



FAIRMONT EMPRESS PRESENTS ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM



Fairmont Empress has launched an Artist in Residence program, captivating guests with live art performances and showcasing the extraordinary talents of local artists in Greater Victoria. Artists using different mediums are set to display their work in the hotel's mezzanine through the fall and into spring to provide a culturally enriching experience for all hotel visitors.

Each month, a distinguished local artist will demonstrate their artistic prowess on canvas through live painting sessions. Guests and the community will have the unique chance to witness the birth of a masterpiece as the artists create stunning works of art right before their eyes. The artists will share their creative process and inspirations, providing an intimate glimpse into the world of artistry.

Artists will be on-site three times a week during their monthly residency. Their schedules will be posted online at the beginning of each month.

To learn more please visit: <https://www.fairmont-empress.com/blog/artist-in-residence-at-the-empress/>

MEET THE ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE



MIKE LATHROP - OCTOBER 2023

Mike has always felt the impact of the landscapes that surround him, and enjoys exploring the outdoors on Vancouver Island. In his paintings, he captures his feeling of a moment in nature; and attempts to document the motion, the colour, the light, and the overall experience of taking in our natural environment. He is an abstract landscape painter and paints images of the West Coast of British Columbia.

To learn more visit: <https://thefeelingoftheplace.com/contact/>

Mike will be in the hotel's lobby during the following times in October.

Monday from 10 am – 2pm

Wednesday from 10 am – 2pm

Friday from 9 am – 12 pm



DONNA ROSE LAW - NOVEMBER 2023

As a child, Donna recalls being captivated by the images of nature. She lived in N.W. Ontario in the country surrounded by forest. She spent most of her time outside, with her dog, on an adventure in the woods. In her youth, she loved painting images of scraggy jackpines against the vivid northern sky. She appreciates bold, vibrant colours, and is drawn to the colours of her childhood. She works with both acrylics and oils.

To learn more visit: <https://donnarosepaintings.com/>



CAROL BEDNARSKI - DECEMBER 2023

Carol enjoys playing with colour, line and texture. She allows her intuitive urges to take over where the painting shows her something, or a hint of place, an image or just a mood. Her process involves brushes, palette knives, scraping, wiping and layering. She aims to express what is authentic, true and beautiful in the world she experiences.

To learn more visit: <https://www.carolbednarski.com/>



MARCELA STRASDAS - JANUARY 2024

Marcela Strasdás is an Argentinian-Canadian painter who loves painting landscapes, still-lives, and florals mostly in acrylics and oils. She is greatly inspired by her love of travelling and gardening, which she translates into colourful, vibrant paintings depicting the beauty found in everyday life. In her work, Marcela instills her experiences: the smells, sounds, shapes, colours, darks, and lights of a moment, invoking memories and freezing them in time.

To learn more visit: <https://www.marcelastrasdas.com/>



KEN MACKENZIE - FEBRUARY 2024

Ken is a Victoria-based contemporary realist pastel painter of land, sea, and cityscapes. His primary source of inspiration for his diverse subject matter is generated from his travels to 35 countries, 23 of which he travelled by motorcycle. Ken strives to illuminate a unique perspective in his painting that may go unnoticed by the casual observer. He often takes on custom projects, which may include a variety of subjects, including vehicles land and cityscapes.

To learn more visit: <https://www.kramackenzie.com/>



CAROLE FINN - MARCH 2024

Carole has had a lifetime of leadership in Haliburton Ontario to establish a school (the Haliburton School of Art and Design), a public art Gallery (Rails End Gallery) and a handful of art groups of differing disciplines. After receiving the Queens Medal and many other awards for her work, Finn finally followed her heart's desire to be a full-time professional artist in 2009. Her paintings, which are done in series, are intended to show beautiful locations whose natural integrity has either been altered by human intervention or is about to be.

To learn more visit: <https://carolefinnartist.com/>



DEBRA GILLESPIE - APRIL 2024

Debra prefers painting in a realistic style with lots of light and values, specializing in glazing with various mediums and oils. Like casting a visual spell of translucent light and shadows. Her paintings are so vivid that you will want to reach out and touch them.

To learn more visit: www.colourwithdebra.com

ARTISTRY AT AFTERNOON TEA

On **Saturday, November 18, 2023**, nine local artists will come together for 'Artistry at Afternoon Tea'. A special event hosted in the Palm Court where the artists will live paint during Afternoon Tea service from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Participants can admire other unique pieces of work by the artists, which are available for purchase.

Artists featured at Artistry at Afternoon Tea include:



DEBORAH CZERNECKY

Deborah Czernecky is an established Canadian Artist who is an Elected Member of the Society of Canadian Artists (SCA) and an Active Member of the Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA). Having traveled widely from western to eastern Canada and across the awe-inspiring Canadian North, Deborah calls Canada her "Big Back Yard".

To learn more visit: <http://www.spinningdogstudio.ca/>



LEE MIZZEN

Lee received private art training at St. Mary's Academy in Windsor Ontario as a youngster, in a large studio illuminated by northern light, and surrounded by the collected sculptures and paintings of the teacher. There, he learned the fundamentals of drawing and painting in pastel and oil. His art practice continued into high school in a studio at home, with a focus on oil painting. Following university and a career as a research scientist in the pharmaceutical industry, he returned to art full-time.

To learn more visit: <https://www.leemizzen.com/>



SHARLENE STUSHNOV-LEE

Sharlene is an award-winning artist who paints primarily in oils and acrylics. As with many artists, her passion for drawing and painting stretches back to her childhood. Her favourite pastimes were exploring the countryside where she lived and sketching on whatever she could get her hands on. The spirit of adventure remains and she continues to explore the world, going on plein air adventures with her friends and making art on a variety of different surfaces.

To learn more visit: <http://www.artbystushnov.com/florals.html>



PETER VAN GIESEN

Peter discovered his artistic and business talents at an early age. He has a fond memory of selling some of his first works of art at recess for snacks in elementary schools and getting in trouble. At every phase of his life, he took time to exercise his creativity. He has received a number of international awards of recognition and has had his artwork accepted into the permanent collection at Government House of British Columbia. After using oil based paint for many years, he switched to acrylic paint in 1993. For him, art is a mystical and spiritual process.

To learn more visit: <https://petervangiesen.com/about-me/>

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