SLAND ARTS

MAGAZINE www.islandartsmag.ca

Sept - Oct 2021 / Issue # 56 **Supporting Western Canadian Artists**

Feature Artist Kelly Corbett

TECH TALK **ARTificial** Intelligence



October 22 - 24, 2021

SUNSHINE COAST

ART CRAWL







Thank You John Warden

John has been a regular contributor to IAM for several years, kindly sharing his passion for photography and words.

"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

ISLAND ARTS MAGAZINE PROUD SPONSORS OF:

Sooke Fine Arts Show Robert Bateman Centre Bell Barn Society Parksville Senior Centre

NEXT ISSUE: NOV 2021 DEADLINE: Oct 20th

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This Issue







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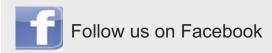
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Note from your Editors

Susan Schaefer / Jeff Shields / Chace

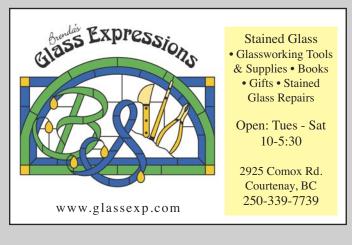
Fall has always been one of my favourite seasons. With it comes warm sunshine, cooler days, and oh such beautiful fall colours. There is the wonderful bounty of food coming from your months of sweet labour. Squash, potatoes, cucumbers, and tomatoes - lots of tasty tomatoes.

Summer on the island was hot, hot and hotter, with a few days of smoke and no moisture.

Artists are a resilient bunch, so some of the scheduled shows went ahead and some pop-up shows "Popped Up" out of sheer perseverance. Myself, I did my annual "Dog Days of Summer" event, but this year it was virtual, which attracted a wider net of art patrons. Maybe that is the trend for the future!

We heard from our friend Bryan that the Woodland Gardens show this past August was his best event EVER with loads of people buying artwork. One artist told us that she surprisingly SOLD OUT. Once travel restrictions were somewhat lifted, people were on a 'Feel Good' adventure and out and about enjoying and buying art.

This fall I have heard from some artists, that they are stepping back, and having a hard look at where they want to go with their art. The pandemic has shaken many to the core and it is now time to regroup, and reinvent! Enjoy the colourful season and whatever decisions you make about your art will be the right ones for you!



Picture Yourself Here! The home of your dreams is waiting for you!

As an Artist and a Realtor designing a home search just for you is my goal.

Deborah Nicol Associate Broker, Macdonald Realty

Call/Text 250-607-7038 546 Island Highway Parksville, BC V9P1H2







October 22-24 The Sunshine Coast Art Crawl is back with over 155 venues featuring 280 artists from Langdale to Earls Cove.

Over the 3 days, the Coast transforms into one large interactive art show. Join friends and take a free self-directed scenic coastal tour; meet the artists and discover where they live, work and play.

Many artists will be offering live demos, and some will be holding Friday evening receptions; check the website for details. This year we welcome drop in visits; venues will be following Provincial Health Guidelines to provide safety for all.

If you cannot join us in person, you can still participate in the Crawl; individual artist venues will be listed 'virtually'. You can view and connect with them during the event and throughout the year. The map/brochure will be available in print and on the website at the beginning of October. If you wish a copy of the brochure to be mailed to you, email: art-sinfo@suncoastarts.com. Use the brochure and map to plan your Art Crawl visits in advance.

sunshinecoastartcrawl.com



Above: Lucas Kratochwill, painting the Black Tusk Below: Sandy Kay studio, Half Moon Bay



CINDY MERSKY

MID-ISLAND MODERN Aug 31 – Sept 26

Meet the Artist, Sat, Sept. 4 @ The McMillan Arts Centre Parksville, BC

All the works in this exhibition have been created using the technique of décollage.

Décollage is the opposite of collage - from the French word décoller meaning to take off or to unstick. This technique is based upon the appearance of advertisements ripped from bill-boards, leaving fragments of papers and the layering of previous posters.

I see it as a metaphor for time as the colours, textures and overall feel of my work has been influenced by memories of growing up in the 60's and 70's. Music, fashion, TV shows, advertising, interior design - everything was so cool and groovy.

Our home was filled with mid-century modern furniture and artwork, my dad drove a pink Cadillac with giant fins and 'Bewitched' was on TV.

I hope you feel the vibe.

Follow Me on Facebook



Iceberg Variations - 36" x 36"



Misty Watercolour Memories - 36" x 36"



People'd Come From Miles Around - 36" x 36"





Acrylic Beginner Classes

Step into the exciting world of acrylic paints. With step by step, and one on one instruction, Susan will show you how versatile and forgiving acrylic paints can be. Have fun!

This class is perfect for those with no experience, or those who haven't painted in awhile and would like a refresher class.

Susan has been working with acrylics for the past 20 years. Her teaching method is relaxed with positive and fun interaction paying close attention to individual needs.

Fridays, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 10:00 – 12:30 • Cost \$165. (+gst)

Location: McMillan Art Gallery, Parksville Register by calling the MAC 250-248-8185 or call Susan @ 250-586-5510





ART ON THE EDGE

A VACATION ART RETREAT



Painting Big Rock and Wild Water

With Carole Finn, OSA, CFS, SFCA.

Join award winning artist Carole Finn as she shares her deep love for the wild, untamed landscapes of the Pacific Rim, one of the most beautiful places in Canada.

In this 4 day course for all levels of artists, Carole will help you to find and nurture your own painting style, with an understanding of modern impressionism and landscape art. Share her techniques of mastering of Photoshop to demonstrate its use in making good decisions in choosing the right color, value and composition; and learn how to use the software in painting a landscape that will astonish you with their depth and value.

Sept. 30 – Oct.3, 2021 Ucluelet, Vancouver Island

Register online.

Carole Finn has had a lifetime of leadership in Haliburton Ontario. She established the Haliburton School of Art and Design, a public art Gallery, Rails End Gallery plus a handful of art groups of differing disciplines. After receiving the Queens Medal and many other awards for her work, Finn finally followed her hearts desire—to be a full-time professional artist in 2009.

In her landscapes, she attempts to capture not only the spirit of the place but also the atmosphere. Her style uses shapes, value and color to build the drama. Her animals which are part of the fabric of to the environments tell their stories and ask their questions through their eyes.

She is an elected member of the prestigious Ontario Society of Artists - OSA, Color and Form Society-CFS, and a Senior Signature Member of the Federation of Canadian Artists—SFCA. In 2020 Finn moved to Victoria BC.

carolefinnartist.com

"My paintings, which are done in series, are an attempt to show beautiful locations whose natural integrity has either been altered by human intervention or is about to be."





Federation of Canadian Artists Nanaimo Chapter

Call to Artists

Sept. 1 – Oct. 9, 2021 www.artists.ca

NFCA members with Active or Signature status in good standing with FCA are invited to submit for our annual juried show, held online this year through the Federation Gallery, Nov. 5 – 26, 2021.

Cash prize awards for top 3 places and honourable mentions total \$1700.

nanaimofca.com



www.heathermarybrown.ca 905 Ravenhill Rd. Port McNeill 250-956-4629

HEATHER BROWN artist & potter



BRIAN BUCKRELL

Comox Valley Artist



For Galleries and Workshops visit: www.BrianBuckrell.com bbuckrell@shaw.ca

SQUARE FOOT SUBMISSION CALL

We're excited to announce that the annual Square Foot Show which has, historically, been presented under the ART ALCHEMY STUDIO banner, is on again this year hosted by ARTWRX STUDIO/GALLERY.

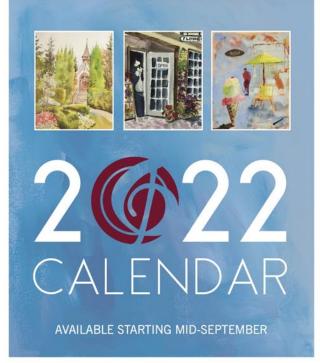
This 11th annual show is hosted by the same people, same place (362C 10th Street, Courtenay) and same time, Friday, November 19th to Sunday, November 21st, in person.

We at ARTWRX Studio/Gallery love having this opportunity to celebrate artists in the Comox Valley and beyond, by hosting this show. We are proud to announce that Susan Carson and Rick Morson, portfolio managers with CIBC Wood Gundy, are sponsors of this years event.

Get your 12"x12"x1.5" canvases, panels or whatever, your favourite medium and your imagination and prepare for the best SQUARE FOOT SHOW ever. **Deadline: October 31**st, **2021** artwrxstudio.ca/sq-foot-show

COME SEE WHAT'S NEW...





THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE ARTSCENTRE

250.752.6133

OPEN: TUESDAY through SATURDAY 11-3 122 Fern Road West, Qualicum Beach

www.theoldschoolhouse.org

Carole Finn - artist

Art Exhibition at Blackrock September 29, 2021 - October 17, 2021



Trails and Beaches of the Pacific Rim Blackrock Resort - 596 Marine Dr, Ucluelet, BC

carolefinnartist.com







Studio

8289 Redrooffs Road, Halfmoon Bay BC atangledweb.ca sandykayart.com silvermoongallery.com

604.328.7655

9th Annual Alberni Valley Paint Out

Sproat Lake Park & Harbour Quay on September 11th and 12th, 9 am – 4 pm

Saturday and Sunday, September 11th & 12th, 2021, 9–4, with the support of DRAW Gallery in conjunction with the International Plein Air Painters (IPAP) 19th Great Worldwide Paint Out.

On Saturday, September 11th Artists will paint at Sproat Lake Provincial Park at various locations and on Sunday, September 12th at the Harbour Quay. At 3:00 there will be an exhibit of the weekend's work and a reception at Grill at Harbour Quay. The public is invited to view the art and meet the Artists.



At the DRAW Gallery Port Alberni BC

Sept 7th – Nov 26th, Fall In Love with ART Group Show.

Featuring work by local and Island Artists: such as Cynthia Bonesky, Cecil Dawson, Ann McIvor, Mark Penney, Judith Rackham, Shanon McWhinney, Todd Robinson, Susan Schaefer, Perrin Sparks, Jan Vriesen, Gordon Wilson and Nancy Wilson, amongst others.

Also, featuring work from the 9th Annual Alberni Valley Paint Out!

Works exhibited in the Gallery are available for viewing from home with our Online 'Gallery Beyond Walls'. Due to the nature of the current situation, now's the time to take preventive measures and we are temporarily closing our on-Location gallery to visitors except by Appointment. Give us a call to arrange a visit.

Visit us Online . and onLocation. Open Tues - Thurs. 12 - 5 pm or by Appointment. Located at the corner of 4529 Melrose & 8th Ave in the dynamic Alberni Valley. 855-755-0566.

DRAW Gallery
DRAWING ROOM ART WORKS
T. 250.724.2056 Toll Free 1-855-755-0566
Stay Safe! Wash your hands! We love you!





365 Days - 365 Paintings

by Diane Michelin

What inspired you to do a painting a day for a year?

The idea of embarking in such a personal challenge came after 3 other challenges of maybe less long. The first one was painting 100 portraits in 100 days, the second to paint 25 landscapes in 25 days and the third one 50 rivers in 50 days. I wanted to paint regularly each day and explore many different subject matters, with different styles and trying to work exploring different techniques and often using Japanese rushes. So sketching 365 sketches a day was the next step.

What kept you motivated, as I am sure some days you did not want to paint?



I never had any doubt, because I have been painting mostly each day, since 1990, when I became a professional watercolourist painter. But my main concern was: Can I find a new subject each day? The motivation came from within, but mostly from the support

coming from the people who follow me on Facebook and Instagram,, pushing me with comments, critics and encouragement or purchase, what was awesome.

What did you learn from this experience?

I learned to be consistent, to push myself to limit time consuming details, but focussing more on feel, mood, quick execution. Finally, I wanted to transmit the essence of the painting, in a sketch style.



What plans do you have for your collection?

I have been writing personal quotes the last three years very slowly, so I want to publish a book of these quotes in different chapters, talking about relationships, friendship, love, life experience, with sketches illustrating these concepts. There is also the idea of publishing another book in the future, with sketches done mostly from my part of the world OCEANSIDE, where many of my landscapes and water sketches were from.



dianemichelin.com

FINE ART SIDNEY BC SUSAN SCHAEFER THE VILLAGE GALLERY,



A Magical Place, 36 x 36", a/c



Tranquility, 24 x 24, a/c

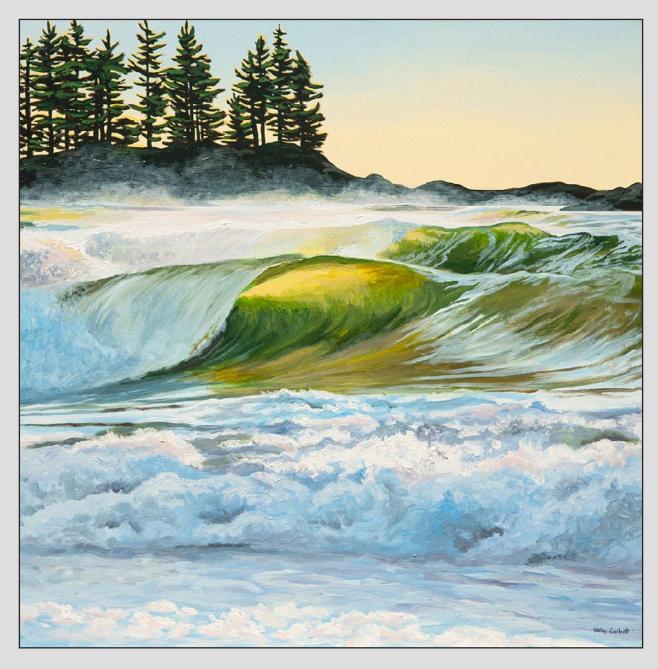


Quiet Reflection, 24 x 24", a/c

susan-schaefer-fine-art.ca

FEATURED ARTIST

KELLY CORBETT



As a realist painter my motivation is to share my visual experiences. I create paintings that speak both to me and to others about the beauty that exists in British Columbia. My style invites the viewer to recall their own past adventures and relive the sights and scents of BC's natural environment. Through my artwork I try to bring the outside in, to pay tribute to the natural world and remind us how rewarding it can be to take the time to reconnect with nature.

Feature Artist Kelly Corbett

How did you get started as an artist?

I began art lessons at eight years old and stayed with the same instructor off and on until I started university. I have a Diploma of Fine Art from the University of Fraser Valley and a Diploma of Photography from Western Academy of Photography.

I had my own part-time wedding and portrait photography business for 14 years, where I refined my skills in capturing important images and memories for others. During this time, I also built my experience with nature photography, a skill that served me well in my transition to full time painting.

In 2014, I began working at the Lloyd Gallery in Penticton, BC. I was offered the job after taking in an ink drawing to be framed and the owner admired the level of detail in my art. It was during my time at the Lloyd Gallery that I first explored the possibility of being formally represented as an artist in a commercial gallery.

In my first year of having my art available at the Lloyd Gallery, I sold 12 paintings and after moving to a more prominent location in the gallery the following year, I sold 36.

Building on the success of this first gallery, I took up the challenge of approaching other galleries to represent me and sell my work. I am now represented by four commercial galleries – three in BC: The Lloyd Gallery in Penticton; Tutt Street Gallery in Kelowna; Art Junction Gallery in Whistler, and one in Manitoba: the Woodlands Gallery in Winnipeg.

I made the transition to a full-time artist in November 2018 when I moved to Vancouver Island. I have two local art residencies where I can interact with the public and work on my current pieces. I paint at The Old School House Art Centre in Qualicum Beach on Wednesdays and Fridays at The McMillan Art Centre.

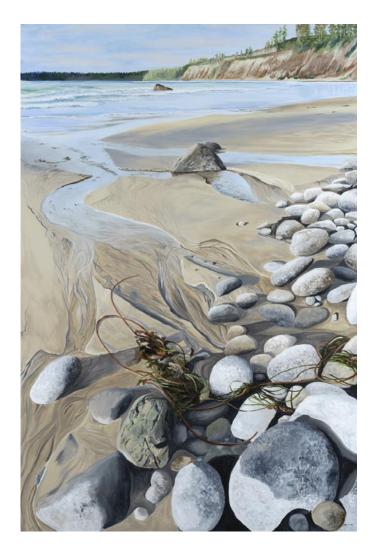
Tell us about your current project.

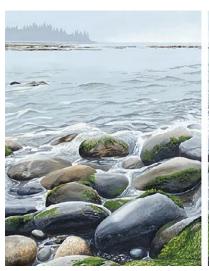
I am really excited to share my current project, called Seascapes Squared!

For 2022, I have created thirteen new original paintings that will be used in a larger wall sized calendar. This is a departure from the traditional desk top calendar that I have been producing for the last number of years.

This new collection is inspired by the West Coast beaches of Vancouver Island. I've been fortunate to be able to call Vancouver Island home since 2018 and I wanted to celebrate our amazing coastal landscapes in a new calendar format. All of the new art will be square and in various sizes, other than the cover image, which is a larger 60" x 40" painting. This project will be released in late September, so stay tuned!

continued page 16...









What inspires your art?

Nature is my inspiration. My style is realism and I paint with acrylics. I have three main subjects: West Coast landscapes, Okanagan landscapes, and BC birds. I am an avid outdoor adventurer and love putting my professional photography background to good use by capturing all the amazing sights I see when I am out in the natural world. I love to experience nature through hiking, kayaking, camping, snowshoeing and anything that gets me outdoors.

You recently started working with triptych. Has that changed the way you work?

I love creating big paintings, they have such a sense of grandeur to them.

In 2020, I was approached by the director of the MAC to create a large-scale painting to display in the entrance of the gallery. I had been dreaming of creating a giant painting for a while and all I needed was someone to ask me to make one. Just a little nudge would do!

That painting was the largest I have done to date, at 60" tall by 140" wide. My initial fear of painting so large was storage space, if the painting didn't sell where would I put it? At the time I lived in a small 650 sq foot suite.

The next time I was inspired to create a triptych I applied for a digital innovations grant from Canada Council for the Arts and created my own project. The purpose of this grant was to have

artists get more digital to help them with the Pandemic. This project inspired me to become more creative with my social media posts.

The interesting challenge with triptychs (three separate canvases) is making sure all the panels match in colour and line up perfectly. I block in the initial colour all at the same time as the panels were lined up against the wall together. From there I can take an individual panel away and work on it on its own. Near the end I would bring them back together again and make sure everything was lining up correctly.

Since I was successful selling my first two triptychs fairly quickly, I made a third one and it sold as soon as I had it off the easel. My fourth triptych I made for my spring exhibition in Peachland this year and it sold quickly to a client in New York. My fifth triptych was displayed again at the McMillan Art Centre for the summer, July and August, 2021. I have really enjoyed the triptych creation process and am pleased that they have been popular with my clients. I made a personal goal to create 4 triptychs this year, and I still have one more to go!

How would you describe your work?

My style is realism and I paint with acrylics. I really love how a fellow artist, Stephanie Perry described it saying, "each is photorealistic from a few steps back, but getting close you see the brushstrokes and movement and energy."

Watch Kelly's Interview:





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The biggest lie I tell
myself is "I don't
need to write that
down, I'll
remember it."

Darrel Hancock Pottery

9th Annual Christmas Show & Sale Nov. 11 – 21, 10 – 5 pm



Due to Covid 19 we will be open by appointment only.

Masks are required, if you don't

Masks are required - if you don't have a mask we will provide one for you.

Call 250-752-4533 to book your appt. 3505 Harris Cres.

Qualicum Beach (Whiskey Cr)

Best Wishes for a Joyous Christmas Season and a wonderful year ahead. Darrel & Lynn

Karen Poirier—Garden Party

August 31 – September 26, 2021 McMillan Art Gallery, Parksville BC

The majority of the paintings are a combination of flowers worked into a circular designed format. They were conceived while working in our extensive garden and were a pleasure to develop the designs.

I live with my husband on acreage on the outskirts of the Alberni Valley. The studio where I paint overlooks a beautiful and extensive flower and vegetable garden and is appropriately named Country Gardens Studio.

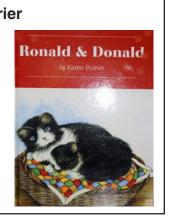
I paint mainly in watercolour however do enjoy working in graphite and acrylics as well. I have painted many landscapes and house portraits but the bulk of my work is inspired by the abundant flowers in our garden.

In 2015 I received my associate signature status with the Federation of Canadian Artists and shortly after became an elected member of the Society of Canadian Artists.

A few years ago I began another journey with creative writing. I completed the Writers Studio Program at Simon Fraser University and this last winter completed grad studies at SFU. I have three books out, "Across a Prairie Sky", "Ronald and Donald" and "Artworx for Kids". At the moment I'm completing a new manuscript.

www.karenepoirier.com











Kevin Stone, Proprietor of Tungsten Studio, is a Canadian metal sculptor artist residing in Chilliwack, British Columbia on the West Coast of Canada. World renowned for his large-scale, one-of-a-kind, 3-dimensional, steel and stainless-steel sculptures.

Kevin has developed a reputation for producing exquisite, highly detailed metal masterpieces for a growing international clientele. He enjoys the artistic challenge presented with each new commission and is always interested in bringing his clients vision to life. Each handcrafted production is unique. There are no reproductions of his work. Kevin's passion lives in his creations, brought on by sharing the vision and emotion a client perceives in a desired piece and bringing that inspiration to life.

"I have been building both large- and small-scale metal sculpture full time for almost 20 years. Some of my biggest projects like the Chinese Dragon or Giant Eagle where created right here in Chilliwack. I was a stop on the Chilliwack self guided sculpture destination when I lived at the farm on Upper Prairie Rd. several years ago. We had people from all over the world visit the farm to see the sculptures on display with one year seeing almost 30,000 tourists to the farm.

My sculptures are designed to attract attention, create emotion, invite contemplation and conversation, state boldly, add beauty and style to their environment, and become a fabulous focal point. I enjoy the challenge of each clients needs and bringing my clients visions to life. I build each piece to be enjoyed for many generations to come." – Kevin

kevinstone.ca
Facebook & Instagram







Sooke Fine Arts award winner 2021

Sheena McCorquodale's 'Isadora Arabesque' - painted chicken wire statue - is the winner of the Designers Choice Award and will be featured on the Sooke Fine Arts promotional material for 2021. Referencing a 1920s photo of Isadora Duncan, mother of modern dance. She ripped off the tight bodices and pointe shoes of classical ballet and danced in bare feet, flowing grecian gowns, and freedom. She is depicted as a woodland nymph with antlers and stands a mighty 7' tall.



Read our feature on Sheena in our May – June 2021 issue # 54.

Sooke Fine Art Show

2021 marked a milestone year for Sooke Fine Arts. Not only was it the 35th anniversary of the landmark Island art show, it was the second year in a row that the show was displayed online and the first year that animated walk-through galleries were made available to viewers. It also marked the first year in recent history that one artwork won three different awards.

Almost 9,000 visitors from all over the world were treated to an amazing display of inspiring artwork by a diverse and talented group of artists from BC's coastal islands. The show featured a variety of unique and colourful pieces ranging from



a 7-foot-tall dancing figure to watercolour paintings of West Coast vistas to thought-provoking abstract works, to a ring with a tiny, live jade plant 'jewel'. The ring, titled "Growth In Confinement", was the creation of goldsmith Lainey Thompson and the winner of an Award of Excellence, a Juror's Choice Award and the People's Choice Award.

Other aspects of the usually live event were transformed into a virtual format. The always popular artist talks and demonstrations took advantage of the broad online reach and gathered eager listeners from across Canada, into the States and as far away as Australia. The talks and demonstrations have been uploaded to the SFAS website and can be viewed until next year.

A few live events were carefully integrated with the online mix. Most of the award-winning pieces from both the main show and the youth art show were displayed locally at the Sooke Arts Council gallery. A day-long, in-person workshop called Street Signs: Youth Art Project was hosted at SEAPARC Leisure Centre to add to the youth activities. Well known artists Timothy Wilson-Hoey and Shawn O'Keefe along with award-winning Sooke youth artist, Axel Tutton, mentored a dozen local artists on contemporary street art techniques, etiquette, and style. The artists donated a number of works to be auctioned online in support of future youth events later this fall.

Working in collaboration with the Sooke Arts Council, SFAS also co-hosted the En Plein Air Project which saw 24 artists painting "in the wild" at various locations throughout Sooke and surrounding areas, and included one artist on Salt Spring Island. The finished works will be on display at the Sooke Arts Council Gallery (6595 Sooke Road, Sooke, BC) and also available for bidding until September 5th. Proceeds will help both organizations continue to support arts and artists of the region.

Over the next several months, SFAS staff, board and volunteers will begin working towards next year's Sooke Fine Arts Show, running July 21 through August 1, 2022, with hopes of welcoming back art lovers to a live, in-person event. Follow Sooke Fine Arts website and social media for further information.

sookefinearts.com





PRESENTS

CONNECTED HERITAGE

ARTICULATION TEXTILE GROUP

presented in partnership with the Icelandic Canadian Club of BC



Donna Clement









Ingrid Lincoln

Donna Clement

Amanda Onchulenko

Join us and explore the connections between Iceland and Canada

September 1 - December 27, 2021



Visit our website for more information

2423 Beacon Ave, Sidney • www.sidneymuseum.ca



by Susan Schaefer



We have a 2 year old in our house. In August, our boy, Chace was 2 years old, which in dog years means he is now an adult.

Early in 2019, I made the decision that this was THE year that I was going to get a new puppy. Cheyenne was a super dog but he had been gone for over 10 years and I really missed that part of my life. We had a planned trip to Europe that fall, so after getting back from Italy, followed by a quick trip to Sask. we picked up our mini aussi puppy.

As I cuddled him and Jeff drove us out of the breeder's farmyard, Chace began to wail. It was amazing what high pitch sounds could come out of that chubby little body. Jeff white knuckled the steering wheel, and said "Oh My God, what have we done!!" I think he was kidding?

The first night we put him in his little fenced area in the living room and he slept well. All was good. The second night, I heard a thump, thump, thump in the bedroom and to my surprise he had escaped his little pen and was standing in the bedroom, his tale gleefully thumping, saying let's play.

After a couple of weeks, we found that we were way in over our heads. I remember talking to my mom about this and she said, "They are just like kids. When you first bring them home, you can't stand them, but after awhile you get use to having them around." Gee thanks mom.

Chace was running amuck. I was stressed and afraid that I had made a colossal mistake. Jeff said "We don't make mistakes. Either we send him back, or we make it right." We decided to make it right.

We called in a professional dog trainer, Mick Howland, Mick spent the first 10 minutes with Chace at the front door; as his training had already begun. Within a few minutes Jeff and I both turned to each other and said. "Whose dog is that?" Chace was calm, he was listening and he was eager to please. Over the next few weeks Mick helped us with Chace's basic training and ours as well. We were starting to communicate with this little boy and he was eager to learn.

Fast forward two years; he antics makes us laugh throughout the day. He is brilliant, loyal, sensitive, sweet, caring...



on and on. And as our neighbours say, "He is the cutest dog on our block." Well that goes without saying.

He is our fashion aficionado, he tells us when it's bedtime and he keeps us on track with our meals. He enjoys gardening and wakes us up with kisses each morning. He keeps us moving with walks, hide n seek and endless zoomies.

He keeps us living in the present. He doesn't care about yesterday or tomorrow.

Now my floors are always dirty, there are toys spread all over the house and we are never alone in the bathroom. And you know what? I wouldn't have it any other way.



susanschaeferfineart.ca gallery.susan-schaefer-fine-art.ca

International Artists

Benard Omondi, from Kenya

My environment really inspires me to come up with paintings based on what I see and affects me as an individual and the community at large. In an uncertain world we live in, its only us who can make it a better place and it all begins from oneself then the others will follow.

My medium is acrylics due to the plastic texture and easy to blend. My style of art is majorly expressionistic surrealism art.

It's an art that creates a sense of impression based on the expression and tells a lot from itself. I love using bold and bright multi-colours accompanied by brush strokes. Most of my artwork are based on impression portraits and still life paintings from my surroundings.

Contact: IG:benny_omondy • Facebook: Art Benny



Truly seasons changes, 40 x 30"

Fishing, 40 x 40"



Abdul Rashid from India

I am Abdul Rashid, assistant professor of drawing and painting at the College Nathdwara, Rajasthan India.

I am an artist and creative calligrapher. I wish to give a beautiful message to youth and world community through my creativity.

At present I am studying holy scriptures of every religion. After that I make paintings and organize an exhibition titled....... Similarities Among Every Religion.

When I was an art teacher I made the biggest painting 60 feet x 15 feet in my school hall. I make paintings on social issues and exhibit among people to bring awareness to the future.

Recently I created an artist group SAH ASTITVA for my artists and myself to exhibit during CoVid 19.

My journey still continues...

Facebook:



Padharo Mhare Des - 3 x 3 feet acrylic on canvas

Mahatma Gandhi and his surrounding energy field - 4 x 3 feet acrylic on canvas



Painting Over Old Paintings—by David Langevin

This is a question that has come up countless times over the years in my workshops and presentations. Let me start by saying, if you are concerned about permanence, especially if you are painting in oils, then don't do it.

The most common solution is to cover the old painting with gesso as a method for starting over or perhaps changing a certain area of the composition. This is not a good idea for oil, or acrylic paintings. Gesso is a ground, it is not paint. It is meant to be applied to an absorbent surface that has 'tooth'. Gesso does not have a lot of adhesive strength or flexibility like paint. It will not adhere permanently to painted surfaces, especially oil paint, and especially on canvas.

If you decide you want to paint over a painted surface then here is what you should consider if you are concerned about permanence.

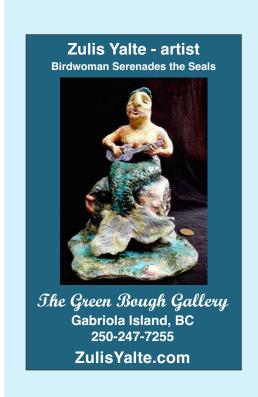
- Use white paint instead of gesso to cover the old painting or area you wish to work on.
- Remember that oil paint becomes more transparent with age, so the underpainting may show thru in areas if the new painted surface is not thick and opaque enough.
- If you do want to paint over an already dry oil painting, here is the best way to go about it to minimize later troubles:
- 1. Scrape off as much of the old paint strokes and impasto as you can with a palette knife. Use a flexible razor or blade to remove as much of the old paint as possible without scraping the ground itself.
- 2. Rough up the surface with sandpaper to give it 'tooth' so the next layer will adhere better.
- 3. Dust (vacuum) the surface and wipe it clean with a solvent like turpentine or mineral spirits.
- 4. Apply a thin coat of white or light gray paint.
- It is very important to remember that when you are sanding and cleaning the surface that pigment particles that are potentially highly toxic will be stirred and you must contain these and not breath them. I recommend using a vacuum cleaner and dust mask.

www.davidlangevin.com

ARTIST SHOWCASE



Look for the next issue November 2021 deadline Oct 20





How computers are impacting the art world

How many of you use a computer to support your art work? Whether it is to just store and search reference photos or digitally change an image for whatever reason, computers are being used to change how we produce art.

BUT can computers be used to create art that is indistinguishable from human created pieces. With **AI** (artificial intelligence) generated art, the answer may surprise you. In 2017 at Rutgers University a study showed that an algorithm that was fed thousands of images of art could in fact generate art that individuals thought was created by humans.

"Since the dawn of Artificial Intelligence, scientists have been exploring the machine's ability to generate human-level creative products such as poetry, stories, jokes, music, paintings, etc., as well as creative problem solving," the paper notes. "The results [of our study] show that human subjects could not distinguish art generated by the proposed system from art generated by contemporary artists and shown in top art fairs."

This study built on two 2015 papers from the Rutgers Al lab that used an algorithm that could identify the artist, genre and style of work. For this study they modified the program, Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN), in which deep neural networks are taught to replicate a number of existing painting styles, such as Baroque, Pointillism, Colour Field, Rococo, Fauvism, and Abstract Expressionism. One network generates the images based on what it has been taught, and the other network judges the resulting works.

They created a new version, Creative Adversarial Networks (CAN), that is designed to generate work that does not fit the known artistic styles, thus "maximizing deviation from established styles and minimizing deviation from art distribution," according to the paper. To train the new version they used 81,449 paintings by 1,119 artists in the publicly available WikiArt data set.

The images generated by CAN do not look like traditional art, in terms of standard genres (portrait, landscapes, religious paintings, still life, etc.)," notes the paper. They then asked humans to guess the origin of the work, CAN, GAN or human from Art Basel 2016.

The Abstract Expressionist works rated the highest, with 85 percent of respondents correctly identifying them as the work of a human artist. Users believed that 53 percent of the CAN images were made by people, as compared to only 35 percent of the GAN images, and, interestingly, 41 percent of the Art Basel works.

Where things get interesting, however, is when respondents were asked to rate how intentional, visually structured, communicative, and inspiring the images were. They "rated the images generated by [the computer] higher than those created by real artists, whether in the Abstract Expressionism set or in the Art Basel set."

All has come a long way in the last 4 years, but I think you are still safe and will not be replaced by computers just yet.

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Nova Scheidt, Prairie Artist is making a difference—one Monarch at a Time

How long have you been on a quest to save the monarchs?

Eleven years ago, my mom, who is a gardener, was approached to grow milkweed to be given away at a conference. This was the first time that we heard about the importance of milkweed to monarchs. It is the only plant that monarch butterflies will lay their eggs on. The caterpillars eat only the milkweed. The butterflies enjoy the nectar produced by the flowers of the milkweed.

I planted a few milkweed plants in my garden (in Regina) and I honestly thought that we were out of the range for having Monarchs. I had never seen a monarch before in Saskatchewan. To my surprise, a couple of years later, I had my first monarch lay eggs in my yard. I watched the full life cycle of the monarch, which changed from egg to growing caterpillar to chrysalis, and then to butterfly. I was lucky enough to watch the caterpillar shedding its skin to become this beautiful jade green chrysalis with a gold rim. Then, the green chrysalis transformed, and you could see the black and orange wings of the butterfly. The stubby butterfly that emerged was not at all what I expected. To me, the transformations were incredible. You could say that I was hooked.

I mostly let nature do its thing in my yard, but I noticed over the years that I would find little wee monarch caterpillars and they would disappear.



Predators would get them. My excitement of having holes in my plants from the caterpillars, was saddened by their disappearance. This summer, 2021, I brought them into my shed as soon as I found them. I was happy to have over 20 butterflies emerge.

Tell us about your passion for gardening.

I come from a family of gardeners on both sides. My grandparents on my mother's side grew so many vegetables that they started to sell them. My grandmother on my father's side had an incredible flower garden and I remember being fascinated by her collection of unusual flowers. I was always surrounded by plants growing up: we had lots of houseplants and my mother dragged (yes, dragged) me to greenhouses every spring to pick up flowers and vegetables for the yard.

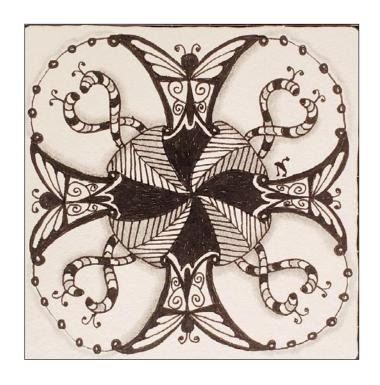
When I was living at home, our magazine pile always had a collection of seed catalogues that my mom was excited to look at in the winter. When I got my own house and yard, I became equally passionate about plants. I suppose if you are always around them, then you want to be around them. I did not realize how much that I had learned from osmosis by being around growers. Currently, I have a yard with several perennials and my house is full of houseplants.

continued page 28...

How does the gardening and butterflies inspire your artwork?

Butterflies and flowers are so beautiful. I find them such lovely subjects for photography (plus, they don't complain after you've taken five pictures of them). I think that butterflies and flowers are globally appreciated by most people. They provide this awe-inspiring reminder of the circle of transformation: a caterpillar becomes a butterfly, and a seed becomes a flower.

I have dabbled in several art forms: manipulating photos with photoshop, acrylic painting, and Zentangle® inspired artwork. The Zentangle® inspired artwork that is pictured in this article was directly inspired by the monarch caterpillars that I had in my yard that I knew would transform into beautiful monarch butterflies.



Follow Nova and her adventures on Facebook

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Telegraph Cove, 20 x 16" acrylic on canvas

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Rich brush strokes of orange and green.

From a vantage point on a bit of a rise in this farmer's field near Vulcan, Alberta, I contemplated the view stretching out around me. Breathtaking! The land sloped gently down to the highway and then rose again to form rolling hills in the distance. Farmers will tell you that it requires patience for the land to reveal its richness. Fortunately, I had the time for a long, slow look and discovered a splendour of lines, layers, and colours. It was the palette of colours that surprised me the most. The fertile prospects of the land were revealed in rich brush strokes of orange and green. Crops would grow well here.



In the night, coyotes came

Easily discernable among the low rolling hills are stands of trees planted to protect farm families and their live-stock from the wrath of the prairie wind. I was born on a nearby farm and we too had a windbreak of trees. In the night, coyotes came. They sought the sanctuary our shelterbelt and I remember them howling in the darkness. From their vantage point in the shadows the coyotes could see the prospect of food - our chickens.

Prospect is a point of view, but it's more than that. It's a view of the glass half full. It's a way of looking ahead with the expectation of discovering the good things in the lay of the land: food, water, shelter and artistic creativity. The art of prospect feeds my experience of land-scape with hope, possibility and potential.

Gratitude for Paradise Found by Penny Eder

I thank my lucky stars every day since arriving into the open and welcoming arms of the Comox/ Courtenay art and entrepreneur community.

I have been a practicing artist for over 30 years. Clay is my passion. My portfolio consists of public art commissions, residential projects, and sculpture projects small, large, and unique.

A personal hardship pushed me into locating a new latitude and a place to call home. With the help of friends and the high recommendation from several artists - Courtenay/Comox checked off all the items on both my professional and personal 'must have' lists. My main priority was to integrate into a community that embraced all forms of art, one that also supported local artists with a variety of markets, art shows, galleries that allowed home-based art studios to be recognized, applauded, and earn a living.

Then almost like a miracle - Paradise was found!! The perfect home, a beautiful location, AND IT HAD A STUDIO!!!! Being able to work from my home studio daily is a blessing. I got to work immediately and began to reach out to the local art community.

I was accepted by this generous art community immediately, and for that, I am grateful.

I was offered an invitation to take part in the Filberg pop event and enjoyed it immensely.

My creations have been accepted into two galleries: the Tug Guhlm in Lund and the Salish Sea Market Gallery in Bowser.

I am honoured to be accepted by this fantastic world of Island Art and its fabulous supporters.

I thank you from the depths of my heart for welcoming me, appreciating my work, and supporting me with purchases and promotion of my artistic creations. I look forward to meeting more of you.





Penny Eder Ceramic & Sculpture Artist One of a Kind, whimsical & nature inspired

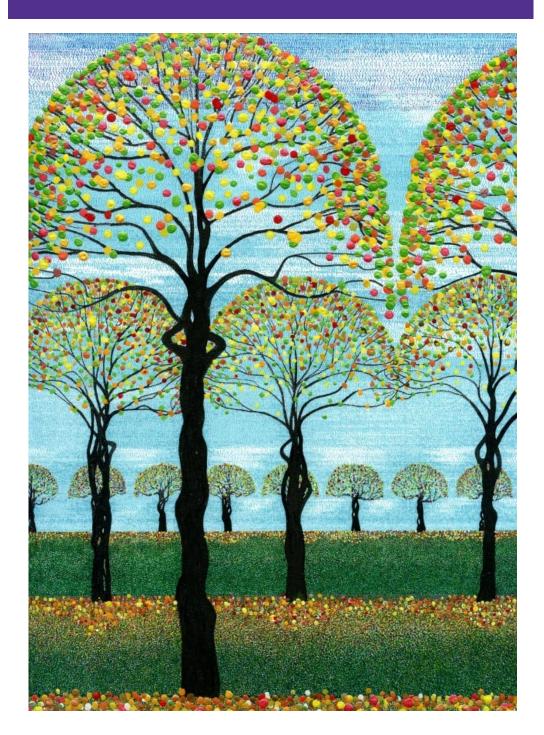


604-938-2525 Courtenay BC

PennyEder.com



Autumn View, 16 x 20", artist Brian Buckrell



Blue Sky Fall by Lawrie Dignan

The original drawing of Blue Sky Fall was done in October 2002, while I was working in Golden BC. It is a stylized look at the Fall Season that was unfolding all around me at that time. The subtle myriad of colour blanketing the ground represents the beauty of fall as the trees prepare themselves for winter. **www.changing-realities.com**



North Island, Shades of Fall, photo by Darrell McIntosh, Port Alice BC Follow Darrell on Facebook



Sweet Evergreen, 48 x 48"

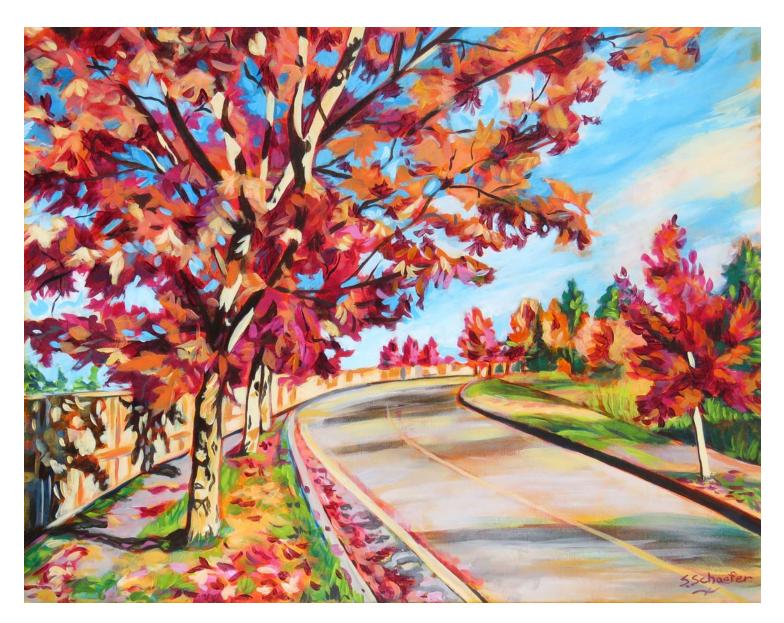
"Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" - John Keats

artist, Sharon Quirke, BA, MA



"Creekside Rhythms," 24"x 24" acrylic on gallery wrap canvas, available at the **Rendezvous Gallery** in Vancouver BC.

artist, Perry Haddock



"Around the Corner", 28 x 22", acrylic on canvas, artist Susan Schaefer

Imagine a beautiful fall day, warm sun on your shoulders, crisp leaves crunching under foot, with colours so brilliant you think, "How can I capture this beauty on canvas?"

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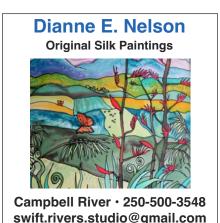
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