

TEN KING

Summer 2025

Dear friends of the gallery

The Annual General Meeting (for financial year 2024) was held at the Gallery on early Thursday evening, May 22nd. It was followed by a relaxed social gathering of members, CG staff and volunteers and most of the Board directors.

During the AGM I, on behalf of the CG community, acknowledged the contributions of three persons, who are moving on from the Gallery. I refer to Rick Kowalchuk, a director who has performed a number of different and essential tasks, including doing photographs of our annual Secret Gardens Tour and setting up and taking down the Carnegie Artist Member art show at the Ian Thomas benefit concert in early February 2025, among other things. Next, Kira Alexanian, the Administrative Assistant, resigned in early June to take a new job and pursue her art career.

Throughout Kira's 3 years with CG - first as a summer student and then as a part-time employee - she has been a cheerful and unflappable presence in the Gallery Shop. Also, Kira has helped Laura install and take down exhibitions and she has assisted Amanda with the new online store. Finally, Peter Langille has retired as one of CG's stalwart volunteers. Peter was the guy who regularly went to the Gallery early winter mornings to remove newly fallen snow and ice on CG's sidewalks and front steps and to spread rock salt or its environmentally sensitive substitute. Also, Peter and his engaging wife Cathy were volunteers at a number of Carnegie Concerts. If you bought a ticket for a beverage or a ticket for the

50/50 draw at one of CG's fundraising concerts you would have met Peter and Cathy. My sincere thanks to Rick, Kira, and Peter.

Three new and accomplished persons were acclaimed directors at the AGM. I am confident that many readers will recognize all or some of their names. They are Russ Powers, Janice Kovar and Ariel Rogers.

Russ has had a long, varied and distinguished career in public service (municipal councillor in Dundas and Hamilton, federal MP, President of Association of Ontario Municipalities, among other organizations). Also, Russ has been a leader of community organizations in Dundas, most recently as President of Dundas Museum & Archives. Janice is a former educator (Head of Visual Arts, MacNab Secondary School), a CG artist member and a highly regarded artist with many juried exhibitions to her credit. Ariel brings a different but much needed set of experiences, connections and skills to CG. Ariel is a retired R.N., an entrepreneur and promoter in the music industry (Fogarty's Cove Music), a choir member and an active parishioner at St. John's Anglican Church in Ancaster, the latter role having led to bestowal on her of Order of Niagara. The Board and CG as a whole are very fortunate to have Russ, Janice, and Ariel join us.

John Wigle

Chair of the Carnegie Board



Elisabeth Soppelsa



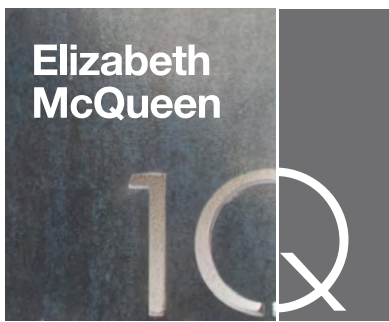
Barry Coombs



Janet Parker



Courtney Downman



10Q is a quick way for readers to get to know some of our Artist Members a bit better. In this edition, we would like you to meet artist Elizabeth McQueen.

1. Why did you begin seriously pursuing art?

ART in many forms has always been my passion and I was fortunate enough to have had many wonderful mentors along the way. A love of great design and 'strong seeing' was instilled in me very early so it is not a mystery that I found myself pursuing a BFA in studio art and subsequently Art education. Teaching visual art at secondary and post secondary levels does demand versatility, creativity and no small degree of performance ability but it is pretty all-consuming. While I did have several shows and corporate commissions during that 30 plus years, it wasn't until I retired 12 years ago that I have had the luxury of painting and print-making as a full time 'job'.

2. What is your primary medium?

I feel like I have come full circle. I began my visual art journey as a painter and print-maker. However, my first professional pursuits were as a fabric artist (batik and painting on silk) (1970s & 80s) and then segued into a fair amount of black and white portrait photography. (1990s). When I retired, Lino-cut printmaking seemed a great place to 're-begin' and that gave rise to a number of series that I market under the umbrella of Signs of Life (Hobo Language; Woodland Fauna and The Botanicals series) I have also been profoundly enamoured with light and time and have been painting in acrylic with other mixed media with a largely landscape (inner and outer) concentration for decades.

3. How do you know when a piece is finished?

Now there's a question! Intuition plays a very big part in this 'decision' and I don't know a working painter who hasn't taken things a little too far on occasion and that is ALWAYS a great learning opportunity. I have Blaise Pascal's quote scrawled in pencil on my studio wall: "if I had thought more I would have said less" There is always a tendency with formal training to treat painting as an intellectual exercise but at its best it is mostly about getting out of your own way... leaving room for accident and sending 'the editor' to the spa.

4. What's the biggest challenge you face as a professional artist?

Starting so late certainly gives one pause in terms of time to build a legitimate art career... it has made me mindful of taking myself seriously while at the same time, giving myself permission to make a mess and just play. There is a wonderful stretching of time that occurs when you are deeply involved in a body of work.. each day is much 'longer' as you keep that appointment 'in the play room'. 'Marketing' I believe is every artist's bane as it requires a much less introverted version of self that can be a lot of 'work' to pivot toward. Staying authentic and developing relationships through writing your story (both literally and through documenting your visual journey) CAN be very rewarding.

5. What other pursuits feed into your art practice?

Certainly teaching photography has informed my obsession with recording light and time visually and a love of graphic design has pushed me to be way less representational in my work. Yoga and meditation are my constant companions (and have been for over 50 years). My favourite day rhythm is to rise, go directly to the mat for about an hour, have a tea, paint for a few hours, break for lunch and return for an hour or two to the studio to 're-see', amend and leave something un-done for the next day (oh... and clean -up!)

6. What is your chief characteristic as a person?

I am courageous (and this has been hard-won). I love to laugh and get very excited about learning new things.

7. What's the most important thing you've learned about yourself by being an artist?

I have learned SOOOOO much! What an opportunity to make concrete that which is rolling around internally and has no words! What a gift to be able to express the beauty of this magnificent planet! What a divine opportunity to create an unencumbered conduit to channel something bigger than self!

8. What is your idea of happiness?

Great company and great solitude Wonderful food, a great sleep, lots of sky where you see a thousand days in an hour....clean water, comfortable shelter and an empty room full of light in which to paint.

9. Who has been your most enduring inspiration?

Joni Mitchell, Lawren Harris, Tom Thomson, Leonard Cohen, John Singer Sargent, Matisse, Gauguin, Henri Rousseau, and all of those wonderful souls in my life whom I hold dear.

10. If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why?

The Canadian Arctic and Labrador. I adore icebergs, rocks and the bones of the land Vancouver Island (where my daughter now lives) for its heart connection and those magnificent mountains and beaches. Japan (mostly the rural areas) for that uniquely serene aesthetic and where artists are acknowledged as 'national treasures' To my 'studio north' .. the large empty light-filled room in a deconsecrated church in the middle of the woods outside of North Bay ON.. where time stands still.

July 4th - August 24th

CARNEGIE GALLERY ARTIST MEMBERS
45th Carnegie Gallery Artist Member Exhibition
 Various



September 5th - 28th

CHRISTY CHOR
Back to Nature - Mountain Series
 Ceramic Sculpture



PETER FISCHER
At the Water's Edge
 Landscape Painting



October 3rd - November 9th

SAVE THE DATE
Fireworks
 Fusion Clay & Glass



Secret Garden Tour -Thank You

Thank you to everyone who made this year's event such a success! Our garden hosts, volunteers, generous sponsors, artists, and each of you who purchased a ticket and joined us.

We're thrilled to share that we sold a record-breaking number of 409 tickets this year.

A special thanks to our major sponsors:

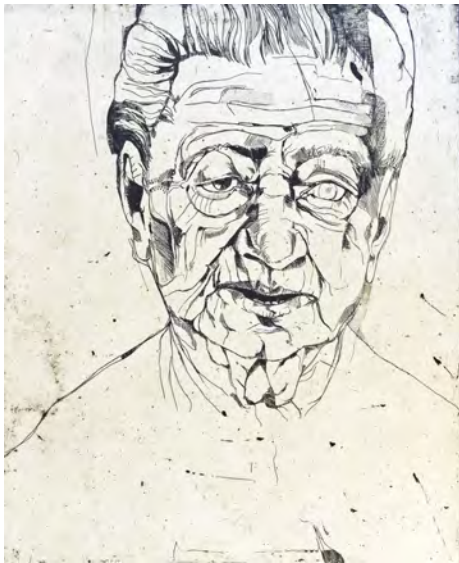
Weeks Home Hardware, Holland Park Garden Gallery, and Turner Family Funeral Home

Counter Talk

By Lauren Pichler, Administrative Assistant

Lauren is a summer student at the Carnegie Gallery and an art historian with a MA in Art History from the University of Toronto.

When I first stood in front of Robert Creighton's Old Blind Satyr on view at the Carnegie Gallery for his exhibition 76 Circumnavigations of the Star (Faces and Figures) this past June, I didn't move for minutes, captivated by the raw, expressive quality of the portrait. At first, it was the bold and emotionally revealing treatment of the subject matter that drew me in. However, slowly, the textures, gradients, and depth of the print began to unfold. This made me wonder, what happens when we spend time, real-time, slowing down and observing a single artwork?



Recent studies in neuroscience support that focusing on an artwork for a few minutes activates and improves areas of the brain tied to creativity, imagination, memory, and even empathy. Contrasting with quick viewing habits driven by social media, when we adopt this practice of 'slow looking,' we begin to ease into a meditative state, offering a quiet but powerful mental reset.

Art ultimately rewards prolonged viewing. It demands presence in the viewer's mind. The longer you gaze, the more you notice underlying details, layering or placement of tones and colours, and shapes and lines beneath the forms. In today's fast-paced world visual art offers us stillness, and in stillness, something begins to shift. When we adopt slow looking practices, not just looking; we are restoring focus, expanding perception, feeding our imagination and nurturing our creativity. Next time you visit Carnegie Gallery, I invite you to try this for yourself. Give 5 minutes of your full attention to one work and notice how your thoughts, feelings, and breath begin to subtly shift.

Employee Spotlight

Serena Merla



We're excited to introduce Serena Merla, our Summer Digital Marketing Coordinator! As a lifelong Hamilton local, Serena has spent many weekends and holidays in Dundas, making lasting memories with her family. Now entering her fourth year at the University of Waterloo, Serena is pursuing a major in Fine Arts and a minor in Digital Art Communication. She's thrilled to bring her passion for art to Dundas and contribute to the community.

With experience in videography, marketing, and fine arts, as well as her own active painting practice, Serena saw an incredible opportunity to merge her digital skills with her artistic background at Carnegie Gallery. Driven by a desire to create, share, and celebrate art, Serena is eager to bring her energy and creativity to the local arts scene to help foster a vibrant environment for all to enjoy.

Carnegie GALLERY

The Carnegie Gallery is operated by the Dundas Art & Craft Association, an incorporated non-profit organization dedicated to promoting and encouraging Canadian art and artists especially from our region. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the City of Hamilton, The Hamilton Community Foundation, Incite Foundation for the Arts, our sponsors and donors, and our many friends and volunteers.

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Laura Brandreth,
*Curator & Gallery
Administrator*

Amanda Lammers,
*Fundraising &
Marketing Specialist*

Margaret Schooley,
Bookkeeper

Volunteers

Walter Pick, Adele Taylor-Pick
Cynthia Carpenter
Barb Carpio
Michelle Holmes
Pam Norman
Evi Pertens
Kathy Starodub
Libby Toews
Daina Tustian

Building Committee Volunteers

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Dave McCann
George Eastwood

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Many thanks to incite Foundation for their support of the 2025 Arts Dundas Weekend.