

ARTS & CULTURE

ART LENDING OF OTTAWA: ART FOR EVERYONE

By Leslie Firth

What is Art Lending of Ottawa? What sets it apart from a commercial art gallery? Art Lending is a non-profit cooperative whose sole purpose is to connect local artists with the community of art lovers in Ottawa. We want to see our art on your walls! The unique aspect of Art Lending is right there in its name. Unlike the case in most galleries where a purchase is the only option, our art (though available for purchase) is also available for rent for a fraction of the cost of purchase. If you fall in love with the piece and can't part with it after the three-month rental period, you can re-rent it again and again. If you decide to purchase after renting, every dollar that you've invested in the rental will be applied to the purchase price. One of the customers at a recent show had just moved into his first home and was hoping to replace his old posters with original art. Given the costs of a new house, the affordable option of art rental was the perfect solution for him. Another customer, one of our regulars, has an "art lending" wall in her house and likes to try out new art there frequently.

Another difference between Art Lending and an art gallery – we do not have a permanent space. We hold four one-day shows a year at the RA Centre: a Saturday in March, June, September and December. Each of our 35 artists has gone through the jurying process to be accepted into Art Lending and can bring up to five pieces to each show. You will find a wide range of styles, subject matter and media on display at each Art Lending show – truly something for everyone.

Here are just two of the artists whose works will be on display at our March show:

Christiane Kingsley is a resident of Riverview Park and has been an artist member of Art Lending for over five years. She is an award-winning painter in watercolour, acrylic, oil and mixed media. One of her watercolour series is of stone carvings, particularly carved heads over archways in Venice and on the Gothic façade of the Canadian Parliament. She loves to paint leaves with light or water shining through and a lot of her work includes the shimmer of gold leaf or pewter. She is well known for her



"Drinking sunshine," oil painting by Christiane Kingsley

Arctic and African series in pewter. Her most recent focus is large oil paintings of flowers. Christiane is an explorer at heart and loves to try new surfaces, new styles and techniques. From Renaissance-inspired art to modern abstracts and mixed media, Christiane's artwork embraces it all.

Shelly Amor is one of a group of 13 artists new to Art Lending this year. Born and raised in Ottawa, she has had many creative careers that have influenced her art: landscape architect, high school art teacher and wearable design artist. This artistic journey has led her to her present career, that of a full-time artist. Shelly describes her style as fauvist, depicting the world in vivid bright colours. As she notes, "My acrylic paintings depict various locations I have visited in the last few years, as seen through my kaleidoscope eyes. My bright palette reflects the joy of the day and my leanings as a fauvist artist. These jewelled colours raised my spirits these past two years, and I hope they raise the spirits of those who view my work."



"Golden hour in Tuscany," acrylic painting by Shelly Amor

Christiane, Shelly and all of the Art Lending of Ottawa artists look forward to seeing you at our show on March 18. Admission and parking is free. Submit your name at the door for a chance at a door prize. If you can't make it to the March show, mark your calendar for our next one: June 24.

Leslie Firth is an artist member and board member of Art Lending.



Steven A. Neal,
Lawyer

P. 613.737.4140

1719 Bank St.
Suite 305
Ottawa, ON
steven@payetteneal.com

Are you buying or selling your home? Refinancing? Looking to revise your will or grant a power of attorney? Call today to find out how we can help you! We also offer notary services.

Steven was born and raised in Alta Vista, where he lives with his wife and their two boys. He studied and practiced law in Saskatchewan from 2009 to 2016. Steven has been practicing in association with Cheryl Payette (formerly of Conlin & Payette) since 2017.



- We are happy to see you again for your routine exams.
 - We have reopened with new cleaning guidelines to ensure a safe environment.
 - We ask that you book an appointment for all visits, so we can ensure proper social distancing.
 - Thank you for your understanding.
- 2310 ST. LAURENT BLVD. SUITE 311**
BETWEEN CONROY RD & WALKLEY

Dr. Fred Campbell
Dr. Sara Anstey
Dr. Sameer Dedhar
Dr. Nell Haney
Dr. Nazli Sammak
613-247-20/20
www.eye-care.ca