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# TAY RIVER TATTLER

ARTS NEWS & VIEWS FROM TAY RIVER GALLERY  
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## “THRESHOLD” John Kessel Photography.

Two fall shows open in September at the gallery. the first a solo exhibit by veteran photojournalist, John Kessel of photos of thresholds encountered on his travels throughout Europe this spring.

The theme of the show, *Thresholds* was chosen almost from the moment Kessel landed in Larnaka, Cyprus. “Doorways there had character, they weren’t the mass produced portals of North America. And from Cyprus to Holland, the story was the same. Thresholds said something about the inhabitants, or at least the original owners of the premises.”

During the three months, Kessel took over 4000 images with his D100 Nikon on over a dozen themes. The current show displays thirty photographs, from whimsical to deadly serious. Kessel’s selection demonstrate the journalist’s keen eye for detail and the artist’s eye for composition. Doorways, doorknockers, companionways, archways, and tomb entrances are depicted to entertain and provoke thought. Others provide a breathtaking sojourn.

John Kessel of Rideau Ferry, Ontario has been a professional photographer for more than 30 years. His photographs have been published throughout Canada and the United States, as well as abroad. Twenty-five of those years were spent with daily newspapers, where he combined his writing with photography.



In his mid-forties he bowed out of the high-pressure news world and moved to a different life as a carpenter, but always kept his cameras by his side. Slowly, he realized the natural world was a much more exciting venue than the manufactured paparazzi press.

The John Kessel show continues to September 30<sup>th</sup>. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. In addition, every Thursday the gallery will be open until 8 p.m. until the end of the year.



## **NUANCE: VERSED IN ABSTRACTION**

The opening for both Threshold and Nuance show was held on Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 with a record high attendance of visitors throughout the afternoon for the wine and cheese reception.

NUANCE: Versed in Abstraction, group abstract show is on exhibit for September and October and features the works of six artists: Heather Assaf, Linda Banfalvi, Nadia Beltei, Ann Gruchy, Shirley Mancino and Hanna Olszewski.



**HEATHER ASSAF**



Heather Assaf of Arnprior, and member of the Ottawa Mixed Media Artists Association, exhibits two collagraphs Changing Rhythms, and Intrigue, the two intricate and very different in composition and effect, one energetic and one more sombre and mysterious. These works were choice picks for their “nuance” factor, with their subtle complexity on closer examination and they will particularly appeal to those who love to scrutinize fine detail.

Linda Banfalvi from Ashton exhibits the bold and beautiful in two acrylic paintings, an abstracted landscape “Last Light” and an abstracted cityscape.”Refracted Light” Linda works in various watermedia and enjoys using a mixed media approach She also teaches mixed water media workshops to beginner as well as more experienced artists in her home studio.



**LINDA BANFALVI**

Nadia Beltei, Montreal area artist shows two oil paintings, “Vanity”, an abstract work painted in pastel shades, and “Country Roads”, a prairie landscape with two adjoining paintings for an unusual panoramic perspective.

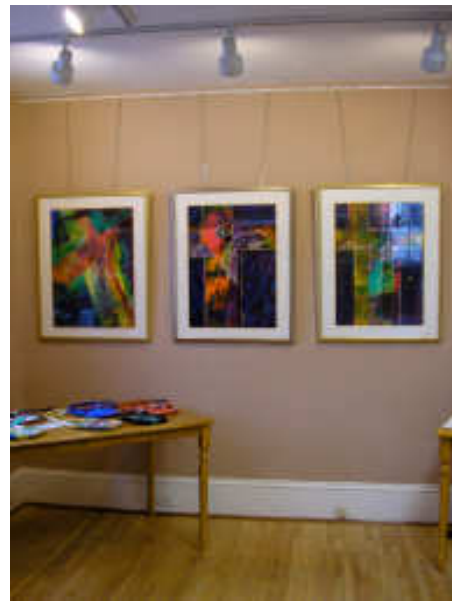
Ann Gruchy of North Gower exhibits four mixed media acrylic works on canvas: Vessels, Dancing Pears, Tuscan Landscape and an untitled work. These works have wonderful movement and treatment of colour. Ann teaches classes in her studio in North Gower throughout the year.



**ANN GRUCHY**

Hanna Olszewski , from Westport exhibits two abstract works, an energetic acrylic piece, “Our Secret Place”, and an “Colour in Nature”, a watercolour in cool contemplative blue tones.

From Shirley Mancino of Westport, three compelling large abstracts are show stoppers as a threesome: Musical Interlude, A Wheel Within, and High Flight. Nice rhythmic balanced works with interplay of intense colour and plenty of impact.



The Nuance Show will be on display until October 31.

### **SNOW DEFINES – Holiday Group Exhibition**

A special holiday group exhibition will be held at the gallery for November and December featuring paintings and photography that take snow as theme as it defines the landscape and people of Canada

Snow is a reality of our lives almost six months of the year, and Canadian winters provide a reflective time, a time of quiet beauty, as well as times of harsh reality and chaos which make the people and terrain, vulnerable victims of the elements. The focus in this show is a celebration of snow, and the enriching aspects of snow in our lives. Featured artists for this show include Deborah Czernecky, Karen Phillips Curran, John Alexander Day, Bill Keast, Sally Milne, Martha Markowsky, Hanna Olszewski, Leslie Rohonczy, Tricia W. Savoie, Catherine Kelly, John Kessel and Gary Webster.

September 2006

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As we are still immersed in “nuance”, I would like to keep an air of mystery about the upcoming show and will not reveal all. More about the show in the November issue of The Tattler.