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No. 4

**GENE MACKLES**  
**WILL PRESENT AN OIL CITYSCAPE DEMONSTRATION**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012, at 7:30 p.m.**

**Guild Hall, Congregational Church (middle side door), Sanborn Street, Reading**

As senior designer at WGBH, **Gene Mackles** collaborated on programs such as NOVA; Evening at Pops; Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego; and Zoom. He was responsible for WGBH’s on-air image, including station breaks, print advertising, and fund-raising elements. He was the lead designer for children’s program promotion for PBS and an original developer of their “Ready to Learn” service.

More recently he has designed and produced work for NBC Sports, HGTV, The Food Network, The History Channel, and The Cleveland Orchestra. Gene has been nominated for four Emmys (one for music) and received Gold Awards from The Broadcast Designers Association, Promax, The Advertising Club of Boston (Hatch), and The Art Directors Club of Boston. His work has appeared in American Institute of Graphic Arts annuals as well as in *Print* magazine and *Communication Arts*. He is a member of the Newton Art Association and the Concord Art Association and is listed in *Who’s Who in America*.

A graduate of Dartmouth College, he attended The Juilliard School of Music, studied graphic design with Milton Glaser at The School of Visual Arts in New York City, and served on the faculty of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Gene says, “Painting is my passion. I love imagining something, then step by step realizing it. By creating compositions that ‘click’ for me, then finding unexpected truths in the relationships they present and tapping into my memory, I strive ultimately to create pieces that resonate both for me and for the viewer. The experience is immersive, ‘transportive’ and occasionally exhilarating. I live for that.”

You won’t want to miss this demonstration! Bring some friends. All are welcome. Admission is free, but a small donation is always appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

# ACRYLIC WILDLIFE PAINTING DEMONSTRATION BY STEVE GRECO

Wednesday, April 11, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

**Guild Hall, Congregational Church (middle side door), Sanborn Street, Reading**

**Steve Greco** is an artist and a naturalist and as such he believes the planet deserves man's total attention and compassion. Steve says, "We are at a crossroads concerning our environment, and change must come from within each individual and now. There are no neutral parties, in my opinion. We are all part of the problem; therefore, we must all be part of the solution. It is our responsibility to educate and find solutions to the environmental disasters that besiege us. We must present the ecology of the planet as 'personal.' You and I drink the same water, breathe the same air, and are nourished by the same foods and proteins. If they don't survive, neither do we. Whether helping save a rain forest or picking up litter along a highway, to quote William Drayton, '*Change starts when someone can see the next step....*'"

Steve's wildlife painting demonstration will exhibit the deeper meaning of the above statement. He studied at the Butera School of Art, earning his Bachelor of Arts degree in Commercial Art, Graphics and Advertising. He also attended Velmore Studio of Art in Wakefield; studied Marine Biology and Journalism at Middlesex Community College; and has an Associate's degree in Wildlife Conservation and Forestry from Harcourt School.

Steve is a member of the Professional Association of Divers International; the Newburyport Art Association; Greater Salem Art Association; Vertu Fine Art Gallery in Newburyport; Wildlife Artisans Association; Cousteau Society; African Wildlife Foundation; Greenpeace; the Owl Research Institute of Missoula, MT; Nature Arts Organization; and the Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences.

This will be a unique demonstration to share with your friends. Everyone is welcome. Admission is free, but a small donation is always appreciated. Refreshments will be served.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi, All!

Along with the "Winter Blahs," I thought it would be fun for us to know more about our artistic modus operandi. My daughter, a published astrologer, wrote for us about the 12 signs. Due to space, the last six signs will be published in the next "*Mixed Media.*" ENJOY!!

ARIES (3/21-4/19) are hands-on and tend toward messy media, like sculpture. As the sign of self, Aries are individualistic and can create only when completely alone. The work itself can be muscular, brawny, clean and somewhat masculine in theme and tone. Totally Type A!!

TAURUS (4/20-5/20) is the sign of sensuality, and the products of their artistic expression will always come across as pretty, decorative, or even bucolic in tone. In fact, nature is one of a Taurean artist's most prominent themes. They are the second astrological sign, that of "fixed earth," which represents "the garden." Natives of the sign are known for being "lazy," so it could take ages for a Taurus to complete a project.

GEMINI (5/21-6/20), the first of the Air signs, is ruled by the planet Mercury, which rules "buzzy" communication and local (neighborhood) doings. As such, Geminis are often the "street" artists or poets, reading what is out in ether, expertly translating it onto a canvas or on the page, turning it into pop culture. Geminian artists tend to work fast, nervously, and can be some of the most prolific

creators in the astrological block. Their creative style is energized and excitable.

CANCER (6/21-7/22), ruled by the Moon, represents the female principle and is, little surprise, the sign of emotions. Artistically, a Cancerian will always explore the subject of femininity in his or her work, often literally recalling the Moon symbol or perhaps the tides (which are determined by the Moon's symbols) or utilizing female figures in a predominant way. Their creative style is free-flowing and intuitive.

LEO (7/23-8/22), ruled by the Sun, is the natural occupant of the fifth Astrological House of Creativity & Procreation. As such, Leos are one of the more naturally artistic/generative signs of the zodiac. Their style is confident; all the planets revolve around the Sun, so, to Leos, everyone revolves around them! Even a shy Leo will come across on the canvas as a big and bold personality. Their style of working will be economical, no frills (a sign of confidence). The work itself will tend to be big and bold like the Leo persona.

VIRGO (8/23-9/22), the Virgin, occupies the sixth Astrological House of Service, and even the most self-serving Virgo will strive to be in service to others, too. Virgo artists consider their work devotional, as if they're giving it up for the greater good. Ironically, this can seem narcissistic! Their themes cut a wide swath, from bodily health to religious worship. The Virgo style of working will be specific, exacting, and perhaps perfectionistic, which can sometimes turn into procrastination.

Look for the other six Zodiac Signs in the May/June "Mixed Media"!

**WE THANK** all the artists who participated in the January exhibit at Frame One in North Reading. The Gallery looked lovely, with over 40 works of art by RAA members. The reception was delightful in spite of the bad weather; over 40 guests enjoyed the wine and refreshments. We hope to have more of these venues in the future!

**Jeannette**  
**Corbett**

**NEW OR RETURNING MEMBERS** ♦ ♦ ♦

We Welcome **Charleen McGlame** of Reading and **Sandra L. Murphy** of Wilmington.  
**SPRING EXHIBIT AND SALE**  
**May 4, 5 and 6, 2012**

What a wonderful winter we have had! We hope this mild weather has given you more painting hours to prepare for our Spring Show, which will be held on May 4, 5 and 6.

This year the Reading Garden Club will join us to present a truly spring "Art in Bloom" display on our stage.

As always we need good participation of RAA members in order to have a successful exhibit, and we welcome any and all the help that you offer. Please check the boxes on the entry form, as it is important for us to know from where and from whom our help will come. We thank you, and we look forward to seeing you all again in May.

**Evelyn and**  
**Grace**



**ABOUT "DESIGNER NOTE CARDS"** ♦ ♦ ♦

Reading Art Association sincerely appreciates the artists who donate these note cards to be sold at our shows. People who come to our shows really enjoy them, and they are a good little moneymaker. We REALLY could use a new supply!

Each card should be signed and wrapped in clear plastic with an envelope that fits. We will affix the price stickers while the display is being set up for the show.

**Lexie**  
**Donahue**

**IN MEMORIAM** ♦ ♦ ♦

Our sincere thoughts and prayers go to the family of **MARY ANN SAIJA** of Sharon, who died in November at the age of 93. Mary was a long-time and very active member of RAA and an Honorary Member in recent years.

**THANK YOU, Anne-Marie Cardosi**, for your gift in memory of **NANCY GAMBONE**, who passed

away in December at the age of 99. Nancy ran an art school at her home in Wakefield back in the 60s and 70s and later taught for the Wakefield Council on Aging. Anne-Marie studied at Nancy's school during high school and prepared her portfolio for art school with Nancy's guidance.

### **OIL PAINTING WORKSHOP WITH DENNIS POIRIER ♦ ♦ ♦**

RAA has been invited to join the Woburn Art Guild for a wonderful day at Spence Farm in Woburn on June 9<sup>th</sup> from 9-3. The instructor is noted Oil Painter Dennis Poirier. The price is \$40 for members, and the deadline is May 30. It will be very informative. Bring your painting supplies and enjoy a day with friends!!!

### **PEOPLE DOINGS ...**

**Jeannette Corbett** won *Best in Show* and *First Prize Award* at the Saugus Rotary Exhibit in November for her watercolors and *First Place Award* for her oil at the Woburn Community Christmas Exhibit.

**Lorraine O'Brien** exhibited her paintings at the Melrose Public Library.

**Jane Russell's** two watercolors, *Transformation* and *Happy Birthday!*, were accepted into the Newburyport Art Association's Winter Members Juried Show, Part I, 2012. *Transformation* won the H. Patterson Hale, Jr., Charitable Foundation Award for Work in Watercolor. The jurors, Christoph Fitzmaurice, co-owner of Chameleon Gallery, and Kari Bernard, owner and gallery director of The Walsingham Gallery, noted that the winner showed that "Masterful use of abstract shapes and negative space creates a fantastic composition, wonderful striking palette of grays and blacks, with just the right amount of primary color."

♦ ♦ ♦

### **OPPORTUNITIES TO EXHIBIT, THINGS TO DO, and PLACES TO GO ♦ ♦ ♦**

You are invited to celebrate and experience the cultural richness of Reading at the **Community Arts Festival** Saturday, March 3, 11-2, at **CREATIVE**

**ARTS**, 25 Woburn St., Reading. For more information and schedule of events visit [www.WeTeachCreativeArts.org](http://www.WeTeachCreativeArts.org) or call 781 942 9600.

**Danvers Art Association's** Annual Auction will be held on Friday, April 27, a live and silent auction beginning at 5:30. Get there early to preview.

Upcoming exhibits at **Grace Chapel Art Gallery**, 59 Worthen Road, Lexington: *Reflections*, March 24-May 9; registration March 7, 6-8, and March 10, 9-1. Also, *Textures*, May 26-July 18; registration May 9, 6-8, or May 12, 9-1. Questions? [artgallery@grace.org](mailto:artgallery@grace.org) or 781 862 6499. Directions: [www.grace.org/directions](http://www.grace.org/directions).

**Greater Haverhill Arts Association** holds workshops 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays at First Church in Bradford, 9-12 noon. Entry fee is \$5. Instructors are Mark Hayden, Copley Master Portrait Artist; Joan Rademacher, accomplished still-life artist in all mediums as well as an accomplished landscape artist; and Mimi Johnson, coordinator, 978 373 6752 or [ipaintdaily@aol.com](mailto:ipaintdaily@aol.com).

♦ ♦ ♦

**KEEP IN TOUCH** with what's going on at Reading Art Association by visiting our website at [www.Readingart.org](http://www.Readingart.org).

*Your DUES EXPIRATION/DUE DATE is printed in the upper right corner of your mailing label.*

♦ ♦ ♦

### **DEADLINE FOR NEXT MIXED MEDIA Tuesday, April 24, 2012**

Please email your news, with **RAA-MM in the subject box**, to [elittlez@comcast.net](mailto:elittlez@comcast.net); OR mail it to Elaine Little, 20 Oak Ridge Road, Reading, MA 01867; or FAX it to 781 944 1346. We love to know what's going on in your world of art so that we can share it with the other members. Call Elaine at 781 944 2669 if you have any questions.

### **Editor's Note:**

Please remember that help is needed from more members at show time. EVERYONE doesn't have to volunteer for EVERY event; but ALMOST

EVERYONE should volunteer at least ONCE each year! “Many hands make light work!”

