



46th
Gala
2024

FINE ART AUCTION

Diana Toma

Diana Toma teaches watercolor, acrylic and oil painting classes for adults, themed on different subject matters such as portraits, wildlife, cityscapes, gardens, and intuitive painting.

Diana says of her teaching style, "My classes are centered around fast, free-flowing painting release, and creative un-blockage. One of the things that I encourage my students to do is to create more from the heart and less from the head, letting go of any fear or self judgement. As my student you will walk away feeling so much better about creating your art. You will feel much loose and free, not just in painting but also in life. My workshops and classes are a safe place of investigation where you will learn to connect with your inner creative volcano. Experimenting and failing is a necessary part of the artistic journey.

See, it really goes like this: no failing, no progress. When you let go of self judgement, you create a space where creativity can truly flourish. And I concur with the way Scott Adams was inspired to put it: "Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep."

I am a firm believer that anyone can learn to paint if they have the willingness to practice, given the right kind of instructions. Have you ever come to a point in painting where you are afraid that your work is not perfect, or that you need to already have some extraordinary artistic talent in order to achieve that perfect painting? Maybe you are afraid to even try painting because you think you lack what it takes? Well I'm here to tell you that's not how it works at all; in fact, art is all about self-expression, letting go of the thoughts who block it, and allowing the imperfections, the mistakes, the unknown to unravel and reveal itself in your work process. Even more, some of the most fascinating works of art are a result of play and serendipitous accidents.

To me teaching is a privilege to be the first-class witness to delightful discoveries and growth. I'm excited to have embarked on the journey of being part of another's artistic development - it contributes to me becoming a better artist by demonstrating techniques, doing research for my classes, and having important conversations with the participants about art and the artistic process.

My classes are open to all levels, from first time painters to advanced and professionals."