
Tay River Tattler

Arts News & Views from Tay River Gallery

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Grand Opening of Tay River Gallery

New Venue for Local Ontario Artists

Lisa Brown

Tay River Gallery opened its doors on Saturday June 22, 2002 at 28 Wilson St. West in Perth Ontario. The small heritage stone building is located only a few blocks from Stewart Park and the Tay River. A long-time dream of the owner, Tay River Gallery showcases local culture by featuring the works of local Ontario artists, writers, small presses, craftspeople and musicians.

The months of May and June were spent in diligent and grueling work renovating inside and out at 28 Wilson St. Many thanks to Gray Sutcliffe, and crew for sticking with it while rain played havoc with painting schedules and toxic fumes from heat guns and ancient paint assaulted the senses. Persistence paid off; the exterior of the building looks lovely!



Arts News with A Twist

"Tattler" - non-formal, telltale, talebearer, blabber, informer, person who reveals the plans or activities of another. Tay River Tattler is an informal newsletter with a twist. This is the first issue of our monthly newsletter, created in line with the central philosophy and intent of the Gallery - to promote awareness and appreciation of culture around us. We welcome submissions regarding upcoming events, workshops or classes offered in the arts.

Why We Need a Tattler

"The position of the artist is humble. He is essentially a channel."
Piet Mondrian

Apart from humility, a common thread of the artists and artisans represented in the gallery is passion for their work and fine quality exhibited in their finished works. It is a pleasure to chatter the kudos for these artists!

Visual Arts Group

Artists featured for the summer months include John Topelko, Renate Wesley, Tricia Savoie, John Alexander Day, Arlene McGee, Donna Naprstek and Sophia Jacoba van der Velde

John Topelko's oil paintings, at times reminiscent of Group of Seven works, feature wilderness landscapes of Ontario and Quebec with strong vibrant colours and simple lines. Particularly spectacular are the rainbow of colours John uses creating his skies and lakes.

Renate Wesley's country scenes depicting houses and farmyards are colourful, vibrant and romantic. Nadi, as she is more commonly known, also paints fascinating florals that frequently have a mystical quality to them as the painted flowers take on a life of their own.

John Alexander Day paints his landscapes on site to capture the subtle qualities of light. He has painted striking wilderness scenes from across Canada. His vibrant urban scenes with people engaged in activities are set in the Ottawa area.

Trisha Savoie demonstrates her passion for colour in her idyllic garden scenes, with prominently featured porches and garden gates. Her romantic, impressionist style is also evident in her lovely coastal scenes.

Arlene McGee's watercolours are a stunning reflection of the artist's spiritual connection with her natural environment. Her bold use of colour creates memorable scenes depicting Lanark terrain.

Donna Naprstek's watercolours depict country scenes with her favourite subject, horses. This artist clearly has fun creating her light and playful pastoral scenes.

Sophia Jacoba van der Velde loves to paint finely detailed watercolours of the minutiae of plant life in her surroundings. Featured in the Gallery is her watercolour, Grape Vines.

Photographic works of Carolyn Molson and Barbara Lapointe are featured for the summer season. Barbara's display includes two breath-taking scenes from Giverny, France taken at the Monet gardens. Carolyn provides a taste of the Maritimes, daisies and a stunning sunset scene in her photographic display.

Fine Crafts Group

Victoria Jenkins creates pottery and clay sculptures. Some of her functional pottery has a nostalgic quality to it - pieces that look like something one would find in grandmother's kitchen. Her clay sculptures are unique and stylized whimsical pieces. Oriental brush painting on plates and polar bear and elephant sculptures are among her favourite motifs.

Ray Rovas, woodturner, creates beautiful imaginative bowls in all shapes and sizes using black cherry, maple, and cedar. Ray likes to emphasize the unique quality of the wood piece, accentuating flaws as a focal point of attention. Spalting techniques, metal, leather weaving and other elements are included to add character to his pieces.

Karen Goetzinger, an award winning quilter creates finely detailed oriental wall hangings with liberal use of rich colours and pattern, and hand-embroidered elements.

Graham Turnbull, stained glass artist, with over 12 years experience, displays a few of his intricately designed larger works in the gallery. Graham also offers classes in stained glass.

Donna Sproule's labour of love is creating primitive hooked rugs for hanging on the wall or placing on the floor and created in the original Acadian (East Coast) fashion. The warm texture and colours with homey scenes depicted in Donna's rugs provide a restful backdrop to any setting.

Jannie van Eijk artist and designer, exhibits three of her fascinating figurative sculptures: Life in the Fast Lane, Expert at Works and The Young Boy. An artist talented working in many mediums, Jannie also creates hand painted silk scarves with oriental motifs and painted doll brooches.

Ann Stoodley, clothing designer, creates brightly coloured children's clothing designed for play and unique ladies' vests designed for special seasonal events and everyday wear.

Jim Brown is a talented scroll artist who creates nature scene collector plates in pine and scrolled wall shelves with nature scenes with birch and butternut wood Unique birdhouses in a myriad of designs – churches, haciendas, pagodas, caboose, lighthouse and hanger to list a few - are created with the imaginative woodworking skill of Laurence Brown.

Bert Lacroix, cabinetmaker of nostalgic look armoires and china cabinet shows two of his pine pieces. Ev Bolton builds wishing wells in a variety of sizes to suit any garden setting.

Horse Scene Blankets in a wide range of sizes and stuffed horses are created by

Donna Naprstek and large patchwork blankets by Sophia. Jewellery featured includes switchable earrings by Conversations In Jewellery artist, Cecile Reichert.



Summer Reading - Two New Anthologies

Fit To Die, Rendezvous Press

Fit To Die is an entertaining crime and mystery collection of short stories and poetry by the Ladies' Killing Circle with contributions by 21 Canadian women writers in this volume. The main themes of this witty collection are sport, fitness, games and murder. Be prepared to be party to many wicked dastardly deeds!

Moving Fingers Write, Mount Pleasant House

Moving Fingers is an anthology featuring the works of twelve Ottawa writers exploring the creative process. This volume of works includes short stories, essays, children's stories and poetry. Short entertaining pieces featuring tight, imaginative writing make this anthology the perfect book to take along on the holiday vacation.



Upcoming Gallery Events

Sept. 7 – Sept. 30th

Black & White Photography Exhibit

By Keith Allen

Oct. 1 - 21

Exhibit of Watercolour and Acrylic
Paintings by Arlene McGee

Nov. 9 – Nov 30

Exhibit of Oil Paintings by John Topelko

Sept – Dec. 2002

Ongoing Group Shows

Featuring Day, Savoie, Wesley, McGee,
Topelko, Naprstek, Jacoba van der Velde
and others visual artists.

Local Upcoming Events

Rideau Valley Art Festival

Westport Ontario

August 23, 24, and 25th, 2002

Original Art Exhibition & sale

Inroads Studio Tour

Tour of fine art & craft studios in
Frontenac & Lanark Highlands

August 31, Sept 1, 2nd

Tay River Gallery Welcomes New Artists & Artisans

We are looking for quality works from
local artisans on a consignment basis for
the upcoming fall season. Interested
parties please apply in person, by email
lbrown@tayrivergallery.com, or call the
gallery at 264-5448.



Book Signing: Mary Jane Maffini

Mary Jane Maffini, Ottawa writer, signs
her new novel, *Little Boy Blues*, the latest
in the Camilla MacPhee Series.

Sat., Aug. 17, 3 p.m. at Prime Crime
Books, Bank St. Ottawa 238-CLUE.

Famous Quotes of Artists

Painting is just another way of keeping a
diary.

Pablo Picasso

Poetry often enters through the window of
irrelevance.

M.C. Richards

PARTING THOUGHT Poem by Rumi,
thirteenth-century Sufi mystic and poet
Today, like every other day, we wake up
empty and scared.

Don't open the door to the study and
begin reading.

Take down the dulcimer.

Let the beauty we love be what we do.

There are hundreds or ways to kneel and
kiss the ground.