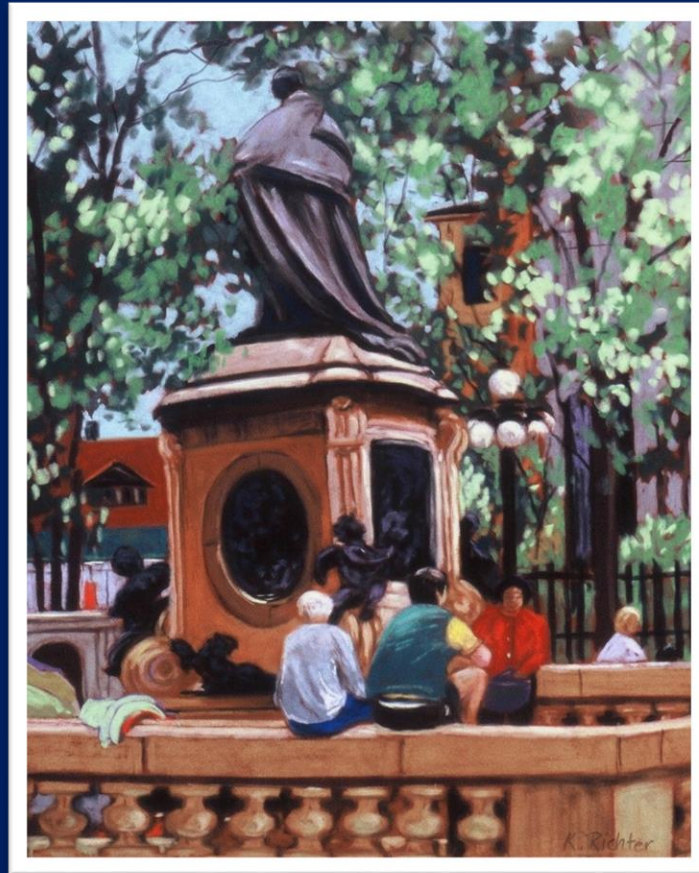


Karin Richter Fine Art

Newsletter

EARLY SUMMER 2020



The Meeting Place, Pastel 24"x18"

I rediscovered this painting of mine as I was doing inventory and it reminded me of how we all loved to travel and hang out together (this scene depicts a square in Quebec City). I loved doing this scene some years ago as it has a lot of different elements in it: architecture, people, foliage.

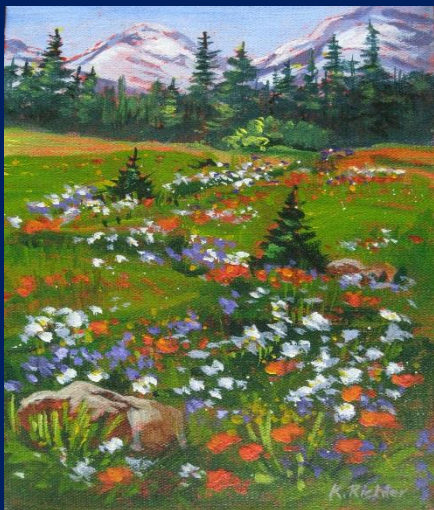
I have doubled up on my newsletters in an effort to keep in touch with my tribe. My current students also get the occasional email lesson to keep them motivated and painting. Many of you will probably have discovered the many free tutorials online and I hope you are taking advantage of them.

Always great to see what other artists are doing and get inspired to try different approaches. I cannot say that I have painted any great works recently but have used this time to experiment with different techniques and concepts. Some revelations are bound to happen. I have always known how important “playing” is but seldom had the time to do it. Most of us are so result-oriented to have something ready for the next show or competition that we often rely on something tried and proven.

“An artist is an explorer” (Henri Matisse)

As some centres are looking for safe ways to deliver courses and classes in the near future, the hope is that everyone will be onboard to participate in the new normal, surely a learning curve for all. It may mean that some content will be presented online and hopefully the return to real classrooms with a few modifications. As much as I love summer on the patio, I cannot wait to see everyone again!

Meanwhile we have a choice to either go out and paint en plein air or draw on the many visual memories we made during our recent travels. It does not take much to take a drive to our beautiful Rockies close at hand and stop and make sketches or small paintings while enjoying coffee from our thermos and a handy bag of goodies!



Mountain Meadow, Acrylic 12"x9"

I have gone through my thousands of photos taken while on the road around the world and not only relived those experiences but was inspired to do some quick paintings.



“Waiting for Customers” (Morocco), Pastel, 11”x14”

Of course, walking the streets of Calgary or elsewhere is allowed with social distancing; so see what your favourite neighbourhood has to offer. Over the years, I have captured a lot of reference material in Kensington, Eau Claire, Chinatown, along the river or downtown.



In past years, I organized a visit to Hodgins Art Auction House to introduce my students to this part of the art world and we have always enjoyed the experience. It is still possible to go in for a private viewing of the spring art auction but you can view the selection online at www.hodginsauction.com. The complete catalogue will be posted soon for their June 22 auction date. This is my consignment for this spring:



“Forest Floor”, Pastel, 22”x30”

I heard a lot of people are baking bread these days. It can be very therapeutic. I have been a bread baker all my life and it can be a complicated process. Lately, I discovered some quick, **no-knead recipes** online and they are great. Here is one for you to try:

14 oz tap water
¼ teasp. dry yeast
1 ½ teasp. salt
3 ½ cups flour

Cover with plastic wrap and proof for 8-24 hours (overnight is great). Spray a skillet or dutch oven with cooking spray, roll dough into it (no messy hands) and proof for another 30-60 minutes. Bake in a 400-degree oven for 40 minutes. It does not get any easier than that! Have fun!

For some further inspiration, I would like to close (slightly abbreviated) with some “**Harley Brown**” wisdom he recently posted on Instagram, called

“Moments”. He writes: “I have always been overwhelmed by the greatness of individuals: Disney’s Fantasia, Rembrandt’s self-portrait, Rachmaninoff’s 3rd Piano Concerto, films like Flashdance. There are thousands of such moments of clarity and inspiration created by humans who believed in themselves and in what they were doing. In the arts, our human species can definitely come through, the flowing personal side of us, the side that enters eternity” .

Thanks Harley, that is powerful and touching!

Keep in touch! Stay safe!



All the best in life and in art! Karin

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