

Karin Richter Fine Art

Newsletter

Summer 2019



Surf's up in Essaouira, Morocco

While Canada is still digging out from winter and spring storms, other parts of the world already enjoy pleasant weather. A group of artsy travellers started summer early by travelling to exotic and balmy Morocco. Having been to this wonderful country a few times before and absolutely loving it, I am not surprised that everybody still talks about the great time we had. Morocco defies description. It checks all the marks: fascinating culture, history, bustling and interesting cities, chaotic markets, harbours and serene temples!



The bustling harbour of Essaouira



Ancient Roman sites



Colourful characters



Blue city of Rabat



Pottery and carpets everywhere



and the glorious desert landscape

When I first started doing these holidays, I could not have imagined how popular they would turn out to be. From one trip every few years, I am now doing them every year

and sometimes more than once. It is a pleasure sharing all these destinations with other like-minded individuals. Another group is getting ready to leave for a painting holiday in France this October and other trips are already in the planning for next spring! I am offering

“Travel, Sketch & Photograph Italy’s Amalfi Coast”

April 21 to May 1, 2020

and a tour of Canada’s Easternmost province

“Explore Newfoundland”

June 11 to 21, 2020

These adventures are already filling up with eager travellers so let me know if you are interested so I can send you the itineraries.

This may be a good time to share with all of you that I will be the Artist-in-Residence onboard the MS Roald Amundsen which is a brand-new ship, part of the **Hurtigruten** fleet, a Norwegian expedition cruise company. I will be onboard from December 13, 2019 to January 28, 2020 teaching classes and giving lectures to art-minded travellers in **Antarctica**. Anybody who knows me is aware that this is a dream come true for me and I would love it if anyone in my wonderful circle of supporters and friends would join me on one of the three voyages I will be on.



My holidays have of course an art component, whether it be photography, sketching or setting up to paint en plein air or in a studio. You may have noticed that urban sketching, sketchbooking on holidays or making sketchbooks detailing one's life and activities have become very popular. There is something to be said about recording moments to cherish. It makes memories more vivid and fun to share.

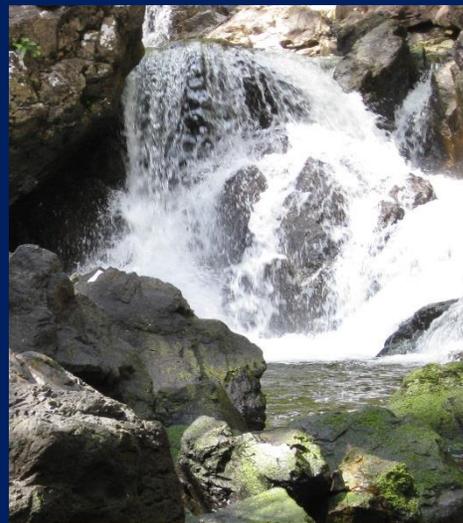
The Leighton Centre is currently planning a plein air show in August along with offering workshops to involve more people in the fun. Plein air or outdoor painting has been a long-standing tradition with many painters, especially those who paint in oils as the medium does not dry as fast as others. This is the season for it and I get emails all the time with invitations to participate in plein air events and plein air conventions, mostly in the US where it is hugely popular. Some of you may be familiar with the Plein Air Magazine which I think is one of the better art magazines out there. Many of our local painters make it a habit to take advantage of summer in this part of the world by venturing outside to hone their skills. Recently, watercolours and pen and ink have been popular as they are easy to carry, something we do a lot of during my art holidays. I am scheduled to do a **One-day plein air Watercolour Workshop at the Leighton Centre September 8** for those who want to try it. Watch for all the details coming soon!

Summer is of course an ideal time to take a drive into the countryside and observe nature. As artists, it is imperative that we study the elements of what we portray in our work, something I always stress in my classes. Just sitting somewhere and looking at water, the shapes of mountains, rocks and skies is all it takes to understand our subject matter better, to actually see how "it is made". Sketching it gives us another opportunity to capture its essence and allows us to train our eye and hand coordination.



Alberta is a great place to study skies

Our mountain playground offers great opportunities to study rocks and water:

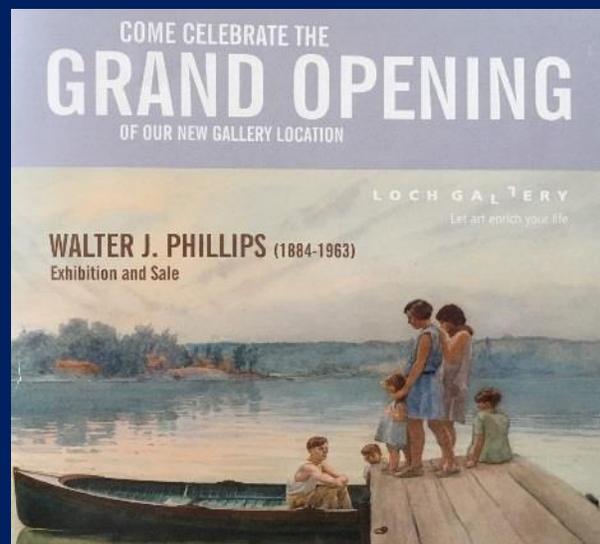


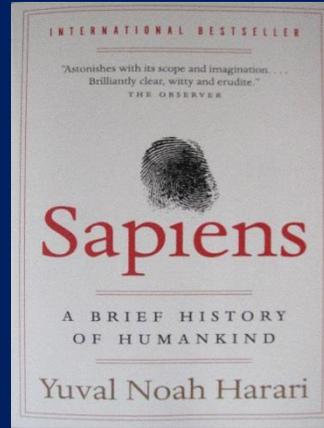
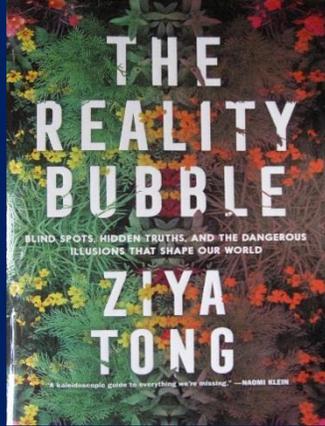
Meanwhile, while enjoying summer, I encourage you to take in some art events to keep you motivated and inspired. I recently attended an opening at the [Loch Gallery](#) in Calgary. In celebration of their newly relocated gallery, they mounted a wonderful exhibition by beloved watercolourist Walter J. Phillips, definitely worth a visit! In his work you find everything that we consider important in painting. You see the planning involved in his work, the great composition and design, values and meaning. He was a great teacher!

Lisa Christensen, local curator and author is launching a new book on Phillips' work later this summer, look for it!

The Calgary Stampede is happening July 4 to 14 and the Western Oasis at the BMO Centre is always a great place to check out the many artists that will have their work on display.

Lazy days of summer usually involve some reading. These are some of the titles on my patio coffee table these days:





Not always comfortable reads, but certainly informative, enlightening and scary, all at the same time.

Friesen Publishing, the company who published my Pastel book just recently let everyone know that actual books, in particular hard-covers, are being ordered in record numbers. I realize reading on digital devices is the way most people seem to do their reading these days. I still like a book in my hands so I was surprised and glad to hear about this trend.

If you are planning for fall classes, they start again the week of September 16 with registrations, either online or in person, to begin in August. I will again offer studio as well as instructional classes in either watercolour or acrylics. Some workshops are in the planning stages.

Enjoy your summer and happy creating!

Keep in touch!

All the best in life and in art!

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