

Watercolor Workshop in Guatemala

Art Workshops in Guatemala offers educational travel packages in a wide variety of the arts. We're located in Antigua, a really gorgeous, artsy town. Surrounded by volcanoes. And warm in the winter. You'll love it — guaranteed.

WATERCOLOR / INK AND WASH

March 9 - 18 2006

Join watercolor artist and popular instructor **MARIAN ALSTAD** for a visually exciting and unforgettable artistic experience at one of the most gorgeous 'on-location' locations in the world. There are so many paintable subjects - from picturesque ruins and cobblestone streets to colorfully dressed Guatemalan children in the parks and markets to the exotic gardens of the homes we stay in - that you won't know where to begin!!

Marian works with each participant's ability, but likes to start with the basics. She'll cover elements of composition, value studies and demonstrate different ways to put color washes on paper. She'll explain how to choose a paintable subject. This is particularly important when painting on location outdoors - - as we do in this workshop. Artists often become overwhelmed when faced with too much detail. You'll then concentrate on learning to see less - rather than more. With that new skill, you'll learn to quickly capture the essence of the subject in front of you by sketching with ink and adding color washes. Marian's skill lies in helping her students paint realistically -- but more spontaneously.

As a class, you'll have the opportunity to paint at a variety of nearby locations including the centuries old convent ruins of Santa Clara and in the luscious gardens at Quinta de las Flores. We'll also head up to spectacularly gorgeous Lake Atitlan, painting as the sun sets behind the volcanoes while indigenous women still gather at the lakeside to wash their clothes on rocks. A highlight of this workshop will be the Sunday Lenten processions. You'll see 'alfombras' - carpets made of sawdust, flowers and pine needles that families design and create in the streets in front of their homes. Then processions pass by -- hundreds of people from local churches -- carrying 'andas' - heavy floats - on their shoulders, with figures of Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary and other saints. It's an incredible, must see to believe, experience !!

Marian has long been a popular watercolor instructor in Minneapolis and has taught workshops in Taos, Santa Fe, Baja, Puerto Vallarta, Italy, France, Nova Scotia, Costa Rica and San Miguel de Allende, Mexico (WHEW!). Her love of the medium is evident in her versatile teaching methods, as well as in her award-winning paintings. She is well-traveled and enthusiastically brings out the best in her students, whatever their experience.

ANTIGUA is any visual artist's dream location. Colorful bougainvillea spill over tumbling rocks of centuries-old ruins. Indigenous women's 'traje' and local markets inspire bold strokes. Antigua is a delightful, small town with an international ambiance. It features loads of wonderful outdoor restaurants and cafés, great shopping (all those gorgeous textiles!) but, most importantly, warm hearted and welcoming people.

** Total package price, including tuition (but not art supplies), airfare from most major US cities, lodging, breakfasts, ground transportation and field trips is US\$2,095

For more info call (612) 825-0747 or e-mail info@artguat.org.

Or you may call **MARIAN** at (612) 824-6460 or email: mardi4011@aol.com.

Check out our basic, but does the job, website is: <http://www.artguat.org/>