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Painting Can Change One's Life

Volume 1, Issue 3
November 2021

Celebrate Newton is Back !!!

I will be participating in the "Celebrate Newton" Holiday Craft Fair on Sunday December 5! The fair will take place at Newton South High School at 140 Brandeis Road from 10 am to 4 pm. There will be at least 50 vendors participating. All attendees age 12 and above will need to show proof of vaccination.

I will be showing my hand-painted silk scarves, notecards of my watercolors, laminated silk bookmarks, and hand-painted ceramic tiles. The tiles are treated with an epoxy coating so



6 " tile



4" tile



Hand-painted scarf



Silk Bookmarks

that they are heat resistant and can be used as coasters or trivets.

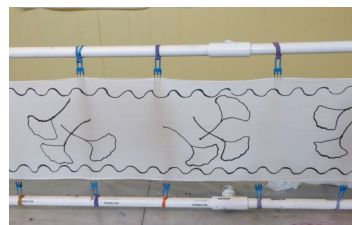
Come stop by!!

How to Make a Hand-Painted Scarf

I thought you might be interested in learning a little about the process I use to create an original scarf. I buy plain white Chinese silk scarves from a company online in either 11" or 14" widths. The material comes already hemmed but it needs to be washed before I can work on it. I stretch it out on a rack made of pvc pipe. And then

I draw the design on the silk.

For the initial design I use a pen with ink that will fade in a few hours and then I



Design with black gutta

use a special liquid called gutta to create the design. When it dries the gutta acts as a barrier and controls the movement of the dye so that it doesn't spread where I don't want it to go.

I then paint the design using dyes and different size paint brushes. In this example I have only used black dye. *(continued on page 2)*

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How to Make a Hand-Painted Scarf (continued)

For my other designs I use a variety of colors.



Painted scarf

Next I steam the scarf to set the color. I wrap it very carefully and place it in a bamboo steamer.



Wrapped and ready to steam



On the stove

I then steam the scarf for about 3 hours. After I remove it from the steamer I carefully wash off any excess dye and iron the finished scarf.

Voila!

And here's the final product!



Black and white ginkgo scarf

Lost at Sea

Every year there is a Schooner Festival in Gloucester, MA during Labor Day weekend. Tall ships from many ports gather for the festival. The main event is a schooner race which takes place beyond the breakwater at Eastern Point. The ships usually arrive sometime on Friday and stay in the harbor until Monday. In 2012 I was very excited to learn that one of the ships coming to port was The Bounty. I found out where it was moored and rushed with all my painting equipment to try to do a watercolor of the boat.

It was a really windy day and I struggled to keep my easel upright and my palette from falling off the

little table alongside. While I was working quite a few people stopped by to chat with me and I learned some interesting facts about the boat. For example, it had been built in 1962 for the movie "Mutiny on the Bounty" starring Marlon Brando. At the end of the novel the ship is set on fire and is destroyed. When Brando learned about this he threatened to walk off the set. Evidently the director agreed not to destroy the boat during the filming. I also learned that the Bounty was used in other films such as Treasure Island in 1990, and Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest in 2006.

When I started the painting I as-

summed that the boat would stay for the weekend but I soon learned that the captain only planned to stay in Gloucester until the end of the day. There was no way I could finish the painting that quickly especially with the tons of rigging on the boat. So I took dozens of photos of the rigging with the idea of completing the painting later.

On October 28 the Coast Guard received a distress call from the Bounty: the ship had lost power and was taking on water. The Captain ordered the crew to abandon ship.

What had happened? The Captain had hoped to sail around Hurricane Sandy and had taken the boat out to sea. (continued on page 3)

Lost at Sea (continued)

It sank off the coast of North Carolina. Two people, including the Captain, were lost.

I was shocked to learn that the ship was gone. It was such a beautiful vessel and had a very interesting history. There aren't many wooden boats around anymore and this was really one of a kind.

I finished the painting with a sad heart and decided not to sell it. It is probably the last painting ever done of the boat before it was lost.



The Bounty

My Paintings in 2022 Calendars

Two of my paintings have been selected to appear in calendars for 2022. The first, *Reserved Parking, Jamaica Plain* is featured in the Newton Watercolor calendar for the month of January. It was inspired by the Boston area tradition of reserving your parking place (once you've shoveled it out) by placing a chair, a couch or some barrels in the space. The 2022 calendar contains watercolor paintings of Massachusetts scenes. You can purchase a calendar through the [Newton Watercolor Society website](#).

The second painting *No Baseball Today* was part of the Illuminations exhibit at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center in Boston during this past year. Each year the hospital produces a calendar for patients. My painting will be the image for the month of December 2022.

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Reserved Parking, Jamaica Plain



No Baseball Today