

# VOICES COLOUR



THE CANADIAN SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOUR / LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PEINTURES EN AQUARELLE • FALL 2016



*Tibor Nyilasi*

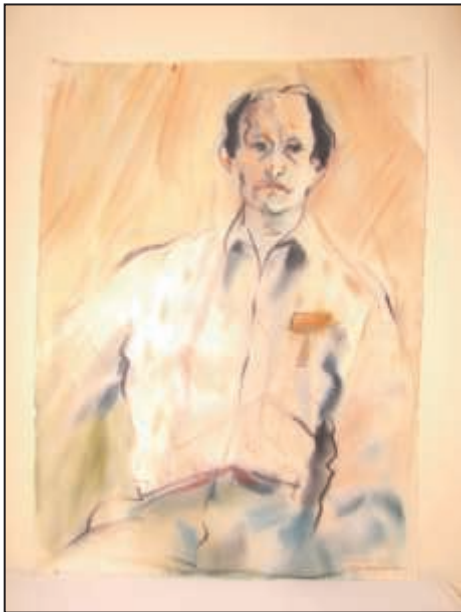
*Morton Baslaw*



*Daisy Kurp*



## Tibor Nyilasi



Tibor Nyilasi of Hamilton, Ontario (1936-2015), CSPWC member since [?], was absolutely dedicated to exploring the beauty and challenges of watercolour painting. An immigrant from Hungary (1956) who graduated from the Ontario College of Art in 1964, Tibor was taught by some of Canada's top artists. He went on to work as an artist and art teacher in a career that spanned more than 50 years. Tibor developed the ability to work "wet-on-wet" – a water-soaked brush on soaking wet watercolour paper – and used this not for landscape painting (he often scoffed, "If the bush doesn't turn out, just turn it into a tree") but



rather for courageous and anatomically precise figure studies and even crowd scenes. A trip to Japan had introduced him to Sumie painting, and he often used a bamboo stick to overlay India ink line work into his compositions. Tibor had an uncanny ability to know exactly how far wet pigment would spread on a soaking wet imperial-size sheet of heavy Arches paper. He used negative space on the paper, wax resist, and created patterns both with embossed paper towels and with salt. Tibor's genius was matched with his friendly and encouraging disposition, his



jokes, and his love of opera singing. He would complain, "Why do I have to wash my hands and clothes? Watercolour paint isn't dirt, it's gold!"