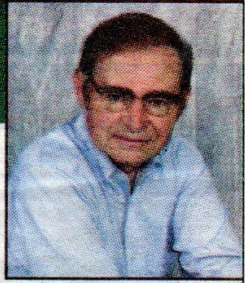


Next Chapter Jonathan van Bilsen



Karen Richardson *a Toolbox for Artists*

Most authors I meet write fiction, so it is inspirational to chat with someone who has written a self-help book. Karen Richardson, an accomplished watercolour artist, has done exactly that. Her book, *Watercolour Toolbox: Essentials for Painting Success*, is a solution for artists wishing to improve or create watercolour art.

I asked Karen why someone who is so successful at creating watercolour paintings, decided to write a book. "I have been teaching the art of watercolour for many years and the book simply evolved from a strategy of solving problems which students encounter."

The book is designed to assist would be artists overcome trials faced on an ongoing basis, while learning their craft. The table of contents is broken into challenges which are then dealt with throughout the book. It truly is a step by step guide to painting with watercolour. In fact, I am even thinking about taking up the art, and I have difficulty painting a kitchen door.

Karen's book has done very well in stores, which is largely due to the evident need for such a publication. As an accomplished artist, she fully understands the problems people in her craft are

faced with. The book has won several international awards, including the Illustration Award and bronze medal from Reader's Favorite Book Awards, which Karen received in Miami during the International Book Fair. Karen also received a bronze medal from Independent Publisher Book Awards in New York City.

Many people use *Watercolour Toolbox: Essentials for Painting* when they take Karen's courses, but it is available from Friesen Press or her website, www.karenrichardson.ca. The book is available locally, and world-wide, and is truly a self-help guide for watercolour artists.

Jonathan van Bilsen is a photographer, author and columnist. Follow his adventures at photosNtravel.com

