Strathmore®
ARTIST NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 1 | WINTER 2017

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

The Strathmore Legacy

A history timeline of Strathmore Artist Papers.

-more-

Designs for Watercoloring

NEW Preprinted patterns to paint featuring Zenspirations® by Joanne Fink

-more-

2017 Online Workshops

The exciting 2017 workshop lineup announced.

-more-

Thank you Horace!

The legacy of Strathmore® founder Horace Moses lives on.

-more-

MAIN FEATURE

Mixed Media Illustrations

By Christine Karron

Bison

"I never thought about being limited to only one media. For me it was always about using everything that was available to make my drawings as good as possible."

As long as I can remember I have loved to draw and paint. This was long before I started my first classes in a children's art school. I used everything my mom and sister got for me to be creative and draw with, which were usually pencils, colored pencils, and crayons, with watercolor and gouache later on. I never thought about being limited to only one media. For me it was always about using everything that was available to make my drawings as good as possible. I loved to sketch with pencil but I also started to add color with colored pencils, which I sometimes smudged with water or added watercolor and gouache to fill out the spaces between the lines.

Through the years and after attending art school, I started to use each media to become more aware of how they work and get the most out of them. Before I began to work professionally as an illustrator, I made hundreds of portrait commissions. One day I decided I wanted to focus more on my personal art and I started to develop my own style in mixed media. Through many years of experience and working with different media, I have learned to appreciate specific characteristics of each media and how to combine them to my preferences.

continued

Strathmore®
ARTIST NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 1 | WINTER 2017

Untitled

The Ocean's Own

Odin

Today, I mostly use my mixed media technique for illustrations. When working on children's book illustrations, pencil sketch and pen line drawing are the initial base of my artwork. Watercolor is perfect for backgrounds and the loose/abstract parts. Both colored pencils and a touch of white paint add the realistic details and highlights that make the whole work complete. I was always looking for a perfect paper that would work well with all my favorite media, and when I discovered Strathmore 400 Series Mixed Media Paper in 2013, I knew I found it. I just love it because it can take many layers of watercolor washes and at the same time it's smooth to work with colored pencils and/or ink pen. I have finished illustrations for six children's books, two coloring books, and too many other mixed media drawings to keep count of on this paper.

HOW I CREATE MY MIXED MEDIA DRAWINGS IN 5 STEPS:

STEP 1: PENCIL SKETCH/DRAWING

My pencil strokes are very spontaneous and visible. I like the loose and sketchy feeling of the pencil coming through the drawing when it's finished. I am challenging myself more and more on working without erasing and leaving all the pencil lines visible. I think nothing shows more about the skill of an artist than the pencil sketch of a developing idea.
For realistic artwork I leave the pencil drawing and continue directly with watercolor.

When working on my illustrations, I usually finish the drawing with artist grade black ink pens and erase the pencil sketch.

STEP 2: TAPING DOWN THE PAPER

As strong and thick as the mixed media paper is, for better results with watercolor I tape it down to prevent buckling.

STEP 3: WATERCOLOR WASH TO TONE THE PAPER

Working in watercolor media is very spontaneous and quick decisions need to be made. The watercolor underpainting gives a nice first feeling of values and color contrast. This is very important for me as I like to play with cool colors against warm ones and light against shadow.

The watercolor wash is mostly done loose and abstract. This makes a great base for the composition when the details are added in the next step.

> *"Through many years of experience and working with different media I have learned to appreciate specific characteristics of each media and how to combine them to my preferences."*

STEP 4: ADD DETAILS WITH COLORED PENCILS

After the watercolor wash is completely dry, I start to add details with colored pencils. Artist grade colored pencils are great to work on top of watercolor. They add color richness and depth into the painting and are perfect for unique accents. Usually I pick up the tones of watercolor with colored pencils and work from there in layers, up to the point where I focus on realistic details.

I like to add stronger colors, like pinks, oranges, blues and yellows, to the skin tones. It works great on transparent watercolor and gives it a nice touch of texture. Again, I like the pencils strokes to stay visible. Sometimes I even add random

continued

® and ™ used under license from Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.

but balanced strokes through the artwork to make it look loose and sketchy. One of my favorite parts is working with black or other dark colored pencils, as I can make the darker values deeper and balance the composition of values even better.

disappears in the shadow. Last steps with acrylic are the tiniest of all, but the most exciting part for me, because every time I do it I have a feeling like the artwork gets a soul, awakes and tells its story to me.
You can watch my painting process on my *YouTube channel Christine Karron.*

Flowergirl

"One of my favorite parts is working with black or other dark colored pencils, as I can make the darker values deeper and balance the composition of values even better."

STEP 5: ADD WHITE ACRYLIC FOR HIGHLIGHTS

As the final piece of my mixed media drawings, I add white acrylic with a fine brush for small areas of highlights like eyes, nose tips, lips, and hair. White gouache paint or opaque white watercolor paint would also work. Sometimes I also add light blue acrylic as accents of low light in the shadows. I like how the blue light gives an idea of continuing lines and back lighted spots in the areas where the subject actually

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Christine Karron is a Canadian full time artist and illustrator. Christine was born in 1971 in Tallinn, Estonia. Her exceptional drawing skills were discovered and supported by her parents from a very early age.

As a child Christine was accepted into the Tallinn Art School for Children in Estonia. Later, after her family moved to Germany, she attended and graduated from Technical High School focusing in Art and Design.

In 1998 Christine signed a contract with one of the leading publishers in Germany, and started to work as a full time freelance artist

continued

® and ™ used under license from Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.

specializing in illustration. Other contracts and publications followed.

In 2008 Christine, with her husband and their three kids, moved to Canada. While improving her English, Christine experimented painting in different media, styles, and techniques, and started to sell her paintings online. Christine was offered to illustrate her first children's book in 2013. Other book projects followed.

In 2015 Christine participated in Art Battle live painting events and Art Alley mural projects in her home city Red Deer.

Currently Christine focuses on book illustration, paints between projects, and shares the process on her YouTube channel. Christine paints in her home studio in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada.

To see more about Christine's work and books visit: *www.chkarron.com*

Oldie

Bad Hair Day

Old Boots

® and ™ used under license from Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.

Strathmore®
ARTIST NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 1 | WINTER 2017

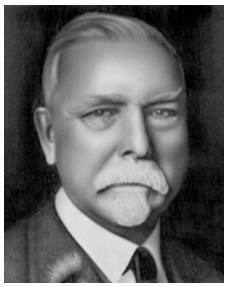
The artist's choice for 125 years.

The history of Strathmore Paper Company began on St. Patrick's Day in 1892 when its founder, Horace Moses, opened the Mittineague paper mill in West Springfield, MA. Soon after opening the first mill, Mr. Moses visited the Valley of Strathmore in Scotland. The thistle was in full bloom and the beauty of the site impressed him so much that he started using the name and the thistle as a symbol of high quality art and printing papers.

The Strathmore brand name began to appear on fine art papers in 1899. It quickly became known as one of the highest quality art papers used by many leading artists around the world. Strathmore has kept this reputation as a supplier of fine art paper for 125 years.

Strathmore's long history includes a commitment to innovation. We listen to artists and continue to introduce new products that enhance and complement new artistic ideas and aspirations.

We strive to manufacture our products in the U.S., which allows us to control the quality and consistency that artists and retailers expect from the Strathmore brand.



1892 Mittineague Paper Company opened in West Springfield, MA by Horace Moses.

1894 Horace Moses visits the Strathmore Valley in Scotland and begins using "Strathmore Quality" and the thistle symbol on his highest quality papers.

1905 Horace Moses acquires the Woronoco Paper Company and runs it as a separate company.

1911 Mittineague and Woronoco Paper Companies are consolidated and become the Strathmore Paper Company.

1929 Student grade papers are introduced under the banner Alexis.

1950 First pad is introduced as Alexis Drawing.

1952 Blank Greeting Cards are introduced.

1962 Strathmore is purchased by Hammermill Paper Company.

1972 The first recycled sketch pad is introduced and called Shelburne Phase II Sketch.

1974 The 300 Series is developed, Alexis becomes 400 Series and Artist 500 Series.

2004 Mohawk Paper purchases Strathmore.

2006 Pacon Corporation purchases Strathmore Artist Papers™

Strathmore Artist Papers™

Strathmore Artist Papers™
A division of Pacon Corporation
® and ™ used under license from Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.

v

Strathmore®

designs for Watercoloring

Featuring ZENSPIRATIONS® by Joanne Fink

preprinted **patterns to paint** on cold press, heavyweight, **watercolor paper.**

Each pad features 8 different designs that encourage relaxation, mindfulness, and artistic expression. The 5" x 7" size makes them easy to frame, or add to greeting cards.

ITEM#	SIZE	DESCRIPTION	DESIGNS/PAD
704-21	5" x 7"	Nature Designs, Tape Bound	8
704-22	5" x 7"	Flower Designs, Tape Bound	8
704-23	5" x 7"	Abstract Designs, Tape Bound	8

- acid free
- 140 lb. 300 g/m^2
- made in the USA

® and ™ used under license from Mohawk Fine Papers Inc. 2017 • Zenspirations® is a registered trademark of Joanne Fink

Strathmore® 2017 ONLINE WORKSHOP SERIES

Join us for Strathmore's FREE 2017 Online Workshops!

Strathmore's Online Workshops feature free video lessons and downloadable instructions created by experienced artists. Follow along in the online classroom as instructors guide you through various topics and demonstrate useful tips, techniques, ideas, and inspirations to get you creating and learning even more about art.

Share all the fun on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter using #StrathmoreWorkshops

Workshops start March 6 and continue through December 31, 2017

Workshop 1: Brush Lettering and Watercolor

Instructor: Jess Park
Start Date: March 6, 2017

This workshop contains two components: the basics of brush lettering (a form of modern calligraphy) and loose watercolor painting. Learn what supplies are needed to start brush lettering, as well as the fundamental strokes that make up the letters of the alphabet. Next, learn how to use watercolor to complement your lettering with expressive background washes and beautiful flora. Jess will guide you through these two skills and teach you how incorporate them to create gorgeous pieces.

Workshop 2: Techniques in Pastel Art

Instructor: Amy Pearce Stone
Start Date: May 1, 2017

In this 4 lesson pastel course, we will create a series of art projects. Each lesson will incorporate a number of techniques, tips, and tricks for using both oil and soft pastels. We will cover things such as composition, drawing, value choices and voices, value blending, creative texturing, simplicity versus complexity, confidence, perseverance, and personal creativity. Whether you are a seasoned pastel artist, or are picking up pastels for the first time, you are sure to enjoy these lessons and find inspiration and encouragement in your own creative process. All are welcome to participate in both learning and joining the conversations!

Workshop 3: Ethereal Mixed Media on Toned Paper

Instructor: Georgina Kreutzer
Start Date: September 4, 2017

"I suppose it is tempting, if the only tool you have is a hammer, to treat everything as if it were a nail," said Abraham Maslow in 1966. This sentiment perfectly outlines why Georgina loves mixing various media as an extremely flexible and advantageous technique for creating art. Knowing how to use a wide array of art-making tools and products is powerful when approaching any kind of challenging subject. It's also vital for beginning artists to experiment and learn which kinds of media resonate with their own artistic direction. This four-week workshop will guide you through Georgina's techniques in mixed media art using pencils, soft pastels, inks and acrylics, with an aim to leave you confident in finding your own set of preferred skills.

Join us for our free workshops today at:

strathmoreartist.com/artist-studio

Strathmore Artist Papers™
A division of Pacon Corporation
® and ™ used under license from Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.

Strathmore®
ARTIST NEWSLETTER

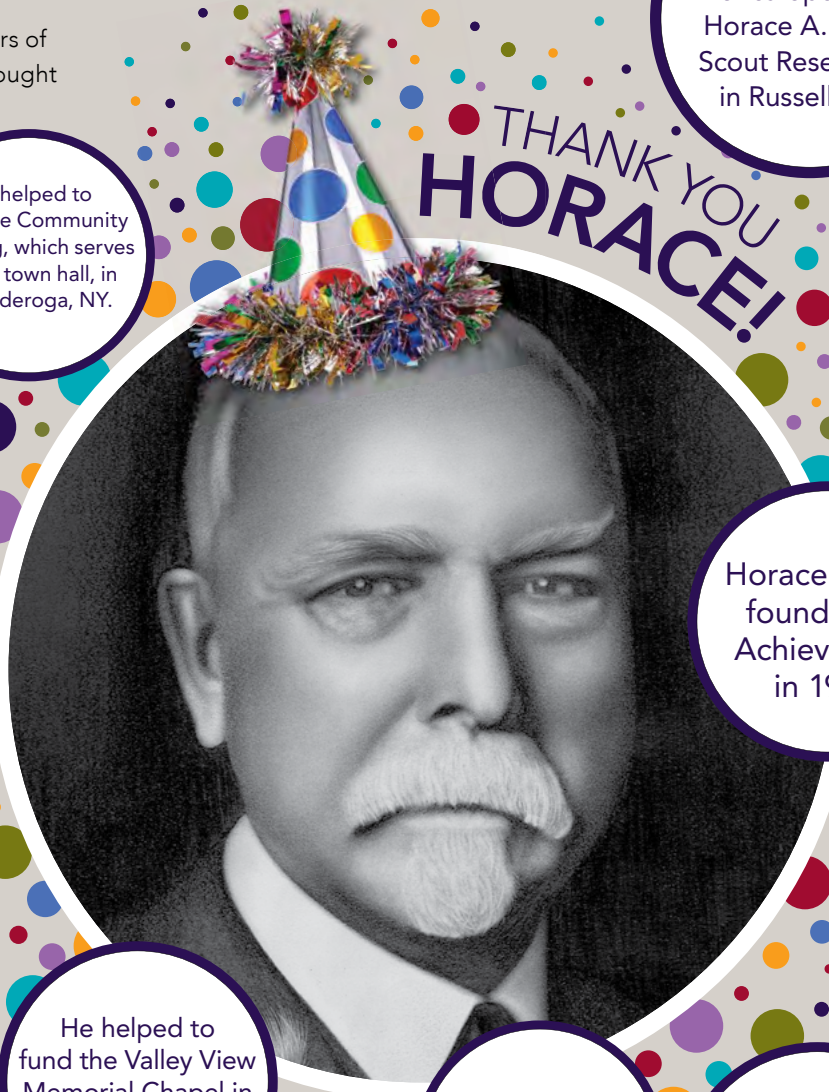
VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 1 | WINTER 2017

125 YEARS
STRATHMORE QUALITY

Did you know?

The legacy of Strathmore Artist Papers founder Horace Moses lives on not only through 125 years of beautiful artwork created on the surfaces he brought to market, but also through his philanthropic contributions. During his lifetime, Mr. Moses contributed his time and finances towards the betterment of youth, the furthering of the arts, and the study of agricultural sciences. His efforts and financial support are still making a difference today through Junior Achievement, Boy Scouts of America, 4-H, and Green Mountain College. He promoted quality educational, human services, and health care programming for under served populations with his Horace A. Moses Charitable Trust, administered by Bank of America. His hometown of Ticonderoga, NY perhaps benefited the most from his generosity with substantial financial contributions making numerous buildings, still in use today, possible.

THANK YOU HORACE!



The Boy Scouts of America operates the Horace A. Moses Scout Reservation in Russell, MA.

He helped to fund the Community Building, which serves as the town hall, in Ticonderoga, NY.

Horace Moses founded Jr. Achievement in 1919.

Horace built the Hancock House as a gift to Ticonderoga, NY to perpetuate "American Traditions in History and the Fine Arts."

He helped to fund the Valley View Memorial Chapel in Ticonderoga, NY.

4-H awards the Moses Leadership trophy named after Horace Moses.

His financial support made the Moses-Ludington Hospital in Ticonderoga, NY possible.

Horace Moses was featured on a 20¢ stamp issued in 1984.

He donated the Liberty Monument which sits in Moses Circle in Ticonderoga, NY.

His donations helped build Moses Hall, on the campus of Green Mountain College.

Thank you Horace!

Your contributions have made the world a richer and more beautiful place!

® and ™ used under license from Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.