



▶ TALES FROM THE ROAD
– ARTIST EXPLORES THE
AMERICAN SOUTHWEST
FOR THREE MONTHS... 1



▶ THE ARTIST'S LIFE –
ART SHOWS, PAINTING
DEMO'S AND DONATIONS
KEEP ME HOPPING 2



▶ WATERCOLOUR
WISDOM – PASSING THE
TORCH TO NEW ARTISTS
AND LOVING IT 2

○ FALL

○ Volume 8

○ 2009

Studio News

KAREN RICHARDSON'S WATERCOLOUR STUDIO: MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE... ONE PAINTING AT A TIME.

I spent three months and covered 14,000 km touring the American Southwest with my husband John in our RV this year. Pictured right is the first painting in my Southwest series, which recently won honourable mention in the 2009 Station Gallery Juried Show.

Artist Explores Southwest Desert

We were privileged to spend twelve weeks in our fifth-wheel toy hauler RV this past spring and summer, traveling to the American Southwest. En route, we managed to sneak by the spring tornados in Oklahoma and enjoyed riding our motorcycles on historic Route 66.

Both John and I were very excited to tour numerous superb examples of architecture designed by the legendary Frank Lloyd Wright, including his first home and drafting workshop in Illinois, the only skyscraper he ever built, in Oklahoma, and his winter home and school of architecture, Taliesin West, in Arizona.

Seven of the twelve weeks were spent touring desert regions. New Mexico was unspoiled and surprisingly beautiful, with amazing artistry in silver and turquoise jewelry. Arizona was very hot but spring cacti were still in bloom all over the state, so I was able to take some great reference photos for future paintings. Utah was our favourite desert region to visit because of all the accessible canyons to explore on foot and photograph. Zion National Park was outstanding.

Visit my travel blog to read my 'Tales from the Road' and see lots of photos and anecdotes from our trip at artistjourney.karenrichardson.ca



BRUSH FOR HIRE

In the past year, I completed large custom paintings for three clients, either for their own collections or to be given as gifts. Two of the subjects were private homes, including the one pictured at left, and the third was a scene from Nepal, commissioned as a holiday memento. I am now accepting commissions for 2010 and beyond. Contact me for your free quote.



Teaching Watercolour Magic to New Artists

I am privileged to share my 20+ years of painting experience with students in my studio, October through April each year.

paintings have improved in quality and quantity because of more emphasis on 'the basics', and it feels so worthwhile to pass on many painting secrets, just as I learned them from other artists years ago.

One of the students pictured above affirmed recently: *"I had a great time at Karen's 'Fun with Masks' workshop. In addition to being an amazing artist, Karen is a wonderful teacher...she openly shares all of her techniques, be they based upon modern technology or those of the Old Masters. Although I had never*

learned to paint before, I was able to create a frame-worthy watercolour that I am proud of. Thanks Karen!"

My lessons are for beginner, intermediate or advanced students and are based around a series of ten minute painting demo's, interspersed with student painting time. This allows students to build their own paintings in an easy to follow, step-by-step manner. I show how to mix any colour needed using the primaries and we draw on simple design principles to create realistic paintings together. We work hard but we do have fun!

I began teaching watercolour techniques at local galleries several years ago and for the past year have been offering watercolour coaching to small groups in my home studio and gallery in Port Perry.

I am so lucky to have the opportunity to teach – I now spend lots of quality time with other creative people, my own

DON'T MISS OUT - Be first to find out about new classes - Contact Karen at karen.richardson@sympatico.ca and ask for her email announcements. VIEW KAREN'S WORKSHOP SCHEDULE AT www.karenrichardson.ca

The Artist's Life: Art Shows, Painting Demo's, Donations

This past year, I opened my studio and gallery for the 10th annual Lake Scugog Spring Studio Tour, exhibited with the month-long '11 of Us' group show in Collingwood in July, celebrated my 20th anniversary show at the Buckhorn Fine Art Festival, demonstrated pebble painting at Rocktoberfest 2009 and exhibited my 'Canada Rocks!' series at the Fall Cottage Life Show in Toronto. I also had a very successful solo show of 40 paintings in my home town of Deep River, which lies northeast of Algonquin Park on the Ottawa River.

As many artists do, I often donate my time and artwork to local and charitable causes. This year I

demonstrated watercolour at an annual retreat for breast cancer survivors and at the Scugog Township tourism booth at the CNE in Toronto. I have served on the board of directors for Scugog Council for the Arts since its inception in 2005.

This year my donated artwork helped raise funds for the Rotary Club, a library, a college, two public galleries and a youth orchestra.

This fall, I was one of only 100 Canadian artists selected to create a piece of art from a Canadian military helmet, which I then donated to the True Patriot Love Foundation. All the helmets were auctioned in November at a gala dinner in Toronto in support of Canadian military families in financial distress.



CLIENTS' CORNER Caring for Your Paintings



All of my paintings are framed using acid free mats and backing materials and are protected with conservation clear glass. This UV-blocking glass shields artwork from the most damaging UV light rays, but care should be given to avoid exposure to direct sunlight, fluorescent light, high heat and humidity.

Wall Wisdom: Have no room left for art?

No matter the size of your home, it generally offers several sections of wall that may be tiny, but contribute to the visual flow of the home.

Your entryway provides guests with their first impression of your home interior. By hanging art on an entry wall, you can extend a warm welcome without subtracting valuable floor space. How about showing off some art in your kitchen? Perhaps a still life of fruits, vegetables or wine bottles, tucked under a wall cabinet, or displayed above your dinette, would enhance the inviting ambience.



Visit my Online Studio & Gallery at
www.KarenRichardson.ca
Port Perry, Ontario, Canada 905-985-7418