

The Hudson Artists Association added a supplementary art

form called "Paverpol Sculptures" to their recent Spring Exhibition - a fiber sculpting medium from the Netherlands

# Paverpol fibre sculpting: Be a sculptor for a day

now available in Canada.

Wil Keltjens, who came to Quebec last year is the distributor and certified teacher for Paverpol North. After doing a demo with Susan Malfermo (certified teacher in Ile Perrot)

at a Hudson Artists Association meeting, a number of painters signed up for a workshop and everybody loved it!

Paverpol is an environmentally friendly, water-based hardener and the world's number

one product of its type. It is the only product awarded the Approved Product non-toxic safety seal from the Arts and Creative Materials Institute.

A basic Paverpol Workshop is a five-hour class where a figurine is started with a wire skeleton and fleshed out with crumbled aluminum foil. Strips of fabric (usually an old t-shirt) are saturated in Paverpol and wrapped around the skeleton. After creating this "mummy", a pose is picked, draped and dressed with more saturated fabric, paper, silk, dried botanicals or any natural material. Within a few hours, the sculpture will be dry enough to dry brush or accent paint and is completely cured in about two weeks.

Teacher Wil Keltjens says, "People don't need any sculpting experience to do this Workshop. You bring an old 100% cotton t-shirt and leave with a one-of-a-kind statue."

One of Keltjens' most successful enthusiasts is musician, artist and now sculpter Denise Paquette who has created many varied pieces, some of which were on display at the Spring Exhibition.

Keltjens teaches from her home studio and the \$75 Workshop fee includes all materials except the T-shirt. Interestingly, she can also do a workshop in someone's studio or craft store (\$85 fee) if space is sufficient to host a group of at least six people. In this scenario, Workshop students go to you and the host's fee is free.

These statues are great for personalized gifts and commemoratives. Examples are unique displays in your home, office or garden, or gifts for occasions like weddings, graduations, anniversaries, sports awards and special centerpieces. Workshops are the perfect setting for bridal showers, sister's day out, get-togethers or for teambuilding with colleagues. Keltjens also does commissioned pieces.

For people who want to learn more than the basic skills with this medium there are also certified Paverpol instructor classes offered on request. This is a 2-day training that allows and promotes people to teach Paverpol techniques themselves and make an extra income through doing what they love to do as well as obtain product discounts.

On Saturday, May 24th, Stuart Hall in Pointe-Claire will be holding The Cultural Rendezvous where a demonstration on Paverpol sculpting can be seen. For more info contact teacher Wil Keltjens at: wilkeltjens@hotmail.com



Paverpol sculptors Gisèle Lapalme and Denise Paquette.