

# NEWSLETTER Oct. 13, 2021

dartmouthvisualarts.ca

#### First Things First!

**To join or renew your DVAS membership:** Mail a \$25 cheque made out to Dartmouth Visual Arts Society to: DVAS Membership, C/O Janice Webber, 24 Frances Street, Dartmouth, NS B3A 3H1. Include your full mailing address, phone number, and email address. We will send you a receipt and membership card.

# **DVAS Programs:**

**Studio Group:** three 10-week sessions per year, no formal instruction, \$30 per session, held at the Findlay Centre. For more info: Studio Group

**Workshops:** held on the last Saturday of the month at South End Baptist Church, 60 Hastings Street, Dartmouth, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm; fees \$65.00 for members, \$80.00 for non-members.

For more info: Monthly Workshops

**Gallery Shows:** DVAS holds group shows every year. Dates and locations vary.

For more info: Gallery Shows

#### **DVAS Executive Members**

President, Sandra Grebeldinger
Vice-President, Bert Staples
Treasurer, Cary Risley
Secretary, Judy Hammond
Membership, Janice Webber membership@DartmouthVisualArts.ca
Workshops, Violet O'Connell workshopregis@DartmouthVisualArts.ca
Exhibitions, Kathy Snell exhibits@DartmouthVisualArts.ca
Studio Group, Joel Fraser studiogroup@DartmouthVisualArts.ca
Newsletter, Janet Warnes warnesworld51@gmail.com

### **Nova Scotia Proof of Vaccine Policy**

As of October 4, 2021, Nova Scotia moves into a modified Phase 5 of re-opening. This means for essentially every DVAS activity, participants will be required to **show proof of full vaccination** before entering the different venues DVAS uses for its activities. This includes Studio Group, the Craig Gallery, and any workshops offered by DVAS. Masking is still required for indoor gatherings. More information can be found on the Nova Scotia Government COVID-19 information website, <a href="here">here</a>.

# **Gallery Show News**

Our most recent exhibit, titled, *Feel the Heat*, ran at the Craig Gallery from September 10 to October 10. Twenty-six artists showed forty-one paintings, and hosted about 500 guests in the gallery during the show's run. Due to ongoing Covid-related changes to public health regulations, this was a smaller show than usual, but it ran well in spite of the challenges. The Peoples' Choice Award went to Hélène Martin for her painting, titled, *At the Cottage*. Only one painting was sold: Joe Murphy's Adventure Awaits. Congratulations to both Joe and Hélène.

# **Workshop Updates**

Please note an important change for the workshop planned for October 30<sup>th</sup>; **Sarah Irwen** is unable to present this workshop and will be replaced by **Jude Caborn.** She will be presenting a workshop relating to watercolour painting. If you had already registered for Sarah's workshop, please contact Violet O'Connell to discuss your options.

If you are registering for **Tacha Reid's** felting workshop on November 27<sup>th</sup>, you are reminded that there is a fee of \$25 for materials which should be paid directly to Tacha at the workshop.

## **CREATIVE CORNER**

#### INSPIRATION COMES WITHOUT WARNING

Enjoy this provocative article by Mary Lou Whitehorne

Inspiration for painting can come from anywhere. I happen to be on the Parks Canada mailing list. A while back, I got an email from Parks Canada, announcing the YouTube release of three remarkable films by Canadian explorer, filmmaker, and landscape painter, **Cory Trépanier**, titled *Into the Arctic*.

WOW! These films are amazing. What other way could I ever see so many spectacular places in Canada's remote far north? Covering several years of expeditions into extremely isolated locations, Trépanier spent months under harsh conditions, camping on the land, painting places few people will ever experience.

I could not tear my eyes away from such raw and primal landscapes. Even though I'm only watching a film, I asked myself, why not try and paint these new-to-me landforms? There's a pandemic happening. I have nowhere else to go, and lots of time to experiment.

Streaming video on computer means it's easy to screen-grab still images. Working my way through the videos again, and using maps to find and identify locations, I collected a number of interesting images from which to create study paintings. It's like falling down a rabbit hole. You never know where you'll end up, but it can be great fun along the way. Here's a little of what has happened so far.



This is a screen-grabbed still frame from Film I of the series, *Into the Arctic*. Janet Warnes and I both decided to interpret this image recorded in Ivvavik National Park, Yukon Territory. Janet went with watercolour, and I decided on coloured pencil. Clearly the same place, but each work is very different! I plan to do an acrylic version sometime in the future.

Cory Trépanier, screen-grab still image



J. Warnes, watercolour



ML Whitehorne, coloured pencil

Remember, these are studies, done for fun and learning. They are not completely original works. We were not on location, developing our own compositions. **All credit belongs to Cory Trépanier**. Below left is another screen-grab from his eye-opening videos. To its right is the 10 X 20 inch acrylic I did of one amazing place. The location is in Sirmilik National Park, Nunavut. What interested me were the bleak coldness of the land juxtaposed against the unexpected warm colours. The arctic is full of surprises!





Cory Trépanier, screen-grab still image

ML Whitehorne, acrylic

To watch the three-film *Into the Arctic* series, and view some of Cory Trépanier's gorgeous paintings of Canada's far north, click this link: *Into the Arctic*. Trépanier did fifty on-site paintings during his adventures. Back in his studio he created one hundred more.

His *Into the Arctic* exhibit has travelled the globe since 2017, and will have its grand finale here in Canada, at Sudbury's Science North, from November 13, 2021 to February 21, 2022.

Why, you may ask, is the exhibit ending up at Science North, a science centre? A number of the project's funding agencies are involved in environmental sciences. These films and paintings are a valuable record of the present condition of Canada's arctic regions. They will be compared to prior records, and will also serve as a benchmark for future comparison as the world either succeeds or fails in its effort to combat climate change. The arctic, of all areas of the planet, is warming and changing the fastest. Art can be relevant to science.

Further south in Canada, there is another similar project underway, involving art, artists, and the changing environment. Called **Rockies Repeat**, the upcoming documentary film, exhibit, and storytelling will feature past and present paintings of mountains and glaciers, and how things have changed in the last hundred years of global warming. For more on this project click this link: <u>Rockies Repeat</u>.

Our thanks to Mary Lou for sharing this unique opportunity. -J. Warnes, Ed.

How about you let us know what excites **you** artistically!

If you have an interesting contribution you would like to share with our members, please forward to:

warnesworld51@gmail.com