

ISLAND ARTS MAGAZINE

March - April 2023

Issue # 63



MADE IN CANADA

DIGITAL
INTERACTIVE PUBLICATION

Feature
Artist:
Jordan
Perkins

IAM
Celebrating
16 Years of
Serving the
ARTS



**AI
and
ART**
pg. 29

Thanks to our contributors

John Warden

“Pausing for a long, slow look, I feel the currents of nature coalesce into compositions of simplicity, subtlety, rhythm, and majesty – asthenic values that colour my thoughts. I breathe out and with a click, my feelings flow, onto the canvas of my camera.”



Photo credit - Debra Kelly

David Essig

As well as being a Canadian Musician, Songwriter & Producer, David Essig knows his way around the kitchen.

Having spent much time in Italy, he is our foodie columnist, sharing his culinary skills with our readers. Buon appetito and grazie David.

davidessig.com



Island Arts Magazine

Proudly Supporting:

Sooke Fine Arts Society
Bateman Foundation
McMillan Arts Centre
Parksville Senior Centre

If you like what you see,
kindly consider sending
us a donation.



DONATE

Before you
marry a person,
you should first
make them use
a computer with
slow internet to
see who they
really are.

Will Ferrell

ISLAND ARTS MAGAZINE



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Note

from your Editors

Susan Schaefer
Jeff Shields

Chace - mascot



It's okay if your focus is to rest and slow down.

Allow your goals to be flexible with room to fit your needs.

It's okay to set no goals at all.

There is no such thing as wasting the year.

You can start again at any time.

As we move into 2023, be kind and gentle with yourself. Take the time to breath. You are not in a race with anyone. Relax and enjoy the process, whatever it may be.

We wish you a happy, successful, healthy and creative 2023.

Two of my favourite seasons are spring and fall. Well I kinda like summer too, as long as it's not too hot. Winter is OK if you have plenty of painting to do indoors.

Spring shines, it sparkles with new growth, it brings us hope, new possibilities and certainly puts a spring in everyone's step.

In this edition we did a 'call to artists' to send us their spring images, with the theme of new beginnings. Thank you for everyone who contributed and helped make this issue colourful, bright and happy. We can always use an extra dose of happy.

Talk about Happy. Take a look at our feature artist Jordan Perkins Art. I found his artwork on facebook and his work was bright, fun and happy. It was a perfect fit for the spring edition.

Have your heard of Artifical Intelligence and how it is impacting the art world? Have a read of our Tech Talk as Jeff Shields talks about AI.

I found a list of reminders for the year that I would like to share. It is from @selfloverainbow and their website is: selfloverainbow.com

Instead of New Year's Resolutions here are some reminders for the year. These resonate with me.





FEDERATION OF CANADIAN ARTISTS
Arrowsmith Chapter

SPRING JURIED EXHIBITION

April 4 - 30, 2023

Award Presentation/Meet the Artists Saturday **April 8, 1-3 PM**

VISIT the GALLERY
MCMILLAN ARTS CENTRE

133 McMillan Street, Parksville BC

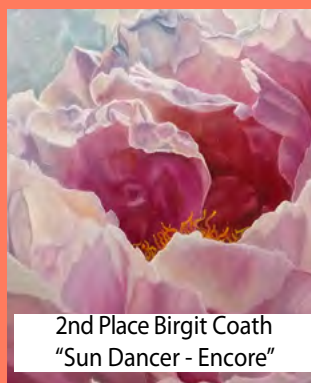


See the
VIRTUAL SHOW:

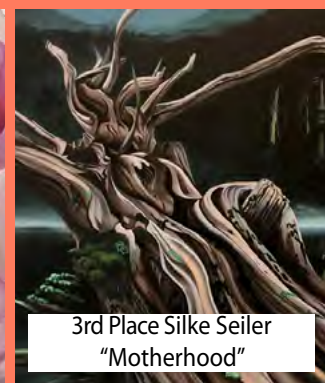
www.arrowsmithfca.ca/show



2022 Spring 1st Place Sherry Mitchell
"Abandoned Barn Swallow Nest"



2nd Place Birgit Coath
"Sun Dancer - Encore"



3rd Place Silke Seiler
"Motherhood"

The local Arrowsmith Chapter of the Canadian Federation of Artists (FCA) is presenting their annual Spring Show to be held at the charming location of the McMillan Arts Centre located at 133 McMillan Street, Parksville, BC. Enjoy the talent of the best of local artists and also give you an opportunity to enhance or begin a collection of original art.

The Arrowsmith Chapter traditionally holds two juried group shows per year. All the artwork in these shows, ranging in style from abstract to representational, in different mediums such as watercolor, oil, acrylic, mixed media and collage, is rigorously juried by three signature members of FCA. When selecting works for shows, these jurors consider such things as the use of composition, line, colour, perspective, shape, light, proportion and positive and negative space, and mastery of the artist's chosen medium.

You are invited to attend the reception where you can meet the artists and witness the award presentation. April 8, 1-3 PM. You can participate in choosing the coveted "People's Choice Award".

www.arrowsmithfca.ca



"Blossom Ballet" artist Birgit Coath

CALL TO ENTRY DATES: March 15 - June 1, 2023

ARTISTS



Sooke
FINEARTSSHOW

EXHIBIT OPEN:
July 29 - Aug. 7, 2023

SUBMIT ONLINE:
sookefinearts.com

"A WORD TO THE WISE" by Carolyn Houg | 2022 Designers' Choice

sfas@sookefinearts.com • (250) 642-7256

Susan White, AFCA, PAC
Pastel Artist
susanwhitestudio.com



Glow

First Place Award
Pastel Artists of Canada
Online Members Juried Exhibition

ART Studio Gallery WRX SMALL



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
Deadline April 14, 2023

WRX show & sale
Show Dates May 12 - 22, 2023
Details at artwrxstudio.ca/small-works

What the Robin Told

The wind told the grasses,
and the grasses told the trees.
The trees told the bushes,
and the bushes told the bees.

The bees told the robin,
and the robin sang out clear.

Wake up! Wake up!
Spring is here!

George Cooper

The Bateman Gallery is Moving

Terminal home, the Bateman Gallery is moving. It will temporarily close its gallery doors in mid-February to focus on an opportunity to develop a new space opening later this year. The Foundation has decided a new location is required for the future growth and sustainability of the organization, increased accessibility of its programs, and care for its extensive collections.

“We have been honoured to house the Bateman Gallery in the Steamship Terminal for the past ten years, where we delivered over 30 thought-provoking exhibits featuring a wide variety of nature-based artists. But like most cultural institutions, we’ve re-examined our goals and future and decided that we need a new location integrating art, nature, and education in a meaningful and impactful way. Our goal is to secure a new art and nature centre that will inspire thousands of global visitors and reinforce our commitment to the community,” said Sarah Theophilus, Executive Director of the Bateman Foundation.

Knowing the Maritime Museum of BC has an active proposal to establish a permanent location in the Steamship Terminal; the Foundation reached out to collaborate on a transition of space that would enable both organizations to achieve their strategic goals.

“We approached the Maritime Museum of BC to discuss an opportunity to gain the space in the Steamship Terminal with the potential agreement that we create a temporary gallery space in their location,” said Theophilus.

Working with the Maritime Museum of BC, the City of Victoria, and the Ministry of Transportation, the Bateman Foundation is working to gain approval for the exchange of spaces with the Maritime Museum and create a temporary gallery in the Maritime Museum’s current location at 744 Douglas Street. This potential interim location will allow the Bateman Gallery to continue delivering

programming and art exhibits as they take steps to develop a new customized space.

“The Maritime Museum of BC enthusiastically supports this collaboration and believes we need to work together to create more cultural offerings for Victoria residents and visitors,” said Jamie Webb, President of the Board of Directors for the Maritime Museum of BC.

“Although it is bittersweet that we are leaving the Steamship Terminal, we are happy to assist the Maritime Museum of BC. It allows them to be one step closer to having a home in the inner harbour of Victoria while we re-imagine how we can connect people to nature through the power of art in a community-focused interactive space. Both organizations have ambitious strategies and are key to establishing a culturally vibrant inner harbour,” said David Schneider, Chair of the Board for Bateman Foundation.

The Bateman Foundation plans to create a new space ensuring the preservation of Canadian artwork while integrating their education into a new community-focused, interactive art and nature centre.

To donate or enquire about supporting the Bateman Foundation’s new cultural community space, please contact them at 250-940-3630 or go to batemanfoundation.org/donate.





CALL FOR ENTRY TO ARTISTS

The South Delta Artists Guild's Annual Juried Open Show for Artists in BC and across Canada is now accepting entries.

2023 SHOW DATES June 2 nd - 25th	Artwork Submission Deadline: Sunday, April 30, 2023 @ midnight
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OPENING RECEPTION & AWARDS
 JUNE 1ST - 6:30 pm Everyone Welcome!!
 On line Prospectus and Submission at
www.southdeltaartistsguild.com

Grand Prize - \$1000
Plus many other prizes!

The South Delta Artists Guild is a member-directed, self-sustaining organization dedicated to supporting the appreciation and development of the visual arts. The Guild is a non-profit member-based organization of visual artists who create, share, and exhibit art in their community.

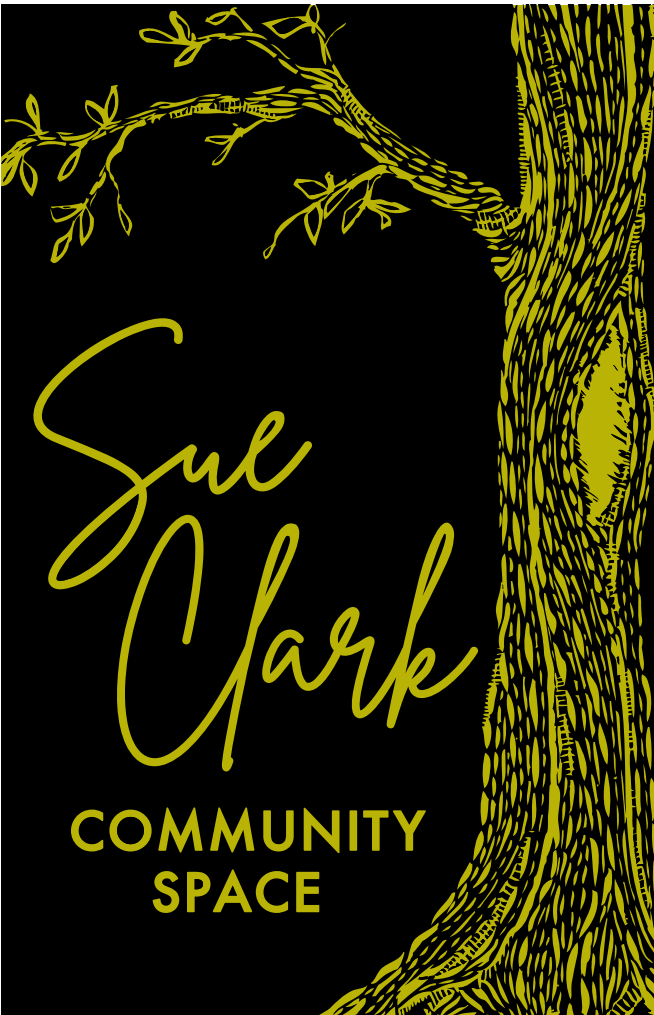
For the past nineteen years, the Guild has sponsored an Oil & Water Show. This annual event invites our members and nonmembers to participate in a Juried Show. There will be Prizes and Awards for the winning paintings.

Last year there were 440 stunning entries in our Oil and Water Exhibition. Approximately 100 pieces were chosen by jurors to comprise the gallery exhibition. This year, the 2023 selected juried paintings will be viewable on our online Gallery as well as viewed in person in Gallery 1710 from June 2 to June 25.

We look forward to presenting and sharing artwork from talented painters across Canada. Join us for our opening event is Thursday, June 1 @ 6:30.



Looking South to the Red Barn
by Diane Akey




Sue Clark

COMMUNITY SPACE

We are pleased to announce our new **COMMUNITY SPACE!**

Rentable by the hour for community events including:
 pop up art shows,
 club meetings,
 and creative happenings!

See our website for more details.



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ARTSCENTRE

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www.theoldschoolhouse.org

Traveling and Painting in Ecuador



By Dominik Modlinski

My friends and students often asked me: how do I decide where to travel next? This particular question brings up such a range of emotions for me. My work over the last three decades has been based on wilderness and cultural travel, and quite often by very adventurous means of transportation. Those journeys have resulted in many plein air works as well as larger studio works based on scenery from many regions of the world.

Ideas for the next big trip most often come to me in dreams, and over the years I have learned to listen and follow such callings.

After two long years of our Covid experience and the restrictions that went along with it, this past year (2022) was time to travel once again. Early in the year my travel bug got me thinking about the next adventure; I decided to take most of the summer off and fly to South America. This time I ventured with my paints and easels to Ecuador for nine weeks.

South America holds a nearly magical bond on me, having first visited it after my four-week long journey to Antarctica. I traveled the rugged Patagonia region of southern Chile and Argentina, only to return again on my motorcycle to ride across the Andes of Peru and Bolivia. This led me to produce my own television series. 'Changing Landscapes' has run on SHAW TV since.

This past year was one of retrospection, both personally and artistically. Very often when I'm faced with challenging times, I take an extreme journey to isolate myself and to clarify my direction and find inspiration for my mind and soul.

I flew to Ecuador on the 1st of June, arriving in Quito. I always travel with my paints since my most important objective is to capture the essence of the new landscape in my work and to represent it in its immediacy. The first priority when I arrive in any given location is to go on a 'hunt' for solvents and oil mediums, whether it is in Ushuaia, Johannesburg, Cusco or Quito. Travelling in remote regions has forced me to learn that what is available for an artist in one country might be impossible to get in another.

I paint on 11" x 14" prepared board and carry different versions of plein air easel with me, depending on the trip. This time I took my trusted Soltek easel, which to date I find most reliable from all my set-ups.

I traveled throughout Ecuador in a very small car, so it ended up being very economical. Having extensive experience travelling via off-road Jeeps in the Yukon, Alaska, and the south-western United States, I managed to travel even on the most precarious dirt tracks in South America.

Roads in Ecuador proved to be extremely challenging, both because of their conditions and the kinds of driving by trucks and buses. Aside from the challenge of driving in the winding and narrow mountainous roads, the constant danger of landslides make the roads extremely dangerous for any vehicle.

Those trips are certainly not for the faint of heart. I often end up sleeping near road ditches, in remote mountain camps, and sketchy accommodations with only the single objective to wake up next morning and produce the best painting I can at that given moment.



I traveled throughout most of the Ecuadorean environmental zones, from the Pacific coast, across the range of the Andes mountains, as far as to the Amazon jungle. The country is one of the most ecologically diverse spots on earth. There are countless volcanoes across the country, many of which are currently active.

One of the most memorable and challenging moments during my travels in Ecuador travel was painting at an altitude of 3500 to 5000 m. It takes about a week to acclimatise to the elevation; the level of physical activity has to gradually increase until the reduced oxygen is not such a strain. Working at such altitude requires an enormous amount of physical and mental energy. I often feel I have to push through a mental fog relying on the discipline of painting plein air of the last thirty-five years.

In addition to the exotic and diverse landscape throughout the country, it is above all the people that makes Ecuador so unique as a place to travel and to paint. The country is populated by fourteen distinct indigenous nationalities with the majority living in the Amazon region, the Sierra, and along the coast. Unless there is a national

strike, which can shut down the whole country, the warmth of its people makes Ecuador an easy place to travel to.

The light in Ecuador often resulted in choosing pastel-like colours. This is one element that I find so alluring when travelling across different regions: the light and the nuance of its characteristics makes for a varied choice in colours and shades. But Ecuador was not only about painting landscapes, but also capturing some of its remaining Inca architecture and the essence of Spanish colonial buildings. It is one of the aspects of traveling in South America that I love the most: exploring the mysterious archaeological sites of the Inca empire as well as the picturesque Spanish architecture. The uniqueness of both histories, which has been brutal, inter-related, and culturally creative, forces me to look beyond just the mere image of the landscape towards another, more elusive reality.



When I return to Canada, each of the locations I painted there are like visual journals etched forever in my mind. And for me it is never about the material possessions, as such, but about creating a painting journey and memories that last a life-time, both for myself and the individuals who will look at my work both in the present and in the years to come.

paintingjourneys.com



Introduction to Landscape Painting

March 11, 2023

Instructor Susan Schaefer

Students should have previous experience working with acrylics.

In this class we will discuss composition, planning, simplifying the design and lastly, putting paint to canvas.

Seating is limited.

Parksville BC [Register Online.](#)



Missa

July 14-28
2023

Early
Registration
opens
February 7

Creative Summer Workshops
Shawnigan Lake School

missa.ca



**Qualicum
Beach
Film
Festival**

Qualicum Beach Film Festival - March 12

@ Qualicum Beach Civic Centre, 747 Jones St, Qualicum

Welcome to the Qualicum Beach Film Festival, where we showcase the best in independent cinema from around Vancouver Island. We will be selecting ten films that exemplify the diversity and talent of the film industry.

The Qualicum Beach Film Festival was created to bring community together through the art of film. The festival was founded by high school student and filmmaker Saffron Bisiker for her high school capstone project. We are committed to presenting a diverse and inclusive program that is appropriate for all audiences.

To purchase tickets and / or to submit your film,
Visit our website: [**qualicumbeachfilmfestival.ca**](http://qualicumbeachfilmfestival.ca)

Lynne Usher
Original Artwork - Commissions



"The Answer is Blowin' in the Wind"
24 x 24" acrylic on canvas

Artist by Heart - Follow me on Facebook

(604) 951-3403, Surrey BC CAN

Elizabeth Evans

Nature Trust of BC Artist of the Year



"The Intruder" 24" x 48" painted in her Brickilism™ style

A limited edition of prints on canvas are available for
"The Intruder".

Net proceeds will be donated to Nature Trust of BC

www.eaevansart.com

Gallery Representation

One Flower One Leaf Gallery,
436 Marine Drive, Gibsons, BC Canada



"Spring symphony"
By D Ross Fisher

fisher-eye-lens@live.ca
Campbell River BC

Overture to Primavera
as the fiddle heads
unfurl above the stirring
stream, catkins and lily
leaves sprouting at their
mossy feat in a singing
celebration of renewal.

Mosaic Artists of Canada at the MAC

2023 Canadian Mosaic Exhibition: Transitions July 1st - August 27th, 2023

This exhibition is presented in partnership between the Mosaic Artists of Canada and the McMillan Arts Centre in Parksville, BC.

From coast to coast, Mosaic Artists of Canada acknowledge the ancestral and unceded territory of all the Inuit, Metis, and First Nations people that call this land home. As visitors on this land and in the spirit of reconciliation, we recognize, respect, and are responsible to the Indigenous Peoples and Territories in which we reside.

All people from all places, races, genders, and identities are welcome and safe here.

Our vision is to welcome Canadian mosaic artists from different communities and create dynamic and inspiring meeting places. The opportunity to build ties between local and remote communities brings us all together and motivates our actions.

www.mosaicartistsofcanada.com



"All Summer Long", by Cathy Taylor
Viewers Choice 2017

The MAC is excited and honoured to host the 2023 National Mosaic Conference. We will be welcoming mosaic artists from across Canada to showcase their work in this juried exhibition, running July 1- August 27, 2023.

We are thrilled to present a series of Artist Talks, July 2 & 3, 2023 featuring some of Canada's most celebrated mosaic artists, and in addition, they will be stewarding an amazing community mosaic mural project all summer long, for our visitors to participate in.

Mark your calendars and bring your summer visitors to see Transitions!

TRANSITIONS

**MOSAIC ARTISTS OF CANADA
2023 EXHIBITION**

www.mosaicartistsofcanada.com



JULY 1 – AUGUST 27, 2023

Mosaics Exhibit, Workshops, Events



McMillan Arts Centre
133 McMillan Street, Upper Level, Parksville, BC
(250)248-8185
www.mcmillanartscentre.com
GALLERY HOURS: TUESDAY – SUNDAY, 11-3PM

Featured Artist Jordan Perkins



Featured Artist

Jordan Perkins

By Susan Schaefer

How would you describe your art?

I think I would describe my work as loose and colourful. I love painting big and bold with colours that wouldn't be natural for my subject. I love a painterly look where my subjects look like them but in an artsy way.

I have several styles from spontaneous realism, pallet knife, to one I call glamour grunge. Once I am done with a painting I don't go back at it. If I find something that I think might be a mistake I leave and look at it as if that's the way its supposed to be.

I find your art very colourful and fun. I am especially drawn to the interesting backgrounds. Can you explain how they are created?

Most of my paintings are created with Chroma Mural paint and spray paint. My colourful backgrounds are the second step in production, first one being an outline drawing. After that I lay my canvas flat. I then put paint dollops on it, I add some water and use a palette knife to spread it onto the canvas. When that's dry I will pick some stencils and spray paint them on.

The next step is to start painting my subject in the style chosen for that painting. Once I feel I am done my painting I still finish it off by adding some stamps dipped in paint and then finally the last step back on the floor where I will add my trademark splatters I call them.

Most of your paintings are quite large in size. Why have you chosen such a large format for your work?

My first ever painting was in 2014 with supplies from Dollarama. My daughter and I went to get some craft supplies for an afternoon activity and it was paint that day. We got all the colours and some small canvas for a fun activity, I was 35 and she was 5.



We had fun and she loved my painting, even though I thought it was terrible, and asked me to keep it. That was the beginning.

At some point I switched over the Chroma Mural Paint. In 2015 I saw an artist named Voka. He created big colourful paintings and that was the style I loved.

I wanted my art to be the focal point in any room, making art that would be a centrepiece in a room. I realized that the only way to get good at painting big was to practice.

When I paint originals they are generally 3x3 feet on the small end with most being 4x4 and 4x5. Many people have asked me to paint smaller over the years but that doesn't fit into my business plan of making centrepieces.

continued on page 16...



What subject do you enjoy painting the most?

My favourite subject to paint are iconic figures in a spontaneous realism style, followed very closely to animals created with palette knives.

I mix art with business and have found a balance between what I want to paint and what people would like to purchase. The most rewarding things to paint are collectors pets. They are a very personal and emotional thing for them. So many happy tears have happened in my studio, I get photos or messages on anniversaries and the paintings just mean so much to my clients. The best thing is that they will have the painting for the rest of their lives.

When it comes to pet portraits I've fallen into a style that has become expected which definitely make my job feel like a job. I use the photo from the client and I render the portrait on the size canvas we have agreed on.

Working on commissions has given me a greater appreciation for my own originals, as I get to create whatever moves me. It is just me and the paint.

Are you working as a full time artist?

Yes, and I work out of my home studio In Coldstream, BC. I guess my definition of full time is. "Does it pay the bills?" Being an artist has financially grown each year and for two years it has been successful enough to live a comfortable and fun career.

If anyone would have ever told me that I would be an artist one day I would have laughed it off. But thousands and thousands hours, gallons of paint and million ruined pairs of pants and hundreds of finished and sold paintings here I am. Painting!

~

Listen to our interview with Jordan in the Video Room Page 30.

Textile Arts at Cowichan Valley Arts Centre Duncan BC

Vancouver Island Surface Design Association (VISDA) is hosting **“Tying the Threads”** workshop series in conjunction with Current Threads 2023 exhibition of fibre art works made by VI, BC & Yukon SDA members. This is a follow-up to the fun and successful conference VISDA held in June 2022. It was our way of celebrating getting together in person once again to learn from each other, appreciate each other’s art and enjoy each other’s company.

The workshop series begins June 13 and runs through June 17 in CVAC (Cowichan Valley Arts Centre) in Duncan. VISDA’s Current Threads Exhibition will be on display from June 7 - July 5 in the CVAC Gallery and Annex.

The workshop series start with a Grand Hello on June 13 in the CVAC Gallery from 1 - 5. There will be registration, orientation, refreshments and a book signing by VISDA member, Karen Selk author of *In Search of Wild Silk: Exploring Village Industry in the Jungles of India*. It will be a special afternoon to interact with the artists displaying their work. Each artist will talk about the thoughts and processes that led to their creations.

The workshops are a mix of one or two days with a diversity of exciting subjects on Wed, June 14 through Sat, June 17.

Workshops being offered include:

- Hand Embroidery on Linen
- Character Development through Textile Techniques
- Introduction to Eco Printing
- Drawing with the Sewing Machine
- Decorating Cotton with Japanese Dyeing Techniques
- Three-dimensional Thread Play

Don’t let this amazing opportunity to work with well-known and experienced artists slip away.

For further information and to register, please visit our website: **gatheringthethreads.ecwid.com**



Banff Centre for Arts Artist Residency

By Brandy Saturley
brandysaturley.com

For two weeks in November 2022 I worked in the Leighton Artists Studios on the campus of the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in Banff, Alberta. I was invited to bring my studio and practice to Banff and was awarded the Paul D. Fleck Fellowships in the Arts Endowment which paid for my visual artist residency and stay at the Banff Centre.

Having spent two weeks in the stunning location on the side of Sacred Buffalo Guardian Mountain, with some of the largest and most distinct of the Canadian Rocky Mountains surrounding the campus, I now refer to Banff Centre as the visual arts Juilliard of Canada. Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity is a learning organization built upon an extraordinary legacy of excellence in artistic and creative development. The goal of all who

work here is to inspire everyone who attends the campus – artists, leaders, and thinkers – to unleash their creative potential.

The project I planned to undertake while in Banff, was to make a very large painting on loose duck canvas in my studio. The painting subject matter to be informed by the immediate area surrounding my studio and around campus. Through capturing the sights, sounds, smells and feeling of the place through video, photography, writing and exploration on foot, I worked to translate the experience of being in this place through the medium of acrylic and gouache paint on canvas. I went in with a loose plan and project proposal, which resulted in two large paintings, a diptych, communicating one visual story on canvas.



I was assigned to the Thom Studio #6, named for the architect of the studio, Ron Thom. One of 10 studios in the forested and secluded areas of the campus known as the Leighton Artists Studios. Within the walls of these studios, artists of all genres work away, from writers to musicians and visual artists, this is a small village of remarkably prolific professional creatives. When I arrived to the path that circles the studios I was met with a snowstorm and white out skies. We walked in my supplies for painting, lights, photography equipment and some already finished paintings as I believe it is important to surround yourself with your previous work, if possible. This studio was made for painters with vaulted ceiling and skylights, patio and windows by a desk.



During my residency I made two large paintings each measuring 58" x 52", also known as a diptych. These paintings are inspired by my experience of exploring the woods around my studio and the wildlife that surrounds.

I spent 7 hours a day in my studio and we took some time on the weekend to get photos at Lake Minnewanka, Two Jack Lake, North Saskatchewan River Crossing, Vermillion Lakes, Mount Norquay and Bow Lake. It was very cold, lots of snow, and I fell in love with it! Safe to say I am a snow person now.

Read the complete story on Brandy's website

HEATHER BROWN, artist - potter



www.heathermarybrown.ca

250-956-4629
Port McNeill, BC

**Just one small positive
thought in the morning can
change your whole day.**

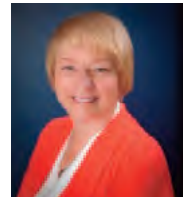
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Aye Caramba what a night at the Maples - Congratulations Blue Moon Marquee

The Maples, as they are fondly referred to, are the highest honour in the Blues genre in Canada. While Blue Moon Marquee are much more than just a blues band, they were certainly honoured to achieve a sweep of four awards. It's the first time that's happened in the history of the awards.

Entertainer of the Year - Acoustic Act of the Year - Songwriter of the Year – Record/Producer of the Year



Thinking of Spring 20x40", artist Allan Dunfield, Qualicum Beach BC



Blue Jeans and Rubber Boots

By *Susan Schaefer*

What's Up Doc?

As it is officially the year of the rabbit, I thought this little story might be appropriate to share.

Spring time on the farm meant my dad would be out in the field turning over the soil and getting ready for planting his crop. He would sometimes come across a lost little field bunny who had been abandoned. He'd bring home these little varmints, and I would patiently try to bring them back to health.



I fondly remember Peter, a rabbit that became part of our family. As Peter was nursed back to health he was allowed in the house. Peter would hop around the living room. On one particular panic stricken day, I could not find Peter, but with a thorough search and a few tears, I found him safe and sound curled up having a nap in my sweater drawer.

As Peter grew, he was banished from the house into a rabbit apartment that my dad constructed for him. In the early fall we let Peter loose to do whatever rabbits did. Even though he was free to roam, he still returned in the evenings as he had a roof over his head and was getting regular meals. We had him for several years if memory serves me. He was a really good boy.

Fast forward and I was living in Edmonton. I had returned home for holidays. One of my younger nephews was visiting my aunt and uncle's farm. Wouldn't you know it, but he found himself a small field rabbit.

When it was time for me to return to work, my aunt asked me to escort my cousin back to Edmonton by plane, so he wouldn't be travelling by himself. Not wanting to leave his now pet bunny behind, we decided to sneak him on the plane. We build a little cardboard box to stuff him in, big enough to be comfortable, but not too big that he would kick or hop around. We put the box into my cousin's backpack. At the

airport everything went smoothly as his backpack/bunny went through security. As we took our seats the stewardess came up to talk to us. "Busted!" She asked us to switch seats with each other, as we were at an exit row and my cousin was too young to sit there. Phew that was close. Every now and then, we would check on the rabbit. Just imagine if it would have gotten out of the box and ran around the plane? What mayhem! I won't mention which airline this was, as I'm not sure what the statute of limitations would be.

I recently asked my aunt if she remembered this grand adventure. "Oh yes", she did. She still remembers her son getting off the plane with this ear to ear grin on his face, as his backpack was making a scratching noise. The rabbit had enough of air travel and wanted out!!

They took that bunny home and had him in the house until he started eating the fringe off her sofa. He was then banished to the garage. Their cat just had kittens and would let him nurse, if you can believe that! One day someone left the garage door open and the prairie bunny was no more.

Nowadays I don't have much fondness for rabbits, as they tend to nibble on my plants and burrow in my garden. But I don't mind nibbling on the ears of a chocolate bunny. Happy Easter!

Art on the Edge

"The beauty of Nature, so full of colour and light just captivates my passion to paint." This sentiment, expressed by Michele Macintosh, one of the artists who participated in the Art on the Edge workshop last spring, perfectly captures the mood of the entire group. Like the first green shoots of spring, the workshop came at the moment in 2022 that Covid mask mandates were finally being lifted; a balmy week of painting, photography, and wandering the beaches of the Pacific Rim was the best medicine one could desire after months of solitude.

Artist and educator Carole Finn hosted the week-long painting workshop at the community centre in Ucluelet, B.C. Carole generously shared her many skills and considerable experience over the course of a very productive week. One of Carole's centring aphorisms is "what is the story you are telling?" As artist/participant Corinne Flaws said, "The art on the edge workshop helped me to think about what I want my paintings to say to the viewer."

As one of the participants in last spring's workshop, I am excited to see what eight dedicated artists will say with their paintings this April. What I expect to see is a lot of very solid, nature-inspired artwork rooted in a deep love of the West Coast, and of Vancouver Island, in particular. I am expecting to see windswept beaches, foaming waves, and intimate forests.

We invite you to our opening reception on Saturday, April 5th from 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Artists will be in attendance. Make a space on your calendar to come and see for yourself.



PRESENTS A GROUP EXHIBITION

APRIL 14 - APRIL 20

Stephanie Dancevic Nanaimo
Carole Finn Sooke
Corinne Flaws Gabriola
Thomas Kero Vancouver
Michele McIntosh Parksville
Dyan Myhr Ucluelet
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DRAW Gallery is pleased to open our 2023 Season with **Spring into ART**, a group exhibit from March 7 - April 28. "Many are connected to the Natural world around us as well as to the nature within us."

Our 'Gallery Beyond Walls' offers contemporary Canadian West Coast Art in an intimate setting. Celebrating the diversity and talent of local and regional artists. Works by gallery artists can be viewed and purchased online or on location.

DRAW Gallery continues in our tradition of showcasing work from a variety of our gallery artists with originals & prints including paintings, photographs, mixed media, glass and copper featuring work by local and Island Artists such as Cecil Dawson, Karen MacRae, Patricia M. Mansell, Miriam Manuel, Jillian Mayne, Ann McIvor, Shannon McWhinney, Emma Paveley, Mark Penney, Sarah Platenius, Judith Rackham, Todd Robinson, Susan Schaefer, Sue Thomas, Gordon Wilson, Tamas Zalatnai among others.

View from home with our Online 'Gallery Beyond Walls' and onLocation, too! Enter 'MAIN GALLERY' button at drawgallery.com. We invite you to visit, explore and discover.

Visit us Online www.drawgallery.com. and onLocation at the corner of Melrose & 8th Ave in the dynamic Alberni Valley. Open Tuesday thru Friday 12-5 pm and by Appointment, too! Call 250-724-2056 or toll free 855-755-0566.

pacific rim  arts society

ArtSplash!

West Coast Annual Art Show

March 17 - 25
11 am - 6 pm daily

Black Rock Oceanfront Resort
Ucluelet, BC

pacificrimarts.ca
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ArtSplash! 2023

March 17 – 25th, 2023. 11am to 6pm daily.

The Pacific Rim Arts Society is excited to be bringing ArtSplash! the largest non-juried annual art show on the West Coast back to the Black Rock Oceanfront Resort in Ucluelet.

This year we are pleased to have the youth portion of the show back, while we only had 3 participating youth last year, we anticipate at least 20 or more students/youth to participate this year.

With may returning and new artists there will be a full variety of 3D, painting, photography, pyrography, fibre art, ceramics and more! We have a full line up of artists in action for the entire week long show, including musicians! Artists in Action daily between 12 to 2pm and 2pm to 4pm. Check our website or follow our Facebook page for a details of the full lineup.

The opening reception will take place on Friday March 17th at 6pm, this is for participating artists, their partners and invited guests! Live music, appies and great conversation.

The show itself opens to the public on Saturday March 18th from 11am to 6pm daily, running until Saturday March 25th. Black Rock Oceanfront Resort 596 marine Drive Ucluelet, BC

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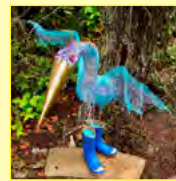
203 FIFTH AVENUE NW. NAKUSP, B.C.



"Secrets Below the Surface"
24x30', acrylic, ink and mix media on canvas
Artist: Corinne Elliott, Merville BC

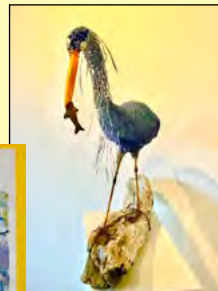
As spring approaches the ground below the surface awakens and we await the first signs of life.

**"Renewal" at
The Green Bough Gallery**



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"Encore, Encore!", 30x30"

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By David Essig

Porchetta del Mercato

Rome is very much a movable feast, with excellent street food served up from stalls and food trucks throughout the city. The pinnacle of al fresco food in Rome is the roast pork sandwich - il panino alla porchetta - as served at the food trucks at the Sunday morning outdoor flea market in Porta Portese. While commercially prepared porchetta - slow-roasted sliced pork, seasoned with garlic and herbs - is widely available throughout Italy, Romans find the food truck product the very best, since it is usually made at home in small batches by the vendors' families.

Here in Canada, some Italian specialty shops sell imported porchetta, but you can easily make a delicious and authentic-tasting version right in your own kitchen. Just follow these easy steps and homemade porchetta will be yours.

Visit your favourite meat source and bring home a pork tenderloin - the larger the better - but any size will work. Wash and dry the whole tenderloin and place it on a large cutting board. With your sharpest kitchen knife follow this sequence of cuts. I use a Japanese sashimi knife.

Make a lengthwise slit one-third of the way down from the top edge of the piece. Cut it through the cylinder of meat, but stop a half-inch before cutting it off completely. It should be a flap. Open the flap, turn the cylinder around and make another slice into the large part of the cylinder starting at the flap and going out to within a half-inch of the edge. Unfold this flap and you will now have a three-part nearly flat piece of pork.

Don't worry if the flaps are uneven or irregular - the goal is to open up the tenderloin as much as possible in the direction of the grain while keeping



it in one piece. Tap the piece of meat lightly with a meat hammer or edge of saucer, to soften it a little. But don't pound it thin - just a light tapping. Set aside.

Preheat your oven to 400 F.

Chop a small onion and two or three garlic cloves. Add a bit of salt and pepper and saute lightly in olive oil until the onion is barely soft. Mix in a teaspoon of each of the following: whole fennel seeds, sage, rosemary and thyme. The herbs can be fresh or dried. Work the mixture into a paste, let cool and then spread in an even layer across the open face of the tenderloin. Roll up the meat, jelly-roll style, and tie in three or four places with string. Rub the whole roll with olive oil, salt and pepper.

Place the roll, seam up, in an oven-proof pan. A cast-iron frying pan is ideal but anything that can take the heat will work. Place the pan in the oven and roast for 10 minutes. Flip the roll over and roast for another 10 minutes or until an instant-read thermometer reaches 145 F when inserted into the center of the roll.

When the cooking is complete, remove the meat to a cutting board, tent with foil and leave for at least 10 minutes. Slice and serve with crusty rolls or bread. In Rome, the porchetta sandwich is usually made with a fist-sized round cornetto bun, dressed with roasted sweet red pepper. Buon appetito, tutti!



"Morning's Song"

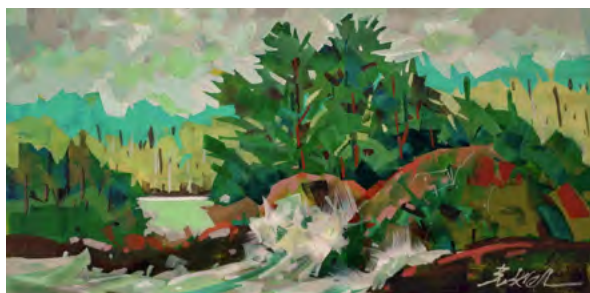
18" x 36", acrylic on canvas

Artist Laura Levitsky, Chilliwack BC

www.levitskyart.ca

The sight and sounds of Robins returning to forage in our yards, gardens and forests are always a welcoming sign of spring.

Brian Buckrell - Comox Valley Artist



For Galleries and Workshops Visit:

www.BrianBuckrell.com email: bbuckrell@shaw.ca

Some call it multi-tasking, I call it doing something else while I try to remember what I was doing in the first place.



"Traveled", water colour pencil and ink on water colour paper, 10x14"

artist Maureen Purtell

maureenpurtellcreatives.com

The connection to spring - exploring and finding new and colourful places by taking the path less traveled.

TECH TALK

By Jeff Shields yaadev.com

Artificial Intelligence and Art

I started to experiment with Artificial Intelligence (AI) exploring several areas of interest in technology and philosophy.

We thought it would make a great TT article. I logged into my account at ChatGPT (chat.openai.com) and posed two art related questions. This platform is designed as a conversational AI. It won't generate art but it is a place to have a conversation. Other sites using AI exist that focus on other aspects of the human experience.

Q1. Describe how ai is impacting art.

AI is impacting art in a number of ways. One of the most significant ways is through the use of generative algorithms, which allow computers to create art that is unique and not just a copy of something that already exists. These algorithms can be trained on large datasets of existing art, and can then generate new pieces that are similar in style, but not identical. Additionally, AI can be used to help artists create new pieces by providing suggestions or automating certain tasks.

Another area where AI is impacting art is in the field of digital art, where AI can be used to create interactive and immersive experiences. Overall, AI is helping to expand the boundaries of what is possible in the world of art, and is making it possible for artists to create new and exciting pieces in ways that were not previously possible.

Q2. Explain the difference between impressionism and realism in art.

Impressionism and realism are two distinct art movements that emerged in the 19th century. Impressionism is an art movement that emerged in France in the 1860s and 1870s. It is characterized

by the use of light and color to create an impression of a scene or subject, rather than an accurate representation. Impressionist paintings often have visible brushstrokes, and the colors are often blended together to create a more atmospheric effect. The movement was primarily concerned with capturing the impressions of the moment, and often depicted everyday life and landscapes. Artists associated with impressionism include Claude Monet, Edgar Degas, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Camille Pissarro.

Realism, on the other hand, is an art movement that emerged in France in the 1850s and 1860s. It is characterized by the use of accurate and detailed representation of the subject matter, often with a focus on social and political issues. Realist paintings often depict the world as it is, rather than idealizing it. The movement aimed to reveal the truth and the reality of the society. Artists associated with realism include Gustave Courbet, Jean-Francois Millet and Honoré Daumier.

In short, Impressionism focuses on capturing the feeling and atmosphere of the moment, and often use vivid colors and loose brushstrokes to do so. Realism, on the other hand, focuses on depicting the reality, often with more attention to details and accuracy.

Conclusions

This project is still in the research phase, but I am very impressed with the depth of knowledge. If I posed the same question again, I would likely get a different answer. Asking the questions slightly differently can also produce different results.

Over the course of the next several years, we will see incredible advances in AI and robotics. I can envision robots that perform routine chores and can act as a companion or even care giver. We are approaching the time of the Jetsons. Not sure whether to be excited or scared. ~



“Wake Up” 16 x 20”, acrylic on canvas
 artist Susan Schaefer
susan-schaefer-fine-art.ca

As the days get longer and the sunshine gets brighter, the beautiful magnolia share it's splendour.



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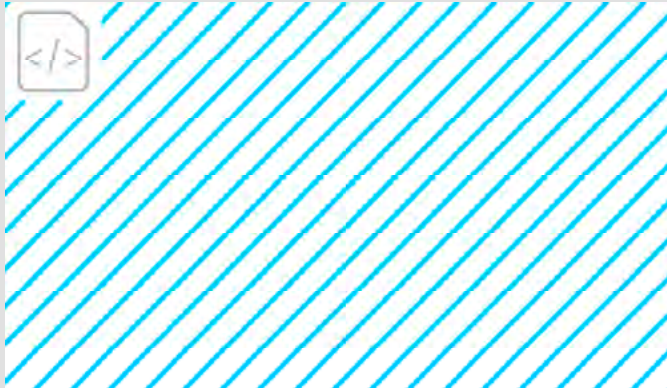
“Donna’s Garden”

“23.5x23.5” watercolour and ink
 artist Kathy Hancock, Regina Sask

Early spring my friend Donna works in her garden painting her watering cans and adding her flowers into her beautifully creative garden fence that you can't help but love...it's amazing

email: kathy.hancock@myaccess.ca

Video Room



Interview with feature artist - Jordan Perkins



Call for Submission

Mash It Up With The Old Masters: What Stories Do Female Old Masters Tell?

Mash It Up is asking Visual Artists across Vancouver Island to follow in these women's footsteps and recreate a thought-provoking image in your own style in any medium.

Your submission should reference at least one Female Old Master and one contemporary artist that utilizes pop culture.

Submissions can be sent to cmbattye@hotmail.com

Chosen works will be notified by March 30, 2023
Entry is limited to two works per artist.

For more information on the Call for Submissions go to:

<https://cmbattye.wixsite.com/creations>



"Spring Innocence"

16" x 16" x 1.5 "

oil on canvas

**artist Sharon Duguay,
Kelowna BC**

A small child 's innocent wonder at the fluffy new ducklings in spring.

Spread love
everywhere you
go. Let no one ever
come to you without
leaving happier.

-Mother Teresa

Perspectives by John Warden

Chicken Stock

'Oh my gosh, what's happened?

I hadn't meant to scare my grandma. I'd wanted to make some chicken stock from scratch, so I picked up the phone and called to ask for her recipe. She wasn't used to me calling her I guess, especially in the middle of the day. Her first thought was that something bad had happened in the family.

Once we had sorted out that there was no tragedy that had prompted my phone call, she answered my question.

'Well, I don't really have a recipe. I just boil up some chicken bones. But you can also roast them in the oven first for added flavour if you have the time. Then add in some onions, carrots and celery and some sage, rosemary and thyme. Fill your pot up with water and let the whole thing slow cook for two or three hours. It's pretty easy and the stock is way better than what you would buy in the store'. My grandma was an Alberta prairie girl. She rode her horse from the farm, 10 miles across the landscape into town to pick up supplies, hounded coyotes away from the chickens and chased antelope out of the family garden. In those days,

cowboys worked the cattle and farmers worked the fields. And all of those men were hungry. Breakfast, lunch and supper. So, out of necessity, grandma learned how to cook. She became a successful business woman later in life, but always, she was a cook, and she was a good one.

My brothers and I spent a lot of time visiting our grandma at Christmas and during summer vacations. I too, learned to love the land and I like to think that I still have prairie dirt under my fingernails. But now I live on an island in the Pacific. It's beautiful here, but it's a beauty that's different from the prairies. And I'm lucky. There's one place, close to home, that takes me back. The Martindale Flats in Central Saanich have that prairie feel of wide-open spaces and big skies. One morning, standing on Martindale Road, watching the geese and the swans flying over head, I experienced a sense of complete contentment. 'I belong here', I thought.

I enjoyed the moment and then I went home and made some chicken stock.



Prairie Memories

Artist Receives International Invites

Jock Hildebrand, local Cowichan Valley artist and President and Founder of the Cowichan Public Art Gallery was both surprised and pleased to receive invitations to two very important International Art Expositions. Both exhibitions are juried and so Hildebrand found it especially pleasing to be invited without application to these prestigious art expositions.

One of the invitations to the XIV Biennale of Contemporary Art and Design in Florence, came from Carlos Rodolfo Escala Fernandez, Historian, curator, art critic, and representative, Member of the International Selection Committee of the XIV Florence Biennale (Italy), Specialist of the Provincial Registry of Cultural Assets of Cuba. In his invitation, Mr. Fernandez says, "Taking into account your artistic career and the quality and depth of your aesthetic proposals, I have the pleasure of inviting you to participate in the XIV Biennale of Contemporary Art and Design in Florence. The Florence Biennale also rewards people and institutions that have distinguished themselves for their artistic merits or for their contribution to culture.

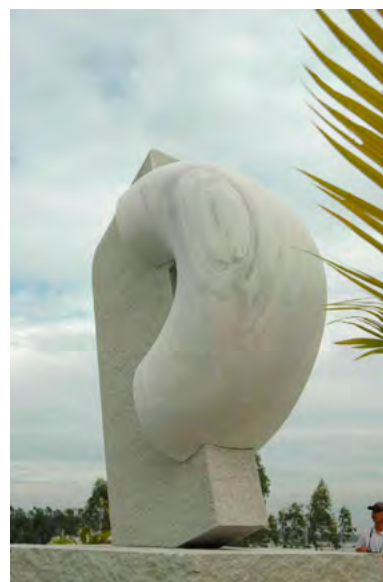
The second Invitation, sent completely independent of the first, came from Dr. Barbara Aust-Wegemund, a well-known German Art Historian and founder of the Moon Art Fair In Hamburg Germany. Jock Hildebrand's career spans almost 50 years and he has worked internationally for much of this time producing monumental sculptural artworks on almost every continent.

Hildebrand says about his career, "I have devoted my life to things artistic; it has been the sum total of my life and I hold nothing so dear. When I approach the arts, it is with the thread of a lifetime of creative considerations. Joyful art making is my currency, and this is what I bring to all my work.

I care about the impact my public art brings to communities. I care that what I do is honest, careful, considered, and brings light and joy to my audience. I really don't care where I stand in the light of historical art movements. My work must speak for itself, though it has been spoken of by many.

These two invitations are a real surprise and I feel incredibly honored to have received them, and, at this late stage of my career very welcome".

www.jockhildebrand.com





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Face it by Nancy Wardle

"I am a portrait painter from Niagara on the lake, Ontario capturing emotions and personalities with the use of vivid colours using both oils and acrylics. My solo show in August 2023 at Niagara Pumphouse called Face It will focus on the themes of happiness, resilience, hope and the human spirit.

I have always been creative and in 2017, I became passionate about painting. I took many classes studying architecture, landscapes, florals and even figurative. Since the beginning of 2022, I have been exploring painting portraits and it is with portraiture I have found my love. I paint faces I find intriguing: family, friends, acquaintances, strangers, young, old, happy or sad.

What really catches my interest is how the light plays on their faces and what the subject may be thinking. There is no real calculated message to my show other than I paint what I love and hopefully entertain the viewer with my authentic and heartfelt style. It's that simple and that difficult.

My goal is to complete at least 60 - 80 portraits for the show. The result of each painting is insightful as I always learn a bit about myself - my painting process, my belief in myself that I can do this, and the joyful surprise I feel when the subject comes to life on the canvas.

It is my hope these paintings create a space from the commotion of reality for the viewer to gaze at the faces with curiosity and ponder "what is their story?". Because, Face It, we all have a story."

www.nancywardleart.ca



Walter 8x8"
oil on canvas panel

Kindred Spirit 12x12"
acrylic on canvas panel



Paris Museum Celebrates The Life Of Picasso In 2023

Pablo Picasso was a man of many talents. Indeed, he was a world-renowned painter, but he also was an equally skilled sculptor, printmaker, ceramics artist, etching artist, and writer.

Picasso, who was born in Malaga, Spain, in 1881, died in Mougins, France, on April 8, 1973, at the age of 91.

To mark the 50th anniversary of his death, the Musée National Picasso-Paris, or the Picasso-Paris National Museum, has announced it will present a new exhibit, Picasso Celebration: The Collection In A New Light, from March 7–August 27, 2023.

[Read more...](#)





"Hill of Dreams"

30" X 24", oil mixed-media

Artist Nancyanne Cowell

Victoria BC

www.nancyannecowell.ca

...finding peace in soft places


In the promise of an old apple tree's petals,
the vibrations of change and transformation
surround us.

"Essence of Spring - Towards the Sun" (below)
12"x24" acrylic, gold leaf, mixed media on
canvas, artist Marusha Xeros (Marusha X)
Campbell River, BC email: mxeros@shaw.ca

The inspiration for this artwork was spring
and asking myself, "What do the flowers and
plants reach for when they emerge, where do
the spring chicks go when they are learning
to fly?". The answer that came up for me was
"towards the sun".



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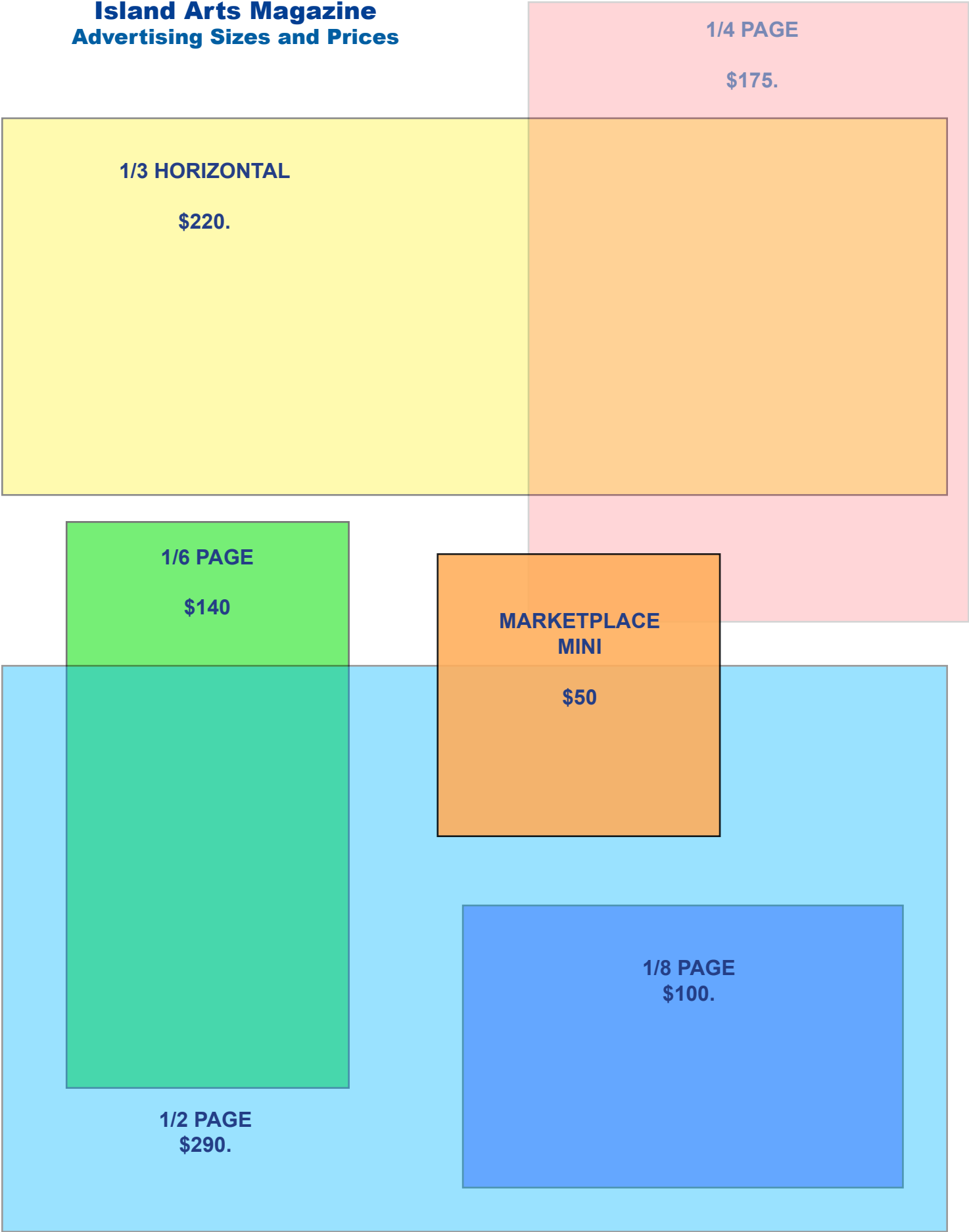
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