



# behind the MASC

NEWSLETTER OF THE MEDALLIC ART SOCIETY OF CANADA

Spring Edition, Issue 35

## President's Message *by Sarah Tothill*



Hello, fellow MASC members! Happy Spring to all.

Most of our news is being reported under "Council News" later in the newsletter, so I will keep my section brief this time, *but it's important, so read on!*

WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP ON THE COUNCIL! Ray Scott has done an outstanding job as our Treasurer since 2003, and we have been very grateful. (We will pay tribute to Ray in our next newsletter.) But Ray announced at our last AGM that this would be his last year. We have also had two positions open for some time now, that of Secretary and Newsletter Editor. With this newsletter I am including descriptions of what these jobs entail, both in terms of skills and time, and I'm hoping this will spark your interest. We would love to see some new (or returning!) faces at the Council meetings, and this is a great way to get involved with MASC. Please consider.

On to other news. I met with Ildiko Hencz, Dora de Pédery-Hunt's niece, and Barbara Mitchell, curator at the Arts & Letters Club in Toronto. Plans are underway for an afternoon celebration on November 17, 2013 of Dora's 100th birthday at the Arts & Letters Club in Toronto, where Dora was a member. (Technically her birthday is on November 16, but we thought Sunday was a better day for a celebration.) Mark this in your calendar and stay tuned!

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter!

## MASC Unveils Our New Logo! - *By Kris Bovenizer*

The logo project has been a very satisfying endeavour. We received over 40 designs. Most came from MASC members. Submissions came from all over Canada. There were also a few international entries, the furthest coming all the way from Bulgaria! Some were created using high tech computer software. Others were diligently doodled on cocktail napkins. We were blessed with many very good designs to choose from.

The MASC Council is very happy to introduce the winning logo, submitted by MASC member Lorraine Wright, Professor of Design at George Brown College.

The logo is going to say something about how we represent Canada to the world. Some members see a mask or face in the reflection in the medal, others see the maple leaves as symbolic of pouring bronze, or as Canadian content being injected into the medal. For Lorraine, the maple leaf is the most recognizable symbol to represent us. She used



Lorraine Wright's design was created using Adobe Illustrator

13 leaves, representing the 10 provinces and 3 territories. "The intricate work of making a medal requires us to 'pour over' our work and traditional medal making requires pouring bronze."

Lorraine feels that there are five attributes to a good logo – strong and simple, memorable, timeless, versatile and appropriate. Knowing your client/company/association you are trying to represent is important to convey their attributes, theme and/or story.

**MASC Unveils Our New Logo! - *continued***

As winner of the Logo Project, Lorraine is awarded a spotlight in this newsletter showcasing her work, \$450 CAD and a year’s free membership with MASC in exchange for the copyright of her design. The logo will be used on the website, the newsletter, and our letterhead. In the future, we may expand to t-shirts and bags and other forms of merchandise. Please join us in celebrating our new logo and congratulating the artist with the winning design!

**Spotlight: MASC Member Lorraine Wright - *by Kris Bovenizer***

For Lorraine Wright, winner of MASC’s logo project, creating a medal is all about the process. To start, she wants a theme or message that means something to her. “I like to see it develop from nothing and build, taking shape into recognizable form. I enjoy the peaceful time to think and visualize before it appears in front of me, making changes along the way.”

Lorraine has an honours degree in art and art history from McMaster University. She also has a diploma in Graphic design communications from Ryerson University. Lorraine has over 17 years experience in design, working on logos, brochures, posters, banners, displays, catalogues and publications. She is diligent in maintaining a small amount of freelance work to keep current, but not enough to interfere with her full time interest and occupation as a professor. Her favourite logo projects are ones that you do for fun and have a personal interest in, “like MASC”.

One of her biggest artistic influences is Mother Nature, evident in her artistic response to the Logo Project. “In the summer, my love for photography takes to the wilderness of the Canadian west and Northern Ontario. It’s Her abstract shapes that tend to emerge from my sculptures.”

Lorraine has taught at George Brown College since 2000. Presently, she teaches 1st year Production to Graphic Design students, in addition to a 3rd year thesis course. She focuses on guiding her students through the entire process of creating a piece, from concept to finished product, using a wide range of processes and technologies associated to the paper arts. “What better way to have students see how effective they can be by creating work that can fit in your hand. Understanding the attributes of paper and the effect of colour is an important contributing factor for effective communications of their final work. These students may not be sculptors but the creative thought process for creating a medal is much the same as any other design process.” Many of these students submit these medals to MASC’s student medal recognition show every year.

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**Spotlight: MASC Member Lorraine Wright - continued**

When asked what she considers the elements of a successful medal, she replies that, “To me a successful medal is one that I want to pick up and hold for a closer look. Maybe it has a story, a message, or untraditional material well engineered or just aesthetically pleasing”.

Her most recent medal, “Texas Dragon” is made in bronze and Swarovski crystals. Made for her brother, who has relocated to Texas, it is a tribute to the geckos that run up and down his large screen windows, entertaining him and his dog.

Indeed, Lorraine’s portfolio of medals portrays a history of fearless experimentation in a multitude of mediums in endless combinations. Clays, metals, gypsum products, papers and stone are just the tip of the iceberg. “I enjoy the casting processes and am always eager to remove it from a mould and see the changes from clay, to plaster, to wax allowing some tweaking along the way. Although I have tried many other mediums, I like the strength and durability of the final in bronze. I think there will always be a place for the traditional bronze medal. It speaks volumes in strength and weight. However, I think there is already great acceptance to those who wish to be experimental or modernize the medal by using non-traditional materials. I think we will see more of that in the future.”



**Lorraine created this medal in Bronze clay for MASC’s 10th Anniversary show at the Gardiner Museum, 8 x 4.5 1.1 cm, 2009.**



**Lorraine Wright’s most recent medal “Texas Dragon”, bronze with Swarovski crystals, was created for her brother**



**Lorraine Wright, Medusa, 2011, 100mm, Winterstone, shown at FIDEM 2012 in Scotland**

## Council News

### *New Membership Year*

We have received feedback that having our membership year coincide with our financial fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) is confusing for many. To make things simpler, we have decided to change the membership year to a calendar year, with the next one beginning on Jan 1, 2014. As a result, those of you who are paid members for the 2012/2013 fiscal year will have your membership extended until December 31, 2013 at no additional cost. We hope this makes it easier for everyone.

### *FIDEM Conference bid for 2018*

A steering committee has been formed led by Lynden Beesely, MASC member and FIDEM Canada's delegate, her vice-delegate, Jeanne Bates, and MASC members Susan Taylor, Art Ellis, and me. Our first meeting is being held in Ottawa in early June. More to follow in the next newsletter after our meeting.

### *Student Recognition Program*

An initial Call for Entry for June 30, 2013, went out last Fall to art schools, colleges, and universities across Canada, with a reminder in March. The show will be held at Rodman Hall Art Centre in St. Catharine's, Ontario, from September to December, 2013.

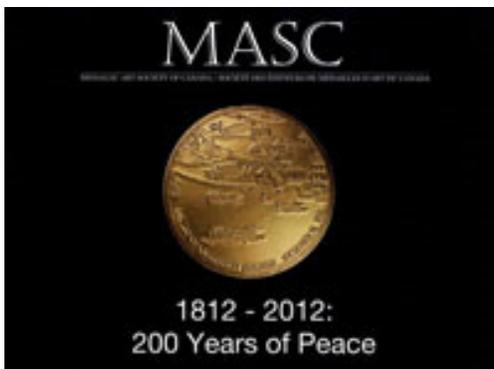
### *1812 Show Catalogue now available through our website - [medallicart.ca](http://medallicart.ca)*

Thanks to the coordinated effort of Kris Bovenizer's partner, John, and our webmaster, Paul Petch, you can now order this catalogue online using PayPal. (You don't have to be a PayPal member to use it - a credit card will suffice.) Some people have already made use of this new feature. We still have copies available, so please consider purchasing a copy. They are \$20 each, all inclusive, and we have received very positive feedback from our purchasers.

### *New Annual MASC Christmas Show*

We explored the idea for an "Annual Christmas Show" to provide members with an opportunity to sell their work. We are thinking that the end of November/early December might be a good time. Although not cast in stone (or bronze?), we are thinking of having it run over a four-day stint, Thursday to Sunday, at a Toronto venue. We'd like to start this year if we can find a suitable venue. If anyone has any contacts that could help us out, please let us know!

## Update on the "1812-2012: 200 Years of Peace" Show Winner



**MASC has published a commemorative book featuring all of the medals in the show, available for sale on our website, [www.medallicart.ca](http://www.medallicart.ca)**

Art Ellis, the MASC member whose design won first place in the show, has been busy!

Since the show's opening, he has produced ten customized copies of the medal for many VIP's and politicians. Just some of the lucky new owners of the medal are David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, and local Councillors serving on the Legacy Council.

The show is on display until Aug 30, 2013 at Rodman Hall Art Centre. Look for more news from the 1812 Legacy Council, as there are still many events planned between now and June 2014, the 200th anniversary of date when a truce was called.

**“Just For Fun” Submission Call - by Paul Petch**

The medal you see pictured on the next page is at the end of a story filled with friendships and the philosophy that we must guard against societies, associations and other organizations with their stringent constitutions and well-meaning executives, sapping all the fun from enjoyable and fulfilling social contacts, which is why such groups formed up in the first place!

The story begins with two gentlemen, Grover C. Criswell, an American, and Jack Veffler, a Canadian, meeting by chance at the General Meeting of the International Banknote Society in August of 1976. This particular meeting was an event that was held as a part of the American Numismatic Association annual convention.

As a lead-up to the General Meeting, Jack Veffler had just spent some time at the Society’s executive meeting. It had not been fun. Old topics were being re-hashed and the mood in the room had become heavy and sullen. So, when he entered the General Meeting and perhaps in an effort to disassociate himself from the oppressive mood, he found a place in the back row, as far from the head table as possible.

From this position Jack and Grover were able to strike up a conversation, maintaining hushed tones and pretty much staying to themselves. As the chat continued and a fine friendship began to blossom, they hit upon the truth that chance had brought a couple of really nice guys together. But, an unlikely friendship it seemed to be. Grover was a big, burly, boisterous man, while Jack was shorter, soft spoken and quiet. In fact, the only thing they could find in common, besides their interest in banknote collecting, was the fact they were both bearded gentlemen. Clearly, they concluded, this set them apart, made them more cultured individuals and cleared the way for a special bond to be formed. The beard was the foundation.

They decided to form a new society that embraced other values they shared: an appreciation for a good



Paul Petch is a former President of MASC and current MASC Webmaster. Paul is also the President of the Ontario Numismatic Association.

drink, good humour and a dislike for formalities. Being free of formalities everything came together in jig time. The logical name would be the “Society of Bearded Numismatists”, or simply the SOB’s for short. Other details fell into place. There would be no constitution, the executive would be kept small with Grover and Jack sharing the presidency and life membership dues would be \$2.

Mentioning the newly formed society to some bearded friends, the organization soon boasted ten memberships and Jack left the convention with \$16 in the treasury (naturally the presidents don’t pay). That money was quickly put to work with letterhead (\$50) and buttons (\$75 for 500). Asked why so much free spending, Jack replied that he didn’t want to be part of a “cheapo” group.

Press releases on the new letterhead brought in more memberships and by December the count was 58. This was getting out of hand! Quickly, higher dues were implemented in an effort to keep the group small and elite: \$10 for men and \$10.02 for women, who must have their 2-cents worth, of course. No luck, the group continued to grow and was taking on a life of its own. Bearded members were sponsoring clean-shaven members who “bought” their way in by means of a donation to charity. Jack decided the society had reached a point where there needed to be a newsletter and an appropriate annual award for the “Greatest SOB of the Year”.

**“Just For Fun” Submission Call - Continued**

For the award, Jack struck on the creation of a unique medal. Dora de Pédery-Hunt was a familiar face at coin club meetings at the time and Jack invited her over for dinner, provided a good meal and appealed to her for a good deed. She graciously agreed and by April of 1977 she was at work on the “Society of Bearded Numismatists” medal you see pictured here. For this she was made an honorary member of the Society. The medal itself was cast in both bronze and silver, taking the form of the facing head of Boreas, Greek god of the north wind and winter, with a luxuriant beard and moustache and curling hair forming itself into twin loops for suspension. The back of the medal has the incuse inscription S.O.B./NUMISMATISTS.



**Dora De Pedery-Hunt, SOB Medal of Boreas,  
Greek God of the North Wind, 1977, Bronze,  
back inscription reads “SOB/NUMISMATISTS”**

Sadly, with the passage of time, it is getting harder and harder to find SOBs these days. The group grew old and only a few members now remain. But the need for a fun-loving sociable group composed of members dedicated to the old aims and objectives remains: to disrupt and wreck all meetings which threaten to become boring, too serious or too political; to infiltrate all minor and major numismatic organizations, being of some service to numismatics in the process. Towards that end, rejuvenation meetings of the society are now taking place. One of these meetings was in Calgary during the Royal Canadian Numismatic Association convention in July 2012. The old spirit and purpose was very much in evidence and it was determined that the re-born and re-purposed SOBs required a new medal. So, now the call goes out:

The Society of Bearded Numismatists announces a design competition for the creation of an SOB medal worthy of the new millennium. In keeping with Dora de Pédery-Hunt’s original work, this will be a model from which a new supply of medals will be cast. The creating designer will be made an honorary member of the society and will be presented with one of the new medals. This competition is of undetermined length and may be shut down with little or no notice. Aspiring participants shall make their interest known to Paul Petch, chairing the design search committee (of one), at [p.petch@rogers.com](mailto:p.petch@rogers.com).

(No kidding, we really are looking for a new medal design!)

From Bulgaria - 2013 International Medal Project Sessions

# NEW CREATION

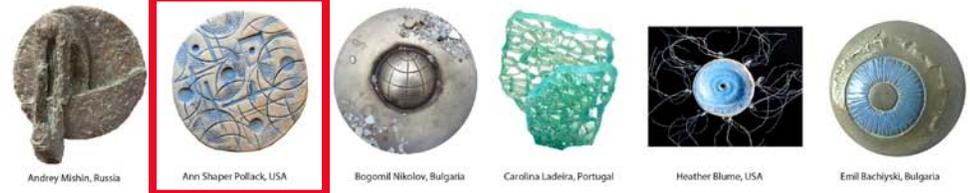
NAA SOFIA MEDALLIC SCULPTURE STUDIO INTERNATIONAL PROJECT 2013 SEVEN SESSIONS НХА АТЕЛИЕ ЗА МЕДАЛНА СКУЛПТУРА ИНТЕРНАЦИОНАЛЕН ПРОЕКТ 2013

Alexey Arhipov, Russia *The Water 2 Bogama*



Alexandra de Sousa Garcão, Portugal    Andreia Pereira, Portugal    Ana Rita Braga, Portugal    Anatoly Elizarov, Russia    Ana Hristova, Bulgaria    Andreia Pinelas, Portugal

**Ann Shaper Pollack**



Andrey Mishin, Russia    Ann Shaper Pollack, USA    Bogomil Nikolov, Bulgaria    Carolina Ladeira, Portugal    Heather Blume, USA    Emil Bachyjski, Bulgaria



Georgy Postnikov, Russia    Elina Krasteva, Bulgaria    Inês Soares, Portugal    Iva Vladimirova, Bulgaria    Ivo Iliev, Bulgaria    Ili Boyarov, Bulgaria

**Jeanne Stevens-Sollman**



Jeanne Stevens-Sollman, USA    João Duarte, Portugal    José Teixeira, Portugal    Lynden Beesley, Canada    Mashiko, USA    Kazusa Sugita, Japan

**Lynden Beesley**



Lukas Zavil, Czech Republic    Mirena Zlateva, Bulgaria    Miko Dulgerov, Bulgaria    Tsvetan Stoyanov, Bulgaria    Panayot Panayotov, Bulgaria    Rada Nikolova, Bulgaria



Sebastian Mikołajczak, Poland    Tetsuji Seta, Japan    Teodora Draganova, Bulgaria    Thomas Diehn, Germany    Yoto Dilov, Bulgaria    Zahirub Abdul-Razzak, Iraq

Above are the results of the second session of the 2013 INTERNATIONAL MEDAL PROJECT "NEW CREATION - THE WATER"

Further "NEW CREATION" Session Dealines

The Stars -17 May/The Birds -18 Oct/The Humans -15 Nov/The Extraterrestrials -13 Dec

For more info contact Bogomil Nikolov at [http://www.artmedal.net/bulgaria/msss/msss\\_medal\\_projects.html](http://www.artmedal.net/bulgaria/msss/msss_medal_projects.html)

# behind the MASC

## MASC Mission Statement

*The Medallist Art Society of Canada is dedicated to the creation, promotion, appreciation and education of the fine art of the medal*

Medallist Art Society of Canada  
412 Roncesvalles Avenue, Suite 115  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6R 2N2  
e-mail: [info@medallicart.ca](mailto:info@medallicart.ca)  
[www.medallicart.ca](http://www.medallicart.ca)

*behind the MASC*  
412 Roncesvalles Avenue, Suite 115  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6R 2N2

## Meet the MASC Council

<b>President:</b> Sarah Tothill	<b>Directors:</b>	<b>Past Presidents:</b>
<b>Vice-President:</b> Kris Bovenizer	Eric Knoespel	2010-2011: Doug Taylor (interim)
<b>Recording Secretary:</b> <i>open position</i>	Eleanor Konkle	2008-2010: Paul Petch
<b>Treasurer:</b> Ray Scott <i>soon to be open position</i>	Antonio Louvado	2006-2008: Saulius Jaskus
<b>Membership Secretary:</b> Andrea Yermy	Geert Maas	2003-2006: Susan Taylor
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b> <i>open position</i>	Hilary Quigley	2000-2003: Del Newbigging
<b>Webmaster:</b> Paul Petch		
<b>Honorary Directors:</b> Del Newbigging 2003-2012	<b>Rodman Hall Liaison:</b>	
Dora de Pédery-Hunt 2000-2008	Art Ellis	
Anne Lazare-Mirvish		



Obverse

**Eleanor Konkle**  
MASC Member

**"A Canadian Heirloom"**  
90 x 5 mm  
2012

Patinated Bronze



Reverse

Currently on display at the  
Rodman Hall Art Centre,  
"War of 1812" Show

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[www.artcast.com](http://www.artcast.com)  
[info@artcast.com](mailto:info@artcast.com)