



# Newsletter

October 2023

Verdugo Hills Art Association, P.O. Box 8059, La Crescenta, CA 91224  
[verdugoarts.org](http://verdugoarts.org) Jeanne Windoffer, Editor, [VHArt\\_News@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_News@yahoo.com)

## October 6 - Jeanne Hyland Rewet, Revive & Rework!

We are delighted to welcome Jeanne Hyland as our demonstrator this month. She is known for her remarkable colorful portraits, expressive floral, and still life paintings. She paints her subjects with passion and vibrant colors.

Ms. Hyland holds a BFA in figurative sculpture from UNH and studied at École des Beaux Arts, France. Over 25 years in commercial design preceded her return to fine art. She has served on the Board of Directors of NWS, has instructed at Brand Studios, CA, LA Academy Figurative Art, at Art Expos, and at both national & international venues.



Jeanne is a member or signature member of numerous watercolor and art organizations. She was recently awarded Emeritus Master Signature member status of Women Artists of the West (WAOW, Inc.). She has exhibited and won awards in exhibitions across the country and France, and had artwork or articles in a number of publications including Artists Magazine/American Artist, North Light books and International Artist. Jeanne teaches lively and popular workshops in her unique flexible “Wet & Workable” method taking the rushed feeling out of watercolor. About our demo she wrote:

“Let’s get those paintings finished! Little known in water media is the ability to rewet your paintings on paper, make changes and continue painting on them to completion. So break out your stalled, your “failed” or incomplete paintings and find great solutions to finish and enhance them. Check values, composition, contrasts, color, expression. Add new techniques and playful flourishes. You can remove or move areas and objects to rework unsatisfactory passages — plus add layers even months later...and even multiple times. Really! Change your thinking and rewet and rework—not OVERwork. We can bust some of those myths of only having one chance to get it right and create award winners.”

Jeanne will demonstrate some little-known techniques to rework, improve and finish your works. You will gain new confidence! More info on this demo sent along in the email with this newsletter. See you on the 6th!



## Musings of the Prez....

Charlotte Briner

I am excited to say we started the year with a splash! The turnout for the meeting and Art of the Month was impressive! Great to see so many of you at our Zoom meeting with Catherine Cruz. I found her creation and experimentation of patterns and textures most fascinating! I can't wait until October 28th for the upcoming workshop focusing on collage papers and abstract mixed media. The landscape Art of the Month submissions didn't disappoint! Many of you have been busy creating over the summer. I found it quite a challenge to vote for only one piece of art. I had many favorites!



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Looking ahead to October your Board has been hard at work. Jeanne Hyland will be presenting a watercolor demonstration on October 6th. I am looking forward to visiting with all of you at the Meet and Greet on October 21st at Descanso Gardens (10am to noon). Bring your ideas and any artwork you want to share or just bring yourself!

Thankfully, Nikki Thomas and Joan Gamberg have volunteered to fill key Board positions. Nikki will be filling the Treasurer position, and Joan will be the Membership Chair. I am so grateful to these ladies for their involvement!

Don't forget I am always open to all suggestions. I have enjoyed hearing from the handful of members who have connected with me so far.

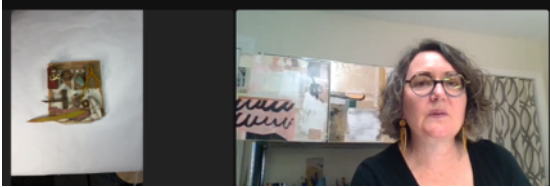
See you on October 6th at the watercolor demonstration!

Charlotte Briner  
President

## Review of Catherine Cruz Demo

*Angela Alvarenga*

Catherine Cruz, is an abstract artist and gave a stunning demonstration on how she creates her abstract collages and mixed media art pieces. Catherine finds inspiration from urban arts and goes on walks to collect found pieces such as wood or other pieces of nature. As an abstract painter, Catherine is currently working with neutral colors. She creates her own paper and also collects various styles of paper for her collages, such as found paper, staining paper, old books, recycled paper, and vintage paper.



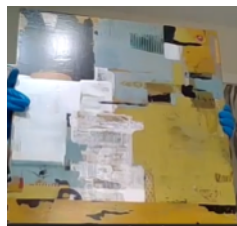
Inspiration

To begin a piece, Catherine selects various pieces of paper with color theory and her visual vocabulary in mind. She starts by applying layers of paper, torn paper or found objects onto a gessoed wood panel. She only uses acrylic paints, and subsequently paints over each layer with a polycrylic topcoat to seal the paper down. She rotates her panel and works on it at a different angle to see how her composition is turning out. During the process, she considers many variables such as the paper size, color, contrast, values, texture and placement. Catherine works on multiple pieces at a time. More complex multiple stages happen over days and weeks. She considers the piece complete when the composition works well.



Creating patterns

Creating final piece



### \*\*\*UPCOMING VHAA ART EVENTS\*\*\*

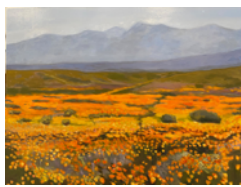
**VHAA is planning an exhibition at Alhambra City Hall for the month of April 2024, with the theme “The Beauty of California.”**

**Another upcoming show (date to be determined) will have the theme, “Travel through the Eyes of an Artist.”**

## Art of the Month

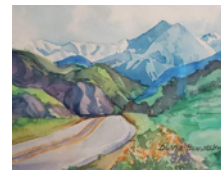
by Fran Papa

Congratulations to this month Art of the Month winners:



First Place: *Desert Spring*, by [Joy Chung](#). “*Desert Spring* was inspired by a trip to Lancaster to see this year's super bloom of poppies. I used several different photographs to create a unique view, including the San Gabriel Mountains, which at the time had snow. I also used some close ups of the poppies for the foreground. I discovered in painting this scene, that there were more than just one color for poppies! And I almost ran out of yellow paint!” Thank you for this honor.

Second Place - three-way tie: *Snowland*, by [Diane Bernstein](#). “I have always been delighted by snowfall. The quantity and quality of snow this year near my home had me designing *Snowland*. I love to work in watercolor because of the simplicity and quickness of glazing! This helps me balance my time as a mom of a special needs individual and my business. I appreciate my painting being noticed as I am inspired by the caliber of art in VHAA sharing the abundance of nature.”



[Judie Apablaza](#), *Forgotten Pathway*. “My watercolor painting was a nondescript view near a backyard potting shed. I liked the composition even though the flowers were a bit bedraggled and neglected. Some of the foliage was blooming even though the location was hidden from foot traffic. I loved the rustic feel and captured it with a quick camera shot for future studio work.”

[Cris Gordy](#): “*Pueblo*, or a small town in English, was painted in watercolor with a reference photo from a northern province in Argentina. I was attracted to the golden light that tinted the white washed buildings; and the absence of traffic.”



Third Place, 3-way tie (again!). [Fran Papa](#), *Big Bear*. “On my last trip to Big Bear I noticed that everything just seemed to sparkle, so I tried to capture that light, that feeling of beauty everywhere.”



*Lihu'e, Kaua'i* by [Angela Alvarenga](#). “I love to vacation with my family in various parts of Hawaii. I try to capture the peace and natural beauty of the quiet beaches and lush islands. This particular beach was especially quiet because of the time of year and the hidden tide pools.”



[Joan Gamberg](#), *The Dunes*. This watercolor is about me trying to paint more loosely, and what could be looser than moving sands with a body of water beyond! It is an imaginary landscape but reminds me of places from Oceano, California to Cape Cod. I tried for a gentle, peaceful moment that I believe we all like finding ourselves in. I'm honored to have won a place in the September Art of the Month.

### Art of the Month Guidelines and 2023-24 Themes.

For entries VHAA will accept original artwork completed within the last two years. Original artwork implies the composition should be your own; not prompted in a workshop or a class. Themes for the coming year are:

**October: Portraits/People/Self-Portraits and Animals**

November: Drawing/Sketches (Ink, Pencil, Charcoal—no color)

December: Abstracts

January: 3-Dimensional/Sculpture/Glass/Pottery

February: Urban/Cityscapes

March: Mixed Media

April: Florals

May: Still Life

June: Seascape

Artists may use any medium to draw and paint, and photography (unless otherwise stated). Members may submit one piece of art appropriate to the theme by emailing [dave\\_vhaa@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_vhaa@yahoo.com) by Tuesday before the general meeting. The photos will be posted on our website ([verdugoarts.org](http://verdugoarts.org)). You can vote for your choice there—the cut-off for voting will be noon Friday, the day of the general meeting. Fran will announce the winners during the Zoom meeting and they will be featured in the following Newsletter. We look forward to seeing your work this year!!

**This month entries are due Tuesday October 3. Voting ends Friday, Oct. 6 at NOON.**



## Member News and Updates

Joan Gamberg

Please remember to send in your dues asap, as we embark on a new art-filled year.

Membership dues for the 2023/2024 year are payable now. Dues are \$35 for one, and \$50 for a family, payable to Verdugo Hills Art Association. Mail your checks for membership to:

Joan Gamberg  
P. O. Box 80218  
San Marino, CA 91118

Thank you to those who have already sent in membership dues for the 2023/24 year!

Welcome our new member, [Ronald C. Pettie](#) - Arcadia - Oils and Acrylics (mainly in landscapes and animals).

[Dilmit Singh](#) will be teaching an oil painting workshop at Descanso Gardens on October 20, 9am to noon. Registration opens Sept 15 at 10am on the Descanso website calendar.

[Kimberby-Ann Talbert](#) had 2 pieces in Descanso Gardens Shape and Form exhibit 10/28/23 - 1/28/24. Awards 11/10 from 3-5pm. (admission is free after 2:30 pm for those attending the ceremony on 11/10)

Remember to join other members at Descanso Gardens from 10am to noon at the picnic tables alongside the parking lot. Bring some art to share, a snack or lunch and come enjoy the time to chat!

**Your October Art of the Month "Portrait" entries  
are due to [dave\\_vhaa@yahoo.com](mailto:dave_vhaa@yahoo.com) by Tuesday Oct 3.**

Info for the VHAA Newsletter? Send to [VHArt\\_news@yahoo.com](mailto:VHArt_news@yahoo.com)  
by 10th of the month prior to the next issue.

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Next Meeting  
October 6 - Zoom

Next Board Meeting  
Oct. 16 - Zoom

### Upcoming Events

October 6 - Jeanne Hyland  
Watercolor

Oct 21 - members meet up  
Descanso Gardens 10-noon

Oct 28 - Catherine Cruz  
Abstract Collage Workshop

Nov 3 - Catherine Tirr, Abstract  
Watercolor and Acrylic

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Verdugo Hills Art Association  
[www.verdugoarts.org](http://www.verdugoarts.org)