



The GRAPEVINE

April, 2016

Hi Everyone,

Marina yards are full of boats on the hard and buzzing with preparations for the boating season ahead. Some diehard skippers haven't stopped sailing or motoring around the coast all winter but nevertheless plan for haul outs and refurbishment in anticipation of taking advantage of every sunny weekend, holiday and hooky day. The focus of the people working on boats, the shapes and movement of the various craft, the piles of equipment, and the bright colours of the gear, all seem perfect ingredients for painting.

Why are there not more marine painters in this region? We are surrounded by water and images of boats are some of the most endearing to art buyers – are marine scenes too banal since we live in one? We also have some of the continent's most dramatic sailing races – Swiftsure, Van Isle 360 and the Vic-Maui. Perhaps what is needed is a show dedicated to the genre so photographers don't take all the glory. In the meantime, in this Grapevine we celebrate the new signature FCA members and the winners in the Victoria FCA Spring Show at the Coast Collective's new venue. We review an evening with painter Christine Gollner that had several people commenting they were inspired to get painting. Also up, among other art notes of interest, is a Q & A with painter Jim McFarland, AFCA.

All the Best,
Inga Nykwist

P.S. This is the last Grapevine until the fall. Look to the Victoria FCA website for news during the summer hiatus.

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FCA Victoria, Chapter Meetings

Monthly meetings are held at Windsor Park Pavilion on the third Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Don't miss the next FCA Victoria meeting (and last before the summer hiatus). Artist and instructor Nancy Slaght will critique paintings and we'll enjoy a finger-food potluck at the AGM. Bring something delicious to share at the potluck and a painting you'd like critiqued. Join us:

Thursday, April 21st, 2016 at 7 pm

Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay

SPOTLIGHTING OUR ARTISTS – SINCE LAST GRAPEVINE:

Success at the **Success! Show** in Vancouver:



*Retreat
#3*



Opposition (diptych)

Congratulations to **Kristina Boardman** who received her **SFCA** designation!



Truth

Congratulations to **Kathy Cameron** who received her **AFCA**!



Top Gun

Pretty in Pink



Poe





And congratulations to **Joane Moran** who received her **AFCA!**

Wild Blueberries 4



Aztec Pearl

Glow



VICTORIA FCA SPRING SHOW:

It's here - the Spring Show! Don't miss it!

The opening reception is Sunday, April 10th, 2 – 4 pm. Please bring goodies to share. Coffee, tea and other beverages will be provided.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and tidy up after the reception. Please let Agnes know if you can help set up before 2 pm and/or clear up after 4 pm:
info@victoriafca.com.

The award-winning paintings were chosen by the 3 jurors, Clement Kwan SFCA, Anne Hudec SFCA and Lisa Riehl AFCA. The winners are included below:

Federation of Canadian Artists
Victoria Chapter

2016 Juried Spring Exhibition



April 6 - 17
Reception:
Sunday, April 10,
2 - 4 pm

Coast Collective Art Gallery
at Westridge Landing
#103 - 318 Wale Road, Colwood
Gallery Hours: Wed – Sun, 11 - 5 pm

"Waterlily" - Mary Conley, AFCA

For more information contact info@victoriafca.com

VICTORIA FCA SPRING SHOW WINNERS



First prize was awarded to
Linda Darby for
Orbiting Conjunctions

Second prize went to
Shirley Schmidt for
Siblings



Sharlene Stushnov-Lee, AFCA
received **third prize** for her work,
Wine on the Vine

Honourable Mentions were awarded to:



Kathy Cameron, AFCA
Looking Up

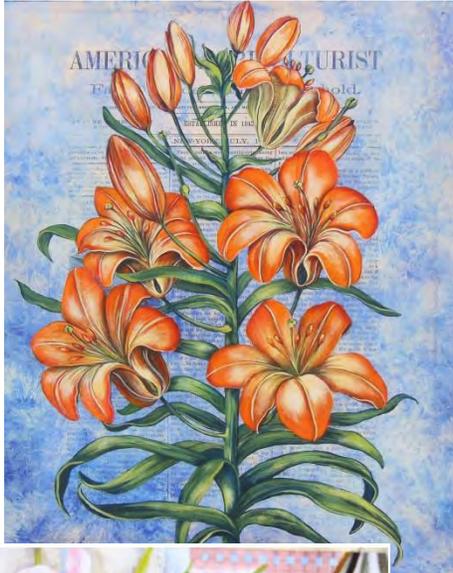
Carol Koebbeman
And Then It Was Over
(Kara with coffee cup)



Rose Tanner
Long Migration

SPOTLIGHTING OUR ARTISTS – UPCOMING EVENTS:

Showing at the Federation Gallery's, **Foliage and Flowers** show March 29 – April 10, 2016 are:



Kathy Cameron's *American Princess*

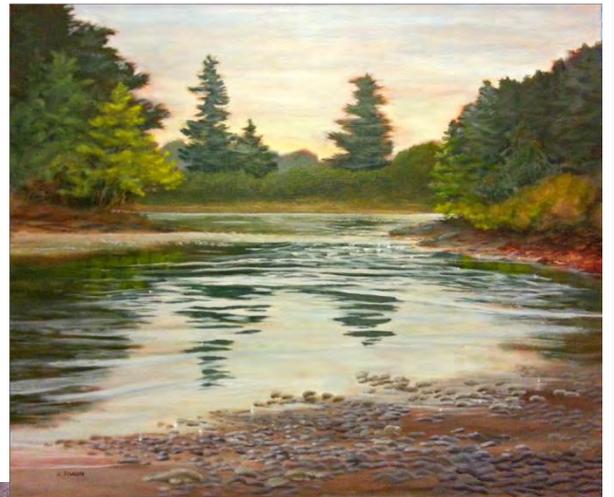


Sandy Terry's
Gardenia



Lori (Krushinsky) McGee

*Orchids & Pelican
Sculpture*



Showing at the Federation Gallery's, **Canvas Unbound** exhibition April 12th to 24th will be Catherine Taron's *Chemanius River Bend*.

Catherine Taron is also participating in the Ladysmith Waterfront Gallery's 100-day painting challenge. The challenge began January 1st and Catherine is on-track to finish without missing a day. Shown is one day's watercolour, *Numinous*.



A 3-day show, April 28 – May 1, at the Ladysmith Waterfront Gallery will include the participants' work.



'NANAIMO FINE ART SHOW'

June 3 – 5, 2016

Sponsored by Nanaimo Chapter of FCA

Submissions close midnight on April 27th, 2016. To enter see the Nanaimo FCA website:

<http://nanaimofca.blogspot.ca/2013/11/shows.html> .

For more information, contact Vida Newington, ramblingroses@shaw.ca .

VICTORIA FCA ANNIVERSARY SHOW



Next up after the Spring Show will be **Victoria FCA's Anniversary Show** – 75 years young – to be held at the Cedar Hill Recreation Centre from **June 22nd – July 6th, 2016**. The show will take place in the Main and Café Galleries. Call for submissions to come soon including confirmation of final dates and times.

IPAD FOR ARTISTS

I have a new appreciation for Apple products after attending a 3-day workshop recently. Christine Gollner mentioned (see below) how she found it a useful tool in her studio – I now understand completely. What she didn't mention is how much fun the iPad is to work on.

Lisa Danesin, Victoria FCA website guru, and artist now living in Lantzville, walked us through 4 iPad apps: SnapSeed, Enlight, Hydra and Procreate. Procreate has to be the best ever substitute for Photoshop – I struggle to get Photoshop to do anything, but Procreate is intuitive enough for me to just breeze through layering and altering photo references. See Jim McFarland's photo below – it took just minutes to layer his photo on top of one of his paintings (much better background don't you think, Jim?). A better result would have been achieved if I had used the new iPad Pro and the amazing new pressure sensitive Apple pen. But that would be the downside of the iPad – there's always something new and shiny that works even better...

VICTORIA FCA MEMBERS IN OTHER SHOWS



SOCIETY OF CANADIAN ARTISTS – ONLINE EXHIBITION – MARCH 15TH TO JULY 15TH

Congratulations to Marney Ward for her second place award for *Butchart's Begonias*!

www.societyofcanadianartists.com

GAGE GALLERY

Linda Darby is having a solo show at the Gage Gallery May 3rd to May 21st.



THE BAY CENTRE – 'LOOK' SHOW (UNTIL APRIL 10TH)



Golden Music

June Haynes is showing *Golden Music* at the LOOK show – 3rd floor, Bay Centre

Gage Gallery Arts Collective

2031 Oak Bay Avenue, Victoria, B.C.

Just Infinite

Painting Exhibition

Artist Linda Darby

May 3 to 21, 2016

Opening May 5, 7 to 9 p.m.

250 882 4954

www.artistlinda.com

OTHER HAPPENINGS

Artist Studio Tour Season:



Oak Bay Artists Spring Studio Tour Saturday, April 16th and Sunday, April 17th 12:00 noon - 4:30 pm

Claire Christinel is participating in the Oak Bay Artists Spring Studio Tour, Saturday April 16 and Sunday April 17, noon - 4:30 pm. More than 20 artists are featured in the show that includes paintings, pottery, jewelry, fabric art and more. Bring a friend and walk, bike or drive the route through the streets of beautiful Oak Bay.

The link for a printable brochure and map is below:

<https://www.oakbay.ca/parks-recreation/events/calendar/spring-2016-oak-bay-artists%E2%80%99-studio-tour>

Cadboro Bay-Gordon Head Studio Tour Saturday, May 7th and Sunday, May 8th 11:00 am – 4 pm

Marcela Strasdass is participating in the Cadboro Bay-Gordon Head Studio Tour on May 7 & 8, 11 to 4 pm. Fourteen artists are featured in the Tour showcasing painting, photography, fiber arts, pottery and more.

Maps will be available online through the Facebook Page:

<http://www.gobc.ca/tours/cadboro-bay-gordon-head-artists-tour-27>



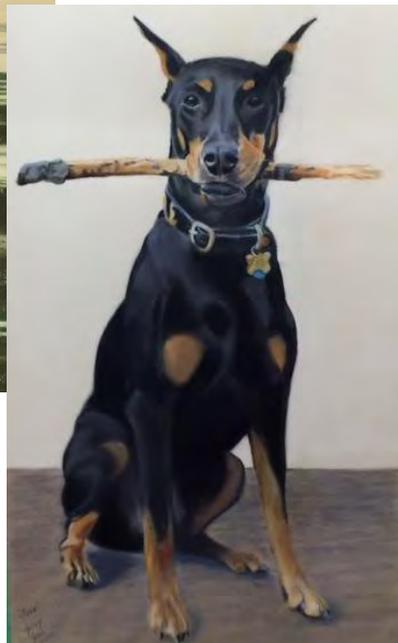
Paul and Artie Arsens

Carol Koebbeman's commissioned painting of the original owners of the Inn at Laurel Point is now hanging on permanent display in the lobby near the front desk. References for the painting came from photographs taken in the 1960s and 70s as both Paul and Artie are deceased. The painting depicts them in their living room, surrounded by artifacts depicting their art collection and achievements.

Mary Conley is illustrating a book on Art Deco/Moderne buildings in Victoria using Adobe Photoshop.



Allen



Jaxx

Gerry Gass is busy producing works and gifting to friends



New member, Kathleen Schmalz, has a second studio in Guelph, Ontario where she is a member of the Guelph Studio Tour. Kathleen's painting opposite is one of her contributions to their annual 'Boat House Show' that just opened.

CHRISTINE GOLLNER - MARCH 17TH



We rocked on with Christine Gollner, a Member of the Victoria Sketch Club and the Oak Bay Artist's Society, at the last membership meeting. She kindly prepared a series of canvasses for us to demonstrate her acrylic painting method. What surprised me most was her extremely limited palette and how thinly she applies layers of acrylic paint on her prepared orange ground. She is also a watercolour painter, though, so this later technique may have developed out of a similar approach in watercolour.

The extremely limited palette is definitely not something a watercolourist might choose, however. Watercolour painters may limit themselves to a cool and a warm of the three primaries, but in acrylic, Chris uses only 3 main, almost transparent, colours to produce all of the hues: alizarin crimson, ultramarine blue and hansa yellow middle. She says that if cadmium colours are mixed, 'mud' is produced (another watercolourist's horror) as the cadmiums contain white. These 3 transparents together can make black. The transparents with titanium white provide the lights. The multiple thin layers of colour she applies provide greater depth and solidity to her subject matter which, in this case, was an area familiar to us from the news – just on the other side of the rocky ridge is the toxic soil dump at Shawnigan Lake that the BC Supreme Court recently ruled must cease operations.

Yet, Chris finds beauty in the raw, exposed and tumbled rocks and gets that 'OMG, I have to paint that' moment. That is what we should all be looking for she says and what we should strive for is to get down in paint the thing that made us feel that way.

In her demo, she glazed the rock shapes, and mixed the sizes and character of the rocks, using light to lead the eye through the painting. She noted that in watercolour, it is easy to score the lines in the rock with the other end of a brush - though an advantage of acrylics is being able to glaze the sense of sunlight on the subject.

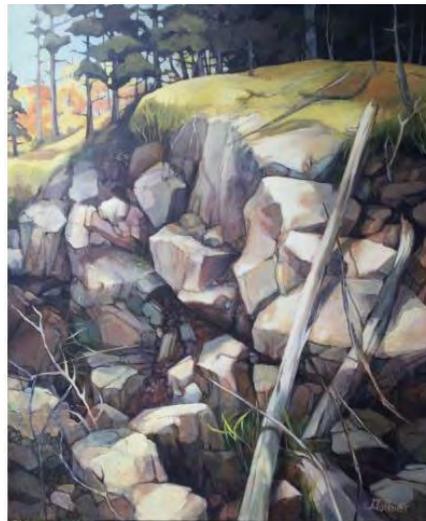
Chris also occasionally uses a transparent yellow iron oxide with a matt medium, a.k.a 'nicotine glaze', in some paintings to create an 'old world' feel to the work. She points out that you have to be careful not to overdo such a glaze – it will take out blues which may not be the effect you're after, but it does help remove any sense of chalkiness.



If Chris is uncertain of the direction she is taking the work, she will photograph her painting and try out any additions or changes to it in an art studio app such as 'Brushes' on her iPad. She finds the iPad a very useful addition to her studio.

Christine graduated from the Ottawa School of Art and at the age of 45 – she points out you are never too old! - studied Fine Arts for two fun,

full years at Emily Carr College, in Vancouver. What she remembers most from Emily Carr was learning that the painting she felt was complete, her Emily Carr instructors considered a 'good start'. She works her paintings now to a much higher finished stage.

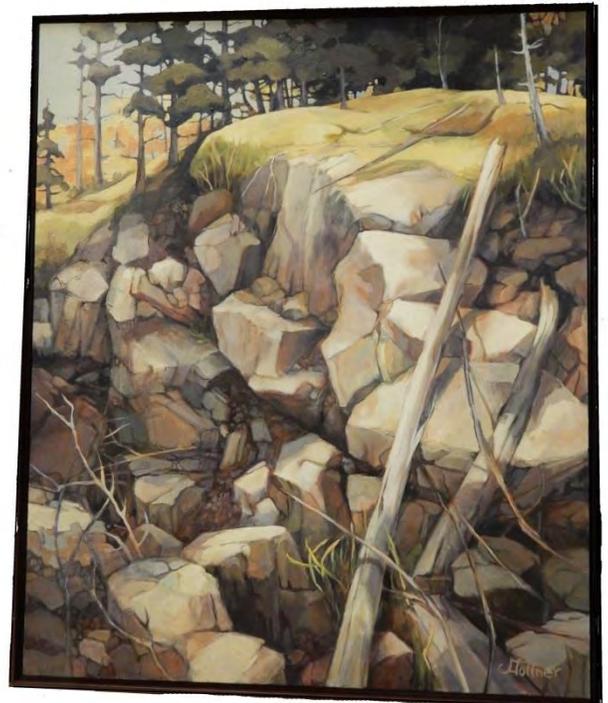


In fact, Chris admits, her paintings become her friends and she doesn't truthfully want to stop painting them – going back and forth with the lights and the darks, glazing and rubbing on or off, the paint.

But the one thing that Chris emphasized during her demo was that 'being there' is the best reference for a painting. You have to figure out what it is that grabs you when you see a subject that says, 'paint me!' and paint that.

Rock solid advice.

[Ed. note: Thank you to Christine Gollner for the painting-in-progress shots above from her handout. Mea culpa for the skewed photo (lower right) of the final painting shown at the demo.]



FEDERATION OF CANADIAN ARTISTS (VANCOUVER) CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SHOWS:

Exhibition Name	Submission Deadline	Exhibition Dates	Entry Details
Canvas Unbound	March 19th, 2016 Painting due date: April 8 th , 2016	April 12 th – 24 th , 2016	Juried; Open to Active and Signature members.
Culture	March 31st, 2016 Painting due date: April 22, 2016	April 26 th to May 8 th , 2016	Juried; Open to Active and Signature members.
Plein Air	April 24th, 2016 [Note: Plein Air Paint Out at Jericho Beach April 23 rd) Painting due date: May 8 th , 2016	May 10 th to May 22 nd , 2016	Juried; Open to Active and Signature members.
From Life	May 1st, 2016 Painting due date: May 20th, 2016	May 24 th to June 5 th , 2016	Juried; Open to Active and Signature members.
Icon	May 10th, 2016 Painting due date: June 3 rd , 2016	June 7 th to June 19 th	Juried; Open to Active and Signature members.

****Please check the Canadian Federation Artists' website <http://artists.ca> to confirm these dates and to obtain further information regarding submission requirements and/or future shows.**

VICTORIA FCA WORKSHOP WITH DOMINIK MODLINSKI – FEBRUARY 27TH & 28TH

Errata: Marcela Strasdas would like to clarify that the workshop photos in last month's Grapevine were taken by Lisa Riehl who also provided the participants with wonderful painting-in-progress shots at Dominik Modlinski's workshop.

WINSLAW HONER (1836 - 1910), BREZINGU/P	HARRY HEINE (1928 - 2004), ROBERTSON II
KIFF HOLLAND, SERENITY	CHARLES REID, OUTRIDER

Q & A with Jim McFarland, AFCA



Jim McFarland is a signature member of the FCA and the Society of Canadian Artists. He has had a number of solo shows and awards, over 100 group shows, and is currently represented by 5 galleries in BC and Alberta. Jim works primarily in acrylics to capture the ever-changing colours and light in the world around him. His larger works are developed in the studio but you can often find him on a beach, a hillside or farmer's field, painting. His work is found in private and corporate collections in Canada, Europe and the USA. <http://www.jimmarland.ca>

Are you someone who has always been an artist or did you focus on art later in life?

I have always liked to draw and paint. I sold my first drawing to my grade 4 school teacher for \$0.25. Sales dropped off after that. I started to work harder on painting about ten years before I retired. Now that I am retired I can paint fulltime.

What training did you receive that had the most impact on your artistic development?

Glencoe Cove

I took some classes from the Victoria College of Art. I also studied with a number of artists. Probably the most significant was Glen Howarth.



What is your current art set up and what materials could you not do without?

I have painted with water colours and oils but now I only paint with acrylics. I enjoy the fact that the acrylic paint dries quickly. That works well with the way that I work. I think what is most important for me is good quality acrylic paint. Most other things you can do without but good paint is impossible to replace.

What artists inspire you?

There are two groups of painters that I greatly admire and they are the French Impressionists and the Canadian Group of Seven.



The Gulch, Tofino

What is the most memorable response you've had to your work?

Last Fall I sold a few paintings at a Plein Air painting event at Port Angeles. The Gallery where they sold sent me an email with the name and addresses of the people that purchased the paintings and suggested that I send them a card. Which I did do. I got back from one of the purchasers, a woman from Port Angeles, a message saying that she loved the painting and when she gets old and has to leave her home, the one thing she would be taking is that painting.

What do you wish someone had told you when you began your journey as an artist?

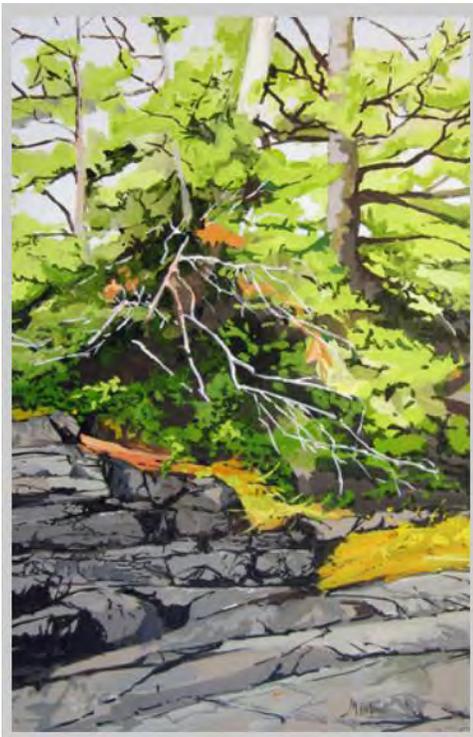
I don't know maybe the answers for these questions...

What are your 3 favourite art books (or digital resources)?

I do not have a favorite book although I do have books. My favorite is the memory of a time that I went to the art museum in Philadelphia. The museum is very large. Plus they have original art from all the ages. There is no way a photo or a magazine print can look anywhere a good as the real thing. I was just blown away.



Albert Head



West Coast

What is your dream project?

I do not have a dream project other than I start every painting with great expectations and a vision that I struggle to obtain.

I also enjoy plein air painting. I see it as going to nice places with good friends and do what you like to do.

What question do you wish I had asked and how would you answer it?

You already asked me too many questions!

Thanks, Jim! [Ed note: Cheekiness got Jim photoshopped into one of his own paintings.]

*Angles Gap
Plein Air*



SIDNEY FINE ARTS SHOW

Anne Hudec SFCA provides an update to last month's story on changes to the annual Sidney Fine Arts Show:

On February 24th I wrote a letter to artists asking for support of the Sidney Fine Art Show over concerns that the show would be cancelled for 2016, and changed from the format that has made the show such a success in the past.

I would like to thank all the artists who stepped forward and wrote to the Community Arts Council of Saanich (CACSP) supporting the Sidney Fine Art Show (SFAS) Committee and their vision – both past and present.

Through the artists' overwhelming response in support of the SFA show, the situation was brought to a head, and a resolution was quickly reached between CACSP and the Sidney Fine Art Show Committee, in time for the committee to get the 2016 show organization underway.

Because of your support and involvement, the Sidney Fine Art Show "Call to Artists" announcement will be released on April 15th.

Thank you for your help, and see you at the Sidney Fine Art Show 2016!

Anne Hudec

SFCA

POP QUIZ: WHO PAINTED THESE?

(Hint: 2 belong to BC painters)



Answers on the FCA Vancouver Calendar page.

Last Thoughts

Last year, to distract myself from a milestone birthday, I embarked on an artist quest. I wanted to learn more than the orphan-to-icon story about Joaquin Sorolla (1863 - 1923). Described by some as a Spanish impressionist and by others as a naturalist painter, Sorolla created his images with very broad brush strokes.

He was famous for the luminous effect he achieved in his work. While his contemporary John Singer Sargent is rumoured to have added his broad strokes at the end of a painting to create the illusion of effortlessness, Sorolla simply painted as quickly as possible saying: "Even if I wanted to, it would be impossible for me to paint slowly outdoors... none of what surrounds us is static..."

The quest began in Valencia, Spain where Sorolla was born and where he made so many of his lively beach paintings standing at an enormous easel sheltered from the wind. A local museum has a number of his works as well as paintings by his daughter and son-in-law. A video tells the story of his life. The beach in Valencia has none of the romance of his day, but the city is wonderful. Watch your timing for the Las Fallas festival when millions flock to Valencia to see huge icons constructed and then burned in each old city square.

Next on the quest was Madrid, where Sorolla moved with his family after his renowned work ethic brought him great success. The house he had built in 1911, now the Sorolla Museum, is painted yellow and set beside a small garden divided into rooms. It is surrounded by taller modern buildings – one of which completely

blocks his studio windows on one side- but the house still feels like a home. Sorolla's studio is enormous and full of eclectic odds and ends. His painting materials are on view as though he'd stepped away from the easel for a family meal. Every room in the house features his paintings - even the painted dining room frieze includes cameos of his wife and daughters.

Madrid's famous Prado Museum has more paintings, as does the Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum - I am not sure how many more paintings are sprinkled in Madrid's other art museums but you'll find them as you walk around the core of the city – so conveniently arranged for both the locals – numerous school groups - and tourists.

The quest would not have been complete

without visiting the Hispanic Society of America in New York for Sorolla's murals that depict life in the different regions of Spain. So many artists of his day seem to have been commissioned to paint murals but so few works have survived. Truthfully they are a little overwhelming - just perfect for a milestone distraction.

