PLYMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY GALLERY

'Oil and Water Do Mix'

Local artists combine diverse styles in new show

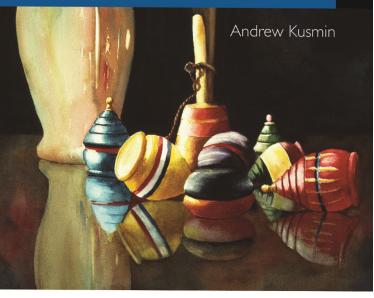
PLYMOUTH - Andrew Kusmin and Judy Quinn will use art to debunk science when the two local artists combine their talents to prove that "Oil and Water Do Mix."

Their joint show at the Plymouth Public Library Gallery opens Thursday, Dec. 7, with an artists' reception beginning at 5:30 p.m. The pair will offer a gallery talk at 6:30, followed by a book signing. Copies of Kusmin's "Palette of Dreams" will be available, along with "Singing in the Dark Black Night" and "All the World is a Stage" by Quinn.

The show will mix the art of

Judy Quinn

Oil and Water Do Mix



Quinn, who works in oil and an eclectic range of multimedia, with Kusmin's watercolor paintings.

While the show will display a juxtaposition of abstract art and realism, it will also convey how deeply realism depends on abstract design, Kusmin explained. "We work from the same place, both figuratively and physically," he added.

"I've always respected Judy's work," Kusmin said, "and wondered if I could keep up with her standard."

Most of the Kusmin works included in this exhibit have never been shown publicly. They include a few featured in his recent book, and some he feels make a bold statement in response to an extraordinary experience. The library's extensive gallery allows the showing of a few

paintings too large to have been exhibited before, as well as a few from his newest series featuring children from around the world.

"These new works express a different, lesser known side of Andrew Kusmin," he said. "I enjoy challenging myself with subject matter I've not previously explored, something Judy Quinn is always doing."

Quinn describes her work as eclectic. Her artistic journey has carried her from black and white photography through ever-evolving processes, including printmaking, paper-making, encaustic and painting. This show will feature more recent works featuring oils with a retained flavor of other favored media."The color, the feel of the paint on my brush was very seductive," she explained.

She described herself as "an abstract, jump-into-the-lake" kind of person and artist.

"I'm honored to be in a show with Andrew," Quinn added. "He is so proficient with his watercolors. I think he could paint anything. He's such a landmark in Plymouth."

Kusmin, a nationally acclaimed watercolor artist, was born and raised in America's Hometown. After pursuing his education at Bates College, and Tufts University and serving with the U.S. Navy, he opened a dental practice in Westford, where he and his wife raised their children. It was in Westford that Andrew discovered his passion for watercolors. As art grew in importance in his life, he returned home to Plymouth to pursue painting and teaching full time. While building this second career, he also took the lead in establishing the Plymouth Center for the Arts.

Kusmin is a past president of the Plymouth Guild for the Arts and the New England Watercolor Society, a founder of Westford's Parish Center for the Arts, and a signature member of a myriad of art organizations. He has been honored with awards for his work in shows held throughout New England and across the country and has been featured in numerous publications.

His first book, "Palette of Dreams," features more than 200 of his paintings, which he uses to illustrate and share the story of his personal philosophy of art and to provide inspiration and insight for artists, students and art lovers on their own individual journeys.

Quinn was born in Kenya and educated in Tanzania and England. She emigrated to the United States in 1965 and studied photography at Project Inc. in Cambridge, printmaking at the DeCordova Museum School in Lincoln and paper-making at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

Quinn and her husband summered in Plymouth for 20 years before making it their permanent home in 1990.

She is a co-founder of CAMERADA, a critique group of six Boston area photographers, and a member of Partners in Printmaking. Her work has been shown throughout the New England area and has been featured in several publications. She's been active in local art groups and also travels as an Artist in Residence to the Artist Proof Studio in Johannesburg, South Africa, where

she offers workshops in alternative and photographic media. Some of her mixed media work hangs in the U.S. Embassy in Kenya.

The Kusmin Art Gallery is located on the corner of Sandwich and North Green streets, across from Plymouth's historic Training Green.

For more information about Kusmin, his art, the gallery, available classes or "Palette of Dreams," go to kusminarts.com, call 508-746-9215 or email <u>andrew@kusminarts.com</u>.

Studio Watermark is Quinn's working studio, located in the historic Waterworks Building at 26 Howland St., just up the street from Plymouth Harbor.

She describes "Singing in the Dark Black Night" and "All the World is a Stage" as "little books" that are iPhone blends of her painting and photography featuring her own writing and collected quotes.

For more information about Quinn, her art, Studio Watermark or her books, go to judyquinn.com, call 508-284-9019 or 508-888-3014 (evenings) or email jmq42@capecod.net.

"Oil and Water Do Mix" will be on exhibit in the Plymouth library's gallery through Feb. 28.

For additional information about the show, the Dec. 7 reception and gallery talk or other library programs and services, go to plymouthpubliclibrary.org, call 508-830-4250 or email <u>plref@ocln.org</u>.