



IMPORTANT DATES

10/17, 7pm

October CMAG Meeting
larger Stone Tube Setting

11/21 7pm

Gem Mines

December: Party!

Host to be announced

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October Presentation: Larger Stone Tube Setting, 3-9 mm

CMAG member Pat McCormick will demonstrate tube setting larger stones (between 3 and 9 millimeters), including oval stones. Pat spent thirty-three years teaching high school biology in Portland and takes inspiration from nature and science. He works mostly in silver and loves changing the shape and texture of his materials.



Forging Ahead with Andy Cooperman



The Ninety Twenty Studios was a pretty noisy place as seven CMAG students hammered and forged their way to acquiring new metal shaping skills in Andy Cooperman's "Small Scale Forging" class. With hammers and anvil surfaces, everyone learned how malleable metal really is as they stretched, thinned, annealed, changed direction, twisted and annealed again. The additional techniques of forming with pliers, vices, bending jigs, soldering and more, brought the forged pieces into the realm of wearable art. They even learned how to forge closed the hole of a washer with only a hammer!



Forging is an ancient technique dating back to 4000 BC in Mesopotamia and was utilized for making tools and weapons. Eventually, it was used in vessels and jewelry where the technique was refined to create more decorative objects.

The participants in Andy's three-day class learned the most ancient and versatile metalworking technique there is to incorporate into new and exciting creations. And a good time was had by all!



CMAG Mentorship

One of the stated purposes of The Creative Metal Arts Guild is, “To provide encouragement and help to the members in order to upgrade their technical and creative skills.”

In the spirit of this founding purpose, our members have always shared knowledge, skills, opinions and more. This list is the names and contact information of CMAG members that are willing to be available as a resource for all sorts of mentoring, advice, being a sounding board, etc., on various topics. There are more willing members than are on this list, so reach out to these and other members to expand skills, problem solve and more. Remember, you don't have to be an expert at everything to be able to help someone with the thing you know how to do. Please do not share this contact information outside of CMAG membership.

BETSY BENSEN	betsybensen@msn.com	503-650-0046	Etsy, bezel making, bezel setting
BRUCE MCKAY	brucejmckay@gmail.com	503-796-5966	Lapidary, stone carving, stone setting
DEBRA CARUS	dcarus@comcast.net	971-221-8151	Metal fabrication, enameling, filigree, Granulation, soldering, stone setting
SHELLY DURICA- LAICHE	info@indiometalarts.com	971-200-1940	Sculpture, materials procurement, plasma Cutting, MIG and oxy torch welding
ANNE JOHNSON	annepaigejohnson@gmail.com		Enameling
RACHEL MORRIS	info@eclecticnaturejewelry.com		Bench fabrication, hollow forms, unusual Stone setting
GREY PROCTOR	greyproctordesigns@gmail.com	360-936-7676	Filigree and silversmithing
JO SARINS	arrayofelegance@att.net	309-657-2180	Enameling and Cloisonne
CARLI SCHULZ	glass@juiceglass.com		Glass
JEAN SHAFFER	jeancshaffer@gmail.com	206-666-8526	General fabrication, texturing, stamping, Enameling, fabrication, dichroic glass fusing
DEB STEELE	debsteele@comcast.net	503-316-5080	Precious Metal Clay
THOMAS TIETZE	tom@artisanworkshop.com	503-708-5930	Wax carving, casting, stone setting, design, fabrication
ZAK	zaniacpictures@gmail.com		Sculptural lapidary, drawing
DONNA YUTZY	donnayutzy@hotmail.com	541-295-0463	Metal Clay Jewelry
MARY WONG	mary@triosstudio.com	503-307-9208	Wax carving, fabrication, stone setting, casting

Letter From The President

We are a community of artists and makers and in CMAG we have found support and friendship. One of our long-time members, Carol Greiwe, has recently experienced serious health issues and has been in recovery. Upon coming back to her beloved studio, she discovered that it had been broken into and her materials and inventory had been stolen, adding up to many thousands of dollars of loss and countless hours of time into the inventory. The double burden of health problems and business loss is much to bear. A GoFundMe has been set up for Carol and CMAG will be contributing. I hope others in CMAG will consider supporting our long-time friend, Carol Greiwe, in her recovery from these lifechanging events.

Mary Wong
President

Link to GoFundMe for Carol:

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-carol-after-brain-hemorrhage-studiorobbery?
utm_medium=email&utm_source=product&utm_campaign=p_email_m_pd-5332-donationreceipt-adyen&utm_content=internal](https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-carol-after-brain-hemorrhage-studiorobbery?utm_medium=email&utm_source=product&utm_campaign=p_email_m_pd-5332-donationreceipt-adyen&utm_content=internal)

Link to News article about the break in:

[https://www.kgw.com/article/news/crime/se-portland-artist-break-in-brain-bleed/283-9b6280d9-5231-
4bcf-8cd7-2e0b4a2bc757?fbclid=IwAR1m0BqouBOsFKGOXcqpaxwJV62zBjyj8pq9wgV4sCS6FV191f9TPs3yTn8](https://www.kgw.com/article/news/crime/se-portland-artist-break-in-brain-bleed/283-9b6280d9-5231-4bcf-8cd7-2e0b4a2bc757?fbclid=IwAR1m0BqouBOsFKGOXcqpaxwJV62zBjyj8pq9wgV4sCS6FV191f9TPs3yTn8)

Clark County Open Studios Tour

This is the tenth anniversary of the Clark County Open Studios Tour. There are 51 artists taking part in it this year, with a wide variety of different types of art to share. Most people are probably familiar with the open studios concept, but if not - tour visitors have a chance to see the artist in their creative environment, watch how the artist does their art, and have an opportunity to possibly purchase pieces created by each artist. I took part in the tour a few years ago for a couple of years, but in another person's studio. I'm really excited this year to have my own little studio (Barbara Kay Jewelry) to open up to visitors.

The tour will happen on November 4 and 5. Studios will be open on those two days from 10 am to 5 pm. On Friday, November 3, there will be a preview of the artists' work in the Art at the Cave gallery in Vancouver during First Friday (4-8pm). People can get more information about the tour at <https://artstra.org/about-open-studios>. There is an online guide to all the artists on this site, as well as a tour map that will show people where the galleries are located.

This is a fun event and is an opportunity to see other artists at work!

CMAG Members' Adventures with Professional Photographers Scott Erb & Donna Dufault

Late last year, my long-time friends and colleagues, Scott Erb and Donna Dufault (Erb/Dufault Photography), a husband-wife team of professional photographers with almost 60 years' experience between them, told me they were closing up their Massachusetts studio for good and hitting the road for an epic cross-country trip to decide where they next want to land.

Professionally, they specialize in several types of photography: They're big foodies, and do a lot of product shots for high end restaurants, as well as headshots for chefs and corporate folk. They also do portraiture. They both have passion projects, as well – Scott does a lot of model photography, and check out some of Donna's tool stills for your studio walls!

I asked them to schedule a few days in Portland, and worked with them to book an amazing local model, St. Merrique, for interested CMAGers to get a day of live-model shooting. They did a separate headshot session and offered further options for custom in-studio shoots. Mandy, Laurie, and Serin all got headshots during a cheerful, low-stress morning that had everyone smiling. Scott and Donna taught everyone some low-key ways to get their best angles, and their upbeat but gentle coaching brought out everyone's best.

Madeleine Moore took advantage of the in-studio shoot, getting some stunning professional shots which not only beautifully capture her personality but also show off her elegant studio. She says of her experience "Donna and Scott were charming and friendly. I hate having my photo taken but they made it relatively painless; they're also good at communicating via email. I booked three shots in my studio, and they took an extra shot of the studio without me in it, at no additional cost, which was very sweet of them. I'm glad I finally have a headshot that isn't a slightly grainy phone photo taken by a friend years ago."



Members Carli Schultz, Serin Hale, Valerie Graham, Laurie Feinswog, Mandy Moore and I all opted for the model shoot, with each of us getting two to seven "looks" (often multiple pieces of jewelry in one look). In the end, the hardest part was deciding which shots to pick from the dozens taken. Photos: Carli Schulz, Laurie Feinswog, Valerie Graham





Each model session ran about an hour and a half and began with a brief questionnaire from Donna about what the jeweler's needs were – Website? Print marketing? Social media? – along with our goals for the shoot. Photographs were then done against a neutral wall in my living room that we turned into a studio for the day with Scott and Donna's gear. Merrique, our very experienced model, brought several outfits to choose between, and handled her own hair and makeup. She was adept at giving us multiple visual styles, ranging from earthy creative to professional businesswoman and more, and knew how to provide multiple subtle changes of pose to show off the work to its best light. Scott would occasionally give her requests for specific angles to catch the light or play with shape, and Donna acted as our master stylist, correcting how pieces rested, recommending changes to the lay of the clothing, and generally keeping us on track. Scott shoots while Donna manages reflectors and moving lights to catch the look they both wanted for us. The whole team was upbeat and lighthearted, while also staying firmly and professionally on track. Photo: Rachel Morris

Each jeweler sat behind the shoot, watching real-time results on a screen, asking for any adjustments they wanted – immediate gratification! Most commonly, these were around repositioning a piece or emphasizing a part of the work, but frankly, Merrique was so good, she did a lot of that without prompting. At the end of a shoot, we'd scan through and pick a "maybe" list, rejecting any we definitely didn't want. We'd then refine the narrowed down pool and pick the one (or more) images we wanted. One came as part of each look's cost (roughly \$165 between model and photography), and we could opt to have more final-edited shots for an additional \$40 per image. Once we finalized our picks, Scott and Donna took a few weeks to do any final color correction, cropping, cleanup, and formatting, and then sent us download links for the high-resolution final images.

It was an incredible education in what we do and don't want in our shots, and each artist involved had very different stylistic goals. I learned a great deal about the subtleties of angle and lighting, impact of clothing colors, and about how specific poses can draw attention to, or detract from, the work. I'm now having fun cropping my shots for different uses: For booth hangings, cutting down to just below the eyes and up to the base of the neckline, to focus on the necklaces. For promotional cards, keeping a lifestyle image – giving the sense of the customer wearing the work.

Mandy tells me: "I had wanted to get professional model shots done for a while but found the whole thing too overwhelming. What photographer to use? How do you hire and direct models? How does the whole thing work? Working with a group of fellow CMAGers made it easier and more fun. I learned a lot from the experience."

Laurie says of the process: "I think like many of (us), I found this not only a great experience, but one that gave me more experience to make the next experience even better. I'm very happy with my model shots, and even more thrilled with my head shots. Scott, Donna and Merrique were all incredible to work with. I will definitely do it again when they come back through town."

Valerie went even further, saying: "I've done two other model shoots before, and the second one was a complete disaster. Donna and Scott were incredibly easy to work with and had a great rapport with the model - Merrique. It was almost effortless - that's what you get when you let the professionals do their jobs! They were right down to business, and clearly took the work seriously, but the shoot felt relaxed, and fun. Donna and Scott made it clear you were in control - they would stop, let you review the photos, and make adjustments and reshoot as needed. Hands down a fantastic experience and I can't wait to work with them again."

Good news for those of you who missed the first round: Scott and Donna will be coming back through town either this winter or in early Spring of 2024, and will be doing another shoot. Depending on artist interest, we may include additional models, including male or non-binary models. If there's interest, they'd also teach a workshop in how to use your own gear to get better product shots - I had a few hours of one-on-one training with them and it radically improved my shooting (spoiler alert: the only bad equipment was the photographer!). If you're interested in being contacted when we're next booking, drop me a note at info@eclecticnaturejewelry.com and I'll put you on the list.

-Rachel Morris
Eclectic Nature Jewelry & Design



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Upcoming Shows and Application Deadlines

Washington:

Redmond International Winter Festival

Event Dates: 12/2

Redmond Washington

Application Deadline: 10/15

Oregon:

Salem Art Fair & Festival

Event Dates 9/13-15 2024

Salem, Oregon

Early Bird Deadline 2/2/24

Application Deadline 5/10/24

Summer Arts Festival 2024

55th Annual

Event Dates 6/28-30 2024

Roseburg, Oregon

Application Deadline 5/15/2024

For for information and to apply for shows, please visit zapplication.org



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CMAG Board & Staff 2023

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Communications: Madeleine Moore

Social Media: Catherine Chandler

Web Site: Madeleine Moore

Spring Show: Tai Vautier

Programming: Madeleine Moore

Librarian: Kristin Fudalla

Refreshments: Zak Pearson

Newsletter Editor: Susan Mitchell

Membership Chair: Carli Schultz

Public Relations: Catherine Chandler

Registrar: Francesca Kennedy

GUILD BUSINESS

GENERAL MEETING (MONTHLY)

When: General CMAG member meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month.

Meetings begin at 7:00 pm, and adjourn by 9:15

Where: Multnomah Arts Center

What: Meetings consist of general business followed by a program which may be a demonstration of a technique or tool, a slide presentation, a panel discussion, or other presentation of interest to CMAG members.

Who: Meetings are open to CMAG members and their guests

BOARD MEETING

Board meetings are held prior to the General Meeting at 6:00 pm. Members are encouraged to attend and contribute.

CONTACT INFO

Creative Metal Arts Guild (CMAG)
PO Box 8946, Portland, OR 97207

Email: cmag@cmaguild.org

Web: cmaguild.org

NEWSLETTER ITEMS WANTED

We're looking for news about you and from you! Virtual trunk shows, tools you can't live without, books you love, online workshops or webinars you've attended or upcoming classes you recommend. And photos of new work you'd like to show fellow CMAG members. Include body text in an email with any links, and attach photos (ideally jpeg format) where available.

Submit to: cmag@cmaguild.org

Deadline: 2nd Monday of every month

WAYS TO PROMOTE CMAG, CMAG MEMBERS & EVENTS

GENERAL:

Talk us up among your artist friends - invite them to a Third Tuesday meeting! Update your membership page on the website with photos, especially! Like our public Facebook page and Like, Comment on and Share announcements on your own page and on groups you think would appreciate them

<https://www.facebook.com/CreativeMetalArtsGuild/>

Follow us on Instagram, like our posts and tag us @creativemetalartsguild in your own appropriate posts

<https://www.instagram.com/creativemetalartsguild/>

Use hashtags in your social media posts:

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#creativemetalartsguildpdx