

**Suzette Cohen Workshop
Acrylic Paint Pouring Techniques
Saturday, October 5, 2019**

Suzette opened the workshop by reading 'A Public Health Warning', the Potential Dangers of Fluid Art. It reads "In a press release today, the National Institute of Public Health had announced the discovery of a potentially dangerous substance found in Pour Painting craft supplies. This substance has been linked with the following symptoms in humans: •Reluctance to cook, •Reluctance to perform housework, •Reluctance to work, except in support of pouring, •Physical craving for free time to paint, etc." You get the idea . . .

To a class of six, plus two young boys (Jaden, Rozenia's son and Atharva, Yogesh's son), Suzette explained, "It takes time to prepare, before you can pour." The first challenge the class faced was hammering the push pins into the back of the canvases. These pins are used to raise the canvases off the ground for easier pick up. The next was mixing the paint in a plastic cup, 1/3 white or color, with 1/3 Floetrol, then a little water and stir, stir, stir. The order of mixing is important. Test it...when you move from a 'mountain' to a 'stream' flowing off the paint stick...it's ready. The class mixed up five cups of paint, white, black and three colors. Suzette said, "You'll need a lot of white paint."



Lee tests his mix!

The first pour was a "Bottle Bottom" pour. Cover the canvas with white paint. This allows the other paints to flow on the canvas. The various colors of paint are poured over the bottom of a plastic bottle, repeated three times. After carefully lifting the bottle bottom off the canvas, Suzette used a wooden skewer to add interesting designs.



The second pour is 'puddle pour'. Start by painting half the canvas in black and the other half in white....don't let it mix, no gray, please. Starting on the black side, pour black paint first, then a color. Repeat three times. Do the same thing on the white side. Then, tilt the canvas over the aluminum pan, trying not to mix the white and puddles together. Do it until you like what you get.

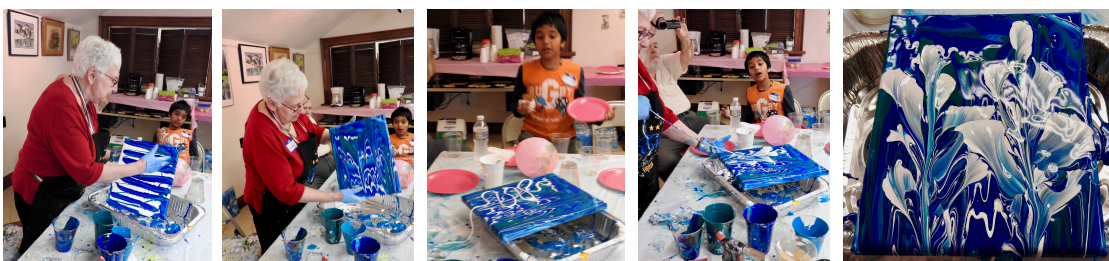


The next was a puddle pour using a straw to create flowers. Suzette blew through the straw until she got the desired 'flower' design. Then, she added the flower stems.



This was followed by a large puddle pour. Suzette used a hair dryer with a nozzle to focus the paint where she wanted it to go until the paint covered the entire canvas.

The last pour was a dirty pour, i.e., three different colors of paint are poured, one at a time, into one cup and then that cup of paint is poured over the canvas in different directions until the entire canvas was covered. Suzette then used a string dipped in white paint to create amazing 'foliage like' designs within the pour. This was pure magic!



The class at work . . .



Examples of artwork created in the workshop

