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Linda Lundström  
with her daughters  
Masha and Sophie

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**OUR COVER**

**Conversation 2**



Featured on the cover of the fall issue of King MOSAIC is a work by artist Ted Nasmith: Illuin; the Lamp of the Valar painted for The Silmarillion by J R R Tolkien. Ted is the brilliant artistic imagination behind many renderings of the fantasy world of Tolkien and George R R Martin. (Read more about him on page 4 of this magazine). King Township is very lucky to have such a well-known creator as the feature artist at this year's Schomberg Street Gallery. Ted's work will be on display Sunday, September 17 between 10 am and 5pm.



**Featured contributor: Hendrika Ono**

Hendrika is interested in all avenues of artistic expression. She loves to learn and create, with words, music or painting. She has an HBA in Literature, Solo Performer (piano) degree from the Royal Conservatory of Music, Masters Degree in Library Science, and she is enjoying continuing studies at the Ontario College of Art and Design (OCAD). Hendrika is a versatile painter who enjoys every medium except acrylics, and has a special love for oil paints. You can check out her work at <http://hendrikaono.wixsite.com/gloriaarts>

Hendrika is a skilled writer and has been on the King MOSAIC Editorial Board since its inception. Two of her articles are featured in this issue; on pages 4 and 9.



Ted Nasmith:

# LORD OF THE BRUSH

by Hendrika Ono



copyright Ted Nasmith 2016

⋮ Tol Brandir from J R R Tolkien's The Fellowship of the Ring

You may not know Ted Nasmith's name, or recognize his face, but odds are you have seen his work. Ted is one of the first artists to have dived into the complex worlds of Middle Earth and brought back to us, those magical images.

Today, most people are well acquainted with Peter Jackson's epic "Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit" trilogies. But Jackson's work was predated by a handful of dedicated artistic visionaries, like Ted, whose efforts laid the creative framework for Jackson's later movies. Ted



⋮ Old Valyria from George R R Martin's  
⋮ A Game of Thrones

is one of the pioneers whose long-term commitment to the landscapes of J. R. R. Tolkien's works started when he was still in his teens. He credits his sister for introducing him to the fabulous tales of Tolkien when he was a youth. The experience was a life changer. For Ted, the sumptuous text is easily transmuted to luminous paintings, and these paintings have formed the foundation of his career.

Although he is a global talent, Ted is also a local treasure, residing now in Newmarket. His proximity to King Township is good news for the Schomberg Street Gallery. Every fall, the main street of Schomberg closes to traffic and artists set up stations along the street so that the public can view and purchase their work. Ted agreed to be this year's headlining artist. He will be present at the event on Sunday September 17th from 10 am to 5 pm. If you miss the opportunity to meet Ted in person and admire his work first hand, it is good to know that any of the fantasy images on his website can now be ordered for reproduction, along with a large selection of other prints. There is a lot to choose from at <http://www.tednasmith.com/>.

Ted started his artistic career in architectural rendering. The footprint of this training is evident in the spatial accuracy of his landscapes and his overall meticulous attention to detail. Ted worked for a number of years producing architectural concept drawings but, at the end of the day, he kept returning to the wellspring of the Tolkien worlds. Eventually circumstances allowed for the full-time pursuit of high fantasy artwork.

Ted's mythic-sized imagination is a perfect fit for the Tolkien tales. As his artistic journey progressed, he deepened his ties with the

Tolkien community. Ted joined the Tolkien Society in the eighties and this step led to other painting opportunities. He has produced book cover art for various publishing houses, including Random House, and was given carte blanche to produce whatever he desired (in the Tolkien domain) for a number of Harper Collins art calendars. He has also illustrated diaries, appointment books and Tolkien role-playing game cards. Over time Ted found that he could dedicate himself full time to answer the demand for his Tolkien-inspired work.

Tolkien's genius inspires awe in Ted. For him, the magnitude of Tolkien's imagination borders on the infinite. "The books seem to refresh themselves and this means that there is always something new to create or to re-vision; there is no end to the possibilities."

Like Tolkien himself, Ted is a person of many gifts. He recalls the ideal of the Renaissance Man who is equally at home in every avenue of artistic expression. He is modest about his accomplishments, eloquent in his speech and professorial in his reading tastes. It somehow seems appropriate that Ted is also a musician. A bass player, a singer, and an arranger, he is blessed with musical siblings, who have banded together and play at local establishments. Ted has broad musical tastes and enjoys sacred, contemporary and, perhaps not surprisingly, Celtic and folk music. Ted creates magical lands both in pictures and song. His love of Celtic music inspired a CD entitled "The Hidden Door: Songs in the Key of Enchantment," which is a fitting accompaniment to his high fantasy themed painting.

In the painting realm, Ted's favourite medium is gouache. Water-based gouache is very versatile. It dries more quickly than oil, but has great



⋮ One Morning Long Ago,  
⋮ from J R R Tolkien's The Hobbit

opacity and can be easily reworked. It also allows for the level of detail and visual complexity that is a trademark of his work. In terms of mediums, Ted also spoke about digital illustration options that are now available to present day artists. "Historically artists have never encountered so many exciting opportunities." For Ted however, digital art does not capture his imagination. He is firmly planted in the natural world with physical brushes and tubes of paint.

Ted's superlative depictions of the Tolkien worlds earned him the notice of another iconic figure in the fantasy realm; George R. R. Martin. George himself contacted Ted in 2007, and they met up for supper in Toronto. Martin requested concept paintings of castles to populate landscapes in A Game of Thrones. Interestingly, Ted's familiarity with architectural design became an asset, now filtered through the lens of literary fantasy.

Regardless of recognition and acclaim, Ted remains humble about himself and his work. He is quietly confident in his ongoing quest for self-discovery and happiness engendered through reading and painting. And because he records his journey in paint, we get to share in the joy.



# WHAT'S GOING ON at the Heritage and Cultural Centre

# KING TOWNSHIP MUSEUM

## *The Rebellion Through Phoebe's Eyes; 1837-2017*

by Kathleen Fry

One hundred and eighty years have passed since the remote village of Lloydtown was involved in one of Canada's most significant events – before we were even Canada!

THE REBELLION OF 1837 had a distinct effect on shaping who Canada was and how we came to be, in 2017, a bastion of democracy within a global community. Significant as this movement was, if we zoom in, zoom down close to the human level you will see a strong and resilient woman whose life was completely shattered by the events instigated by William Lyon Mackenzie and her husband, among others.

Phoebe Crossley was a young girl in a young country. The US had severed its ties with the King and England, and some 25,000 Loyalists moved north for refuge from the new Republic. She was born in Canada - her family had settled in King and she grew up in a community of Quakers.

Jesse Lloyd was born in Pennsylvania in 1786: his family was from a group of non-militant Quakers. He arrived in Upper Canada in 1812 and married Phoebe Crossley in 1813, eventually settling in the village that is named for them - Lloydtown.

Phoebe married young, as was the social norm and her labour contributed much to their household. Women, often with their children helping, produced a great deal of the goods that their families required. In a small community, working to establish her family provided her with a level of autonomy not experienced by women living in more urban areas. She even had the time – and inclination - to learn to read and write. Her husband was known to be a humorous, friendly man although they both retained the plain clothes of the "Society of Friends."

Well-liked and socially prominent, by 1836 the Lloyd family began construction on a large brick house when at this time most homes were of log or frame construction. Life was hard and busy and the many children they had filled the house. But there was reward for the hard work – Jesse's businesses thrived and many of Phoebe's 14 children survived. They had a comfortable, non-glamorous, life with the simple doctrine of the Quaker religion guiding many of their decisions.

Their religion taught Jesse to be a socially concerned man. As William Lyon McKenzie traveled throughout the country raising support from farmers and merchants who were working hard to build a future for

their families, Jesse became one of his chief supporters. Mackenzie advocated fighting against the government and Family Compact which he felt hurt the "common man" politically, financially and socially. In the areas north of Toronto, including King Township, there were hundreds of people eager to overthrow the government.

The atmosphere in the Lloyd house changed from social interaction to political activity. How Phoebe must have watched and worried as her husband was expelled from the Quaker community when he agitated for political change. Jesse's fight was a just one but it put his family in peril. As the events of December 1837 played out miles from home, Phoebe would have no idea that her husband would flee to the US and she would never see him again.

Jesse's political activities changed many aspects of her life. The anxiety she must have felt, when the crown deed which proved they owned the land was withheld and not officially granted until after Jesse died, would have been intense. When he died of fever in 1838, probably in Pennsylvania with family, Phoebe was left with an uncertain future and the censure of a community turned against her for her husband's actions. At his death the farm was only partially paid for and, while influential in building Lloyd's Town, his estate was modest. Due to his political activities and his fugitive status Phoebe had to petition for the right to pay off the remainder owed so that she could retain the property. (Ronald J. Stagg)

Phoebe Lloyd continued on long after the failed Rebellion; her indomitable spirit kept her going well into her 80's.

Based on the recommendations of Lord Durham, the British parliament united the provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada to create the Province of Canada in July 1840 with the Act of Union. Twenty seven years later, on July 1, 1867, the Constitution Act united the three separate colonies of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick into a single Dominion within the British Empire called Canada.

Source: [http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio.php?id\\_nbr=350](http://www.biographi.ca/en/bio.php?id_nbr=350)  
"The Life and Times of Phoebe Crossley Lloyd – Girl Bride of a Rebel of 1837" JM Walton, EG Lloyd

KING



## MADE IN CANADA, EH?

Circle 5 inventions we can proudly call Canadian:

- ✳ Automobile
- ✳ Snow blower
- ✳ Aspirin
- ✳ Yogi Bear
- ✳ Zipper
- ✳ Walkie-talkie
- ✳ Insulin
- ✳ Ballpoint pen
- ✳ Superman



ANSWERS:  
Snow blower, zipper, walkie-talkie, insulin, Superman

Read about the exciting fall exhibition taking place at the HCC,  
on page 11 of this magazine.



# William Gairdner; Athlete, Academic, Author, Ambassador and Artist

by Sue Iaboni

**WHEN YOUNG BILL GAIRDNER** began to train for Track and Field at Montreal's McGill University back in the 60's he found two strikes against him: he was considered too short for the sport, and the outdoor track was bitterly cold. But he would not put off his dream of representing Canada at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.

This is just one of Bill's Canadian dreams fulfilled. Abandoning the track coach, he trained himself; running, jumping, vaulting and throwing, several hours per day. He won a silver medal in decathlon at the Pan Am Games in Brazil, 1963, and then sprinted over to Japan where he competed in the 400-metre hurdles and the decathlon at the Olympics the following year. He seemed to have a bright future in the decathlon but an unfortunate accident caused him to pull his arm out of its socket, and his throwing days were over. Instead, he perfected the 400-metre hurdles and competed in the Commonwealth Games in 1966 and again in 1970. Finally, at age 31, he felt he had abused his body enough and it was time to move on.

With a briefcase full of credentials (2 Masters' Degrees and a PHD, in various language fields) Bill settled into an assistant-professor's chair at York University. But, when the enrolment fell suddenly in 1973, another career presented itself through his dad's business: to help run The Fitness Institute. Bill easily turned the business around. He chaired the Gairdner

Foundation, a non-profit organization devoted to the recognition of outstanding achievement in biomedical research. And, he mentions casually, he added The Toronto Athletic Club to the 37th Floor of the TD Centre.

Meanwhile Bill carried on with his passion for reading and devouring political theory. It was natural that he would think to marry his English skills and his political knowledge into a library's worth of books on Canadian politics. He is the well-known author of at least a dozen books, including *The Trouble With Canada... Still!* (BPS Books, 2011), *The Book of Absolutes: A Critique of Relativism and a Defence of Universals* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2008), and his most recent, *The Great Divide: Why Liberals and Conservatives Will Never Ever Agree* (Encounter Books, New York, 2015).

“Reaching back to his childhood, he thinks of his mother who was a member of the Canadian Guild of Potters and could often be found at her potter's wheel.”

## • Moccasin Bay



.....  
Polar Bear Lurching, clay, 2005

One book in particular, that is bringing Bill Gairdner's name to the forefront again as Canada celebrates our 150th birthday, is Canada's Founding Debates, (University of Toronto Press, 2003), excerpts from debates that highlight the process between 1864 and 1873 which brought us together as a country. Bill was one of four editors of this book, which was re-released with a new cover in honour of our sesquicentennial, and has already sold out.

Although Bill's home has always been in the GTA, he has travelled widely in Canada. He remembers vividly one of his first adventures when, at age 16, he went as far north as Resolute Bay on a British Merchant Vessel where he and some buddies disembarked and tramped through the snow looking for "Eskimos." They were quickly escorted back on board by authorities. Since then he has travelled extensively in 8 of our provinces, on more productive ventures such as speaking engagements. His outdoor pursuits include cross-country skiing, skating and hiking.

Along with all these accomplishments, in Bill's imagination there has always been a place for art. Reaching back to his childhood, he thinks of his mother who was a member of the Canadian Guild of Potters and could often be found at her potter's wheel. Under her watchful eye, Bill made his first bowl at age 22. He also took some pastel drawing classes in mid-life, as a way to relieve stress. He admits to an unfinished novel in the back of his closet, and some great photographs waiting to be framed.

Upon retirement, Bill moved to King Township and turned his sights on making art a bigger part of his life. He has captured the beauty of our land in several ways. Not surprisingly, he began writing poetry, a logical jump from non-fiction where precision and economy of words are important. He has honed his self-taught skills as a photographer, and he has tried his hand at sculpting, watercolour and oil painting. His subjects range from paddlers and polar bears.

Bill's legacy rests with his 13 grandchildren. He regularly visits with them, drawing and sculpting, playing outdoors, no doubt telling them stories, perhaps even sharing some of his political views. They will grow up knowing how to live their lives grounded in a love for country.

## Nightlost at Georgian Bay

One of the darkest  
whispers I hear  
is the restless wind  
that shakes us upright,  
only to stare into our own clear waters,  
or fall on rocks to shatter.  
This is a land for pagans,  
and the rightful ghosts of voyageurs.  
I heard their paddles sighing  
in my sleepless night,  
saw chanting fires,  
felt their souls beckon  
in the loon's mad cry –  
knowing we were nightlost.  
I cannot count the price of searching  
or the peace of finding,  
so wind will never ask to blow,  
nor tree to bend.  
There is a secret company  
of souls I love,  
wordless, ancient, water-borne;  
one of the voices of care,  
that cannot be found  
unless already there.





On behalf of King Township's council, it's my pleasure to welcome you to the fall edition of Mosaic.

Although King is well known for its rural landscapes, some people may not know it's also home to a vibrant, thriving art scene.

King recently signed a partnership with the area's largest artists' group, (and the publisher of Mosaic) Arts Society King (ASK). ASK plays a central role in promoting and supporting arts and culture and is sustained through dedicated volunteers—many of whom have logged thousands of hours over the years—and strong community partnerships.

King recognized that ASK brings a tremendous amount of value to arts and culture within our community.

If you consider a partial list of the events, programs and services ASK provides, you can see how strong our local arts and culture scene is:

- Live Music in King Concert Series
- Studio Tour King
- Schomberg Street Gallery
- Art shows and gallery exhibitions
- Theatre and dance performances
- Historic tours and presentations
- Educational workshops

I'm constantly amazed by the quantity and quality of artistic talent our residents have. That's why we're so excited to see the King Heritage and Cultural Centre hosting three of King's most preeminent artists, Helen Lucas, Ed Bartram and Ernestine Tahedl, as part of the 3 King Artists exhibit during the month of September.

They are among King's most accomplished artists and have been recognized on an international scale.



This show is a perfect example of how King celebrates artists, whether they were born in King or have decided to call it home.

As we move into the autumn months, I encourage everyone to support our local businesses by shopping locally.

Mayor Steve Pellegrini

## SCHOMBERG FARMERS MARKET

With the arrival of fall comes harvest time and delicious produce is available to the residents of King. Check out the Schomberg Farmers' Market taking place up to Thanksgiving weekend.

**TRISAN CENTRE**

**9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**September 9, 23 • October 7**

**For information, email**

**[schombergfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:schombergfarmersmarket@gmail.com)**

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**Mark your calendars for this month's Holland Marsh Soupfest. It takes place Sat., Sept. 30, at Ansnorveldt Park from 11 am until 3pm (or until soup runs out).**

The Holland Marsh Soupfest is brought to you by the Holland Marsh Growers' Association in partnership with the Township of King and the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury. The festival features delicious piping hot soups, prepared by local restaurants and talented chefs, made with locally grown produce from the Holland Marsh. In addition there is a Farmers' Market, Vendors' Market, Entertainment from local musicians, and other fun activities for the whole family! For more information on becoming a vendor or a soup maker at Soupfest please contact [tveer@king.ca](mailto:tveer@king.ca).

## THREE KING ARTISTS

KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE  
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ED BARTRAM



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# King of the Road: Cycling in the Township

by Hendrika Ono

You've probably seen them around, you might know some personally, and you may even be one yourself; that jersey-clad person with the padded pants otherwise known as .... a cyclist. Cycling and cyclists often inspire much emotion. Attire is only the beginning. The athlete joke easily applies to them:

**H**ow can you tell when you are meeting cyclist? -- In less than 5 minutes they will tell you ...

People who enjoy road bikes can be loosely categorized as to their distance travelled. There are casual riders who ride infrequently, consistent riders who regularly cycle, and kilometer-crazy cyclists. The latter group cover remarkable distances (though their self-report is "oh less than 100 kilometers, so, not so far today"). They cover 100 k or even 100 miles (yes miles) per ride, easily landing in Simcoe County or the Georgian Triangle and beyond.

Regardless of preferred distances, King Township is a cyclist's paradise. The rolling landscape sculpts riders, building strength and stamina. The land's rural beauty entices people to come out to marvel at the charming scenery. The northern section of the township

is well used by riders who delight in the pastoral landscape with fewer cars. Some favourite local loops include the Lloydtown–Aurora Road through Pottageville; then winding through main street Schomberg to arrive at the 20th side road. From there is gets really fun, offering choices both to the east and west along the 5th line. The Holland Marsh is always a welcome respite from the hills of the Moraine, and Bradford, while slightly outside the municipal boundaries of King, is an accessible destination.

Westward, the 17th concession/Castlederg Sideroad to Airport road is another well-travelled route. The road crosses rivers and meanders past fields and farms, and passes the Humber Valley Heritage Trail. Closer to the heart of King City, Jane, Keele, Dufferin and the Kettleby area all invite the cyclist to cycle northward and enjoy their beauty.

Cycling is a particularly amusing sport because you likely will need to eat (and caffeinate) during your ride. Cyclists resemble flocks of hungry birds in their need to frequently and consistently "refuel" during their travels. King Township is dotted with a wonderful array of cycling-friendly cafes, positioned at regular intervals.

The Grackle in Schomberg is a long standing favourite feed zone. Amanda, the owner, has been serving cyclists for over 10 years. To ensure a welcoming space, she now also rents a patio directly opposite the shop, provides ample bike parking, supplies jugs of water for bottle refilling, and has a bike repair kit available. Amada keeps her eyes on route plans for various cycling groups, like The Morning Glory club, so that she can ensure that she has lots of baked goods on hand.

The newest coffee shop on the block, Sugar and Spice is also hosting hungry cyclists. In response to cyclists' requests, the shop has broadened its menu selections to include more robust snacks like granola treats. In Pottageville, Pathways to Perennials, on Lloydtown–Aurora Road, is a garden of delights. The outdoor courtyard is full of flowers and tempting refreshment choices. Closer to the heart of King City, the Roost Café is a welcome perch for the weary rider; and Pine Farms on the 16th, between Jane and Keele, has been hosting cyclists for years.

Many avid cyclists use an app called "Strava" to record their rides and overall progress. Strava.com allows riders (and runners) to create profiles. Cyclists can use the Strava app on their phone or sporting gadgets to record GPS (for saving and sharing your route) and every single second of your speed (or lack of it), heart rate, and even watts of power if you are so equipped. An informal competition often develops between cyclists who vie for "king or queen of the mountain" on Strava leader boards. For example, the hill southbound on Weston Rd between the 17th and 16th side roads (one of the biggest around) has a leader board that lists best times of the 1,137 cyclists to post their rides on Strava. (KOM goes to Anton Varabel who climbed it in 1:03 at 29.2km/h – a professional-caliber effort.)

“The rolling landscape sculpts riders, building strength and stamina. The land's rural beauty entices people to come out to marvel at the charming scenery.”

Cycling is a sport that can be enjoyed alone, or in the company of others. There are numerous groups from all over the GTA that cycle to, and through, the township. The York Region Cycling Coalition has a list of regional clubs including Morning Glory, Vaughan Veloforte, King-Vaughan, BI Evo, Veneto, and the Newmarket Eagles, to name a few. Information on how to join is available on the internet. Whether in the company of a club or solo, one can also find many annual cycling fundraisers and events to attend. Some popular fundraisers include the Ride for Sight, Ride for Karen, and, of course, the Ride to Conquer Cancer (Toronto to Niagara).

A common denominator for all cyclists, regardless of ability, is the desire for road safety. Any physical encounters between a motor vehicle and a bicycle is bound to end poorly for the cyclist, regardless of who is to blame. Awareness is the single most important tool for safety. Even experienced cyclists, when driving a car, tend to underestimate how fast a bike can sometimes move, which can lead to incidents. It is everyone's responsibility to stay courteous and safe on the road. For cyclists, that means respecting all rules of the road. For drivers, ideally, they always respect the inherently fragile nature of cyclists on the road and give them wide margins.

Cycling is steadily gaining popularity and King Township residents are well positioned to enjoy all the fun (and health benefits) of cycling, be it mountain, touring or road bike. The roads beckon and padded pants are always an option.



• Cycling in Kettleby  
• by Barry Wallace,  
• from Camera  
• On King



• Earth tones by Jamie Maclean.  
• More of Jamie's paintings will be on display at the Schomberg Street Gallery,  
• Sunday, September 17



McMichael Canadian Art Collection  
Volunteer  Committee

# AUTUMN ART SALE

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# The Three Kings

by Meline Beach



Outer Shoals, 40x60 acrylic mixed media  
by Ed Bartram

As a visitor or resident of King Township, you likely admire this part of the Greater Toronto Area for its tree canopy, rolling hills, and rural setting. The region is also rich in art with over 50 declared artists residing in and around the area. Among them are Helen Lucas, Ed Bartram and Ernestine Tahedl – three professional painters who will be showcasing select pieces of art at the **Three King Artists exhibition** – King Heritage and Cultural Centre, September 5-28, 2017.

## Helen paints from her head and her heart

Rich red, vibrant yellow and warm violet are just some of the colours used to paint the depth and detail of delicate petals. The bright, bold images are so vivid that if you stare long enough, you can almost smell the sweet, floral scent of the fresh-cut flowers before you. Helen Lucas says she doesn't just paint flowers but rather paints what flowers mean to her: "Flowers are expressions of joy, celebration and fleeting moments of life," says Helen, who adores the visual effect they project – of hope, happiness and optimism.

A quick study, Helen learned at a young age that she could express her thoughts and feelings through her artwork, without verbally communicating a single word. Her life experiences, kind heart and headstrong attitude are evident in her art, which includes shades of black charcoal from darker days; spiritual doves from a time of sorrow and hint of hope; to bold and beautiful floral arrangements. Her work, which serves as a form of emotional, mental and physical release, is displayed as far away as Rwanda, Africa, and has earned immense recognition in the art scene.

Helen stumbled across King Township over 30 years ago. Born and raised in Saskatchewan, she travelled across three provinces and over three addresses in the city of Toronto before making her way north.

"We wanted to move to the country where we could build a studio," says Helen, recalling her drive from Cabbagetown one evening. "We just kept going up Yonge street when we reached King road and I said to my husband, 'oh, turn left, King is supposed to be really pretty.'"

The first old farmhouse that they saw on one of King's rural roads is the one they bought and where Helen still lives to this day.

For more information on Helen, her life's work or to purchase her art, visit [www.helenlucas.com](http://www.helenlucas.com).

## Ed zooms in on the finer lines of his surroundings

Straight and squiggly lines running parallel or sometimes perpendicular over waves of pink and taupe with splashes of orange and bluish green is what you see when you stare into some of Ed's abstract work of the Canadian Shield.

It took years for it to all come together for Ed. Born in London, Ontario, Ed's plan was to follow his dad's footsteps and become a physician. But his dislike for organic chemis-

try discouraged him from pursuing a medical career. So, he studied art history and combined it with his love for the great outdoors; a love that was nurtured by visits to his grandfather's home near Owen Sound and years spent as a summer camp counsellor.

"As a youth, I grew up exploring the southern parts of Georgian Bay, near Leith, which happens to be the place where Tom Thomson grew up and is buried," says Ed, who has fond memories of canoeing along the eastern shores of Georgian Bay. At the age of 25, he bought one of those islands, eventually legally renamed it Bartram island, and set up a summer studio. In order to support his passion, Ed taught art in high schools in Toronto and enrolled in teacher training courses at the Ontario College of Art and Design during the summer. It was then when one of his teachers inspired him to take up print making – which he did. An established series of etchings has won him a number of awards and national recognition.

Ed eventually returned to painting with a continued focus on rock formations found on his island. He applies texture to his art using black sand collected between the Precambrian Rocks painted green and orange areas to represent lichen and other organic constructs. When asked about his inspiration, Ed states: "My art is a re-enactment of the forces that nature exerted on the surfaces of the Canadian shield over one billion years ago."

It was a friend who introduced Ed to King Township in the 1970s. The selling feature was a waterfront cottage along the beautiful banks of the Humber River. Ed bought two lots, one for his main dwelling and painting studio, and the other for his print shop, where he created original etchings for nearly 50 years. Today, Ed divides his time between his King address and Bartram island. Both have active studios and host ongoing teaching conversations with visiting scholars.

To learn more about Ed, his prints and paintings or to make a purchase, visit: <http://www.edbartram.ca>.

## Ernestine's brush strokes move to the sound of music

For years, Ernestine has leveraged the power of music to move her mind and her hand. Primary colours blend and bleed to form a beautiful array on canvas. Some pieces appear still,



A Vivaldi Cantata I reverse painting  
on glass by Ernestine Tahedl

like a mirror image on a glass lake, while others appear to have motion, a swift swirl or a shake. Layers of colour make unique combinations and create a sense of depth, mystery and musical intonation.

Though grateful for her father's guidance, mentorship and mutual love of art (her father was a well-known stained-glass artist and painter in Vienna), Ernestine was determined to carve an artistic path for herself and emigrated to Canada from Austria when she was 23 years old. "I knew that my career would be slower and more cumbersome in Austria than it would be in Canada," says Ernestine, about her decision to leave her birth country.

She landed in Edmonton during a building boom with little to no competition in working with stained glass – a skill she learned from her father. Within three years, she was commissioned to create large stained-glass pieces of art for Expo '67.

Ernestine extended her artistic ability to painting with colourful, whimsical brush strokes timed to the tunes of classical music. Toggling between abstract and landscape, she takes life in stride with sheer optimism, a positive outlook and a degree of luck. "I didn't have an alternate career plan," says Ernestine. "I was fortunate to have met people who were kind and caring throughout my journey."

Ernestine was keen on finding a property that would enable her to set up a studio in a peaceful setting. It is the unspoiled rural setting that attracted her. While her work takes her across Canada and back and forth to Europe, King has been home for over 40 years.

For more information or to purchase Ernestine's works of art – stained glass or canvas, visit <http://www.interlog.com/~etahedl>

For more information on the Three King Artists exhibition, visit: <http://king.ca/LivingInKing/ParksRecreationCulture/CommunityandCulture/King%20Township%20Museum/Pages/default.aspx>.



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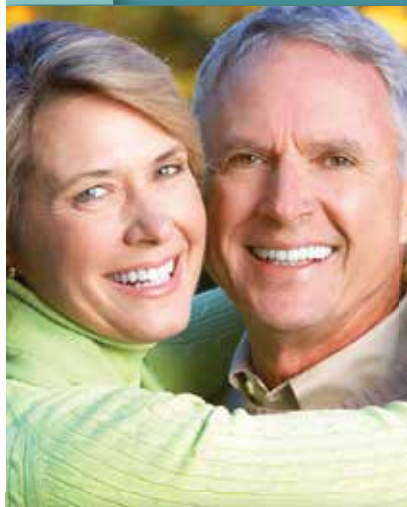
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## Passion and Purpose Linda Lundström's Vision

Since 1986, Linda Lundström, Canadian fashion designer, has been collaborating with First Nations, leading to her visionary Sewing Circle Project.

She once found herself flying, but not in an airplane, over the tiny lights of northwest Ontario communities and felt deeply connected. It was years later that the meaning of the vision, and how to make her artistic gifts serve a higher purpose, became clear: Remote communities were in need of profitable business opportu-

nities and self-sustaining economies that could also carry into the future. She saw in herself the one – with the background, experience and unwavering commitment – to bring the vision to life.

The knowledge from three decades in the apparel industry is what Linda passes on to enterprising people of the fly-in community of Eabametoong First Nation who are learning to produce needed and desirable articles to sell within the community, and later elsewhere. The Chief and Council assigned Paul Holcroft to the project and, in 2017, funds were found to pay for Linda to conduct four weeks of on-site training, but sourcing and transporting from

her network of suppliers is both time-consuming and expensive. Self-sufficiency comes first, and emphasis is on sourcing Canadian materials and local resources, such as fur and leather. Try trucking and flying in 2500 lbs of cargo, including industrial sewing machines!

Her vision and passion have brought Linda Lundström full circle, giving back to those whose need is greatest, those who, with a little help, could make their lives with their own hands. At [www.sewingcircle.org](http://www.sewingcircle.org) you can learn more and see how you can help.

Linda's atelier is a cabin hideaway bursting with racks of half-finished couture, bolts of shimmering fabrics and a fur flopped here and there on a cutting table. Her three sewing machines are seldom idle. She sews every prototype herself so she can instruct those who will produce it. And she has miles to go before she sleeps. Thirty years ago the designer was a ground-breaking Toronto fashionista using a lean (not batch) approach to manufacturing. Born in the goldmining community of Cochenour near Red Lake, she knows from cold! Her original LAPARKA line was created to fill a niche for romantic, feminine, dressy, yet warm outerwear. Over 100,000 iconic coats adorned wearers before the business was sold in 2008.

"There is no roadmap for artistic, creative endeavour. Those racks are full of mistakes. You rip what you sew."

Today it's Therma Kōta – from a Sami word for "protection", or "dwelling", a collaborative passion project with daughters, Moshia, 31, and Sophie, 27. "Something was missing in the outerwear market," said Moshia. The girls are hip to their generation of buyers, thus the Nordic-inspired reversibles are as glamorous as they are practical. While she sews the prototypes, her daughters do a fashion shoot in Iceland. Someday, it may happen in Överkalix, Sweden. With an Icelandic mother and a Swedish father, Linda's antecedents all come from above the Arctic Circle. Check out [www.thermakota.com](http://www.thermakota.com) for the fabulous creations available on-line, and in Yorkville's trendy Pink Tartan.

*Editor's note: Linda Lundström wowed the audience with her story, presented at an ASK event in May*



Lundstrom working with members of the Sewing Circle project.



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JUNE 4



# VISIT

Please visit the ASK website and facebook page. Meet artists, sneak a peak at upcoming ASK events and enjoy archived editions of MOSAiC.  
[www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca) and [www.facebook.com/artsocietyking](https://www.facebook.com/artsocietyking)



# Events in and Around King Township

by Teri Hastings, Arts Society King



**September 5 - 28** - 'Three King Artists' exhibit at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. International and world renowned artists Helen Lucas, Ed Bartram and Ernestine Tahedl will come together for a one of a kind collective exhibit. Open Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Complimentary admission. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca) or 905-833-2331.

**September 6** - King City Seniors' Centre Membership Registration, 9:30 am - 11:00 am. Contact Dorothy 905-833-4927 for additional information.

**September 7** - Forget about the Brushes workshop presented by Kingcrafts, (12939 Keele Street) 9:30 am - 4:00 pm. [kingcrafts.ca](http://kingcrafts.ca)

**September 9** - Schomberg Community Farm Official Grand Opening, Western Avenue Schomberg, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm. Bring your family and friends for food, fun and festivities at The Farm. [schombergcommunityfarm.ca](http://schombergcommunityfarm.ca)

**September 9** - Felted Scarf Workshop at Kingcrafts, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. [kingcrafts.ca](http://kingcrafts.ca)

**September 13** - Cold Creek Conservation Stewardship Opening Fall Meeting at the Education Centre at Cold Creek, 9:30 am. Anyone interested in joining or learn-

ing more about Cold Creek is welcome to attend. Contact [belfam@sympatico.ca](mailto:belfam@sympatico.ca) for additional information.

**September 13 -16** - The Schomberg Skating Club Skate Exchange drop-off, Trisan Centre. 6:00 - 8:00 pm on the 13th, 14th, 15th and 9:00 am - 12:00 pm on the 16th. Drop-off good condition used hockey or figure skates for an exchange. [schombergskatingclub.com](http://schombergskatingclub.com)

**September 15 - October 1** - Headwater Arts Festival Juried Art Show and Sale, Wednesdays through Sundays, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Alton Mills Art Centre. [info@headwaterarts.ca](mailto:info@headwaterarts.ca)

**September 15** - Headwaters Arts Opening Celebration for the Juried Art Show and Sale, 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Alton Mills Arts Centre, \$25 + HST. [info@headwatersarts.ca](mailto:info@headwatersarts.ca)

**September 15** - King City Seniors' Centre Corn Roast, 4:00 pm. Contact Vince at 905-833-6305 for additional information.

**September 15 & 16** - Magna Hoedown in Aurora! Support 20 local charities and enjoy live music, a Texas-style barbeque dinner, a raffle and more. Enjoy headliner act on Saturday night Tom Cochrane with Red Rider. [hoedown.ca](http://hoedown.ca)

**September 16** - Photography Workshop presented by King Township, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, Cold Creek Conservation Area, \$42 per person. [king.ca](http://king.ca) or [programs@king.ca](mailto:programs@king.ca)

**September 17** - Arts Society King presents the annual Schomberg Street Gallery, main street Schomberg, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The road is closed to traffic allowing full access to a selection and sale of fine art. [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca) and [facebook.com/schombergstreetgallery/](https://facebook.com/schombergstreetgallery/)

**September 17** - Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection Bird Feeder Building Workshop, Dufferin Marsh, 10:00 am. Kids can make a beautiful wooden bird feeder to take home. Free event. [mfasselstine@aol.com](mailto:mfasselstine@aol.com)

**September 23** - The King Township Historical Society presents Doors Open King Township, various sites, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Contact local coordinator kelly-mathews@hotmail.com or visit [doorsopenontario.on.ca/Events/King-Township.aspx](http://doorsopenontario.on.ca/Events/King-Township.aspx)

**September 22** - Fine Art by Eight Reception at Kingcrafts, 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Preview the art and enjoy light refreshments. [kingcrafts.ca](http://kingcrafts.ca)

**September 23 & 24** - Fine Art By Eight presented by Kingcrafts, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. [kingcrafts.ca](http://kingcrafts.ca)

**September 26** - King Chamber of Commerce Free Seminar 'How to effectively use your business plan', Nobleton Public Library, 7:00 - 9:00 pm. [kingchamber.ca](http://kingchamber.ca)

**September 28** - King Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Business Awards, Nobleton Lakes Golf Club, 6:00 pm. [kingchamber.ca](http://kingchamber.ca)

**September 28** - Write Now @ King! will

hold their monthly meeting at the King City Public Library, 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Open to all published and aspiring writers. Contact [doritapeer@bell.net](mailto:doritapeer@bell.net) for the scoop.

**September 28 & 30** - King Curling Club Open House, Trisan Centre. [kingcurlingclub.com](http://kingcurlingclub.com)

**September 29, 30, & October 1** - 'Culture Days' invites everyone to explore, discover and participate in arts and culture in every community across the country. [on.culturedays.ca/en](http://on.culturedays.ca/en). Kingcrafts Studio welcomes visitors daily to make and take art projects. [www.kingcrafts.ca](http://www.kingcrafts.ca). On October 1, drop by the King Heritage and Cultural Centre for an open house including a 'King Then and Now' Photography show. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca)

**September 30** - King Township, in partnership with the Holland Marsh Growers Association, presents 'Soupfest' at Ansnorveldt Park, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. [king.ca](http://king.ca) or [soupfest.ca](http://soupfest.ca)

**October 2** - Headwaters Arts presents Monday Night at the Movies, 7:00 pm at Galaxy Cinemas. [info@headwatersarts.ca](mailto:info@headwatersarts.ca)

**October 3** - King City Seniors' Centre Mystery Tour departing from the King City Arena, 8:30 am. Enjoy a coach trip to a mystery destination, lunch included, \$106 per person. Contact Jane at 905-833-5870 for additional information.

**October 4** - King City Seniors' Centre Movie Night, doors open 6:30 pm. Contact John at 905-833-6432 for additional information.

**October 7** - Landscape Painting Workshop presented by King Township, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, Cold Creek Conservation Area, \$42 per person. [king.ca](http://king.ca) or [programs@king.ca](mailto:programs@king.ca)

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Please contact all groups directly for location and ticket information as some fees apply and may not be listed. Some details may be subject to change.

**October 10 – November 18 -**

The King Township Museum World War I Exhibit at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. A special exhibit commemorating the local soldiers from King Township who proudly contributed to Canada's war effort during The First World War. Join us in remembering their stories. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca) or 905-833-2331.

**October 19 -** King Township Food Bank annual fundraiser, Nobleton Lakes Golf Club, 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Bring your mates for a cracking do - 'London Calling' is the theme for this year's party to raise money for the King Township Food Bank. The streets of London will provide stellar shopping, and brilliant food and drink. You'll be chuffed to bits! Tickets are \$40 in advance. [www.kingtowshipfoodbank.ca](http://www.kingtowshipfoodbank.ca)

**October 20 -** King City Seniors' Centre Pot Luck Lunch, 12:30 pm. All are welcome. Contact Mary at 905-833-0448 for additional information.

**October 26 -** Write Now @ King! will hold their monthly meeting at the Nobleton Public Library, 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Open to all published and aspiring writers. Contact [doritapeer@bell.net](mailto:doritapeer@bell.net) for the scoop.

**October 27 & 28 -** Haunting on King Road at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 6:00 - 10:00 pm. Enjoy delicious treats, spooky activities and a haunted maze! Fun for the entire family! Time: 6:00 - 10:00 pm. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca), [king.ca](http://king.ca) or 905-833-2331.

**October 28 - LIVE Music in King presented by Arts Society King. Enjoy a NEW STYLE of concert 'LIVE at the Club' with RESERVED table seating featuring Great Hits of the Decades - Favourite Songs from the 60's to 90's 60's, Kingbridge Centre. Doors open at 7:30 pm and concert begins at 8:00 pm. Tickets \$50 (plus HST) online at [ArtsSocietyKing.ca](http://ArtsSocietyKing.ca). Additional pre-concert dinner option at Kingbridge available. A fantastic evening awaits right here in King!**

**November 1 -** King City Seniors' Centre Movie Night, doors open 6:30pm. Contact John at 905-833-6432 for additional information.

**November 5 -** Our Soldiers Our Families presented by King Librarian Sharon Bentley of the King Township Library at the King Heritage and Culture Centre, 2:00 - 4:00 pm.

**November 17 - 19, 25 - 26 -** Kingcrafts Studio Sale, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily with the exception of November 17 from 1:00 - 7:00 pm. Kingcrafts annual studio sale of arts and craft, no tax and free parking. [kingcrafts.ca](http://kingcrafts.ca)

**November 17 -** King City Seniors' Centre Pot Luck Lunch, 12:30 pm. Contact Mary at 905-833-0448 for additional information.

**November 21 -** King Township Youth Opportunity Fair, The Manor in Kettleby, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. An opportunity for high school students seeking new experiences through employment, volunteerism, and personal development, to engage in face-to-face conversation with a variety of vendor booths such as youth organizations, community groups, and businesses. [King.ca](http://King.ca)

**November 23 -** Write Now @ King! will hold their monthly meeting at the Nobleton Public Library, 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Open to all published and aspiring writers. Contact [doritapeer@bell.net](mailto:doritapeer@bell.net) for the scoop.

**November 25 – Dec 16 -** Trees of Giving at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. Drop by and see festive trees that have been decorated by various King Community Groups. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca) or 905-833-2331

**November 25 –** December 16 - Portraits of Giving exhibit at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. A special photography exhibit that recognizes outstanding leaders within York Region who give back to their communities. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca) or 905-833-2331

**November 25 -** Cookies with Santa at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. Drop in for crafts, cookies and a chance to meet the Big Man in Red!. [kingmuseum@king.ca](mailto:kingmuseum@king.ca) or 905-833-2331.

**November 27 -** King City Seniors' Centre Floral Workshop, Lions' Room upstairs at King City Arena, 1:30 pm. Create your own seasonal centrepiece, \$25 per person. Contact Carolyn at 905-833-0792 for additional information.

**December 1 -** The King Township Historical Society will host their annual Christmas concert featuring Canadian fiddle music historian Anne Lederman and friends, All Saints Anglican Church, 7:00 pm. Contact Diana for tickets at 905-859-3965.

**December 2 -** The Schomberg Village Association presents a Main Street Christmas from 3:00 to 9:00 pm. Enjoy a fun-filled family event along historic main street. [amainstreetchristmas.com](http://amainstreetchristmas.com)

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The 1960s was the decade in which Toronto's music scene took shape. Stages in Yorkville and along the Yonge Street strip produced highly regarded folk, rock, and R&B-influenced sounds. Though many of the venues from the decade are long gone, acts that developed their reputations in those venues became known around the globe.

On October 28, be entertained with friends around a candle-lit table, sip a glass of wine or savour a beer, and let the sounds take you on a journey of musical memory. Great Hits of the Decades: Favourite Songs from the 60's to 90's is sure to have you smiling, reminiscing and toe-tapping as our LIVE band and special guests remind you of the famous tunes of the era, all set against a backdrop reminiscent of a very cool and comfortable lounge.

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1. King Heritage & Cultural Centre, King City
2. Kingcrafts, King City
3. Marylake Augustinian Monastery & Shrine, King City
4. Engel & Volkers (St. Andrews Presbyterian Church), King City
5. The Roost Café (Crawford & Maud Wells Home), King City
6. Hogan's Inn, King City
7. The Country Day School (Eversley Schoolhouse), King City
8. Christ Church Kettleby
9. Dorio's Bakery (Jacob Walton, General Store & Post Office), Kettleby
10. Nobleton Feed Mill, Nobleton
11. Women's Institute, Nobleton
12. Dr. Vaux House, Schomberg
13. Sugar and Spice Bakery and Café, Schomberg
14. Masonic Lodge, Schomberg
15. Scruffy Duck, Schomberg

# DOORS OPEN KING TOWNSHIP

## A spectacular display of repurposing the past!

by Kelly Mathews

The King Township Historical Society is excited to partner with the King Township Heritage Advisory Committee in announcing the return of Doors Open King Township 2017. This year's event will take place on **Saturday September 23, 2017 from 10am-4pm**. This is a great opportunity to visit and enjoy a 'behind the scenes' glimpse of some heritage treasures located all across King Township!

The fourteen participating venues have one thing in common – they continue to preserve and protect buildings that have a long-standing history in the community. Buildings that have served as former general stores, churches, schools and doctor's offices are continuing to serve the community of King Township in new capacities such as restaurants, coffee houses, real estate offices, and more! Repurposing a heritage structure turns something from the past into something for the future—which is also... a little like magic!



Dr. Vaux House

What's the OLDEST building taking part this year? On the grounds of the Marylake Monastery & Shrine can be found a Pioneer Log Cabin. This Log Cabin dates back to the days of William Lyon Mackenzie. At best estimate, the cabin is at least 200 years old and was built by hand with a tool call the adze, long before the axe came into use. The cabin is currently being used as the Gift Shop for the Monastery.

What's the NEWEST building on the

register taking part this year? At 307 Main Street in Schomberg, a private home with many heritage features opened in May as Sugar and Spice Bakery and Café selling food made with local ingredients. The gabled metal roof covers an inviting veranda where guests can enjoy tasty soups, decadent desserts, and custom cakes while people-watching on Main Street.

For more information please visit: [www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/kingtownship](http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/kingtownship)



Marylake Monastery Gift Shop

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

to greet visitors at each of the venues. We will be offering three shift options: Full Day 10am-4pm (6 hours); AM 10am-1pm (3 hours); and, PM 1pm-4pm (3 hours). This event would not be possible without the support of volunteers in our community. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us through our website at: [kingtownshiphistoricalsociety.com](http://kingtownshiphistoricalsociety.com)

## ANNOUNCING!

The Heritage Advisory Committee's recently revived award program has a winner! The award celebrates a property in King which contributes to our unique culture and heritage. The winner of this award, which was chosen from public submissions, will be announced at a fall Township Council meeting. The owner of the winning building will be awarded a framed artist-rendering of their building or home, created by a local artist.





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Current Library

# A History of King City Public Library: From Then To Now

by Kalli Secord

A public library is a space for everyone in the community.

No matter who you are or how old you are, you are always welcome in the library. Public libraries are focused on being an inviting place for everyone and offering a variety of services that people can use and enjoy. When a public library is built or renovated, it is always with the community in mind. Would the community get more benefit from more books and shelving, or should there be a space for reading and studying as well? Will they want these spaces to be more innovative and creative or to include a community room they can take advantage of?

The King Township Library is no different. We are constantly striving to make the library accessible and inviting to everyone, as we have always done, not only within the walls but with the walls themselves. This is demonstrated most notably by the King City branch where word of the upcoming renovation and expansion has already spread and the excitement has grown. But what are the origins of this library the King City community knows and loves?

The people of King City have always been book lovers and in 1893 a library was organized, known as the King City Mechanics and Library Association. The books were

housed in the office of Bailiff J.W. Crossley, 15 Keele Street South. The membership fee was \$1 per family or 50 cents per person. Unfortunately, it was difficult to find a supervisor, and the library was discontinued.

Just over 50 years later, The King Memorial Library was founded in 1947 by members of the Women's Institute as an Association Library, named to commemorate local soldiers fallen during WWII. During this time, it was housed in an old barn and later moved to a small framed building, both in Memorial Park. The Lake Marie Athletic Association kindly donated both the space and shelving for the library.

In 1956 the library moved to 45 Springhill Road (now King Road) and achieved Public Library status as voted by the King City taxpayers: only one voter was against this idea at the time. This library operation continued until the assets were absorbed into the Township of King Central Library in 1969.

In 1970 the "little gem of imaginative design and practical structure" opened its doors in its current location at 1970 (ironic, we know) King Road, bringing the library into the 20th century. The library's 5,000-square-foot building cost \$84,000 to build. The architect, Dennis Bowman, was chastised for designing a public building that didn't fit the current mold of being very square and stark. In fact, when it



Old Library - 1970

first opened it was described as being "light and airy, [with a] homelike atmosphere."

Dennis Bowman, the architect, designed and incorporated a wood and wool mural into the foyer of the new library. The wood piece was made from hundreds of pieces of African pango-pango, redwood, maple and teak pieces and the wheel-themed wool portion was hand hooked by Mrs. Norman Etheridge of Kingcrafts. One of the iconic features of the King City branch library are the oversized Douglas fir beams that dominate the main floor of the library, a feature that is planned for incorporation into the new design. When the branch was built in 1970, the materials were chosen for being sturdy, easy to care for and visually appealing; a theme that is being emulated in the new building.

On opening day, Saturday January 10, 1970, a

total of 150 people registered to be members of the library, many from outside the area. At the opening, the library was gifted numerous items still housed in the library today, including a watercolour of the former frame building on Springhill Road by Susan Hally.

The new King City branch will grow from the current 7,839 square feet to be more than 2 ½ times as large, and will incorporate the King City Senior's Centre into the state-of-the-art building. The design for the new building will take the library from the 20th to the 21st century with many exciting new features, but without losing the elements people love most about the current building, including the eye-catching wooden beams. Some of the special features of the new building will include a dedicated maker space, (creative and collaborative space), quiet study rooms, iPad bar, a larger community room, and lounge areas for reading and relaxing.

All this is to say that, upon the grand opening of its doors in the Fall of 2018, the King City Library will be the epitome of a 21st century library, and act as a "centre of innovation and a vibrant community hub."



Future Library - Fall 2018







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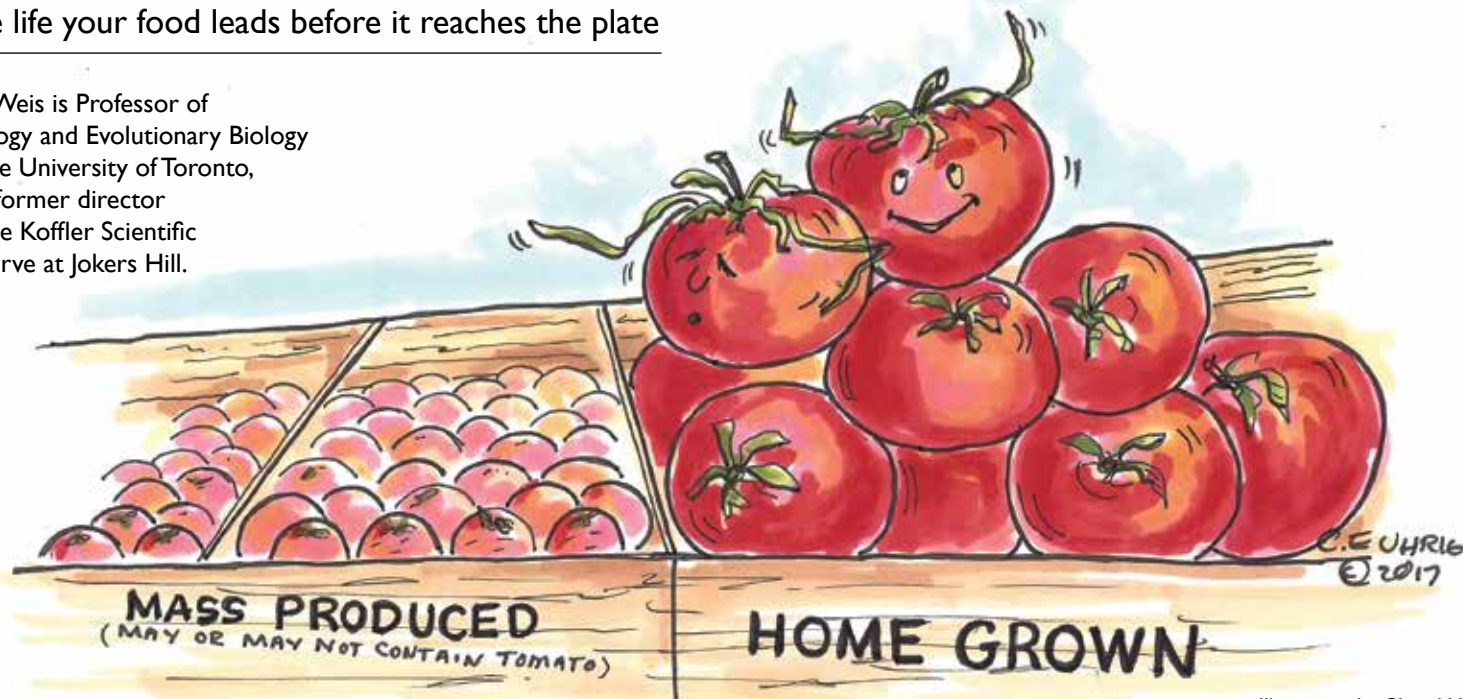




## BIOLOGIST AT THE TABLE

The life your food leads before it reaches the plate

Art Weis is Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Toronto, and former director of the Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill.



— Illustration by Cheryl Uhrig

# TOMATOES: A Story of the Bland and the Bold!

As the American humorist Lewis Gizzard once said, “It’s difficult to think anything but pleasant thoughts while eating a homegrown tomato.”

In late July, my mind begins to mellow as I snatch a cherry tomato from the potted plant every time I descend the deck stairs. August brings a bliss like no other, as night after night I enjoy a sliced beefsteak, with balsamic vinegar and torn basil, fresh from the vine. September is Gazpacho month. As the summer passes, trips to the garden become tinged with melancholy as the heirloom varieties wane. Thanks-giving dinner, which always features those last few fruits we nursed through, marks the end of “the tomato time.” After that, I do not eat fresh tomatoes until the following summer. Sure, I could get them at the grocery store, but as you have all no doubt noticed, supermarket tomatoes are to tomatoes, as lightning-bugs are to lightning (to borrow from Mark Twain).

Over the 20th century, mechanized agriculture made it possible to grow and harvest tomatoes on a grand scale, and international distribution systems could deliver them year-round. They have become the world’s highest-value vegetable crop, with production of 170 million tons per year. But the uniform, unblemished, reddish globes in the produce bin are not the delicate fruits we pull from our garden vines. The supermarket varieties survive the tussle of harvest and shipping for two reasons. First, they are picked green and ripened in transit. Second, supermarket tomatoes taste bland because of their genetics. Breeding tougher tomatoes has had unintended consequences. It is a breeding process that began over 2,000 years ago in South America.

The tomatoes we enjoy today are the descendants of wild plants native to the Andes mountains. The wild fruits are the size of a marble or smaller. And they are sweeter. As the Mayan and Aztec civilizations adopted them, they chose the seeds from the larger-fruited vines for replanting. Over generations the fruits evolved to be larger, but with a lower sugar concentration. When Europeans brought tomatoes back from the Americas, seeds got distributed far and wide. Over the next 400 years, new genes and gene combinations popped up here and there, producing fruits that struck the growers’ fancy. From these came the heirloom varieties that are now in vogue. In the last century, commer-

cial growers sold tomatoes by the pound, and professional breeders responded to this demand. The vines that produced denser, tougher fruits were the ones selected for the next generation, regardless of flavour.

Earlier this year, plant geneticist Harry Klee from the University of Florida, with colleagues, published a stunning analysis of tomato flavour genetics. They first sequenced the genomes of over 100 types, including commercial and heirloom varieties, plus wild relatives. Then, they had a panel of taste testers score each. Putting these data together, they identified the genes that contribute to flavour.

It turns out that tomato flavour is incredibly complex. To put it in context, think of bananas and strawberries. Food technicians have produced reasonably good artificial flavourings to mimic these fruits because their taste depends on sugar and two or three additional plant chemicals. In tomatoes, flavour comes

from sugar, but also acids, both of which stimulate the tongue. But on top of these are at least 25 volatile compounds that stimulate the nose. And many of these are present at low levels. Over generations of commercial breeding, genes coding for some of these compounds dropped out, one at a time. Technically, mutated, non-functional versions of these genes accidentally got passed on to the breeding stock. The loss in zest from one generation to the next was slight, but blandness accumulated.

With the genes for taste being identified, there is hope of replacing the low-flavour mutations with working versions. New gene editing methods could speed the process. But I don’t expect a genetically restored supermarket tomato, picked green, to ever rival one I grow in my own garden. Ah, bliss.

## GAZPACHO SOUP

This cold soup is my end-of-season favorite. I grow all of the main ingredients in the garden

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds vine-ripened tomatoes, peeled, seeded and chopped
- 1 cup cucumber, peeled, seeded and chopped
- 1/2 cup each of bell pepper and sweet onion, chopped
- 1 each, small, seeded jalapeno and large clove of garlic, minced
- 1/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 lime, juiced, and 2 t. balsamic vinegar
- 1/2 t each ground cumin and black pepper
- 2 t kosher salt
- 2 T chopped fresh basil leaves, or cilantro, for garnish

### DIRECTIONS

The easy way is to put all of the ingredients, except the basil/cilantro, into a food processor, and blend for 15-30 seconds. For a chunkier alternative, you can set aside about a third of the vegetables; then mix them back into the blended portion. Very important: let the mixture sit in the refrigerator for at least two hours so the flavors can meld. Serve it cold with crusty bread and olive oil for dipping. Enjoy it with a glass of sangria, before, during and/or after.





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# TREE *Lady* by Sue Iaboni

As I enter Darlene's apartment for our interview, I find myself in a forest of art. Trees surround me; hanging on the walls, stacked on tables, propped up against the furniture, leaning against cabinets. The artist succinctly points out, "I live in my work."

Darlene's passion is trees. When they grow near rocks and moving water, she is in heaven. She says that nature is comforting, makes her feel safe and free. She grew up in the Maritimes and loved the landscapes there. Later, when she lived in other places; Mexico City with over 50 million people and serious pollution issues; Indonesia immersed in poverty and crime, she learned to escape by going in search of forests. Locals called her the "Tree Lady."

Darlene's adoration of the landscape goes back to her Maritime roots and one particular fishing cabin in the woods. Her feelings emerged as personification. Rocks to her are solid, strong, dependable. Water is a constantly changing, cleansing force. And trees have relationships. She loves the way they communicate with one another and the way the wind affects

them. Being able to bring out their personalities on canvas is a skill she has acquired over many years.

After completing a high school diploma with art as a major subject, Darlene took several courses, from several schools, and artists such as Ernestine Tahedl (See page 11 for further information.) She then struck out on her own to explore painting techniques. She tried landscapes, abstracts, still life, and portraits, and finally came back full circle to landscapes. Oil is her chosen medium.

"Living in a forest/studio has its limitations," she says. Paintings are never finished. While sitting having breakfast, dusting, even reading, she will look up and notice a tree branch that needs another leaf, a cloud that is too white, a rock that demands another one beside it. She fidgets until she can stand it no longer, and jumps up to grab a brush. As a result, her paintings are constantly being revised.

The Tree Lady spends a lot of time composing titles for her work. Friendship shows 3 trees gathered together, while one stands alone. Trees on a shoreline gazing down at their silhouettes in



the water, is titled Reflecting Others. Negotiating Upstream depicts a fast-moving narrow river running between rocky cliffs, reminding viewers that life is full of challenges.

One of Darlene's favourite paintings is pictured in the photo with her. She calls it Loyal We Stand. It is a tribute to her ancestors who, as United Empire Loyalists, landed in Nova Scotia on this very spot.

Darlene has been involved with Arts Society King for over 4 years. She plans to participate again in this year's Schomberg Street Gallery.

Her work will be on Main Street, Sunday September 17, from 10 am until 5 pm. If you want to bring a little of the forest into your home, a tree of Darlene's may be just the thing.

**Editor's note: Trees figure prominently in a community project beginning on Saturday, November 25. The Heritage and Cultural Centre will once again be hosting Trees Of Giving, an opportunity for you to enjoy festively decorated trees while supporting the King Foodbank.**

## The McMichael celebrates Indigenous art with September exhibition launch of Annie Pootoogook: Cutting Ice by Simona Panetta

'Cutting ice' is a term that implies something that matters or is of consequence. On September 2, 2017, the McMichael Canadian Art Collection proudly presents Annie Pootoogook: *Cutting Ice* —the first major exhibition of the work of this legendary Inuk artist since her sudden death in September 2016.

Pootoogook's drawings offer an intimate window into daily life in Cape Dorset, Nunavut. Taking both the exceptional and the mundane as her subjects, her drawings intrigue in their openness, wit and sincerity. Pootoogook's work challenged the mainstream perception of what Inuit art should be and thus changed the conversation about Inuit art and how it is interpreted across Canada and throughout the world.

Curated by renowned Inuit art scholar Dr. Nancy Campbell, this exhibition will feature over 50 of Pootoogook's drawings made between 2001 and 2010, as well as works by her contemporaries: Shuvinai Ashoona and Siassie Kenneally, her cousins; Itee Pootoogook and Jutai Toonoo, her friends; and Inuk Elder Ohtaq Mikkigak. This will provide a thought-provoking overview of the work and legacy of Annie Pootoogook, whose originality and contemporaneity left an indelible mark on the art world.

In this exhibition, Dr. Campbell takes a community approach and will incorporate the perspectives of a range of individuals from Cape Dorset who knew Annie Pootoogook. Dr. Campbell's curatorial expertise brings new insights to our understanding of Pootoogook's oeuvre and influence on her peers, and brings to life the

many voices from the community she has come to know well.

Dedicated to exclusively celebrating and support Canadian art, and with a permanent collection that includes works by the Group of Seven, Tom Thomson and Indigenous artists, fall 2017 at the McMichael brims with innovative shows and related programming:

Opening on October 7 is *Alex Janvier*, a major

retrospective organized by the National Gallery of Canada honouring one of the most original and innovative contemporary Indigenous artists in Canada.

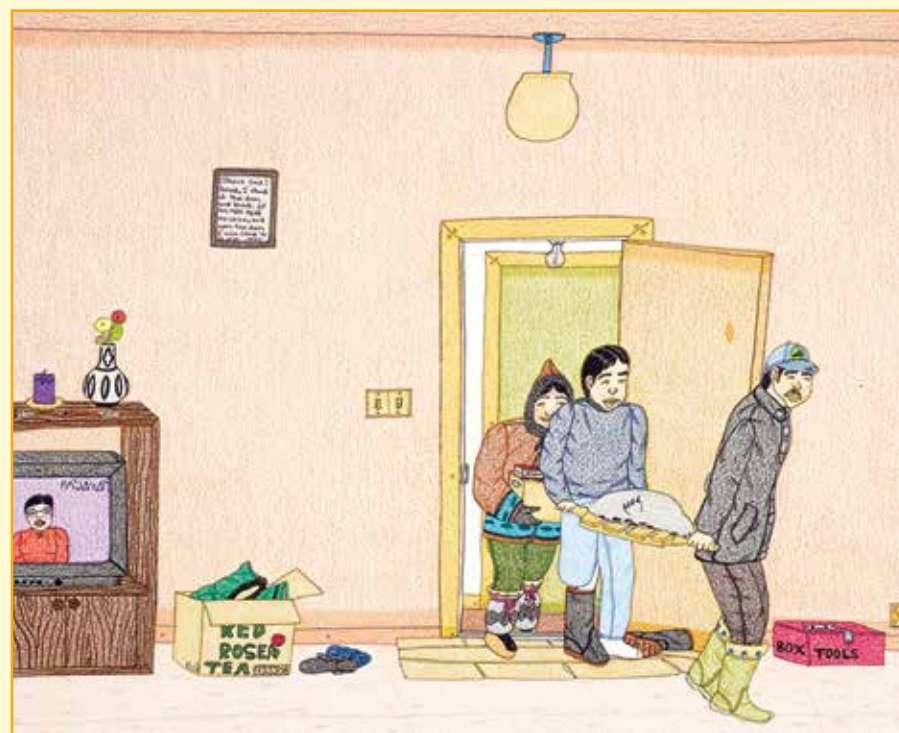
Up until October 29, visitors can immerse themselves in *The Group of Seven Guitar Project* and its related monthly concert series *Acoustic Conversations*, which features moderated conversations between top musi-

cians and their favourite luthiers, as well as live guitar performances.

*Passion Over Reason: Tom Thomson and Joyce Wieland*, which debuted on July 1 alongside Canada 150 celebrations and the centennial of Tom Thomson's death on July 8, will run until November 19. This exhibition features more than 80 Thomson masterworks alongside provocative works of art by Joyce Wieland, and includes a series of commissioned artworks by contemporary artist Zachari Logan, the McMichael's Artist-in-Residence in the Tom Thomson Shack this past summer.

The McMichael is committed to delivering relevant exhibitions and program offerings year after year. From the abstract paintings of Lawren Harris and the commissioned works of Norval Morrisseau, to the Group of Seven-inspired guitars and Tom Thomson masterworks, the gallery continues its mandate to interpret and create dialogue on Canadian and Indigenous art and the impact it has on culture and identity.

For more information, visit [mcmichael.com](http://mcmichael.com).



**Annie Pootoogook (1969 - 2016)**  
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 coloured pencil and felt-tip pen  
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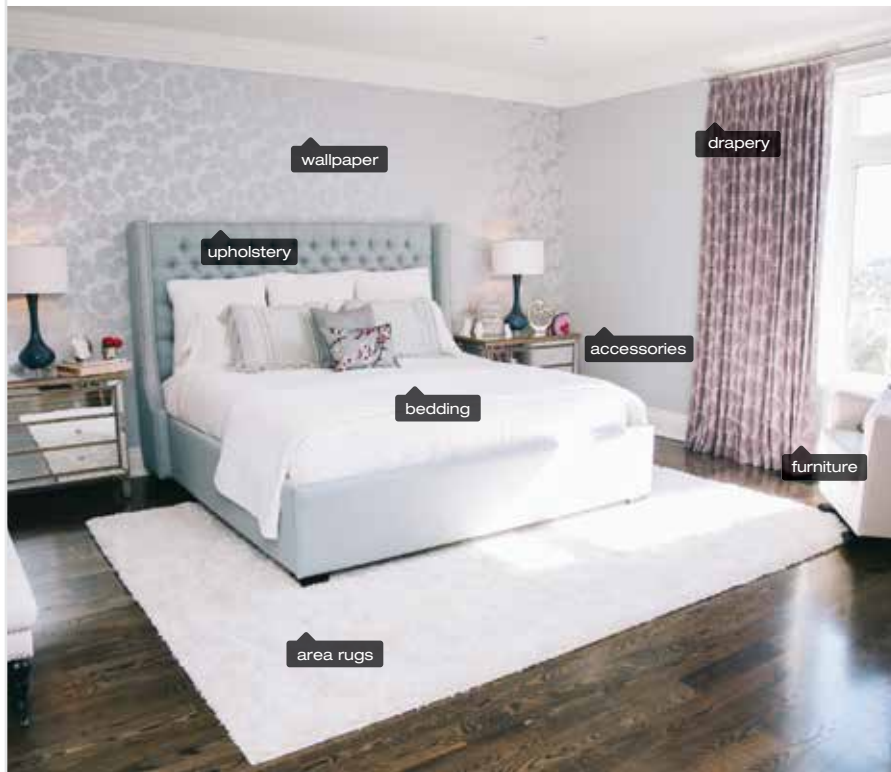
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