
TAY RIVER TATTLER

ARTS NEWS & VIEWS FROM TAY RIVER GALLERY

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Walls & Windows from Away. Karen Phillips Curran Watercolours

As a grand finale to our summer theme on travel, Karen Phillips Curran, Rideau Ferry artist, exhibits her latest watercolours inspired by her travels throughout Europe this spring.

We are honoured to present the latest works of this talented international artist who lives in the Perth locale. The artist reception was held on Saturday August 5 from 2 to 4 p.m.

In her own words, she describes the focus in this series of paintings.

“These watercolours are about time, that magical moment when something ordinary makes you catch your breath. I use realistic asymmetrical architectural forms, walls, windows and doorways to create poetry in the ordinary. In a minimalist fashion, with gentle tones, time, weather and gravity tell a story that is often bypassed in our busy world. Decay is made beautiful by way of being noticed. Dancing shadows draw the viewer into the painting. Wonder and intrigue allow the viewer to slip into the

moment, becalmed.” Karen Phillips Curran. August 2006.

This is something that Karen’s paintings never fail to deliver, the ability to catch the viewer in a pause. “Becalmed” is the feeling one takes away from viewing Karen’s work. Her paintings suit a wide variety of settings with their ability to induce a very peaceful, calming atmosphere.

Karen’s uncanny ability to capture the beauty in a very ordinary setting and communicate this clarity to the viewer is a strength in her work beyond her impressive technical skill.

Her wonderful sense of colour and the careful interplay of shadow and light brings life to these paintings and holds the viewer’s full attention.



Karen Phillips Curran exhibits in Bermuda, Florida, and other galleries throughout Ontario. Her works are in private and corporate collections internationally. She paints on a monumental scale for musical and theatrical productions as head set painter at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. Over the past twenty some years, Karen has been a prolific artist, in volume and quality of her work. From the minutiae in her series in alternative photography with image transfer works to the grandiose in mural size works, Karen applies the same devotion and passion to her labour of love. Karen Phillips Curran is a highly creative and skilled artist who exudes a beautiful sense of being in person as well and truly lives her art. Visit the gallery this month or her studio this summer and see for yourself!

This fall, Karen will be offering art classes through the community art college, and also individual private lessons for interested parties. For further information on her classes call Karen at her studio in Rideau Ferry at 613-264-0144.

Details for upcoming courses will be posted shortly on Tay River Gallery website under Workshops and Art classes on our events page
www.tayrivergallery.com

The Artist Travels. The View From 12 Canadian Artists.

For the months of July and August, Tay River Gallery provides the opportunity for decadent indulgence in wanderlust with the group show, THE ARTIST TRAVELS.

Journey to Asia, Mexico, Italy, France, England, and vistas in North America and see the world from the perspective of 12

Canadian artists. Featured artists include Shirley Mancino, John Alexander Day, Tricia W. Savoie, Leslie Rohonczy, Deborah Czernecky, Karen Phillips Curran, Beate Epp, James E. Pay, Antal Serences, Stuart Arnett, Anne Armitage and Catherine Kelly. There is a mix of watercolours, oils, acrylics and photography in this exhibit with a selection of small to mid-size paintings, all inspired by the artists' personal travels.



Pictured above is work by Shirley Mancino on her travels to Asia and a previous trip to Mexico. The Centre painting, "Stooking Grain, is a tapestry of colour in acrylics, and the four watercolours depict Mexican alleys and streetways basked in sunlight and colour.

John Alexander Day, S.C.A., exhibits 4 oil paintings in this show inspired by his travels to Europe last year. London Bridge, Paris Bridge, "Old Tom" Oxford, and a landscape set in the hills of Scotland are the subject matter of Day's striking foursome.

From Tricia Wilmot Savoie, a seascape in Ogunquit Maine, and a few not so distant vistas in the Canadian landscape in her characteristic pleasing "interpretative realism" style.



From Karen Phillips Curran, two large watercolours, Naples, and Two Shades Up, architectural works in light and shadow.

From Leslie Rohonczy, two vivid acrylic paintings, The Cove, and Down the Lane, a streetscape inspired by an English town.

Photography by Catherine Kelly includes two mesmerizing photographic works capturing the rich blues and whites of Santorini, Greece.

Antal Serences, gallery artist, brings Mostar City, Bosnia, and Dubrovnik to the forefront in this travel show with his wonderfully detailed oil paintings of settings rarely captured.

From Anne Armitage, area artist specializing in animal portrait commissions, we have an acrylic painting geese on the lake at a vacation retreat.

Stuart Arnett, Ottawa area artist, highlights historical travel with his unique mixed media work, The Launch, a graphite work that uses a topographical map as the canvas for his drawing. The illustration depicts the Caird being launched in effort to reach South Georgia and sending a rescue party for the remaining crew.

We welcome three professional artists as new exhibitors in the current show: Deborah Czernecky, James E. Pay, and Beate Eppe.

Deborah Czernecky, professional artist from the Ottawa area exhibits six dramatic paintings in this show, all with a strong palette and delightfully upbeat flavor, three from a Georgian Bay area travel trip and three from Southern France. When Deborah isn't painting en plein air, or doing restorative and mural

work, she is teaching art to adults and children in Orleans at the Visual Arts Centre, and for the City of Ottawa

James E. Pay, UA, award winning, internationally-known artist living in the Hamilton area graces the walls with a selection of his acrylic works set in Venice and Rome. His acrylic methods of painting mostly are achieved by layering in over 30 light glazes of colour, each overlapping after drying and building up a depth of colours where you can see into the picture. James and his wife Eileen recently moved back to Canada after living abroad for a number of years in Scotland and various other locales. James is very busy this summer teaching at local art colleges and his home studio at Stoney Creek.

We also welcome to the gallery this summer, Beate Eppe, award winning artist from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan..She brings to the summer show two passionate paintings characteristic of Beate's unique spontaneous style in their vibrant colours and strong brushwork. Beate gives her rendition of Mexico travel, with the "Yellow House", and with "Under the Night Sky", a haunting painting rich in colour from her Magical Horses series, she depicts a Magical Land for the viewer to experience. Not only can the viewer travel to familiar locales but also to those that one can only imagine. Beate's Magical Horses Series of paintings have been exhibited in a New York City gallery this spring as well as her recently published book *The Magical Horses*. Don't miss an opportunity to see this Saskatchewan artist's works this summer at Tay River Gallery and also copies of her wonderful children's book, *The Magical Horses*, one of the most delightful stories I have ever read.

September Shows – Threshold & Nuance.

For the month of September, John Kessel of Rideau Ferry exhibits his latest photographic art in his show "Threshold". With a journalist's eye for capturing detail, and an artist's eye for composition, John zooms in from different perspectives on thresholds encountered in his travels abroad this year.

Also featured in September and October, is Nuance, an exhibition of paintings with "nuance, mystery, subtlety, suggestion, allusion, or symbolism" from a number of dynamic artists. In this exhibition you will encounter paintings that don't necessarily tell the entire story, either leave something to the viewer's imagination, allude to meaning beyond subject matter of painting, perk curiosity or suggest a story beyond the subject of the painting.

Have a wonderfully enjoyable and safe summer! Take the time to enjoy the arts this summer, perhaps to attend an art show, a musical or theatre, or sit with a good book or explore personal creative avenues during these quiet leisure times when we can enjoy the world around us.