

arteast news

Volume 15, Issue 4
October 2008

TREES

BY BERNARD POIRIER

Probably the most intriguing and inspiring subject for a work of art is that a tree is a piece of art in itself, judging by the words of the American poet, journalist and lecturer Joyce Kilmer, in his poem of the same name. As a parenthesis, Kilmer was born in 1886 and died at the second battle of Marne in 1918, a Sergeant in the 165 U.S. Infantry Regiment.

Many are not aware of the unique role that trees play in nature, but the works that hung in the Gloucester Gallery during the September exhibition were a testimony to that role—nature's air filters. These were the very words uttered by the guest speaker Melissa Nisbett of Communications and Marketing for Trees Canada, introduced by Joyce Buckley following the opening address by our President Joy Rutherford.

The variety of representations is endless not only through the medium used by artists, but because of the vast range of colors provided through the seasons. And then trees have their shapes providing

artists with yet another venue to express a thought or a feeling. The latter was well represented in the September exhibition and I just wish I could describe each and every one of them.

I would also like to give credit to each artist but most unfortunately space is limited. There is no doubt that in the space of thirty days, all members of Arteast and their friends could spend a few moments to look at what is hanging and some of those moments would turn to maybe an hour or so.

As a starter, there are the seasons, particularly the Canadian Fall with the red maples, some flaming, and yellow birches highlighted by evergreens with their own variations of greens in cedars, firs, spruce, pines. Winter highlights bare branches against a another coniferous background with the traditional streams in various states of frost. Then on to Spring with the awakening of nature and



the budding trees, just like budding artists, growing to fulfill a unique role. Here it is the rushing rapids and the awakening of dormant roots that bring nature to the fore, all to be followed by the tranquil days of summer so well expressed by passages, tunnels, and trails in forests often set off with rainbows of floral colors. Each leaf would seem to have a word or thought of its own and if I seem to wax poetic one needs only to read Kilmer, who was so right when he wrote that "Only God can make a tree".

Many contemporaries denigrated his work as simple, overly sentimental and too traditional. As artists we also are sentimental and the artwork that hung at the Gloucester Gallery echoed each and every line. ◀

See photos on Page 6



Grow with Art/L'art en herbe meetings

are held at 7:30 PM on the 4th Tuesday of each month, except July, August and December at the North Gloucester Public Library, 2036 Ogilvie Rd.

October 28

Painting with the Oriental Brush, by Rowena Tolson, instructor with Nepean Fine Arts League

November 25

Annual Awards Presentation and Potluck Dinner

December

No meeting. Happy Holidays!

January 27

AGM and presentation on New Trends in Mixed Media by Dipna Horra

Executive Meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the Tuesday of the week preceding General Meetings. Any member who wishes to contribute is invited to participate. Please contact Joy Rutherford if you wish to attend and be included on the agenda.

ABOUT ARTEAST

Arteast is a highly active not-for-profit visual arts organization in Eastern Ontario.

Membership is open to artists, both amateur and professional, and all who enjoy and want to participate in the visual arts.

Standard Membership \$30
Contributing Membership \$80.

Activities and opportunities include:

- ◆ Regular monthly meetings with guest speakers/demonstrations
- ◆ Free exhibition space at local libraries
- ◆ Regular Gloucester Art Gallery exhibitions
- ◆ Annual Art and Photo Competition

- ◆ Budding Artists' Exhibition
- ◆ Quarterly newsletter
- ◆ Promotion and advertising opportunities
- ◆ Networking opportunities
- ◆ Social events
- ◆ Opportunities to grow and develop as an artist

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INFORMATION AND PROMOTION AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

arteast news

is published 4 times a year, in mid January, April, July and October. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the preceding month. Articles, member notices and news items are always welcome.

E-mail your information/articles to:
Bernard Poirier bep-cp@magma.ca



The Grow with Art/L'art en herbe logo was designed by Elena Deroche.

Arteast Website:
www.arteastottawa.com



Arteast gratefully acknowledges the support of the City of Ottawa.

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE BY JOY RUTHERFORD

I approach September with renewed energy and hope. As a retired educator, I continue to set goals for myself in September. Fitness goals, music goals, volunteer activity goals and new learning's are areas upon which I try to focus. Reality strikes in October and those goals become realigned and redefined. By the time you receive this newsletter in October, if you are goal setters, I am sure that many of you will have set and reset your Autumn 2008 goals.

Similarly, Arteast members and the executive have taken a look at goal setting for Arteast. Focus groups and appreciative inquiry sessions were conducted over the past few years. In August 2008, the executive conducted an all day Think Tank Session in which we did some planning for the future of Arteast.

Arteast's Goals for the next few years are to:

1. Improve long term stability and strengthen capacity to fulfill our mission and our goals.
2. Continue to encourage members to take on executive positions
3. Realign and clarify executive position portfolios to reflect current needs.

4. Continue community outreach to Queenswood Villa and reintroduce a school project.

5. Continue professional development: monthly meetings with effective professional development.

6. Redefine the communications portfolio area.

We are pleased to share with you that Arteast has been given wall space in the Shenkman Art Centre for an ongoing display of art. Our wall is named "Arteast Promenade". The City of Ottawa website states that "The Shenkman Arts Centre is anticipated to become home to approximately 50 not-for-profit arts organizations, allowing them more opportunity to work together and make the most of their talents and efforts inside this combined facility. Please visit their website to learn more about the Shenkman Centre.

We also thank Mike Taylor for his work as website administrator. Mike has resigned as website administrator. We congratulate Mike in his new position as Arts Programmer at the Shenkman Centre.

We are very pleased to welcome two new executive members: Mary Ann

Varley is the new Grow with Art Coordinator and Joyce Buckley is the new Gloucester Gallery Coordinator. Some of our executive members have taken on new roles and our thanks is extended to them.

Marion Hall is one of the new Coordinators for the Arteast Promenade. We also welcome Bernard Poirier as the volunteer editor for the Arteast News. As well, we are pleased to welcome Jay Dunn as our new website administrator.

Over the last few years, we have been very, very fortunate to have the services of Susan Ashbrook as our Newsletter Editor. Susan will no longer be serving as Arteast Newsletter Editor. We are very grateful for all that Susan has contributed to Arteast and I know that you will join the Arteast Executive and myself in extending our thanks to Susan for her work to produce such a fine Newsletter.

Lastly, I extend my sincere thanks to the executive for continuing to dedicate so much of their time and energy to Arteast and I encourage you, our members, to come forward and offer your services. ☞

GROW WITH ART BY MARION HALL

The Grow with Art team would like to welcome two new coordinators, Mary Ann Varley and Agnes Davis. Mary Ann has kindly agreed to take on the role of Lead Program Coordinator. This allows Marion Hall to move to the Shenkman transition team to help Leslie Dorofi develop policies and procedures for Promenade Arteast. Many thanks to Mary Ann and Agnes for their willing participation on the Grow with Art team. They are joining Robert McAlpine, Carol Steinberg and Beata Jakubek who are continuing to serve as Program Coordinators.

This issue of the newsletter contains your copy of the 2008-09 Grow with

Art brochure, outlining our monthly meeting schedule with the professional development opportunities we have planned for this year. Many thanks to Beata Jakubek, Helena Guzman-Field and Pat Fish for pulling this brochure together so beautifully. The City of Ottawa has kindly distributed these brochures to all its kiosks and community centres, as well as to all libraries in the City.

In December and January, Arteast will be developing its grant application to the City of Ottawa for funding for the Grow with Art program. In the application, we need to specify the topics we are

proposing to cover at our monthly meetings in 2009-10. If you have any suggestions for topics you would like Grow with Art to address, or if you know of speakers you believe would interest our members, please inform Mary Ann Varley before the end of November. She will be compiling a list of proposed Grow with Art topics for the grant-writing team.

Looking back, our June 2008 meeting was a very instructive critique night ably led by Maria Mask. Members were asked to bring an unfinished



Grow with Art - L'art en herbe

(Continued on page 4)

COLOUR IN OUR LIVES AND ARTWORKS BY BERNARD POIRIER

Little do we know to what extent colors have an effect on our lives or how we come to know about them. Not long ago I had the opportunity of scanning the pages of the Spring 2008 Healthwise Ottawa, in a doctor's office. I was surprised to note a page entitled "The Emotions of the Palette" describing the effect of various colors on what I would call the psyche of individuals. Equally surprising were the comments of fellow Arteasterners who had learned of this phenomenon elsewhere.

More common are examples such as "feeling blue" or "green with envy" or again "seeing red." One can recall as being "yellow" as referring to cowardice and lifting one's "pinkie" and having a "black" day.

In my third, fourth and fifth articles on Perception, the effect

of light and color was presented in a different way. Here we have another example from a very different perspective, the direct provocation of emotion.

Red is very physical, can produce aggression and may stimulate hunger.

Blue may be calming or may produce sadness or fear if too dark, particularly in sky play.

Yellow is supposedly intellectual, festive but can be irritating if too bright.

Orange can be considered "spicy". It can be warm and stimulating.

Purple is considered as calming and a good "mixer" that brings out other feelings.

Green brings out a strong sense

of security and a connection with nature. A good blender.

Brown is comfortable, brings out the natural, non provocative and can even be dull.

Pink brings out the delicate feeling and can be a stress reducer.

White is austere, clean, indecisive and does not provide any warmth.

Grey is neutral, indecisive, dull and boring but it can also be calming.

Black can be very negative and strong. It controls virtually all other colors, varies their intensity and worth.

I would like to thank Healthwise Ottawa for permission to use their material. ☞

GROW WITH ART

(Continued from page 3)

painting that they were not yet happy with, and Maria helped each artist to express what they were struggling with. For each painting, Maria had many useful suggestions, as well as explanations of the principles behind her remarks; she also encouraged much worthwhile comment from the other members present. Many members commented that they learned as much from hearing ideas for resolving the struggles of others as they did from Maria's comments on their own work.

Our proposed summer field trip had to be postponed and eventually cancelled because of renovations at the Nepean Museum. Fortunately we will be able to hear Peter Adamakos in May 2009 when he comes to talk to us about his experiences in the animation business.

The fall program kicked off with our field trip to the Regional Centre of Contemporary Art in Montpelier, Quebec to see an extraordinary display of Recycl'art, art made with recycled, natural and found objects.



*Recycled creatures in Montpelier.
Photos by Carol Steinberg*



Our first monthly meeting was held at our new location, the North Gloucester library near the wave pool on Ogilvie Road, with a presentation by Micheline Joannis of Arts Ottawa East, outlining the latest developments in the visual arts in east-end Ottawa. Of special interest was the progress at the new Shenkman Arts Centre. Many thanks to Bob McAlpine for coordinating this event.

Our upcoming program has several highlights you won't want to miss. On October 28, Rowena Tolson, an instructor at the Nepean Fine Arts League, will demonstrate painting with the oriental brush. Our Annual Potluck and Awards Night is coming up on November 25. And then in the New Year, on January 27, we will have our AGM and a presentation on new trends in mixed media by Dipna Horra, a local art director, mixed media artist, teacher and CBC arts reporter.

Watch for electronic bulletins with more details. ☞

DOES YOUR EASEL HAVE TWO LEGS OR THREE? BY CARMEN DUFAULT

In any endeavour in which we participate we must ensure that all the necessary elements are present to ensure a successful outcome.

Have you ever tried to balance an easel with only two legs? You will no doubt agree that this could be difficult and not too practical.

This principle also applies in our lives as artists. We must have all the necessary elements in our artistic lives, whether it is in the visual arts, drama, dance or music. This ensures that the effort and hard work give us a good return on our investment and is as well, satisfying and fulfilling.

In my humble opinion I believe that the easel of our artistic lives must have at least three legs, if not four, for it to be fulfilling and exciting! If one of the legs is missing we will be deprived of some very important aspects of this Art world, which we have chosen to participate in.

The following should be the legs of our easels:

- (1) Study
- (2) Service
- (3) Visual Arts, Drama, Dance or Music
- (4) Reflection or Meditation

(I) First leg of our easel

Study : It is very important that we continue to learn. There is always something new out there and it is to our advantage to keep up with all the new discoveries and ideas. The human mind never stands still and neither, as artists, should we.

That is why Arteast thinks it is imperative that it should offer continued education on a regular basis through our monthly Grow with Art program . As members of Arteast we should never miss a meeting of Grow with Art . Grow with Art also offers us wonderful field trips to expand our horizons and permit us to come into contact with different and varied aspects of Art.

(II) Second leg of our easel

Service: This can also be called volunteering.

Our actions of painting, acting or playing an instrument are the central point of our art.

But when we volunteer, we come out of our shells. We learn, we evolve and we understand other aspects of our Art vital to our success such as the correct way of hanging art, what jurors look for in a painting. It inspires us to improve, innovate and create.

If we paint and we never show our Art, what's the use? Beauty must be shared with all who surrounds us.

What Arteast proposes to us as an association is the opportunity to show our art, to work with others, share our knowledge and learn from others. We meet other artists and can exchange new ideas and educate ourselves. This is possible, through our exhibitions for the elderly in our outreach programs with Queenswood Villa and for the public in local libraries. People who otherwise would not have the opportunity to see real art, can now do so and we grow as artists. At the same time we are helping Arteast to be a success and innovate even more in order to serve us, the members.

(III) Third leg of our easel

Art itself: Our art is the heart of our passion. Yes, we must be passionate about it ! In this busy world we must allow ourselves the time to do it. Let us reserve a time in the day or a day in the week which is strictly for our art. We deserve it and we should bite into it.

Again it is always a question of balance in our lives. Let us remember that, we are unique, our art is unique!

Let us not come to a stage and have to say "Why did I not paint more ? Why did I not participate more?"

(IV) Fourth leg of our easel

Reflection or meditation : This is an aspect tremendously neglected in our society which is forcing us to live at such a fast pace.

We should take time to meditate and think about our art, on the beauty that surrounds us, be it in nature or in the people, the members of our families or in the great beyond. This will surely be reflected in our art.

Hopefully, we shall feel the need to express ourselves in our own unique way, as each of us is precious, each one of us is a wonder!!!! ☞



IN MEMORIUM WENDA MCKENZIE

It is with much sadness that we learned that Wenda McKenzie passed away on Sunday July 13th.

Wenda joined Arteast a few years ago when she entered artwork in a Budding Artist exhibition. Over the course of the past couple of years, Wenda often volunteered for the newsletter mailing. In spite of ongoing treatments, she rarely mentioned her illness and carried on with remarkable grace and spirit.

Wenda's landscape watercolours spoke of her love of nature and her deep spirit. Her magical way with the brush left us wanting to learn more of the places she so loved. One such place was Georgian Bay.

She will be greatly missed by all of us who enjoyed her warm and gentle soul.

Thank you to Past President , Suzanne Beaulieu, for these words of remembrance in honour of Wenda. We extend our sympathy and prayers to Wenda's family. ☞

TREES PHOTOS BY CHARLES FROST



TOP DRAWERS

BY MARION HALL

More than 350 items of underwear and thousands of dollars were collected for the purchase of new underwear for people in Ottawa shelters thanks to the generosity of local citizens, artists, and supporters.

Over 50 area artists contributed over 160 underwear-themed artworks to the "Top Drawers" fundraiser on Sept. 26-28. And almost 900 people came to visit the show at St. Brigid's during its 13-hour run. In fact, organizers had to send out for more artwork on Saturday because sales were so brisk.

Many thanks to the numerous Arteast members who contributed works, including Susan Pitt, Joan Crate, Ellen Desmarais, Leslie Dorofi, Maureen Rooney-Mitchell, Ted Johnston, Toni Forsythe, Sylvia Klein, Elizabeth Twiss, Carol Steinberg and Marion Hall. Thanks also to Laurie Hemmings who served on the jury, and congratulations to Toni Forsythe for capturing an "Order of the Golden Garter" award. ☪

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU BY JOYCE BUCKLEY

As I write this, it is a beautiful September afternoon, however, it will be well into the cool Autumn days by the time you receive this newsletter.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of the volunteers who contributed to making the 'Trees' exhibit such a success. From the take-in to the opening vernissage, without the help and commitment of people such as you, we would not have exhibits such as this.

We are grateful to the following people: Thelma Schjerning for her care in handling all of the entries; Herb Van der Staay, whom we missed at the opening, for all his relentless ups and down the ladder on hanging day; Bernard Poirier in accepting the task of writing an article and other duties on take-in; to Mike Taylor for putting together our invitation and for accommodating us in the hanging of 36 pieces of artwork rather than the 30 normally hung.

I also want to take this opportunity to pass on a special thank you to Suzanne Beaulieu, former Arteast Gloucester Gallery Coordinator, for all her dedication and her organizing all the behind scenes work for the 'Trees' exhibit up to the take-in. I extend a great tribute to Laurie Hemmings, who undertook to personally telephone every entrant with the judging results, as well as taking on other volunteer tasks.

Lastly, I thank Lynda Mathieson for all her help and support in guiding me through my first role as Coordinator for Arteast, Gloucester Gallery.

To all of you, THANK YOU! ☞

NEW MEMBER EVENT THIS FALL

An invitation for new members to come together on October 28th at 6:30 prior to the Grow with Art event. This facilitated informal gathering will help us get to know who you are, what you would like from Arteast as well as answer any questions you might have. For more information, contact Suzanne Beaulieu at 613-733-5176 or sbeaulieu@cyberus.ca.

Bienvenue aux nouveaux membres. Venez partager avec nous le 28 octobre. ☞

NEXT JURIED EXHIBITION AT THE GLOUCESTER GALLERY

The theme for the Spring 2009 exhibition is 'Hidden Gems'. Visual interpretations of the Ottawa/Outaouais region's best kept secrets. Special places that only locals may know. Hidden spots where plein air artists meet to capture the first thaw, the setting sun or a spring bud.

This will be the last Arteast exhibit to be held at the current Gloucester Gallery location before its move to the new Shenkman Art Centre scheduled to open in May of 2009.

Take in for jurying will be at the North Gloucester Library on Saturday, February 7th from 11:00 a.m. to noon so mark your calendar. Forms for this exhibit will be included in the January 2009 newsletter and will also be available on our website.

We are always looking for volunteers in advance for the 'take in' as well as someone to design the invitation for the website. Please contact Joyce Buckley at 'buckleyj@sympatico.ca or Lynda Mathieson at 'lyndamathieson@yahoo.com if you are interested in these, or any other, responsibilities. ☞

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NOTICES

BLACKBURN HAMLET LIBRARY

199 Glen Park Drive

Oct/Nov – **Blackburn Art Group**
 Dec/Jan – **Vacant**
 Feb/Mar – **Vacant**

There is space for 11 paintings.
 For information please contact:
 Lynda Mathieson 613-590-7609
 lyndamathieson@yahoo.com
 Thelma Schjerning 613-834-9846

GLOUCESTER GALLERY

M (Peggy) Hughes: *Scratching the Surface Too – Oct 2 to 28*
Rosemary Leach: *Cluttered Counters – Oct 30 to Dec 2*
Karen Goetzinger: *City of Dreams – Dec 4 to Jan 13*
Mary Lee Laing: *Glitterstorm – Jan 15 to Feb 17*
 255 Centrum Blvd
 Info: 613-580-2424 ext 29288

THE BLACKBURN ART GROUP

meets every second Thursday from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm in the Blackburn Community Centre at 190 Glen Park Drive. The format is casual and everyone works in the medium of their choice. Please join us.

Info: Dwain Sykes 613-745-6193
 d8sykes@mondenet.com

NORTH GLOUCESTER LIBRARY

2036 Ogilvie Road

The next changeover takes place on Nov 4 between 10:00 a.m. and noon. Every member is welcome to submit their work for this opportunity to exhibit (and sell) in a well-frequented public space.
 For information please contact:
 Ted Johnston 613-748-0346
 ej407@ncf.ca

CUMBERLAND GALLERY

Arts Ottawa East: *Selections 2008 – Oct 2 to 28*
Jennifer Foster: *Behind the Lines – Oct 30 to Dec 2*
Tarek Al-Zand: *Dirty Laundry – Dec 4 to Jan 13*
Mehri Abdollahi: *Uncontaminated by Technology and Modernity – Jan 15 to Feb 17*
 255 Centrum Blvd
 Info: 613-580-2424 ext 29288

27TH ANNUAL ART & PHOTO EXHIBIT 2008

This year, the event will be held at a special location. We will be exhibiting at

The Parkdale Gallery,
 229 Armstrong Street,
 Ottawa

from Saturday, October 4th to Sunday, October 26th, 2008.

If you have questions or concerns, please call
 Diane Charlebois at 613-835-4247 or
 Judy Duppa at (613)830-8161

ORLÉANS LIBRARY

1705 Orléans Blvd

2008 all exhibits: Personal vision-vision personelle
 Orleans Library changes exhibits the first Tues. of every second month between 10 and 11 AM. Next hanging: November 2008

Maureen Rooney-Mitchell 613-741-0587 highlander@allstream.net
 Mari Brown 613-884-6652 mari.andrew.brown@sympatico.ca

LOIS SIEGEL'S BASEBALL GIRLS ON DVD!

Using animation, archival stills and live-action footage, Arteast photographer and filmmaker, Lois Siegel, created this zany and affectionate feature documentary detailing the history of women's participation in the largely male-dominated world of baseball.

ID NO. 153C9195112
 List Price: \$19.95
 Order directly from the NFB or call 1-800-267-7710.

Arteast is nothing without its members... Don't forget to Renew Your Membership!

arteast Membership Form

New Renewal

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Media

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