



photo: Jodee Hansen

The Apple Stick, Michael Abraham

Images & Objects X

Contemporary BC Artists ♦ An Exhibition

PEACE LIARD



JURORS: SANDRA SEMCHUK
HENRY TSANG

ARTISTS:

MARG BAKER Arras
Autumn Stooks
watercolour
16" x 20"

We retired to 20 acres on a riverbank 12 miles from Dawson Creek. Every day I look out at the many different trees & try to capture both their beauty with the changing seasons & also the many aspects of a farming community. I painted in acrylics for many years & am now enjoying the different effects that evolve from the same subjects in watercolour.

AUDREY BODNAR-SKOREYKO
Fort St. John

◆ *Future Caretakers*
watercolour
22" x 30"

I'm very concerned for our environment, believing that if the world is to be a safe place to live we must teach our loved ones to care & act upon their good judgement. It would also help if every adult adopted the "right" attitude towards our environment.

MOE BOUCHER Dawson Creek
In the Mood
black & white photograph
14" x 18"

I have always been attracted by the way light plays on the things that surround us, but it wasn't until I discovered the realm of photography that I was able to express my visions in a tangible way. One of the things I try to achieve when creating an image is

to work strictly with available light & subject matter, photographing things the way I find them. All of my monochrome work from the click of the shutter to final print is solely my undertaking.

DUANE COULSON Toad River
Caribou in Million Dollar Valley
oil on canvas
23" x 29"

I always wondered what the caribou thought of the strange sight in their valley, far away, of three bombers, abandoned to the wilds in World War II. I like to portray some of the interesting & seldom seen places of this enchanting North Country with the hope that some kindred spirit, or simply someone with similar interests, will respond or just be able to get some pleasure from the views I depict. This would be all the reward I would need.

INEZ DEMUYNCK Dawson Creek
◆ *Peace Valley Frosty View*
watercolour
24" x 30"

For several years I have been sketching, drawing & painting the beautiful Peace Country. Recently I have been concerned with the Peace Valley which has been threatened by the construction of another dam. The devastating losses of islands, animal habitat, timber, agricultural lands, historical sites & artifacts drove me to paint some 40 works for an exhibition in '91. These paintings, all done with watercolours, attempt to convey images of the feelings & the heritage that will be lost forever when the valley is flooded.

SUZANNE DIXON Pouce Coupe
◆ *Seniors Card Party*
acrylic
7" x 9"

For Peace Country "Old Timers", the playing of cards - whist & cribbage - is part of their culture . . . the long winters when the cribbage board & cards stand ready from morning until night (no tv to compete). At the *Seniors Card Party* the games are played fast & expertly, ending with a delicious lunch & everyone sharing in the jokes & gossip of their familiar backgrounds.

PHYLLIS FYNN Dawson Creek
Golden Time of the Year
watercolour
13" x 17"

I have lived most of my life in Northern British Columbia. Here, surrounded by the unique Peace River scenery, I have been inspired to paint from nature. I find that watercolour is the medium in which I can truly interpret the vibrant hues of the

Northern woods in autumn & the soft blues & greys of winter. I love to experiment with wet & dry canvases, to use colours freely & to watch my paintings develop as I go along. I feel a kinship with mother nature & her choice of colours, whether I am gazing from my kitchen window or sitting on the deck of our cabin on Moberly Lake.

AUDREY GADDY Taylor
A Time to Remember
pastel pencil
20" x 24"

In the '30s my parents owned a little country store. As they were very busy our family outings were limited, but occasionally mom packed a lunch & the family - grandpa & the old dog included - would go across the road to what we children thought was the forest & have a picnic. What great memories! I used grey & black pastel pencils to create the impression of an old photo.

EMILY MATTSO Rolla
◆ *Cemetery Day*
oil on masonite
24" x 36"

The theme of "communicating community" is a relevant one for me as this has been the focus of my work for the past two years. The crux of the matter has been exactly this: am I observing or participating? Where is that fine line? Dipping in & out of the experience gives me the feel of community; it is this "feel" that I want to communicate. When I got the phone call "tomorrow is cemetery day", I intended to participate, but again found myself observing . . . the annual event of cleaning up the cemetery brings strange contradictions. At first glance it seems there are as many bodies above the ground as there are underneath. Everyone is working & visiting - almost a happy event. Are we trying to include those that have gone or trying to fill the silence with activity?

LAWRENCE Wm. McGILLVRA
Dawson Creek
Frosty Mist of Today & Yesterday
black & white photograph
18" x 14"

I try to capture the dark side of nature as well as the beauty, without the aid of filters or objects. *Frosty Mist of Today & Yesterday* was taken early morning. I felt this portrayed many things all in one picture: old gas pump, fumes from propane trucks off to the side, paged fence with frost holding picture of old poster of Jenifer & old black garbage bag rustling in the wind. Behind the fence glistened light rays off packages, pop & beer cans of our now recycled world. Then in the sky rose smoke,

gas, industrial smoke signs. All in all, cold frosty hazy smoky morning, soon to disappear by sun's warmth when all would be in clear view.

FREDA MURPHY Taylor

Too Late

oil
12" x 16"

Last spring while visiting my sister-in-law, she said there was a lot of activity down the field . . . birds, animals. Two weeks later she mentioned it again. Next day being fairly nice (snow had melted with a crust on top making walking good) I took my camera & walked down. I found a rack of bones, one leg & a jawbone. Took pictures thinking one day maybe I'd paint the scene. Carried the rack home & hung it in the trees. The odd part is a friend found the same; one wonders why the two point bucks would meet this fate. Later, saw a fox. The two came together to make this image &, as the meat was gone, they were *Too Late*.

STACY THOMAS PSHYK Chetwynd

◆ **One Man's Dream**

pen & ink
28" x 39"

What I tried to do with this piece was capture a memory. Through time, our history & culture are slowly slipping away. People, events & stories are being forgotten one by one. We have to set aside such differences as race & wealth. It's time to remember who we are on the inside; if we don't start soon, there won't be anything left to lose. The story of *One Man's Dream*: Around the year 1885, after a 12 year trek, a band of de Salteaux Indians arrived in Lone Prairie. Led by William Desjarlais, they had fled from the Qu'Appelle Valley in Saskatchewan in order to avoid reprisals from the Riel Rebellion. The daughter of one of the de Salteaux Indian leaders married Harry Garbitt. She described her father as having a vision - "a lake that stretched in an East/West direction, with two mountains at the Western end. Here they would find peace & safety." The survivors of this trek moved to Moberly Lake in 1917, recognized the "promised haven" of Desjarlais' vision, & have remained to this day.

SHIRLEY RAVELLI Dawson Creek

Children in Wonderland

acrylic & black & white photographs on masonite
23" x 29"

Unhappy with my painting of winter trees, I suddenly remembered a black & white snapshot taken long ago of three little girls standing in a paradise of hoarfrost. I found it & placed it on my painting . . . I liked it! So began my collage of childhood. I spent

days sorting through old prints, trying for some order of age. No matter how I chose them they were always the wrong size, so any hope of proper perspective was ruled out. My creative juices always flow better with less rules anyway. The artist in me placed & pasted each piece with confidence - but - even so - it soon became a wonderland of fun. If you don't believe me, ask the Rabbit!

LEANNE G. SMITH Tumbler Ridge
Formations

acrylic on canvas
22" x 28"

Since attending art school at the University of Manitoba, I have been attracted to the works & philosophy of Dadaists like Marcel Duchamp, the Abstract Expressionists, & Pop artists like Andy Warhol. These artists took a new perspective on art & life; this is what I aim to do in my drawing & painting. I am most inspired by shape & form, by emotional & sensual qualities. It was these elements that I wanted to portray as I took notice one day looking in my closet. It is my intention to continue to move away from focusing on the outer reality & towards what I find to be these more stimulating elements.

SHERRY LEIGH TOBBER Chetwynd

◆ **The Last Frontier**

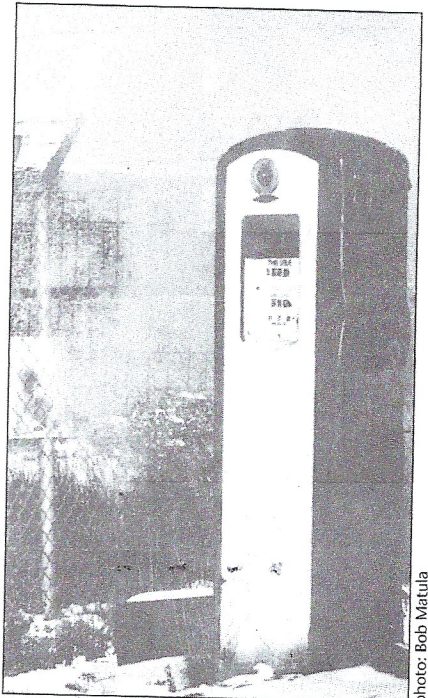
acrylic on canvas
10" x 12"

I am attempting to communicate my feelings about this wonderful last frontier, British Columbia, truly the last of the virgin forest. I live in the Peace foothills where, amidst the beauty, we are being ravaged by the lust of the logging industry, the hills being stripped of their age-old beauty. We are seeing exploration for oil & gas in a way that this area has not experienced before. I cannot help but wonder what kind of legacy we leave for those who follow us. This is how I see my community: a place where many have been pushed to the edge of what we held to be sacred - our rugged landscape, together with our wildlife, that which makes us truly Canadian. We feel very threatened as we see it all rapidly disappearing & I wonder - where do we go from here?



Gaddy, *A Time To Remember*

photo: Bob Matula



McGillvray, *Frosty Mist of Today & Yesterday*

photo: Bob Matula



Ravelli, *Children in Wonderland*

photo: Bob Matula



Mattson, *Cemetery Day*

photo: Bob Matula



Smith, *Formations*

photo: Bob Matula