

CONTEMPORARY
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
ARTISTS

AN EXHIBITION



Photo: Jøtte Hansen

"SQUARE MEAL", LUNAR SUEDE

IMAGES & OBJECTS IX

PEACE-LIARD



JURORS: Lynda Gammon
Keith Wallace

ARTISTS:

DUANE COULSON Toad River

◆ *Changing Times*
oil on masonite
17" x 21"

Thinking of an old trapper friend's comments, I had thought of calling this one *Parked the Dog for a Gas Hog!* Alas, even this painting portraying the forgotten dog team in favor of the skidoo is obsolete already. Today's misguided & uncaring approach to the fur trade has done tremendous harm to those who don't have the means or opportunity to defend themselves against the thoughtless rabble.

◆ *Grown Up, 1942-1992*
(50th Anniversary of Wartime Construction of Alcan Highway)
oil on masonite
15" x 24"

I like to poke around in odd places up & down the highway where, as one finds glimmers & reflections of the past history of the road, it is easy to imagine those past events happening. As the rubbish of times past slowly decays into the ground, perhaps the memory of these happenings will fade, as those who were there slowly depart.

BARNEY HODGKINSON Fort Nelson

Cold Mountains
watercolour
14" x 24"

I am a native of Vancouver Island but have lived most of my adult life in our province's north. Although I love & at times miss the coast, the north's extreme cold & vastness draw me. In my work *Cold Mountains*, & in all of my paintings, I try to show "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands", a quote from the *Book of Psalms, chapter 19, verse 1*.

DON MATTSON Dawson Creek

The Wash Bench
watercolour
26" x 34"

For the past year I have been concentrating on a collection of still life watercolours. These pieces stem from recollections of the environment of my childhood. Growing up in the rural north, I have seen great changes in the lifestyle of the people around me. In *The Wash Bench* I collected some of the discarded remnants of the washhouse where my mother did the family laundry. Remembering the smell of soap, wet wood & the shafts of light coming through the cracks in that old shed bring back a way of life which is all but forgotten.

EMILY MATTSON Rolla

◆ *Grafting a Calf*
oil on masonite
43" x 55"

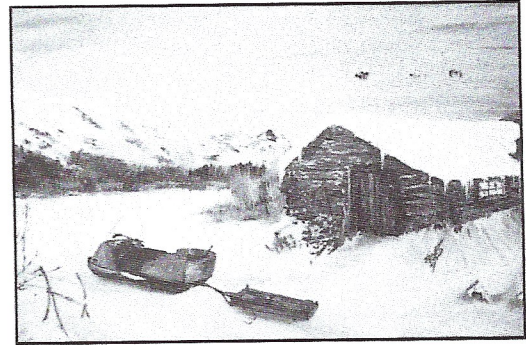
Rural living employs most of my time, whether it's out checking cows at 40° below in January or riding my horse on a cool summer evening. I am bombarded with images: country people doing mundane chores, good times at dances, cows soaking up the sun. *Grafting a Calf* is one of these images. While the orphan calf is kept dry & warm, Larry is preparing a hide to "dupe" the cow into thinking the orphan is her own, a simple but all-consuming occupation. I am fascinated with the roles we perform in society & how we strive all our lives to attain labels. The simple & non-analytical seem to be disappearing as fast as technology advances.

LAWRENCE WILLIAM MCGILLVRAY

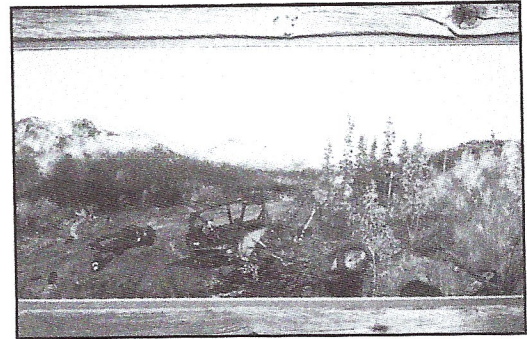
Dawson Creek

A Different Night
colour photograph
19" x 22"

In thirty years of living in this, the great Peace River area, I have seen many different things — many with no camera. Spotting this storm five miles west of



Duane Coulson, *Changing Times*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout



Duane Coulson, *Grown Up, 1942-1992*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout



Barney Hodgkinson, *Cold Mountains*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout

Dawson Creek, I located a high hill in the dark in which to photograph it. It was calm where I was, but the thunder & lightning cracks were all around me. There was sleet with arcs of light flashing across & then such black rolling clouds with such deep lit-up blue sky all around the storm. A sight to behold!

PATRICIA MIDDLETON Fort Nelson

◆ *Snow Plow*
pastel
16" x 20"

I started drawing professionally after I hung a portrait of my children on the wall. People began coming up to me with photos of their own; now I do about fifty to eighty drawings a year on commission. *Snow Plow* is a northern representative our community couldn't do without. I was raised around equipment . . . taught how to drive it & decided I'd rather teach myself how to draw it.

FREDA MURPHY Taylor

◆ *What Grows in a Garden*
oil on canvas
13" x 17"

Marketing gardens has been a way of life for me for almost twenty years. I thought vegetables would make a great picture if they could be planted on a board!

ESTHER OOSTERBAAN Fort St. John

Dog
charcoal on paper
26" x 20"

I was born & raised in Amsterdam, Holland, where I worked as a professional musician. In my late twenties, I left for Canada where I pursued my interest in art by taking courses at Northern Lights & Emily Carr Colleges. I love to go for hikes, taking my drawing gear with me. Unfortunately, the mosquitoes in this north country seem to have a particular passion for free-roaming artists. Hence, I've been known to dress myself in the height of summer with boots, woolen socks, longjohns, toque & mittens just so I could catch a particular tree on paper. The dog portrayed in *Dog* very obligingly lay down for me during an art class inside Northern Lights College in Fort St. John . . . not a bug in sight!

ROCHELLE OSTERHOUT Fort Nelson

◆ *A Lesson from Dad*
oil on canvas
20" x 24"

I spent ten years on the Alberta prairie & received most of my training there. Having since moved to the far north, I have found a rich & exciting source of inspiration in the people, history & scenery. *A Lesson from Dad* depicts a father teaching his sons how to fix an old Rototiller; in so doing, he is hanging on to a piece of his life that has changed. The tiller is a symbol of the father's boyhood memories being imposed on his sons. This work expresses my fascination with the sometimes painful process of growing up & looking at where we came from.

The Rock Wall
b/w photograph
14" x 12"

After studying photography for a year, I felt I could express myself more clearly with a black & white photograph than with a brush & canvas. *The Rock Wall* is a character portrait of a pained man whose hard life has caused him to put a barrier between himself & the rest of humankind; it somehow shows on his face. The rock wall behind him is a reflection of his face & his life.

DAVID THIESSEN Flatrock

Factory Fresh & Deadly
oil on canvas
28" x 34"

I have a great interest in aircraft & aviation. The Spitfire is one of the classic aircraft of all time & was very instrumental in the Second World War. I wanted to portray it in action, but still leave something to the viewer's imagination; hence the trail of smoke . . . your guess as to whether the downed aircraft is a Junkers, Messerschmitt, Focke-Wulf or Heinkel.

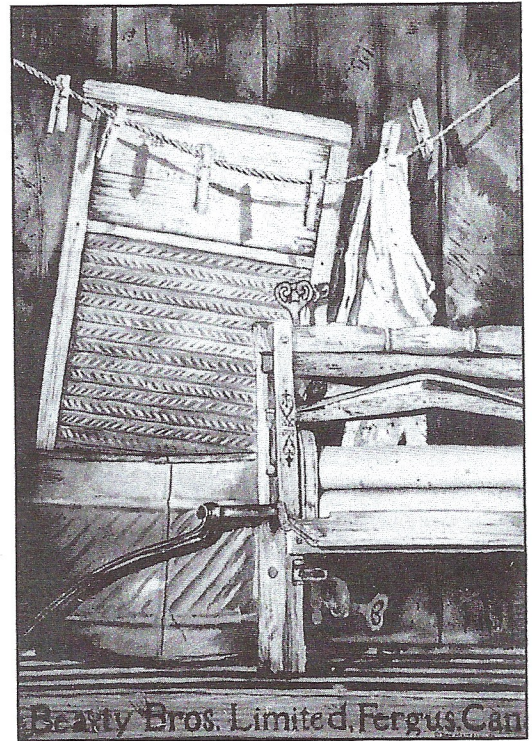
AVOR THOMPSON Fort St. John

Reflections
acrylic on paper
9" x 21"

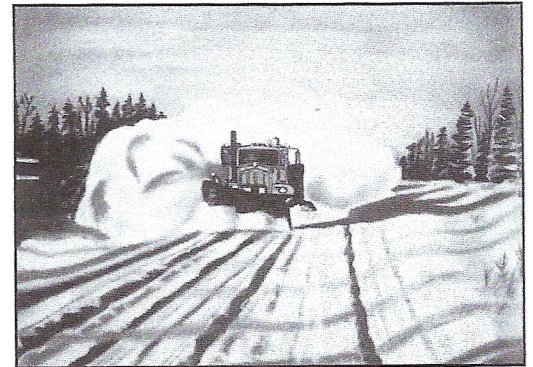
When painting *Reflections* I had the feeling of quiet. As I put my brush to work it seemed natural to come up with still waters & distant hills. As the mood got quieter, the old log cabin sprung up among the overgrown shoreline jutting out in the distance. I thought of days gone by when fishing, hunting & camping were a weekend outing. Then the phone rang. Oops! A few ripples on the water, & a masterpiece!

CINDY VINCENT Fort St. John

Echoes of the Past
oil on masonite
22" x 34"



Don Mattson, *The Wash Bench*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout



Patricia Middleton, *Snow Plow*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout



Freda Murphy, *What Grows in a Garden*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout

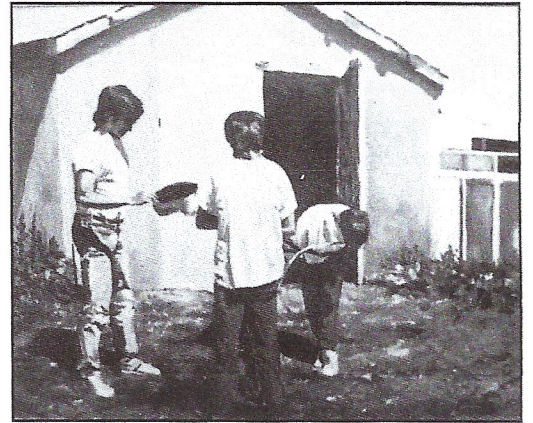
As I gazed from the helicopter window to the rugged Rocky Mountains below, I realized this would be a trip I'd not soon forget. Our band of modern-day explorers was attempting to retrace the route travelled by botanist Mary Henry in the 1930s. As the miles sped by, I marvelled at her stamina in making the arduous journey through the mountains of northern BC. The helicopter made travel easy in comparison to the eighty-day trip by pack-train made by the Mary Henry expedition. They endured cold & rain, forded rivers & battled the relentless muskeg as they roamed amid the majestic peaks. As I sat down to paint, I imagined what Henry must have felt as she viewed the splendour of God's beauty & design. In the clouds you may see the memory of her pack-train, echoing a long-ago journey made through the vast & untamed north.

LILLIAN C. YORK

Rolla

Harvest Over
acrylic on canvas
18" x 14"

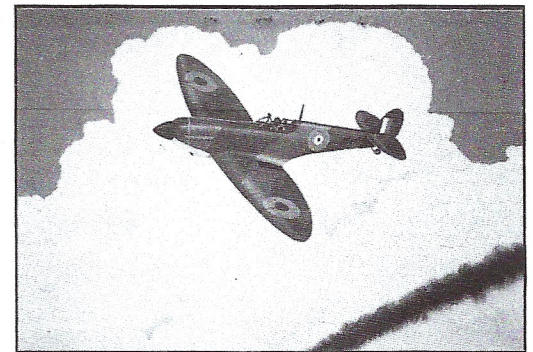
In *Harvest Over* I have tried to capture the loneliness of an empty grain field — including the full granaries that hold the promise of next year's crop. Through the years I have tried to depict the Peace River landscape in various media, in all of its changing colours. Nowhere in the world will an artist find any greater challenge than its varied seasons: the greens of spring & summer, the fields of golden grain, the hoarfrost on the trees, the shadows on the snow & the brilliance of northern sunrises & sunsets.



Rochelle Osterhout, *A Lesson from Dad*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout



Rochelle Osterhout, *The Rock Wall*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout



David Thiessen, *Factory Fresh & Deadly*
photo: Rochelle Osterhout