



NOA

NIGHT OF ARTISTS MAGAZINE

[www.NightOfArtists.com](http://www.NightOfArtists.com)

# NOA

## An Olympic Dream

Lewis Lavoie's Mural Mosaic "Kunamokst"  
unveiled at the Olympics

## U22

Rhea March – making a difference  
in the music of tomorrow

## The Art of Beer

Jim Pettinger and Sherbrooke Liquor  
celebrate the "art" of the beer label

## The Art Walk

Hundreds of Artists take part in one of  
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## Vancouver Isn't Like You Edmonton

Ashley Silzer Dispatches from the Edge

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#### COVER ART by Oksana Zhelisko

This year's NOA cover is an oil painting by Edmonton, Alberta artist Oksana Zhelisko titled "Eternal Dance". The painting is from Zhelisko's Goddess series. More of her work can be seen at [www.zheliskoart.com](http://www.zheliskoart.com). A full size image of Eternal Dance can be seen on page 64.



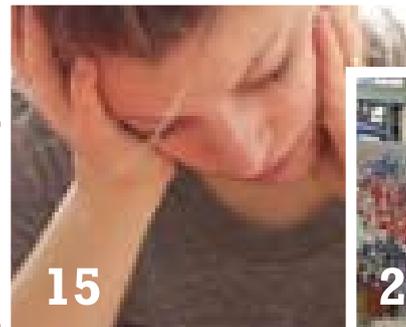
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## Thank you

### Amy and our beautiful little Adey-Adeykins

My heart explodes with joy daily because of you and all I do is for you both. I love you dearly.

### ALL THE INCREDIBLE SPONSORS and ADVERTISERS

We so dearly appreciate your continued support of Night of Artists events and the NOA magazine.

### Deb Thrall

Thanks for always being there and being the "glue" that holds NOA together and a darn good babysitter... of me ;- ) and my little gal.

### Cathy Stevenson

Your incredible talents always amaze me. Thank you for bringing this magazine to life with your incredible design and layout abilities. And... you are so super kind, helpful, supportive and all that other good stuff...

### Margie Nunweiler

Thanks for being such a great supporter at every event.

### Mom, Dad, Dave, Trina, John, Mikayla, Corinne, John, Julie, Andrew, Caitlyn

You guys are always there for me and always believe in all I do. I love our family.

### God - My big guy in the sky

No explanation needed.



## NOA Magazine 2011

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Night of Artists

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Have a story of interest or want to advertise in NOA Magazine? Email [phil@muralmosaic.com](mailto:phil@muralmosaic.com) or visit [www.nightofartists.com](http://www.nightofartists.com)



### Tracy Kolenchuk

is a culture vulture with a passion in photographing people in performance - making music, people, acting, telling stories, reading poetry. He bought his first digital camera in June 2000, and shortly afterwards it was eaten by a rogue toilet. He soon bought another and never looked back. Today, he sports two Canon SLRs and a variety of lenses suited to shooting in natural light. His technique and his equipment are suited to shooting in difficult lighting situations - typical of live performance. You might catch him at any of Edmonton, or Calgary's festivals, at the Blue Chair Cafe, at a Night of Artists event, or many of the stages around Edmonton, Canada and the world. He's friendly enough, but generally focussed on the performance and his photography. Say hello - but don't be offended if he moves over to take another picture in the middle of a conversation. He might actually be working. Or maybe just playing with his toys, and his art.

You can also look him up at [www.tracycamera.com](http://www.tracycamera.com)

## Letter from the Editor

As I head into my 15th year with Night of Artists and the 7th edition of NOA magazine, I found it very hard to sit down and write my editors note. It's not because I didn't have anything to say, it was just that what I want to say is not necessarily anything to do with Night of Artists or NOA Magazine.

In 2010, I more or less took a bit of a break from both the show and the magazine. I had other things I wanted, and needed, to focus on. I was blessed with a very busy year on a personal level, as I married a beautiful, sweet, loving lady, and she gave birth to our first child - a beautiful baby girl named Adelaine.

For years I have called Night of Artists my baby and was very proud to associate it as just that. After all, I gave birth to the idea and have helped raise it for 15 years. It must be what it feels like to be a parent right? That was all well and good until I welcomed this actual "flesh and blood" beautiful child into the world.

I have now realized that nothing in my world - and I mean nothing - can compare to this remarkable creation. When she emerged that wondrous day of June 22nd my life changed forever, and it was a very welcome change.

I have painted many a picture, created many events and sometimes those paintings and events turn out in ways I never thought possible. It can be quite remarkable to experience. However, to look into the eyes of a newborn, a sweet, little, helpless, precious gift from God, you melt



away. There is not a creation in my lifetime that I could compare to what my wife and I created together, and that God placed into our hands to love and cherish.

I find myself tearing up often looking at her every little movement. Every day she brings a new joy into my life and I wonder how I could have ever lived without her. I look at other children now and realize that much more now how precious the children of the world are. I cannot even imagine for one second how any human being could ever want to cause a child harm. I would keep writing more about how much I love having this little girl in my life, but I am tearing up and can't see my keyboard now. I better wrap this article up because the people who know me well are probably reading this thinking... "bah...there he goes again about his little girl."

The bottom line is this, I love, love, love the arts and love, love, love all the people I have met and shared the 15 years of Night of Artists with. I love my work, and I am full of passion for all I do. I LOVE NOA magazine too - it's a wonderful thing to see it come to life every year.

But, I have a new love that over rides all. Mother Theresa said it best- "Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do... but how much love we put in that action." And this love at home will only make my life that much better on all levels, and will make my passions stronger because there is new purpose in my life.

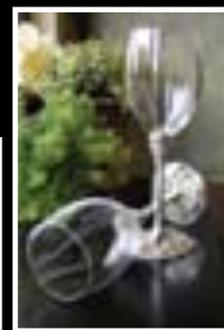
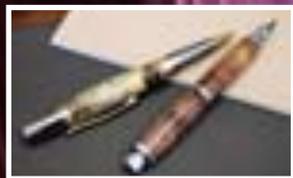
That purpose will be such an incredible foundation. I know that if I keep my foundation strong all my other passions in my life will be that much more incredible. Bring on this new world!

I hope you enjoy this year's magazine!



**Philip A. Alain**  
Executive Producer/Founder  
Night of Artists





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# Expressionz Cafe

## Centre for the Eats & Arts

Written by: Karyn Stirling

Just over 10 years ago, Karyn Stirling took a leap of faith to pursue her vision and open the doors to Expressionz Cafe, originally located at 9142 – 118th Avenue. It began as Expressionz Café, Market and Meeting Place; a place where people would come together to relax, and experience gourmet tastes, and a range of local arts and entertainment. Designed for “sense satisfaction”, Expressionz aimed to animate the atmosphere, variegate the view, exercise the eardrums, ooo la la the olfactory, titillate the taste buds and stir the spirit. It soon became known as a social and learning centre, and was dubbed “the little Cafe that could!” In August of 2003, Expressionz Cafe – The School of Life was incorporated as a not for profit company.

Today, Expressionz Cafe has relocated to 9938 – 70th Avenue, transforming a funky old warehouse into a beautiful community arts centre. Literally a “cafe of expressions”, this multifaceted and versatile venue provides over 6000 sq ft of space for the performing, visual, and healing arts, and yes, an actual Cafe. Regular programming includes: Concerts, Open Stages, an Art Gallery & Market Place, Arts Programming for all ages, and Daily Lunch Specials. In addition, Expressionz makes their space available for rent; an excellent intimate setting for performances, presentations, rehearsals, workshops, meetings and warm gatherings with friends, family or business associates. Plan your regular or one-time events in the main performance area adjacent to the cafe, or in one of the 2 independent rooms.

Expressionz creates a niche by building on the old tribal tradition of bringing people together of all ages to

celebrate and take part in the creative process – artists, teachers, practitioners and those wishing to learn and participate in the arts and healing. The café itself is the nucleus of the Centre, and is open regularly Monday to Saturday 10am - 5pm, and for evening special events. It offers a home-style menu including: soups, salads, sandwiches, daily specials, snacks, beverages and specialty coffees.

Also on the menu is a selection of arts programming (The School of Life); skilled artisans inspire and instruct small groups in informal workshop settings, sharing their knowledge and talents in a friendly, healthy and non-competitive environment. Discover your creative self... introduction to the Ukulele, Sound Healing, Acrylic Landscapes, Geri-Antics (Improv for Seniors), Slat Key Guitar, Guitar meditation, Hand Reflexology, Vocal Choir and Martial arts, to name a few.

Or perhaps the Marketplace is more your style (every Saturday 10am - 3pm) – an old fashioned type, where community gathers to shop, talk, eat, meet, and share ideas. It includes a rotating art gallery, live entertainment, workshops and a collective of artisans, and creative, healthful businesses. Experience your local community first hand. And speaking of community – Expressionz is an umbrella under which many communities gather and pool their energies and resources. U22 productions, The Uptown Folk Club, and the Canadian School for Self Healing all make their home at the Expressionz Building, and wholly contribute to the overall atmosphere and happenings. We invite you to join us and learn more about the many opportunities to get involved. Full details and Events Calendar at [www.expressionzcafe.com](http://www.expressionzcafe.com)

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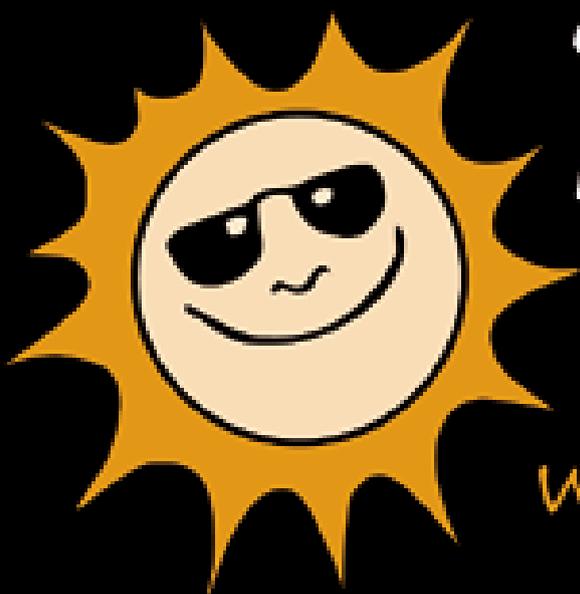
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Go to 'Events Calendar' for complete special events listing



# The Art of Sherbrooke

Art has been used to sell many things over the years, running the gamut from religion to beer. Today, we'll concern ourselves with beer.

Written by: Jim Pettinger

Walk into any liquor store, and you'll see the concerted efforts of a large number of talented artists and savvy marketers hard at work.

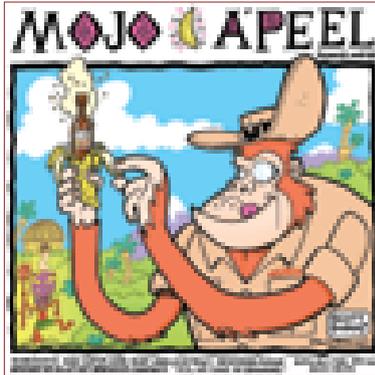
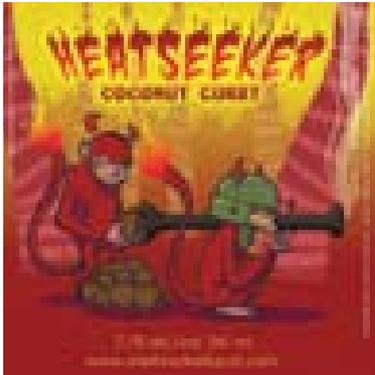
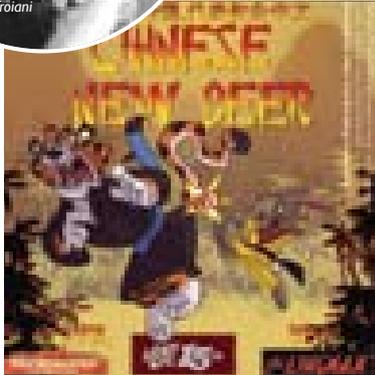
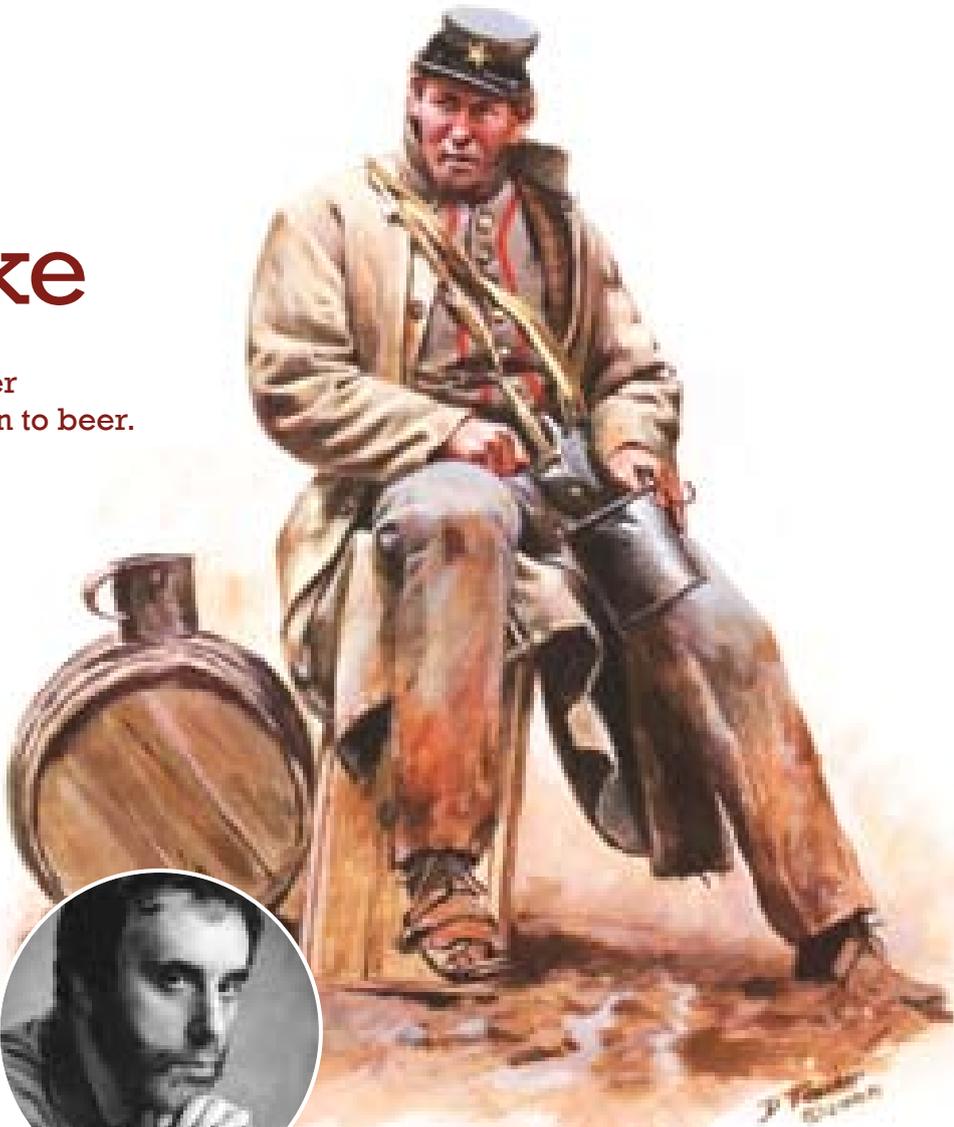
Walk into Sherbrooke Liquor Store, and you'll see the work of hundreds of those artists, including several who have done work for Sherbrooke.

Not content to merely have the largest selection of beer in Canada, Sherbrooke Liquor Store, in collaboration with 3 different breweries (so far) have produced nearly 20 of their own beers. Known as "Contract Brews" in the industry, these are not re-brandings of existing products, but rather specific recipes unique to each individual beer.

**Irish expatriate and new Canadian John Keane was the artist who first breathed life into the Sherbrooke creations.**

Drawing on his passion for comic & cartoon art, Jim Pettinger – the purchasing agent for Sherbrooke – has enlisted the talents of 5 different artists (so far) to help create an identity for each of those beers.

Label artwork by (clockwise from top): detail from "14th Mississippi" by Don Troiani; finished labels by John Keane, with the exception of "Mojo A'Peel" by Scott Shaw, and "Snowblind", by Rusty Haller.



To describe the sense of humour that helps to create these beers and their labels, one could best use the phrase 'a little off the wall.' 'Irreverent' and 'off beat' serve equally well.

Starting with Sherbrooke Shamrock, award winning local brewery Alley Kat was co-opted into participating in an unusual marketing stunt, and a line of beers was born.

Irish expatriate and new Canadian John Keane was the artist who first breathed life into the Sherbrooke creations. To date, John has produced nearly all of the Sherbrooke art, and it is his own unique vision that has truly created the "brand" that Sherbrooke has become.

In addition to John, other artists have been involved with Sherbrooke:

- The late **Rusty Haller** contributed artwork for the one beer produced by The Yukon Brewery *Snowblind*
- **Don Troiani** was featured on Alley Kats' *Single Star* [www.historicalartprints.com](http://www.historicalartprints.com)
- **Scott Shaw** produced the label for Alley Kats' *Mojo A'Peel* [www.shawcartoons.com](http://www.shawcartoons.com)
- **Steve Rude** has finished work on 12 labels for a series devoted to the ancient *Gods of Brewing*. Beginning June 21st, 2011, Paddock Wood Brewing in Saskatchewan will brew one beer each quarter. [www.steverude.com/wp2](http://www.steverude.com/wp2)

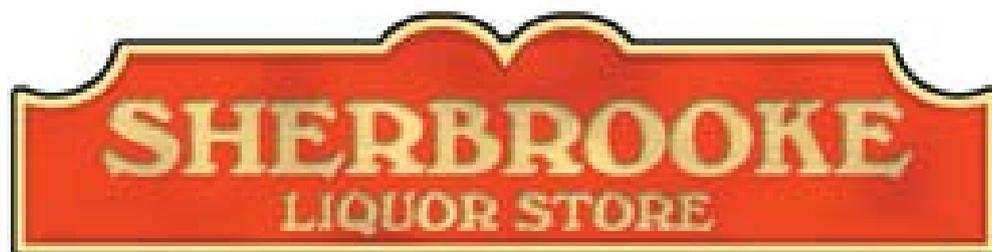


To describe the sense of humour that helps to create these beers and their labels, one could best use the phrase 'a little off the wall.' 'Irreverent' and 'off beat' serve equally well.

Label artwork: Above, Sherbrooke Shamrock and Beer 101 Avatar from the Sherbrooke Website by John Keane. Below, concept sketches for the upcoming "Beer Gods" series by Steve Rude.



For more information on the artists and their labels, please visit [www.sherbrookeliqour.com](http://www.sherbrookeliqour.com)



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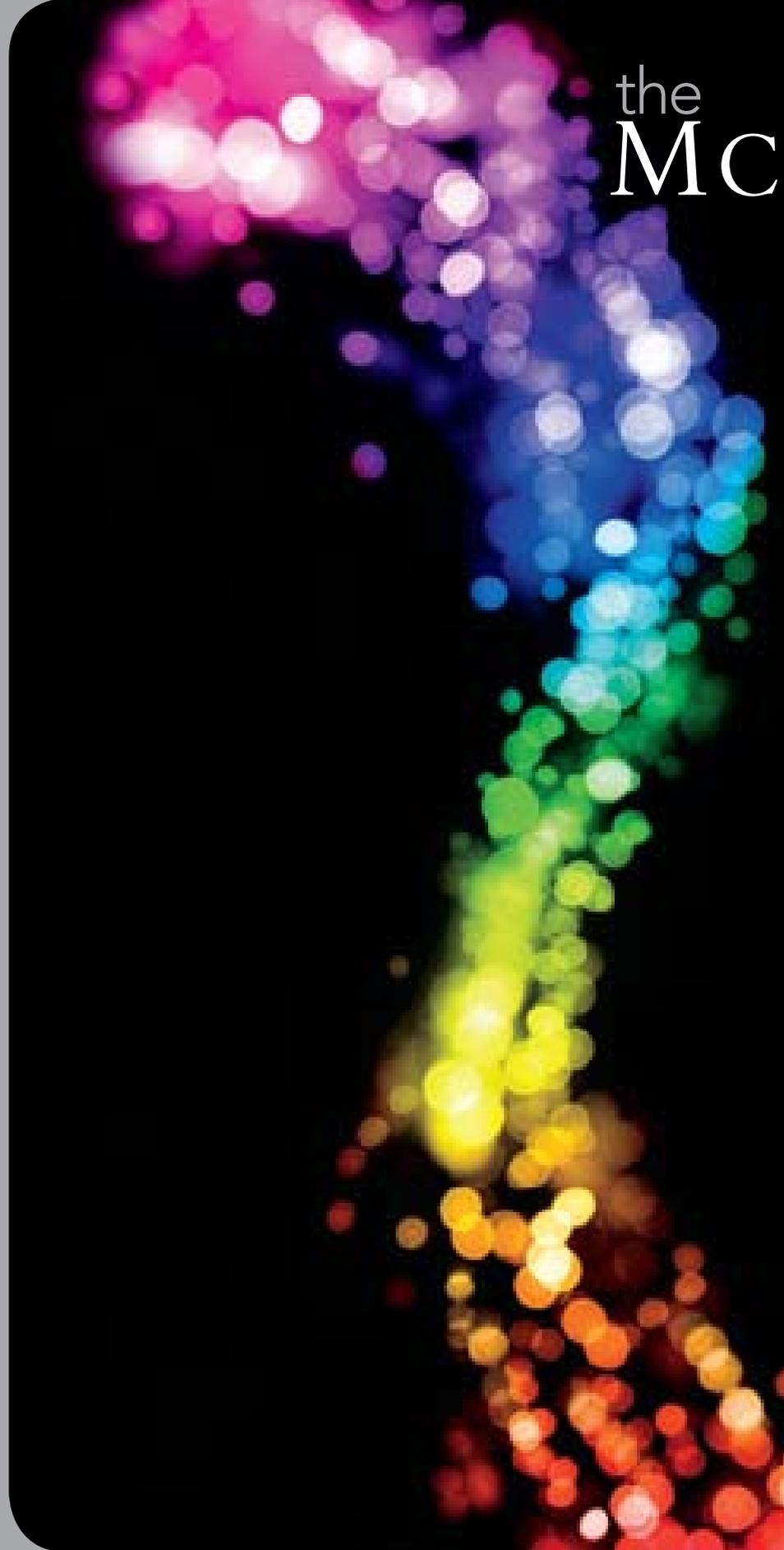
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# Dispatches From the Edge

Written by: Ashley Silzer

A good friend of mine moved away from Edmonton to live with her boyfriend in a run-down house in Saskatoon eight years ago. When I went to visit her I wondered why she was willing to give up her friends and family for a life that was filled with hard knocks.

"Because *this* is real life," she replied. At the time I thought she was merely flagging sanity.

I'm sitting on a park bench in downtown Vancouver, unemployed, struggling, and re-learning some very basic social skills, all while admiring the blooming flowers. Getting to the point where I can look around and not burst into angry homesick tears is a revelation I have been waiting several months for.

Last year I moved from my homey downtown Edmonton apartment to get married in the Vancouver airport by a chaplain that resembled Colonel Sanders. My husband left me alone to discover the city on my own and instead I explored every crevice in our apartment. The only writing jobs I could get were writing content for a women's wrestling website where the female characters were sexually humiliated by their male counterparts or opportunities where I could work for free. Things were *grim*.

Vancouver comes with a steep learning curve. It is a beautiful city littered with contradictions. For every cherry blossom and newly gentrified neighborhood, there is another person crowding the line at the needle exchange or digging through your trash, well displaying why it boasts being the 'Most Livable City in the World' while simultaneously containing one of the poorest and roughest neighborhoods in North America.

For those who can afford ambivalence of the ugliness under their noses, honesty seems hard to come by. The inability to differentiate between self-aggrandizement and self-esteem seems to be *de rigueur*. Between the competition for bodies, spouses, employment and closet space, it's enough to drive one into the woods. This said, I moved here with love and a touch of madness in my eyes and recall thinking, how bad could it be, *really*? Last week I saw two people have sex in the

middle of a crowded nightclub after being followed by a man who I saw openly buy crack on the street, so you tell me.

Vancouver isn't like you, Edmonton. Though it may be *The Economist's* darling and you have your own entry on UrbanDictionary.com for 'worst city EVER', I still get pangs for you. I see its over-saturated market of 'boutique' stores and am reminded of your handful of unspoiled destinations. I wistfully recall the level of personal space I used to have on a sidewalk while I am trying to make my way up the street, trapped in yet another German tour group trying to rent bicycles. *Fools!* I laugh villainously from my kitchen window when I see how residents panic at the sight of snow.

I finally understand what that friend meant now. I am glad to leave you, of forcing myself into a position of discomfort and challenge. This *is* real life.

---

## ASHLEY SILZER

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**I'm sitting on a park bench in downtown Vancouver, unemployed, struggling, and re-learning some very basic social skills, all while admiring the blooming flowers.**



# A Whale of a Time

Written by: Phil Alain



*(From left to right) Phil Alain, Paul Lavoie and Lewis Lavoie standing with the mural after unveiling in Spirit Square at the 2010 Winter Olympics.*

I remember when I was about 8 years old I was watching the Summer Olympics on TV. There was this male gymnast flipping around holding onto two rings hanging from the ceiling by ropes. He was strong, agile and looked so unbelievably cool!! When he released the rings he flew high into the air and landed with great poise, his head looking up with incredible confidence and his arms stretched up high. The crowd rose to its feet and his face beamed with pride!! I was so inspired and energized.

I looked at my Dad and said "I want to be in the Olympics!!!"



Lewis Lavoie standing in front of the mural KUNAMOKST.

Quickly I rushed out and grabbed onto the rings in the playground. I thought for sure if I hung upside down long enough on those rings my Olympic dreams would come true. As the blood rushed to my head I could see Olympic glory coming my way! Then when I passed out and my face planted deep into the sand...reality kicked in. Maybe the rings were not my ticket.

I experimented with multiple sports in hopes of finding my Olympic niche. After moderate success here and there, but mostly failures, the

one sport that seemed to have the most hope for me was hockey. Little did I know that the only medal that would be earned in hockey would be the "metal" required to wire my jaw shut. Hockey's gifts to me were three broken jaws, a broken ear (not kidding), two broken noses, 3 separated shoulders, chipped elbow, broken thumb, torn ligaments in my wrist, torn ligaments in my ankle, an ACL replacement on my right knee, multiple concussions, and lastly, being hit so hard one game that I was almost paralyzed and spent one week in a neck brace unable to move.



Phil Alain arriving in Spirit Square West Vancouver BC



Setting up the mural for the big unveiling

I was starting to realize that my dream of the Olympics was not going to happen.

While I was dreaming of the Olympics and playing all kinds of sports I was also focusing on my other passion- Art. I had been taking my art quite seriously since I was 13. Art not only was a passion but it was an incredible release. As time passed I began to realize that Art was the true path for me. I was loving what art was bringing into my life but in the process, as years went by, I began to realize that my Olympic dreams were just that... a dream.

Then I met Lewis Lavoie.

The man is a genius and a remarkable artist. We both admired each other's artwork and thus we started creating art shows together and would share long drives all over Canada brainstorming ideas on how we could get our artwork out there and help others at the same time. We thought along the same lines and neither one of us would shy away from stepping outside the box of the traditional "art world".

Out of all these long drives around the country and constant idea tossing back and forth, Mural Mosaic was born. With the key addition of Lewis's brother Paul Lavoie we had found a team that could make things happen. And happen it did.

## Out of all these long drives around the country and constant idea tossing back and forth, Mural Mosaic was born.

We started making murals working with thousands of artists from all around the world. Our motto became UNITY THROUGH DIVERSITY! Through our murals, artists were able to paint in their own style, have their own voice, yet collaborate with complete strangers from around the world and create wonderful mural masterpieces.

A "world of artists" were not only were painting in our murals but now it seemed as though the entire world was watching as our highly interactive website, that Paul had masterfully designed ( [www.muralmosaic.com](http://www.muralmosaic.com)), skyrocketed from 100 visitors a day to 100,000 visitors a day. (As of Feb 2011 over 36 million people have browsed through the website) We began touring North America being invited to exhibit our murals. World renowned artists like Robert Bateman, Joe Fafard and Roy Henry Vickers actually wanted to work with us. Celebrities like Mike Myers, William Shatner, Dan Aykroyd, Colin James, The Barenaked Ladies and many more began getting involved in our murals. And of course who can forget the experience of 2005 when Lewis did a live painting for Queen Elizabeth II while Paul and I stood beside her majesty and unveiled our biggest mural to date "The Buffalo Twins".

In a million years I would have never EVER thought that I would have experienced any of these moments because of my passion for art. But the best was yet to come...

With the memory of picking sand from my teeth still strong in my mind and the trail of broken bones from too many hours chasing pucks around the rink... I reached my impossible dream. But ironically it was not my athletic ability that got me there.



Artists from Mural Mosaic pose with the mural.

It is a day I will never forget-February 13th 2010 – The Winter Olympics “Spirit Square”, West Vancouver BC. We were invited to unveil our mural mosaic KUNAMOKST to the world.

It was official- I had made it to the Olympics as an artist!

There we were, on our own “Olympic podium”, the three of us, standing proud, preparing to show the world the work of over 181 artists

**Looking around at the crowd my emotions swelled. We began our traditional countdown as we prepared to drop the curtain and unveil the mural to the wide eyed onlookers.**

who poured their heart and soul into an Olympic Masterpiece- an Olympic masterpiece that truly represented the Olympic ideals of unity. 231 paintings, each with a voice of its own, united together in a harmonious symphony of art.

Looking around at the crowd my emotions swelled. We began our traditional countdown as we prepared to drop the curtain and unveil the mural to the wide eyed onlookers.10-9-8-7....



Paul Lavoie unloads Kunamokst into Spirit Square in West Vancouver

I closed my eyes for a moment and I was back to my childhood. There I was holding onto the rings preparing for my dismount. I flew high into the air as the world spun around me and I landed with great poise, my head looking up with incredible confidence and arms stretched up high.

## I closed my eyes for a moment and I was back to my childhood.

3-2-1.... the curtain dropped... and the mural mosaic KUNAMOKST was officially unveiled.

The crowd rose to its feet and my face beamed with pride!! We had done it!!

Then I looked out into the crowd as they gathered in admiration around the mural and I saw a little boy look up to his Dad and whisper. I am pretty sure I can guess what he said-

"I want to be in the Olympics Dad."

---

**The Mural Mosaic KUNAMOKST** is permanently installed on **GALIANO ISLAND, British Columbia, CANADA** in the Galiano Inn and is open to the public for viewing.

**For more details, please visit [www.muralmosaic.com](http://www.muralmosaic.com)**



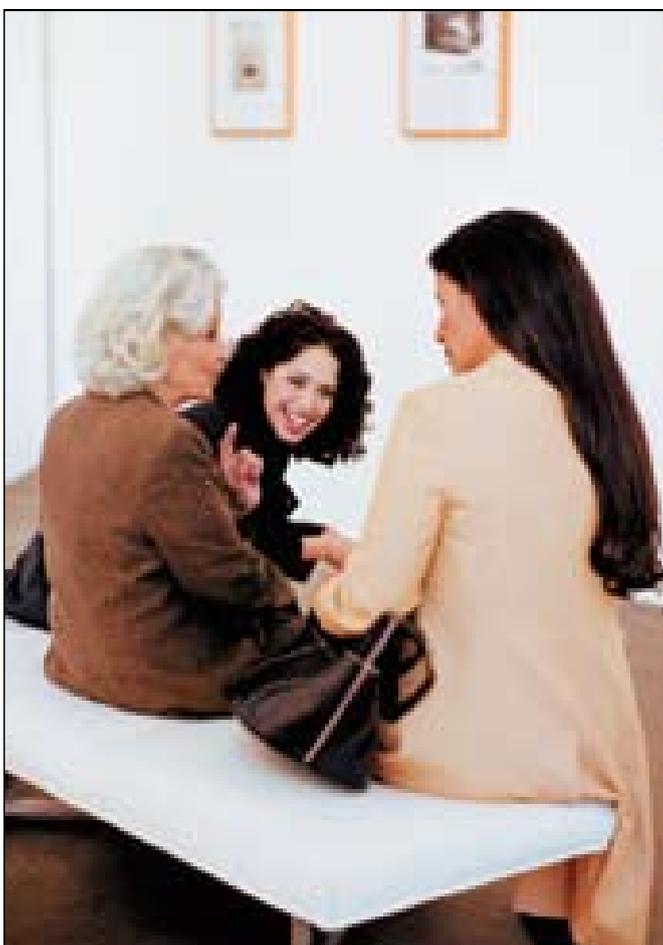
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created by over 180 west coast artists

THE EYE OF THE WHALE- RED LETTER FILMS Releases Documentary detailing the creation of "KUNAMOKST".

In 2010 the creation of the mural mosaic "KUNAMOKST" became the subject of a bi-lingual documentary titled "The Eye of the Whale" / "L'Oeil de la Baleine" and was broadcast nationally and internationally during the Olympics. The documentary was created by the award winning film company Red Letter Films out of White Rock British Columbia. In 2010 the Eye of the Whale has been featured at multiple international film festivals and continues to draw rave reviews.

More information on the documentary can be obtained by visiting [www.redletterfilms.com](http://www.redletterfilms.com)



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As I stumbled through Edmonton over the past 15 years creating art shows, concerts and doing my best to meet people who share my passion for the arts, it was with great pleasure that I came across the wonderfully sweet, incredibly talented and most sincerely passionate Rhea March.

I have never met a person so determined to make a difference in the arts and who had so much love for music. She is so determined to make an impact in Edmonton, and beyond, by sharing her love for music, and what she knows about the industry. What better way to achieve this than to inform those who need as much guidance to carry on as possible...the wide eyed and mystified youth who have so much talent, but are so unsure of their direction.

Here is our interview.

---

# Never Stop Believing in the Magic of Music

Written by: Phil Alain

**PA: Who is the founder of U22 (like as if I don't know that) and what is your connection to music?**

RHEA: U22 is my baby and one I'm very proud to have birthed. U22 stands for Under 22 and exists to provide 'my kids' with mentorship, coaching, management, performance opportunities, networking and access to a strong supportive community of Alberta songwriters. I've been deeply involved in the music community for nearly 30 years as a songwriter, musician, producer, mentor and performance coach. For the past five years I've concentrated my efforts on assembling an ever expanding roster of gifted Alberta songwriters aged 10 to 22.

**PA: What inspired you to start working with musicians under 22 years of age?**

RHEA: I began penning songs at age 12 and was on the road touring from 18 to 30. The idea for U22 stemmed from my own experiences as a young touring musician. I only wish I would have had an organization like U22 around to help me find my authentic confidence and guide me to make better business and career decisions. As it was, I went down a lot of rabbit holes and found my confidence in all the wrong places, in particular with alcohol. Today I'm nearly 17 years sober and a whole lot wiser. Life is about making a positive difference in the lives of others and I wanted to use my experiences to benefit young artists.

**PA: Why did you feel it was necessary?**

RHEA: These days, the place most musicians will sell their CD's is from the stage. There are critical skills you need as a performer to have to keep touring and being rebooked. In U22, I prepare young songwriters for that journey by mentoring them about live performance and giving them opportunities to hone their craft. My goal is to draw out and enhance the artist's genuine originality by instilling confidence through preparation. We work on the essential skills of how to consistently deliver a great live show, including mic technique, stage presence, understanding your audience, preparing for a show, on stage banter, crafting a set list, self promotion, applying for grants, etc.

Live performance venues know that when they hire a U22 artist, they can rest assured that the artist will deliver a genuinely engaging show. The concept for U22 was born when I started running a Young Songwriter Showcase that ran quarterly from Riverdale Hall in Edmonton. Each session was absolutely swamped with kids clamoring for the chance to play on a stage with lights and sound production. The series was so successful that we were honored with a Lt. Governor Generals Award for Outstanding Contributions to a Community. The success of this little initiative showed me how essential it was to not only create performance opportunities for our youth but also to help them raise their overall performance skill level.



Rhea March, Artistic Director, U22 Music Productions

PHOTO: Fred Katz Photography

In 2006, I began hosting Edmonton's first All Original Songwriter Stage every Sunday night in Edmonton. The all original aspect attracted full houses of emerging and veteran musicians each week. After each performance, I'd take time to give the artist some positive and helpful feedback. It was inspiring and deeply gratifying to witness the growth that happens with a little encouragement. Through the experience, I found my life's passion in helping young musicians to spread their wings and soar.

**Life is about making a positive difference in the lives of others and I wanted to use my experiences to benefit young artists.**

**PA: When did you go from just promoting young musicians to forming an organization?**

RHEA: Initially, the not for profit was formed to allow us access to grants and funding. Admittedly I was pretty naive when we first formed. It didn't take long for me to learn that running an organization in tandem with the work I do with the kids was taking 18 hours a day, seven days a week.



Joe Nolan



The Plain Janes

PHOTOS: Tracy Kalenchuk

Thankfully I have been blessed to have the assistance of U22's volunteer Artist Liaison, Lynn Turnbull. She has become my right arm and is a significant contributor to the day to day operations and overall success of our program.

Recently U22 had our second AGM and I am proud and excited to say that we have attracted a dynamic Board of Directors who are taking the helm on the business side and are allowing me to do what I do best - work with the artists and promote the U22 program. Things are coming together nicely!

**PA: What excites you the most about the program?**

RHEA: I'm excited by the incredible community of songwriters across the Province who have formed supportive friendships, connections and access to networks of industry professionals as a result of the U22 program. They are the industry leaders of tomorrow who will keep our festivals strong and our live music venues running.

I'm equally excited by the confidence and artistic growth that happens to the artists in our program. For example, when I first met Joe Nolan, he was 16 and could barely speak audibly into a microphone. Fast forward 5 years and Joe has been featured with U22 in more than 100 concerts including two appearances at Edmonton Folk Festival. Currently he is being managed by Neil McGonigle and recording with Colin Linden. It's the stuff dreams are made of.

**PA: What is the #1 objective of the program?**

RHEA: Mentorship is the heart of U22 – the fertile ground to develop talent begins with expertise and U22 artists are mentored through touring experience and by collaborating with veteran artists and U22's extensive network of industry experts. In turn, U22 artists provide mentorship and encouragement to other aspiring young artists by participating in workshops, organizing boot camps and being accessible

at concert performances. U22's mission is: *To create a community of young musicians and develop their talents, skills and leadership; To inspire them to know and believe in the music inside themselves; and To motivate and empower them to explore credible, sustainable, rewarding careers in the arts.*

**PA: What has been the greatest challenge?**

RHEA: The greatest challenge has been access to sustainable funding. Personally I have invested more than 11,000 hours and over \$28,000. to bring the program to where it is. I'm not a martyr – this was a sacrifice I was willing to make because I believe so strongly in the inher-

**There really isn't a 'best' success story because U22 has been pivotal in launching the careers of so many young artists.**

ent goodness of what we do. What I didn't fully appreciate was how long it would take to secure infrastructural funding. I want to ensure that with or without me, U22 will continue to make a positive difference in the lives of Alberta's musical youth. For that to happen, we require capital to build a solid foundation and sustainable infrastructure.

**PA: What is the best success story thus far to come out of the program?**

RHEA: There really isn't a 'best' success story because U22 has been pivotal in launching the careers of so many young artists. Honourable mentions would include: Joe Nolan, Michael Rault, Samantha Schultz, Brian McLeod, Alanna Clarke, Lyra Brown, James Clarke, Robert Mulder, Paul Cresey and Lucas Chaisson just to name a few.

The airing of a one hour TV special produced by CBC was a big career highlight. Our partnership with The Edmonton Folk Festival is a coveted relationship as is The Canmore Folk Festival, the implementation of a U22 Stage at The International Airport to enhance passenger experience and our ongoing work to promote Alberta Arts Days on a year round basis.

**PA: How is U22 connected to the Edmonton Folk Fest?**

RHEA: The Edmonton Folk Festival has partnered with U22 for the 4th consecutive year to showcase a selection of Alberta's most promising young songwriters. The support and encouragement shown to us by Festival Producer Terry Wickham has underscored the success and future of U22. Terry understands the importance of engaging a young demographic to secure the future of live music and build an unshakably strong music community. The U22 artists who are chosen by Terry to appear at the EFMF are given the life changing experience of performing with the most respected players in the world at the best music festival on earth. It's amazing.

**PA: Where do you see U22 10 years from now?**

RHEA: My number one goal is immediate and that is to secure sustainable funding from corporate sponsors who align with U22's philosophy and benefit from a uniquely positive branding opportunity and massive market reach. Once those partnerships are established, U22 will expand to have offices in every province in Canada. Within 10 years the U22 Music Program will have achieved a global recognition with a physical presence in countries around the world.

Special thanks to **Rhea March of U22 Music Productions.**

For more information on U22 please contact Rhea at **780-554-6243** or visit **www.U22.ca**

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# The Whyte Avenue Art Walk

The Whyte Avenue Art Walk is an outdoor studio and gallery featuring hundreds of working artists. For three days every summer, artists and their art fill the sidewalks of Old Strathcona.

It's an original experience, which artists love. In some festivals, visual art is little more than a back drop. At Art Walk, it is the main event and a time to celebrate all aspects of art making. Artists are encouraged to bring their supplies and their ideas to make art right on site. This provides an exciting opportunity for visitors to become engaged in many creative processes.

**Today there are about 350 artists and more than 30,000 visitors. It is not a typical event. It is a rare and precarious balance between the needs of the artists, the generosity of the merchants who give up their store fronts and the public who fill the streets.**

Old Strathcona is the perfect neighbourhood for such an undertaking. Often, artists take over underused areas and their presence is counted on to revitalize older neighbourhoods. Old Strathcona is already established, rich in culture and history. It's where the artists should be seen. This is exactly the idea that started it all. Tim Nolt, an active member in the Old Strathcona Foundation, once commented that Whyte Avenue would look lovely with artists painting out on the sidewalks like they did on the Left Bank in Paris. "Perhaps we should start a festival" he said "We could call it the 'Left Bank of Edmonton'".

David Bradley, the owner of The Paint Spot immediately agreed to help find a few artists. "David and Tim's excitement was contagious," recalls Kim Fjordbotten who was the art store manager back then. "Everyone phoned artists and talked to neighbouring businesses. We pulled off the first event in just three weeks but with little time to promote it, the public didn't know what was going on. I was out at 8:30 am that very first morning, setting up my little painting station which consisted of a TV table, an easel and four art works displayed on the ground," recalls Kim "I remember an older lady, walking by with her grocery cart full of goods from the farmers' market 'Just look at these poor artists having to sell art in the streets' she muttered to her companion. However when I told her what the Art Walk was all about, her eyes lit up and she agreed it was a wonderful idea! She gave me a quick hug and with a wink set off with her friend, their carts in tow, to search for more artists to meet."

That was back in 1995. It started with 35 artists and a few pedestrians. Today there are about 350 artists and more than 30,000 visitors. It is not a typical event. It is a rare and precarious balance between the needs of the artists, the generosity of the merchants who give up their store fronts and the public who fill the streets. "This is what community spirit is all about!" says Kim Fjordbotten. The festival is a labour of love for the new owner of The Paint Spot. She has administered and supported the event since the beginning in 1995. "We work in partnership with the Old Strathcona Foundation and Old Strathcona Business Association to share promotion. The bulk of the administrative and volunteer work lands with

my coworkers, on company time and with the all resources of The Paint Spot. It is amazing what can be accomplished with a handful of dedicated people. We do it to promote the artists while keeping it as simple and affordable as possible". It may be simple but it has gotten big. There is a reason it is called running a festival. With 17 blocks and two parks full of artists, they do a lot of running.

Kim believes these events are successful because they focus on the important interaction between art maker and art viewer. "There are so many ways to make art and so much talent in Alberta. I can't imagine how many artworks are hidden in studios, basements, and closets." She continues "Without events like the Whyte Avenue Art Walk, perhaps no one would get to see them. It is rewarding to convince a hesitant artist to simply share their art. I tell artists to make what they love and there will be someone out there who 'gets it'. It's also good for artists to have an annual deadline to create new artwork and finish projects. Too often ideas stay in our heads until deadline trumps procrastination. Sometimes an artist misses a year due to time constraints and family commitments but they seem more motivated the following year and often come out with all new works."

A unique aspect of this festival is that it's not juried and there are very few guidelines. Create art on site and exhibit your own original art. Due to overwhelming artist participation, the Art Walk chose to narrow guidelines rather than start a jury to process art. This allows for organic growth and diversity. Every year the art gets stronger and more diverse. Where else can you wander among glorious florals, graffiti-style slogans, delicate etchings, mosaic butterflies and renaissance portraits? "A few years ago we reduced the amount of prints, photography, jewellery, pottery and clothing," says Kim. "Thankfully, this year we have partnered with the Handmade Mafia who will be running their own event in the Baptist Church to promote these artisans during the Art Walk.

The Paint Spot also provides professional advice and leadership to help artists make the most of their Art Walk connections. For artists of all levels, the Whyte Avenue Art Walk offers a welcoming environment. For emerging artists, the Art Walk is a learning experience. It provides

valuable feedback, an opportunity to build contact lists, and raise profiles. The Art Walk showcases many professional artists and University graduates. It offers everyone the chance to meet and exchange ideas with one another.

Nurturing new art patrons is a vitally important aspect of the Art Walk. When there are thousands of art works on display, pedestrians are exposed to a rare feast of diverse artistic ventures. If they are curious about what they see, they can strike up a conversation with the artists themselves.

**Without events like the Whyte Avenue Art Walk, perhaps no one would get to see them. It is rewarding to convince a hesitant artist to simply share their art. I tell artists to make what they love and there will be someone out there who 'gets it'.**

If they love what they see, the Art Walk provides a more personal way of buying art, directly from the artist. Many people have purchased their first piece of original art at the Art Walk, and return each year to build their collection. "I feel we are also doing important work creating new patrons for art in Edmonton," says Fjordbotten "I know that once an individual acquires an original piece of art they will continue to collect art throughout their lives."

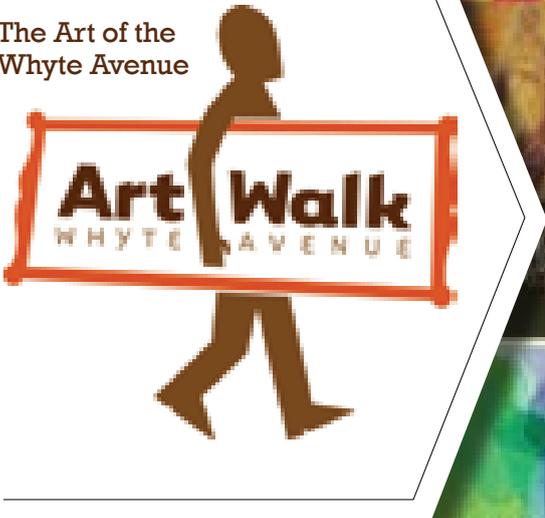
Shouldn't it qualify for funding? "Local art is worth our investment but I don't want to spend time writing proposals, chasing grants and waiting in line to be told 'there's no money'. From my understanding, there are several reasons that this festival falls short of funding. There is no jury, we don't pay artists fees, and there's not enough programming (even though we have over 320 artists making art for everyone watch). We provide an opportunity to sell art work which makes us too commercial for grants. We did receive a little seed money early on but that required such laborious paperwork. We had to hire a coordinator which diluted the money used to promote the festival. I did that for three years and gave up rather than risk straying away from our core event. The focus is on art-making, promoting artists and encouraging people to buy original art made by local artists. If artists are successful, they will keep coming back and the festival will be maintained.'



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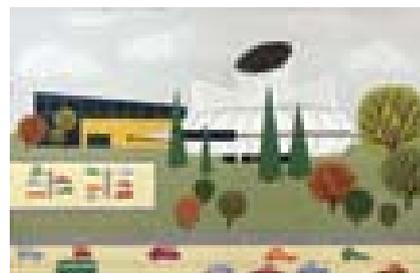
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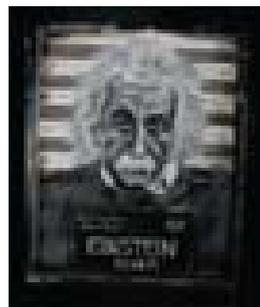
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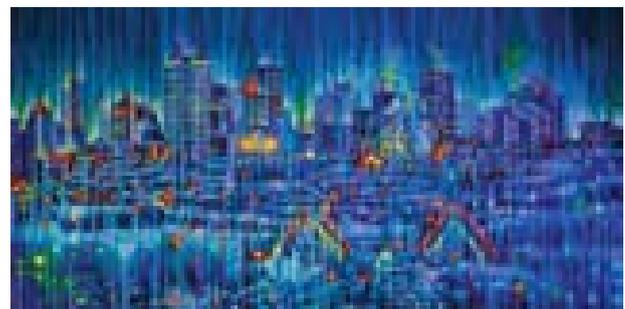
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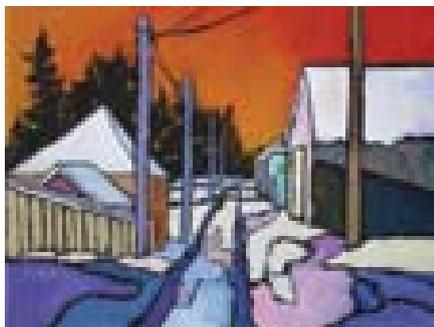
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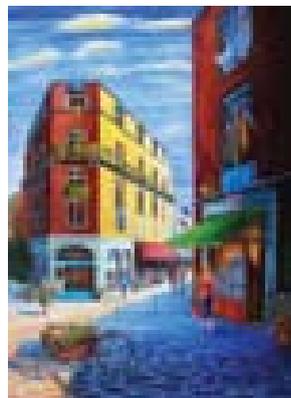
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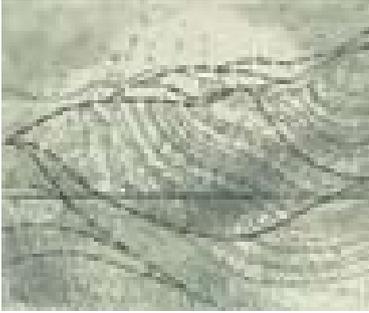
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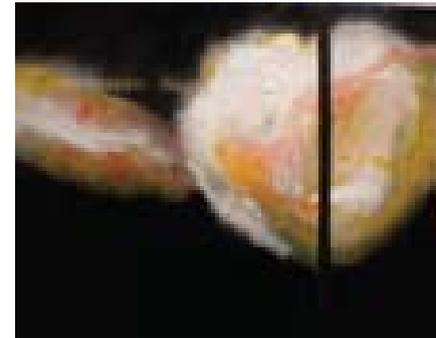
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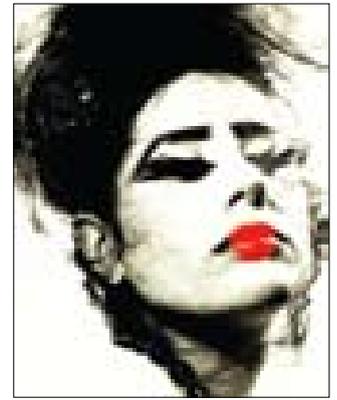
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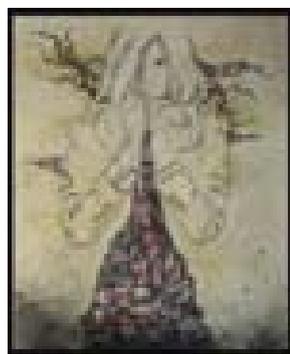
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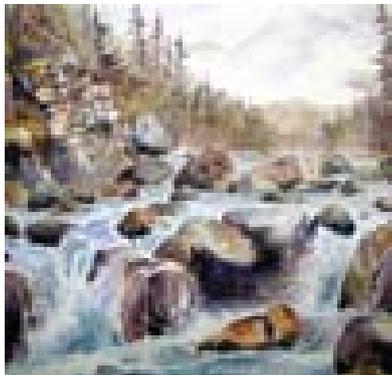
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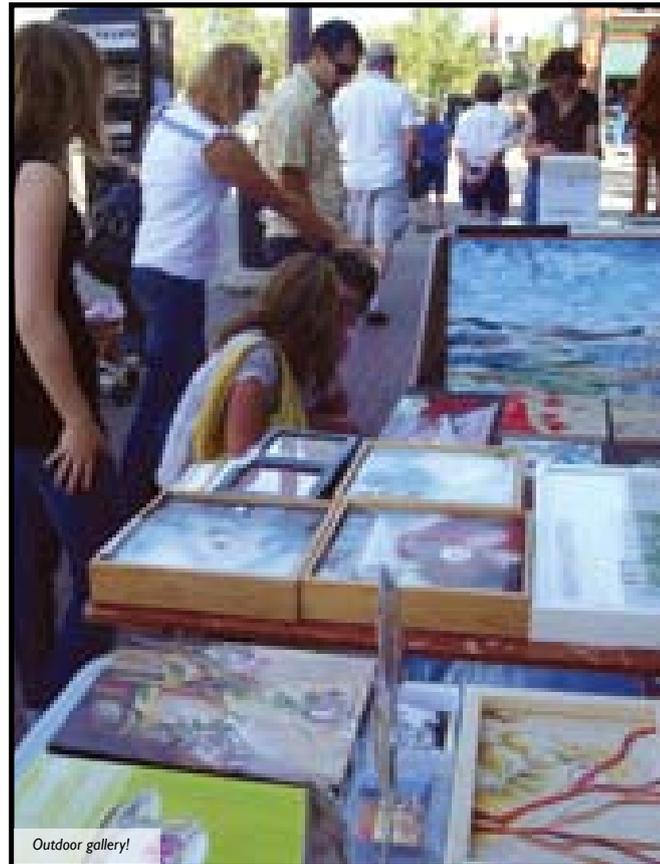
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PHOTOS: Kim Fjordbotten



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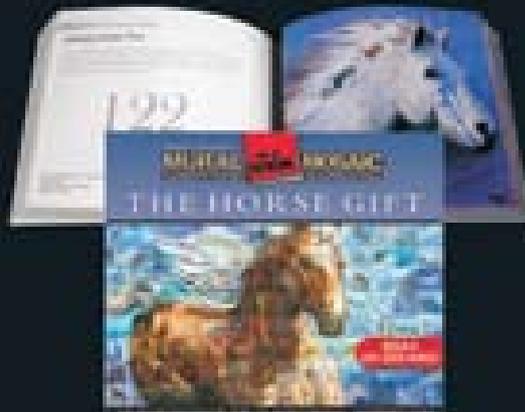
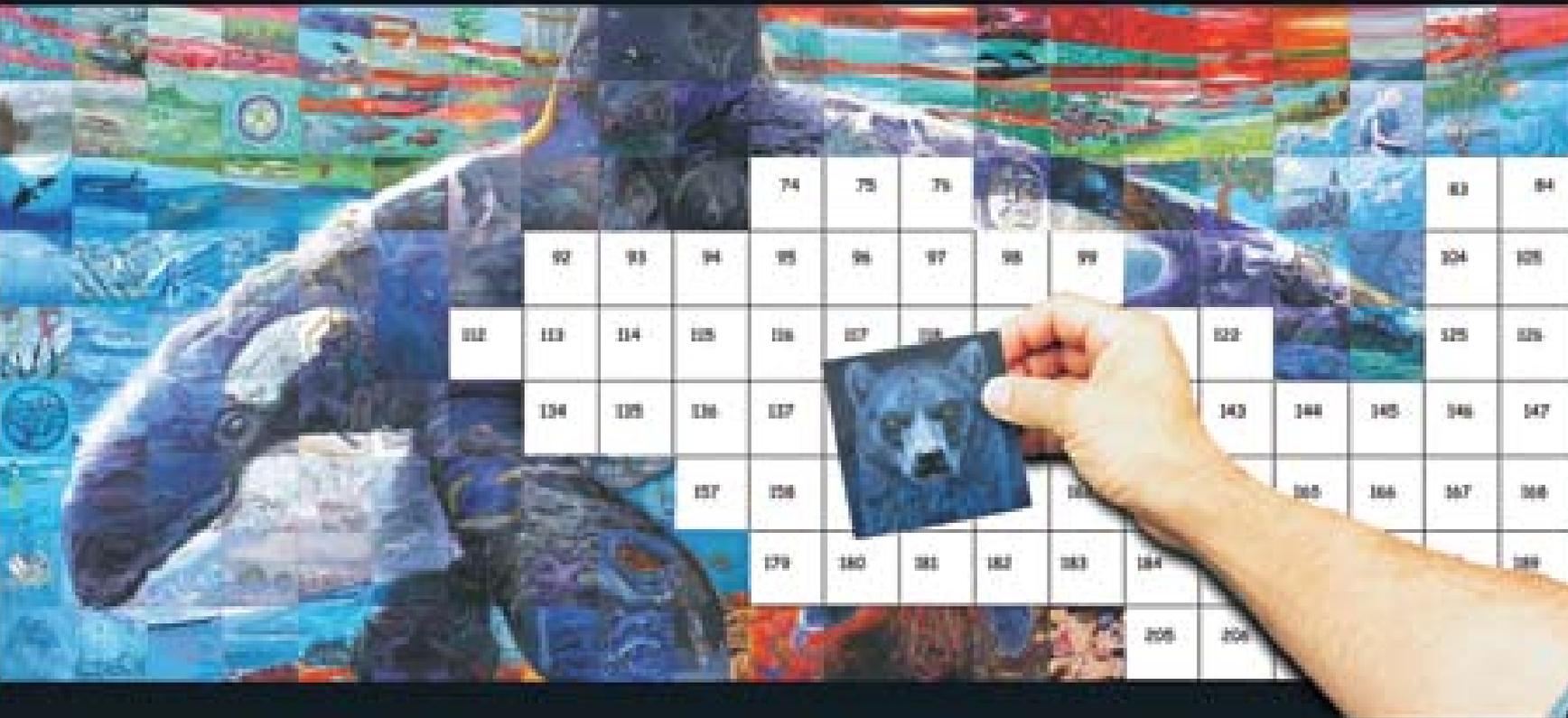


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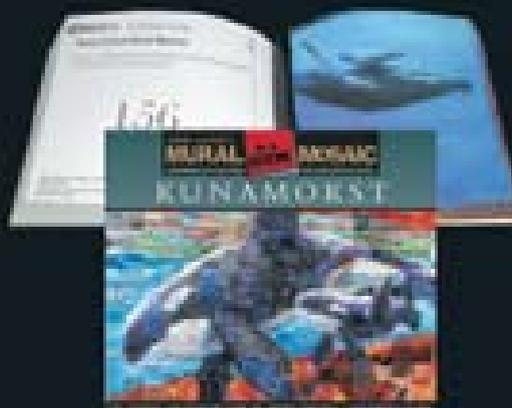


OKSANA ZHELISKO

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## MONIKA DERY

Hinton, AB

Always rushing towards new projects and artistic endeavours, Monika Dery is now part of a group of encaustic artists called "Wimmin in Wax", based out of Edmonton and touring Alberta for the next 2 years. She is a member of the Intl. Encaustic Association but Batik still factors prominently in her oeuvre.

Monika recently completed advanced encaustic workshops in Phoenix, AZ and has renewed her interest in art pottery and glass there as well. She works from both her Hinton and Festival Ranch studios to produce unique art for clients around the world.

[www.onceinabluemoon.ca](http://www.onceinabluemoon.ca)  
[monika@onceinabluemoon.ca](mailto:monika@onceinabluemoon.ca)



*Tree of Life, Encaustic, 12" x 12"*



## GEORGE KUBAC

Edmonton, AB

Born in Czechoslovakia, George escaped from communist regime in 1968 after Soviet armies invaded the country and emigrated to Canada. He started to draw and paint more intensively in 1974 when any spare time was left in his very demanding profession as cardiologist. He learned his art from well known Czech and Canadian artists (Machan, Sedlacek, Malatek, Skvaril, Cernohorsky, Hencel, Hendrick de Jager, Don Sharp) who became his constant source of knowledge and helpful criticism. He took courses at University of Alberta, at Grant MacEwan University, Edmonton Art Gallery. He studied with renowned American watercolorists Frank Webb, Toph Schink and Skip Lawrence. His work is publicly exhibited at Royal Alex. Hospital, HYS center, COMPRU.

[www.kubac.com](http://www.kubac.com)



*Tuscany, Watercolour, 30" x 50"*

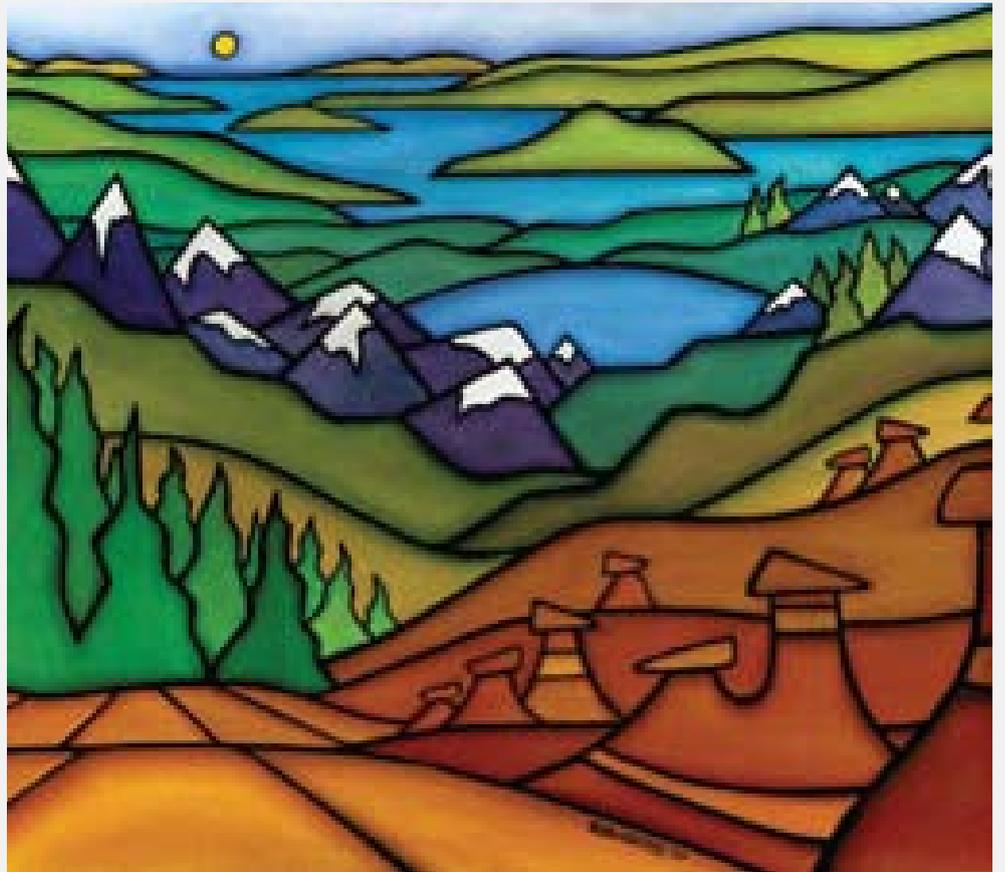


# BERNADETTE MCCORMACK

Duncan, BC

Bernadette McCormack was born and raised in Alberta, Canada. She began painting in 1992 while travelling and teaching in Mexico. In 2001, she took another teaching job in Santo Domingo that further influenced the primitive style of her paintings. She attributes her bold colours and strong lines to the inspiration of those warm countries.

Bernadette currently lives in Duncan, BC and draws inspiration from the beautiful landscape of the Canadian West Coast. She returns to Alberta every year for art shows and can always be found on Sir Winston Churchill Square during the Taste of Edmonton with a group of artists from NOA.



Canada West, Acrylic on Canvas, 14" x 18"

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**PHIL ALAIN**

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Ph: 780-718-7635



*Standing Tall, Acrylic, 24" x 48"*



Phil Alain's work is inspired by the people around him. His production of over 150 arts events ranging from concerts to art exhibits in the past 13 years has directly influenced the subject matters within his work. His faceless characters allow the viewer to place themselves into the piece and become one with the painting through their own visualization.

# KAREN BISHOP

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*Two Old Barns Near Drumheller, Watercolour, 22" x 22"*



Karen was born in England and moved to Canada in 1992. When she first arrived she took art classes while waiting for papers. In 2002, after a few years juggling painting with parental responsibilities, she graduated from the University of Alberta's Extension centre with a Fine Arts certificate. Since 2007 she has been pursuing art full time and has won several awards including the Graham Flatt award for Best Emerging Artist in 2009. She is a member of many art groups including Night of Artists, SWCA, VAAA and ASA. She primarily paint in watercolours although recently has been dabbling in acrylic.

# ERIN BOAKE

Ponoka, AB

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*Flip, Oil and Acrylic on Canvas, 36" x 48"*



Since graduating from Alberta College of Art and Design, Erin Boake has spent a good part of her artistic career traveling and working in different parts of Canada and the world. Erin has been exhibiting her work throughout Alberta, BC and the North, and had works on display at the Agora Gallery in New York City. Erin has been teaching art for several years, and recently was the drawing instructor at the Nunavut Arctic College in Iqaluit, Nunavut. Erin is currently living and working in the small town of Ponoka.

# SANDY BORNIA

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*Expectation, Oil, 16" x 20"*



Sandy Borna grew up in rural Alberta and displayed a talent for drawing and painting at a very young age. Combined with a life-long passion for horses, she has become a masterful painter of equine subjects, using her talents to evoke light, movement, and emotion. She equally loves painting portraits of children while capturing their innocence and playfulness. She is predominantly self-taught, and paints in the old master style with transparent oil in multiple layers. Her commission works are in private collections in the United States and western Canada.

# CAITLIN CRAWSHAW

Edmonton, AB

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*Girl without a name, Acrylic on Canvas, 14" x 28"*



Caitlin Crawshaw uses acrylic paint and canvas to visually explore the world around her. Her work ranges from the figurative to the abstract, and often examines themes of femininity, spirituality and identity.

Although an artist since childhood, Caitlin initially pursued a career as a freelance journalist. In the last few years she's returned to art and is thrilled to now divide her time between art, writing, and graduate studies. This creative balance has allowed Caitlin's artistic practice to flourish.

Art collectors can purchase prints online at [www.caitlincrawshaw.imagekind.com](http://www.caitlincrawshaw.imagekind.com), or purchase originals through the artist.

# BONNIE ELLERBECK

Edmonton, AB

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*The Dancers, Oil*



Bonnie Ellerbeck, an Edmonton resident, studied drawing and painting in adult life. She finds her inspiration in portraying the human form and portraiture. Due to earlier training in anatomy and kinestheology, she particularly enjoys attempting to capture movement, emotion and light. She paints realistically in the old master style with semi transparent oils and glazes in multiple layers. Her work is displayed in private collections in several Canadian cities and has been shown in galleries in Edmonton.

**ELANA GOODFELLOW**

Calgary, AB

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*If a clod be washed away by the sea, we are the less, Oil on Linen, 36" x 22"*



*"In my art, I explore our connections to each other and the reality of our sameness. My hope is that those who view my art, will walk away with a greater sense of what we all share."*

Elana's work is informed by the concept of Other and how it manifests in contemporary society. She uses oversized images to create an intimacy between viewer and subject in order to remove preconceptions and show commonalities. She paints in the academic tradition and has studied with Izabella Orzelski-Konikowski and at the Academy of Realist Art in Toronto. Her work is found in collections around the world.

# DARLENE HILDEBRANDT

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ABOVE: Dot's Diner, Photograph on Aluminum, Framed 24" x 36"    BELOW: Dawg House, Photograph



A professional photographer for over 23 years, Darlene strives to give viewers a chance to experience far away places in a new way, giving them a better understanding of the world. Her images are lively and inviting, adding spice to almost any home or office décor. Through personal consultations, Darlene is able to help clients select from literally thousands of images for their specific space. From an old window in the New Orleans French Quarter, to a stunning beach in Thailand, or the mountain people high in the Peruvian Andes, she has a wide range of subjects to please even the most discriminating art collector.

# SAEED HOJJATI

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 Ph: 780-266-5076 (manager)



*The Rendezvous, Oil on Canvas, 16" x 20"*



Born in 1963 in a south eastern town in Iran, Saeed Hojjati is the oldest of five children. His adventurous and passionate spirit brought him to Canada to build a better life. Saeed is a self taught artist and along the way sought opportunity to learn from some great artists. His paintings reflect the great beauty and diversity of our world. Through oil Saeed captures the beauty of color and the experience. His method of using color with his detailed brushstrokes in his paintings are widely admired.

His work can be found displayed in galleries across North America, retail environments, festivals, and private and public shows. His art is collected from those across North America to the United Kingdom.

# BONNIE HOOD

Onoway, AB

[www.julescreations.com](http://www.julescreations.com)



*Toad, Acrylic on Canvas, 14" x 28"*



Bonnie is a rural Alberta artist residing in Onoway. She has always been "crafty" working in the floral industry as a designer and continuing to progress in her silver smithing techniques. In recent years after becoming involved with NOA she has developed her abilities and devoted time to painting. Working in acrylic she takes inspiration from the world around her and often focuses on subjects of nature. Though she strives for realism she intentionally enhances color in foreground. Please visit her web site at [www.julescreations.com](http://www.julescreations.com).

# TAMARA HUBBARD

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Ph: 780-245-1975



*Tangerine Sky, Oil on Canvas, 16" x 20"*



Tamara Hubbard emerged as an artist from the interior of British Columbia. Tamara's love of history, literature, world culture, and nature are ever-present in her subject matter. She cites her artistic influences as Gustav Klimt, John Waterhouse, Vincent Van Gogh, and the Group of Seven. Full of colour and texture, her art is highly impressionistic.

# MARILYNN JEFFERY

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*Winter Ice, Oil, 30" x 30"*



Marilynn has always been interested in art and began painting in 2002. She is an oil painter who uses the techniques of the "Old Masters". Her inspiration is the process of painting; attempting to get the feeling of the paint along with brush strokes to emphasize direction and create a mood. Marilyn wishes to create paintings that impact emotionally on the viewer.

# MARY LYNN LAWRENCE

Beaumont, AB

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*Walking in the Rain, Acrylic, 18" x 24"*



A self taught artist, Mary Lynn seriously studies art forms including painting in oils, watercolors, acrylic, pastels, drawing in charcoal and experimenting in multimedia projects. Lately, Mary Lynn had been creating large abstract pieces, some as large as 60" x 72", mostly on a commission basis. Mary Lynn loves exploring with textures, shapes and colors to create a contemporary look in her art work and she is always evolving. Her ideas come from within and are inspired by nature and the world around her. She tries to create a feeling with depth, vivid color and a touch of sparkle. Her method of layering, using brush and palette knife creates diversity in texture. Mary Lynn's passion can be felt when viewing her abstract art and each person interprets the powerful images differently.

# TRENTON THOMAS LEACH

Red Deer, AB

alteredera@gmail.com | Ph: 403-755-1548



*Steely Blues, Stained Glass and Steel, 15" x 36"*



Trenton Thomas Leach is a metal and glass sculptor that uses light to enhance the mesmerizing tendencies of his work. His latest designs are inspired from a visit to a Mexican market where the colours and smells can be intoxicating. In the market he happened upon a bag of marbles which influenced his current work.

Trenton has been an artist for over ten years. He enjoys the challenges of working with metal and glass, always finding new ways to present these mediums. He lives in Red Deer where he has just completed his first public sculpture.

# DENISE ANN LEFEBVRE

Edmonton, AB

[www.deniselefebvre.com](http://www.deniselefebvre.com) | Ph: 780-908-3436



*Corset, Oil, 24" x 30"*



Denise was born in Edmonton in 1970 and has been painting in oils and acrylics for over 20 years, specializing in portraits in oil. She has built a career as a free-lance artist creating murals and chalkboard menus for several Canadian companies. However, her passion lies in painting figures and faces, especially women. She graduated from the Alberta College of Art and Design in the early 90's and after travelling for a few years she made Edmonton her home once again.

# LISA LUKAN

Widewater, AB

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*A new beginning, Acrylic, 20" x 24"*



Lisa Lukan, a self-taught artist from Northern Alberta is inspired by the things that we see everyday. She is currently developing some new techniques, and the style of her work is taking on a new form. Her work can be found in homes and offices throughout Canada and internationally.

# CATHERINE MARCHAND

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*mélodie de l'amour, Oil, 20" x 24"*



Catherine loves the challenge of portrait painting. She works exclusively in oils capturing the likeness of her subjects with bold brush strokes and lots of color. Her goal is to create a piece of art, not a mere copy of a photo and this requires drawing on her emotions to reveal a sense of life in her work. Her studio is in Spruce Grove Alberta and she is currently accepting commissions.

# KRISTINE MCGUINTY

Peace River, AB

mc\_guinty@hotmail.com



*Pure Soul, Acrylic, 24" x 36"*



Kristine McGuinty is a Peace River artist. She is exploring abstract painting using mixed mediums like moulding paste, cheesecloth, handmade papers, newsprint, wax, transfers, photography etc. As the piece evolves she says there is an ongoing dialog between herself and the work. She relies on the different relationships between colour, composition, line and texture to tell a story. There is so much opportunity for self expression in creating abstracts. The textures involved in mixed mediums are begging to be touched and she says she welcomes it. "It's wonderful to see someone reach out to touch the surface of a finished piece because now the painting is communicating with the viewer." Kristine has been running her own photography business for 15 years in Peace River.

# KAREN PICKERING

Barrhead, AB

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Karen\_1867@telus.net

Ph: 780-674-6600



*Balance, Digital Photography*



Karen Pickering is always looking for unique and creative ways to photograph her subjects... whether it be a delicate raindrop on a leaf, a tranquil sunset, or a blushing bride on her wedding day... she endeavors to truly capture the essence of that special moment. Karen is not afraid to push the boundaries and experiment with various elements of design in her photography... fusing art with nature, her images are both contemporary and artistic.

# IGOR POSTASH

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Ph: 780-473-2467



*Clown's Birthday, Acrylic on Board, 36" x 40"*



Igor Postash's art offers a slice of life that often prompts laughter, even in the quiet confines of an art gallery. His work is reminiscent of iconic or religious painters from centuries past, but his scenes are taken from everyday life, spiced up with an oddball cast of characters and settings. His main themes are love, work and pleasurable relaxation, and his tongue-in-cheek style is well suited to the May-December couples that often populate his paintings.

## CHRIS RILEY

Spruce Grove, AB

[www.rileyart.com](http://www.rileyart.com)  
[chris@rileyart.com](mailto:chris@rileyart.com)



*Cowboy Drum Roll, Acrylic on Canvas, 30" x 60"*



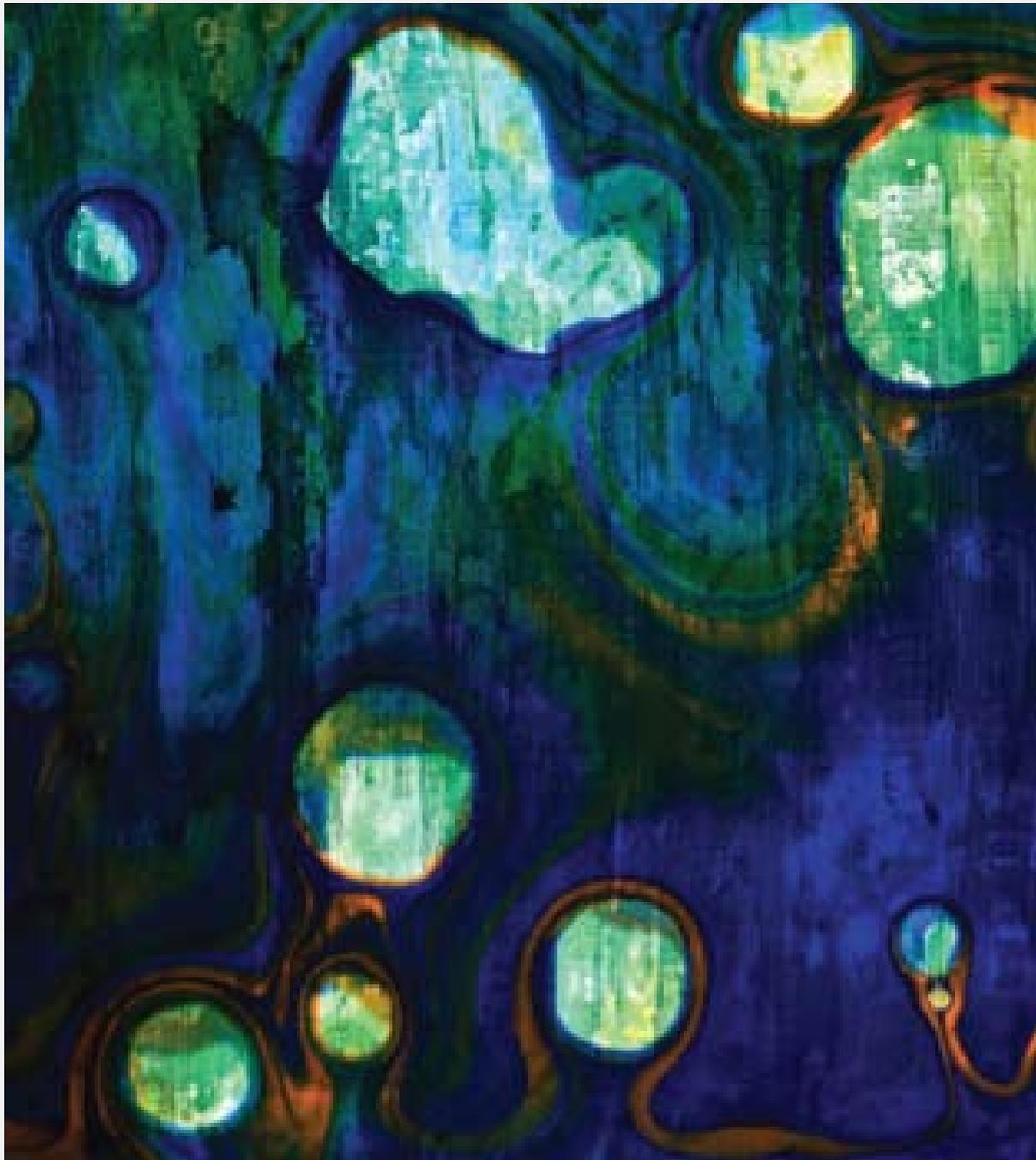
Chris Riley is a chronic observer whose love of color and drama bring a unique intensity to her paintings. She is committed to a life of exploring and creating images that push the traditional boundaries and strives to leave the viewer with a sense of discovery. Chris is represented by Swirl Fine Art in Calgary and an active member of the Federation of Canadian Artists. She is Adco Power's NWT Artist of the Year for 2011. Her work can be seen in Corporations and Universities across Canada. New works, current exhibitions and galleries can be found on her website [www.rileyart.com](http://www.rileyart.com)

# RICK ROGERS

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*Rising Through, Acrylic and Acrylic Skin on Cradled Wood Panel, 18" x 18" x 3"*



In his studio, Rick Rogers is scientist and artist. Working with acrylic paint and mediums, he enjoys experimenting with the physical and chemical properties of the materials as much as he enjoys creating images. The resulting techniques are combined with direct painting to create compelling abstract compositions. The surfaces of his work are often very transparent and luminous, reminiscent of stained glass, an effect achieved through the creation of acrylic skins. Rick has been experimenting with and developing these acrylic techniques for the past three years, and feels there is no end in sight for the versatility of acrylic paints and mediums.

# JUSTINA B SMITH

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*Building abstract #16: the battery, St. John's NL, Mixed Media on Canvas, 20" x 24"*



Justina has been painting and traveling about Canada for the past 11 years now. Her works can be found all across Canada, as can her subject matter. From historical buildings in southern Alberta to the totem poles in Haida Gwaii, from sprawling towns in Newfoundland and all the way to the trees that grow on the Canadian shield in the NWT, her brush and mixed media works capture the diverse beauty of whatever she is putting onto the canvas.

# ANGELA STADLWIESER-SMITH

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*Secrets, Acrylic on Canvas, 11" x 14"*



Angela Stadlwieser-Smith was born in St Albert, Alberta on May 18, 1980 and grew up in a remote northern Cree community. She studied Fine Arts specializing in painting at the University of Alberta. Currently working as a Civil Engineering Technologist, Angela's young daughter has inspired her to revive her artistic path. Angela has, of late, shown her work locally at the Harcourt House Art Centre, Whyte Avenue Art Walk, Kaleido Festival, Deep Freeze Festival and with the Night of Artists. Angela's work tends to be expressionistic, as she allows her instincts to guide her work.

# TAMMY TAYLOR

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*A Loving Union, Oil on Canvas, 30" x 40"*



Tammy Taylor is a self taught artist with a passion for wildlife. Inspired by the beauty of all God's creations, she strives to achieve life like images of her subjects in their natural environment. Along with her husband and their four children, Tammy resides in the Rich Valley, AB. area , not far from where she was raised. Their farm and lifestyle offer many opportunities for her to portray all that she knows and loves.

# OKSANA ZHELISKO

Edmonton, AB

[www.zheliskoart.com](http://www.zheliskoart.com)



*Eternal Dance, Oil on Canvas, 15" x 30"*



Oksana was born and raised in the city of L'viv in western Ukraine. It is a city with deep historical roots and a natural melting pot of various cultures that have all left their marks on its architecture. It is a stimulating epicentre for any and all artists. Oksana first graduated from the Independent School of Fine Arts in L'viv. After finishing high school, there was no doubt in her mind as for choosing her profession. In 1996 she entered the L'viv State College of Decorative & Applied Arts named after Ivan Trush and graduated in 2001 with a B.F.A. That same year she held her first solo exhibition in the Ivan Franko University Gallery. In 2001 Oksana followed her heart (husband Curtis) and moved to Canada (Edmonton)

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Centre: Noel Johnson, Steve Van Kampen, Colleen Brown, Lucas Chaisson,  
Bottom: The Wheat Pool



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