

ARTISANS BY THE SEA

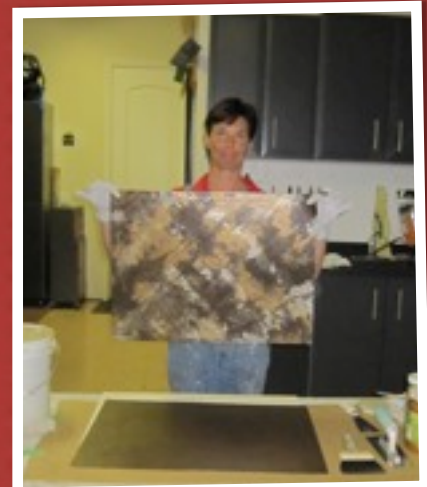


URSULA BAUMANN

Our group is very fortunate to have talented professionals such as Ursula and Luis, this month's class leaders. They were generous enough to share their trade secrets with us, and give us valuable and useful tips and tricks for our future projects. Thank you both!



MM PRODUCTS USED



LUIS SANTIAGO



LUIS DEMONSTRATED SEVERAL TECHNIQUES HE USES TO MAKE HIS MATERIALS GO FARTHER, AND LOOK LIKE SIMILAR, MORE EXPENSIVE PRODUCTS. HE SHOWED US HOW HE CREATES A STONE TEXTURE FOR PENNIES PER SQUARE FOOT, AND SELLS IT FOR DOLLARS PER SQUARE FOOT. VERY COOL, LUIS!

URSULA AND LUIS

Both of our artists work fast and efficiently. Each knows how to stretch their materials, improvise, substitute, and just plain be creative with each and every product.

When they are previewing a project with a potential client, they are always prepared. When asked if they can create a particular effect, the answer is almost always “yes!” Sometimes they need to go home and experiment and practice it first, but rarely is something beyond their capabilities. Maybe that explains how they stay so busy!

Ursula is one of the busiest people you will ever meet, working almost seven days a week. Her client list grows by word of mouth, and she works all over San Diego County.

The demonstration she showed us this month was for a client in Coronado who wanted a feature wall for a piece of art. She had a full size kimono in a champagne color that she wanted to hang on this wall. Ursula came up with the design, created a sample, chose the colors, painted the wall in one morning, and the client loved it. She had the paints, the tools, the expertise, and that leads to a happy and satisfied client that sends referrals again and again.

Luis showed us photos of a project he worked on for a full year. It was a condo in downtown that was absolutely amazing. You may have seen it in a multi-page spread in San Diego Magazine. The

owners had it listed for over ten million dollars. His work was everywhere---from gold leafed ceilings to decorated floors to plastered reliefs.

He will be moving to Barcelona, Spain shortly to open a school of decorative painting, and to introduce the skills he has developed in the U.S. to artists in Europe. It was refreshing to hear him tell us stories about how we are way ahead of them in modern techniques. Tools such as stencils and Modellos are mostly unheard of, and he plans to change that, very soon!

Luis, please stay in touch with us so we can follow your progress. We will keep you on our mailing list so you can follow ours.

I hope you noticed in the photos how FEW people attended our October meeting. Besides the two presenters and our hostess Beth, there were only five of us. Any of you have volunteered to be presenters in the past know that a good deal of time and effort goes into the preparation. We know that Beth always prepares a comfortable environment for us. Those of us who were there enjoyed a pleasant and informative evening. Those who were not able to be there missed that. Whatever the cause or reason, a lack of interest appeared to be evident during this month's event.

For our November meeting to be better attended, we are

planning a group participation event. Yes, everyone needs to contribute something. Tell us about a great new tool you have found, an interesting technique that you use, a problem you have solved, a disaster you caused and how you worked it out, your “client from Hell” story, or your assistant or spouse from Hell story (I’ve got one of those!).

Tell us how you came to this group, how you got interested in art, or what you aspire to do with it someday.

What we are hoping is to bring everyone out, have a few laughs, learn something new about each other, share some knowledge. We will learn about the common thread that has held this group together for about fifteen years now, and see if there is enough interest and motivation to keep it going. As we used to say in grade school, “Be there or be square!”

Julie Young, Vicki Schultz, Karen Jorgensen and Kara Wald have all agreed to lead the group in 2011. November’s meeting will be the last for Brenda and me. December’s gathering is always planned as our annual Christmas Party and will be hosted by Karen this year.

Please RSVP to me at cardot@mac.com. I hope to see you all at Beth’s house at 12465 Oakfort Place, Scripps Ranch at 7pm on November 9.

Teri Cardot, President