
Tay River Tattler

Arts News & Views from Tay River Gallery

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OPENING ACT: CRESCENDO VERNISSAGE

Tay River Gallery held an artist reception for the first show of the season, **OPENING ACT: CRESCENDO** on Saturday June 10th from 3 to 5 p.m. Despite the dour weather predictions for the day, the show went on. For those who were unable to make the reception, you can catch the show during June until the end of the month.

Pictured above from left to right are featured artists, Karen Phillips Curran, Tricia Savoie, and Catherine Gutsche. John Topelko, featured artist also present, somehow missed this photo opportunity.

Works by Karen Phillips Curran this month include her characteristic sundrenched watercolours, architectural works that demonstrate her deft skill with shadows and light. A painting from her stones series, *Twilight Stones* (depicting interplay of water and earth) is a balanced piece of graceful movement. A small

sampling of Curran's image transfer works on rice paper, and watercolour paper are also displayed. From massive works on a monumental scale to the minutiae, Karen applies the same devotion to her labor of love. More of Karen's work will be featured in a solo exhibit in the gallery in August.

the focus. These paintings emit the positive spirit of their creator, an artist in tune with her environment.

Catherine Gutsche brings to the show two dynamic abstract works from her unique Tie Series, Gridlock and My Best Pearls, that begin with a common place



Tricia Wilmot Savoie brings her impressionistic realism to the show with her ever popular landscapes depicting local scenes in different seasons. The settings are generally rural or cottage scenes, and country roads. Opeongo Rd. Barn, Jock River Park, and Fresh Greens are among works featured in this show. Quebec and Ontario are the favorite locales for this prolific artist who paints en plein air as part of her daily routine. Tricia works from the outdoor surroundings rather than a photo when creating her oil paintings and is able to bring the immediacy of her emotional response to

functional piece, a man's tie. She applies them with adhesive medium to stretched canvases and allows their playful fabric patterns to take on a life in the painting. Her mixed media works demonstrate a skilful interplay of pattern and colour to produce balanced and harmonious works that are at the same time playful and spirited.

Travel to China at a young age impressed upon Catherine the importance of pattern. and to Australia, the impact of colour.. Catherine does commissions for clients who have special ties, ties that may be



tied to important memories, (forgive the pun), that clients would like to have immortalized.

John Topelko's oil paintings are of rugged landscapes often reminiscent of the Group of Seven works. Strong colour and simple deft strokes define his canvas. The Ontario wilderness is the master canvas for this artist's work, and as a great outdoors enthusiast, he is an artist who also enjoys painting en plein air and his reverence and enjoyment of nature is evident in his work. After a professional career as art instructor and art director of Canterbury High School, John continues to paint the outdoors throughout the seasons. As a multitalented artist, sculpture and printmaking are also a part of his repertoire and accolades. His latest work in oils completed this month and exhibited in the current show, is a grand

scenic landscape with a strong palette in cool blues titled, Sheltered Bay.

John Alexander Day paints his landscapes on site to capture the subtle qualities of light. John has traveled across the entire country painting the Canadian landscape. While lately he has been drawn more and more to cities and towns in addition to rural areas, light is still the dominating factor in his paintings. Perth was the focus of a series of townscapes in his solo show in 2003 at Tay River Gallery. Three of his recent works are featured in this show. Evening Superior, a work of pure poetry as Day draws the viewer's interest with immediacy to the human element, the figures strolling the shoreline of the seascape bathed in the soft late day light. Peonies, a small study is a vibrant work of colour depicting the idyllic gardens in the Ottawa area. Winter, Carleton Place,

sets the historic town hall by the Mississippi River in all its splendour and is another dramatic study in light, a small town vignette.

Leslie Rohonczy paints vibrant landscapes in acrylics in a style that is very recognizable as her own. Her paintings never fail to leave the viewer with a lasting impression. Killarney, Provincial Park is a haunting landscape and a poignant beauty that captures the ruggedness and isolation of our Canadian terrain.

Grapes on a Vine, is a vivid painting of succulent grapes that needs no further explanation. With Spring Shoreline, the forest takes on a iridescent quality in certain lighting, with its dramatic warm yellow tones and cool blues. Leslie combines bold colours for dramatic effect, and the end result is one that is always pleasing.

Antal Serences, from Lakefield Ontario is a master of the palette knife with intricate detailing in his realistic renderings of historic buildings such as his depiction of the Delta Mill. A study in detail, each fine stroke of the palette knife to delineate each piece of brickwork in this magnificent historical building.. The artist paints a wide range of subject matter: florals, bird and animal studies to landscapes and farm scenes and his works can be seen in various Ontario galleries.

Shirley Mancino, just back home in Westport after her latest long trek in India lasting over four months, arrived back just in time to grace the walls for this show with three of her large mixed media works, two with the magical, vibrant colours typical of Mancino. The first is a figural work of a mother and

child hand in hand, titled Chasing Rainbows. The second on exhibit is a dramatic abstract figural work titled The New Baby and the third a subdued landscape, Wolfe Lake Dam. From nature to abstraction, her mission as artist is to always leave something to the imagination. Shirley will be teaching her mixed media art workshops again this summer at her studio in Westport.

SUMMER EXHIBITION “THE ARTIST TRAVELS”

The theme of the upcoming group exhibition is revealed in its title: The Artist Travels. For those bitten by wanderlust, and those curious to see the very personal and varied interpretations of a group of Canadian artists, or travel through the artist's eyes, this is just the show for you. No shortage of viewing pleasure with this upcoming show! There will be four exhibit rooms of works on exhibition over summer.

The Tattler sings the praises of our talented Canadian artists who are far too humble. Tay River Tattler expresses art news and views from the gallery perspective.

It is the central philosophy of Tay River Gallery to promote and encourage the respect and appreciation due our dedicated Canadian artists and their works. Please excuse any errors or omissions.



Artists in upper gallery

and young art enthusiasts in the posing mode.

