then moving to North Burnaby, BC. I graduated from Burnaby North Senior Secondary in 1978 heavy on the visual arts of drawing, printing and photography. Since I was drawing as soon as I could hold a crayon; I applied and was accepted to the Vancouver School of Arts. I was ecstatic but was convinced to open an automatic transmission shop in Abbotsford with my parents.

Since that time I have mostly lived in Abbotsford, trying to keep art in my life. I graduated from UFW in June 2013 in the Graphic and Digital Design Program and have been drawing both traditionally and digitally, painting with acrylics and taking photographs ever since.

I have appreciated membership with the Watermedia Society and enjoyed attending the drop in painting sessions held at ARC twice a week; hoping to continue creating art for the rest of my days.





Denis Halliwell

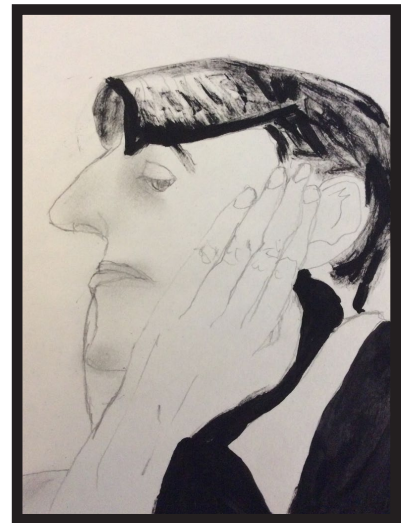
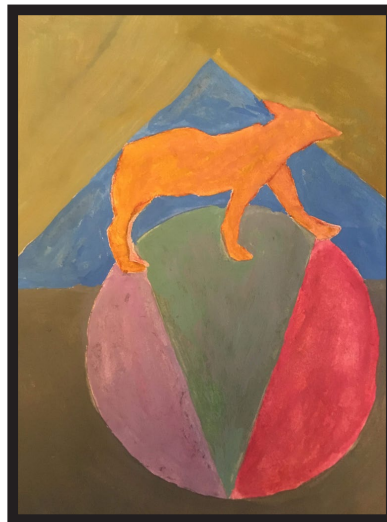
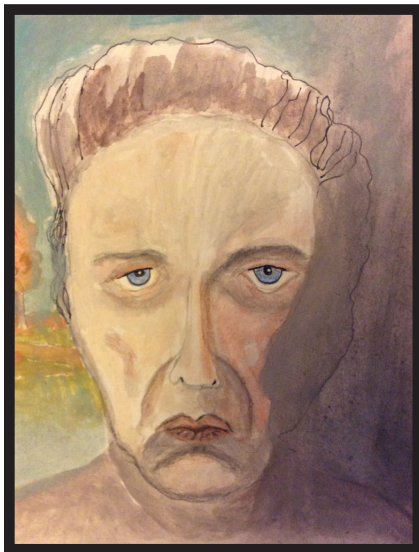
"A late blooming flower is said to last longer and smell sweeter... longer." (Hawkeye 2020)

It may take living through many years to find success. I came late to painting but I'm happy I was not too late. I worked in book publishing and teaching--always around words, sentences, and paragraphs. Finally, I listened to my granddad and picked up brushes and some paint--the result, my house is full of my paintings.

Painters may look at reality, but they really SEE the essence of objects. I paint landscapes and I say...but there must be something to paint that fills my heart more than this. Portraits are what I love to paint. Maybe I paint the same face over and over until I get it right.

Membership in FVWS has given me the opportunity to combine painting with research and writing about Lesser Known Canadian Painters. What I learn from that activity is to respect the ambition of some individuals to let their imagination run off in all directions as they create what they feel about the world. Painting frees my mind of daily cares. I search for the object and am challenged to match it as I see/feel it. Sometimes I surprise myself.

"You can paint the egg but painting the chicken is more rewarding." (Hawkeye 2020).





Jim Harrison

Originally from Toronto, I moved to BC over 40 years ago and my wife and I have called Abbotsford home for the past 8 years.

My hobbies include music (bass and rhythm guitar), acting, directing, video photography and singing in addition to enjoying my 8 grandkids. Painting for me was the final frontier. I knew that for a type A personality like mine, the freedom of expression required in painting would be a challenge. A few years ago I finally mustered up the courage to take a painting class with Irene Stevenson at Michaels.

I recently joined Fraser Valley Watermedia Society to meet other artists and to find encouragement and inspiration from them. My goal now is to explore more semi abstract and impressionistic styles and do more painting outdoors.





Wanda McDonald

Painting is an everyday occurrence for me. I prefer to paint in the morning, and on nice days get outside to do plein air painting. For outdoor painting I prefer to use Gouache, Oil or Soft Pastel. Originally I started painting landscapes in acrylics, but in 2017 my focus moved to oils or soft pastels. I now use Acrylic or Oil with Cold Wax Medium for my abstract work. Art is definitely an evolving experience for me.

I'm a member of the Fraser Valley Watermedia Society, Central Fraser Valley Graphic Guild, the Art in the ARC painting Group and the Abbotsford Arts Council.

In 2018 along with 3 other artist friends we started an informal Abbotsford plein air group called the *Abbotsford Plein Air Pals* which has grown to around 15 members.

You can view more of my artwork work at www.wgmcDonald.com



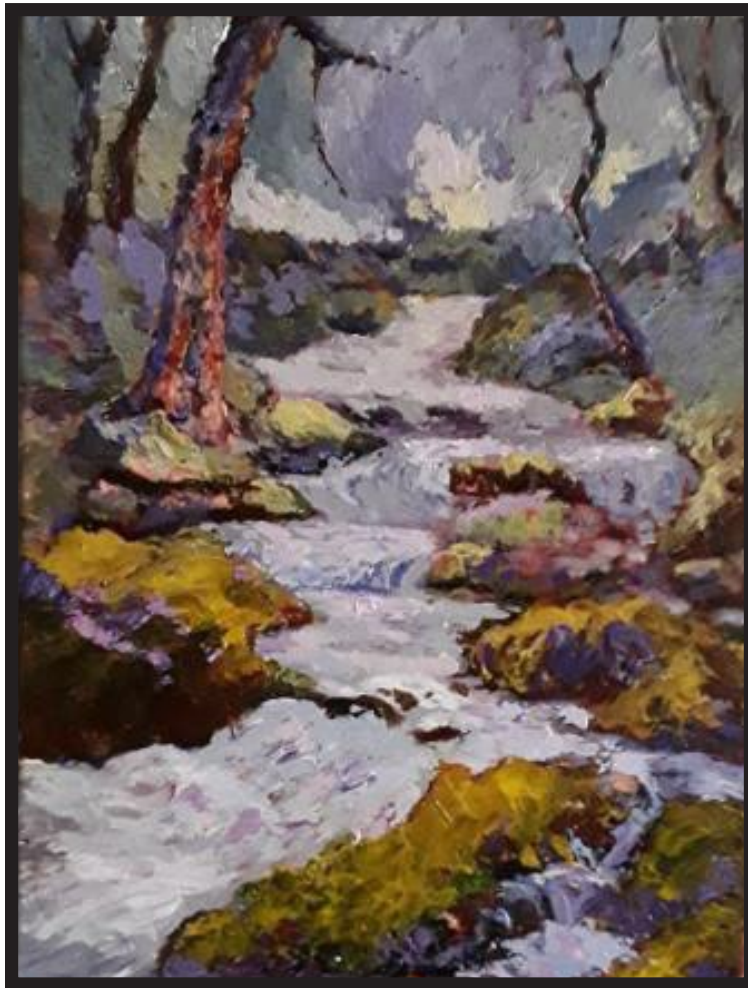


Nan Newman

She is self-taught, and knows the only way to learn this craft is like sailing a ship, many storms, squalls, and choppy weather must be travelled before any sign of smooth sailing.

Nan paints in a Romantic Impressionistic style; she appreciates all the sunset glam and raw beauty Mother Nature has to offer. Some years of dabble with the popular Acrylic and Watercolor medium have passed within her hands. The last two years have found her over-the-shoulder, private and in-house art classes, something she truly enjoys.

She resides in Abbotsford, B.C. She is married to an angel and together they are staff to their black cat Harley.



Mary Penman

Mary Penman, a local BC artist is best known for her large skies, seascapes and pet portraits but is always looking for new ideas and subjects to use when creating her art.

Her style of blending acrylics with large brushes is definitely unique and creative. Always experimenting with different techniques and mediums she is currently creating art on wooden slabs as seen in two of her attached creations.

Mary's art has been influenced by many workshops, and is currently a member of the Fraser Valley Watermedia Society, Graphics Guild and longtime member of Art at the ARC.





Carol Portree

I was born in Winnipeg Manitoba and have been playing with colour since I could hold a crayon, drawing and painting throughout my life.

Leaving our older daughter in Winnipeg, and moving to British Columbia in 1990 with my husband Jim and younger daughter, Teresa, art became one of my priorities when I retired from teaching almost twenty years ago. Although I have dabbled in many subjects from pets to lakes, forests, people and abstracts.

I use watercolour, acrylic, graphite and oil to paint people - my favourite subject - from newborns to people with years of life etched in the lines of their faces. Another preference is abstracts - painted in acrylics.

Whatever the subject or medium used, I derive great pleasure and a sense of peace whenever I enter my studio.





David Tickner www.davidtickner.ca

I enjoy watercolour painting and am stimulated by the challenge of making a blank piece of paper come alive with light and color. I try to balance control of the colour and yet try let it speak for itself. I like watching an image emerge from the paper almost as if it has a life of its own. After a couple of hours of painting, time that seems to pass as if in the blink of an eye, I find myself relaxed and refreshed.

In particular, I like doing ink and wash paintings of local scenes and of places where I have travelled. Over the years I have found myself influenced by various artists and styles of other countries and cultures. I find myself moving more toward non-representational art as I work more intentionally with colour and work to capture a story or a feeling in the image.

I have been a watercolour artist and active member of the FVWS for more than twenty years.

I am retired from my college teacher training work; however, I continue to do faculty development consulting in Canada and other countries. The origin and history of words is one of my passions. I have just published a book on this subject and am working on another.





Laurie Thomasson

I began painting as a retirement activity that quickly turned into a passion. Colour, light, and texture are the catalysts that inspire my painting. I try to give the viewer an impression of how I felt and why I wanted to capture that feeling in a painting. I love a challenge and trying new materials and techniques is what keeps the passion alive.

Florals and landscapes are my two favourite subjects. My style is moving from realism to more impressionistic with strong, bold colours .

I see myself as a life-long learner. As an artist I hope that new challenges will continue to inspire me.





Wendy Worrall

Having come to art later in life, I am amazed at the passion that I now have for painting. I have lived in Abbotsford all of my life, being born in the first little MSA Hospital. I worked from 1973 to 1980 as a registered lab technologist, and from 1980 to 2016 I was involved in teaching, first high school science and math and later university chemistry and biology labs. I took up painting in the

summer of 2009, concentrating on water colours until I took a one semester painting course that focused on acrylics.

Since retiring from teaching in 2016, I have greatly increased my hours of painting. To date my subjects have been flowers, birds, clouds, microscopic organisms, and some landscape or seascapes, alternating between acrylics and water colours. I am a member of the Fraser Valley Watermedia Society and have participated in their spring and fall shows receiving the Award of Excellence in 2018 and the People's Choice Award for my Odd Log Companions painting in 2019.

My purpose in painting is to record glimpses of God's creation that speak beauty and wonder to me with my unique perspective of His "wonderful works."

