

Dec. 30, 2017

HF- Library



Les B'Old Hags: Dianne Ryan (left), Laurence Marie, Jacqueline LeBlanc, Catherine Linfield (standing), Patricia Winans and Margaret Patricia Eaton at Moncton Gallery, May 3, 2017. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED/TARA BAKENDALE

Year in the life of Les B'Old Hags



Margaret Patricia Eaton Art talk

On behalf of the women's art collective Les B'Old Hags I want to thank readers who came to our exhibition at the Moncton Gallery, filling our guest book with positive comments, which we treasure. They and your presence are gifts and truly lift us up.

But we haven't stopped – in June we made a presentation to the Tantramar Seniors College; in July – August we exhibited at the Saint John Arts Centre and in 2018 will be at the UNB Arts Centre June 1 - 21 and l'Église Historique de Barachois in July.

We also pursue independent art practices so here's a snapshot of what's new with us. Our founder, clay artist and painter Catherine Linfield, has an

ambitious travel plan lined up having accepted a residency in Scotland for the month of September.

Fibre artist Jacqueline LeBlanc was thrilled when one of her felted wearable art pieces was presented to Mme. Michaël Jean, now Secretary-General for La Francophonie, by a representative of the New Brunswick government. (Note: Jacqueline's pieces are available at the Starving Artist Gallery, Assumption Blvd.)

Mixed-media and fibre artist Patricia Winans was recognized provincially when she was interviewed for a documentary on contemporary rug-hooking, filmed by the New Brunswick Mat Registry and launched at the New Brunswick Museum this past September.

Meanwhile in Riverview, painter Dianne Ryan joined forces with librarian Lynn Cormier to co-chair a two-month long art exhibition at the Riverview Public Library which brought together more than 30 artists (painters, photographers, mixed media and fibre artists) from the tri-community area.

My news is that my poem, "Canadian Soldier's Bride – 1946", from my first book Seeking Grace, (2006) has been selected for inclusion in an anthology entitled 150: Canada's History in Poetry. It's edited by Judy Gaudet,

published by Acorn Press and will be released early in 2018.

Harpist Laurence Marie says her news goes back to July 2016, just after we'd installed our first exhibition in Florenceville at the McCain Gallery. "After the terrorist attack in Nice, France, where I had been visiting my Mum," she writes, "a friend and I started talking about peace: conflicts are rampant within ourselves, our families, our communities. What happens on the world's stage is but a mirrored image of what happens within each of us. To fight for peace is ludicrous, to impose peace even more so...hence Inner Peace Meditation got started. We meet once a month and meditate on our inner turmoil to achieve more balance, joy and peace within ourselves, hoping it will radiate to others."

Today marks my last Art Talk and I want to express sincere appreciation to the Times & Transcript editors for supporting the arts, to the artists for opening their studios, and to you, the readers for encouragement. But I'm not going away, as I've been invited to continue writing art-related stories as a freelancer, so do look for me in 2018.

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