

Metro



Apple Art Gallery Manager Nausika Breau (centre) presented a gerbera daisy to each of the guest artists, exhibiting at the gallery until the end of August. From left John Fox, Jacqueline LeBlanc, Anne-Marie Sirois, Nausika Breau, Barbara Safran de Niverville and Jared Betts. Behind them are two paintings by Jared Betts and, right, one by Cecil D. Long.

PHOTO: MARGARET PATRICIA EATON

APPLE ART GALLERY PRESENTS SUMMER SHOW



Art talk
Margaret Patricia Eaton

A couple of days before flying off – first to Toronto to see Tara in the Hogtown Experience and then on to Ireland for a family reunion – I spent an enjoyable and relaxed evening at Apple Art Gallery where owner Nausika Breau, always charming and witty, hosted a delightful welcome for five artists, new to the gallery, whose work will be displayed there until the end of August.

Although they're new to Apple Art, four of them are old friends of Art Talk as is Nausika, with one of them, Barbara Safran de Niverville, actually the first artist featured here back in 2011.

While I'd never met Jon Fox, it turns out I'd seen his work recently, and so has anyone else who drives up St. George Street as he's the muralist who painted the carrier pigeons on the side of the Canada Post building as part of the Inspire Festival. Jon is more aptly described, however, as a multi-disciplinary artist, because in addition to being a muralist he's also a painter, photographer and a drawer, all subjects he taught at the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design University in Halifax. Prior to that he worked in film and TV in Vancouver.

It's always a delight to see more of the whimsical, thought-provoking and downright hilarious sculptures Anne-Marie Sirois has created in her Ironic Irons series at her Aberdeen studio. Just when I think she might have exhausted all possibilities for the irons, she finds more to make you smile and marvel at the power of her imagination – such as an iron broken open to reveal the stuffing and broken springs of an upholstered armchair that children have jumped on too many times or another being ripped open as a result of hot flashes, in this case caused not by hormones, but a bicycle lamp. Also included in her display are copies of the children's books she's illustrated with the same brand of whimsical, off-the-wall humour for Éditions Bouton d'Or.

When introducing Jacqueline LeBlanc, fibre artiste extraordinaire, who perfected her skills at Le Centre des textiles contemporains de Montreal, 10 years ago, Nausika noted she'd first met her in May at Les B'Old Hags exhibition which has since moved on to the Saint John Arts Centre, where Jacqueline's exhibiting felted sculptural pieces from her Empty Nest / Nid Vide Series. For the Apple Art exhibition she's created a series of wearable art pieces from Merino wool and pure silk, one of which I purchased as a gift to take to Ireland.

"They're fantastic," Nausika says. "You can wear them, drape them on furniture or hang them on walls."

In her introduction to Jared Betts, Nausika noted when she moved back to Moncton she kept hearing the name "Jared Betts" and asking, "Who's Jared Betts?" It took a while for her to find out as he's been off on so many



Bouffree de Chaleur/Hot Flashes by Anne-Marie Sirois from her Ironic Irons collection. PHOTO: SUBMITTED



Jacqueline LeBlanc creates 'wearable art' by felting merino wool and pure silk. Behind her are paintings by Raymonde Fortin.

PHOTO: MARGARET PATRICIA EATON

residencies – in Iceland, Ireland, Costa Rica, Japan – but for the moment he's rooted in Moncton in the process of building a studio to contain his super-sized works. For this summer exhibition, Jared told me he'd foregone his typical layered paint application which completely covers the canvas and instead produced lighter and airier work on paper while still maintaining his signature bright colours and repetitive mark making.

Nausika says she'd also been interested in finding out more about Barbara Safran de Niverville, who for a time was a little difficult to track down, as she completed her MFA degree in Boston and enjoyed a residency

in Iceland. Now however, she's settled in a new studio in the Chocolate River Station in Riverview, is managing Galerie 12 and teaching at the Université de Moncton. In her introduction, Nausika noted that she'd recently had the pleasure of visiting her studio, "where she has these beautiful plexi-glass-on-wood painted panels, from her waves series," five of which are on display.

Apple Art Gallery is located at 134 Church St. Hours: Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Ask Nausika about leasing to own, hosting special events, consultation and commissioned work and framing services. Permanent artists: Raymonde Fortin, Roch Bourque, Dolores Breau, Cecil D. Long and Nausika Breau. Also available: clay art by Pauline Chapadoux, Isabelle LaFargue and Ginette Arseneault; character dolls by Sharon Murphy and kiddo swag (infant's and young children's wear), designed by Nausika.

Although I'm writing this at home on July 30, I'm thinking of you reading this on Aug. 12, at which time I expect to be en route from Cork to Dublin where I'm hoping to see a Vermeer exhibition. According to an email I received from my cousins there are 10 paintings by him in this show and they say it's quite unusual to see that many Vermeers together. I'm not sure if I'll be able to prepare a column for Aug. 19, but if I don't, I'll certainly be back in print the following Saturday. In the meantime, Slainte! (Irish for Cheers!)

Margaret Patricia Eaton
Margareteaton16@gmail.com
A freelance writer, photographer and poet, Margaret's weekly column focuses on artists, galleries and art issues in south-east New Brunswick.

Alias Grace, miniseries starring Evan Rachel Wood headlines TIFF's Canadian slate

VICTORIA AHEARN
THE CANADIAN PRESS

TORONTO • The world premiere of Mary Harron's TV miniseries *Alias Grace* and films starring Evan Rachel Wood, Geena Davis and Sandra Oh are in the homegrown lineup for this year's Toronto International Film Festival.

The Canadian slate announced Wednesday includes a first look at *Alias Grace*, which Sarah Polley wrote and produced based on Margaret Atwood's novel. It's set to premiere on the CBC this fall and stream internationally on Netflix.

In the drama *A Worthy Companion* by Carlos Sanchez and Jason Sanchez, Wood stars as a troubled woman who bonds with a teenage pianist, played by Canadian actress Julia Sarah Stone. Stone starred in Bruce McDonald's *Weirdos* at last year's fest and was deemed one of the Rising Stars in the 2014 instalment, when she starred in *Wet Bum*.

Meanwhile, Davis stars alongside Scott Thompson of *The Kids in the Hall* fame in the comedy *Don't Talk to Irene* by Pat Mills, about a teen who auditions for a dance-themed reality show with a group of senior citizens.

And Oh is in the dramedy *Meditation Park* by Mina Shum, which also stars Liane Balaban and Don McKellar and is set in Vancouver.

Some cinephiles had speculated that the Canadian lineup might include Xavier Dolan's upcoming English-language drama *The Death and Life of John F. Donovan*. But it seems it's not ready.

"Like any festival, a lot of what happens is based on timing and when the films are ready, and my understanding is that they're still working on the film," said Steve Gravestock, senior programmer at TIFF.

"That happens every year.... Sometimes they don't pan out, they're just not ready for us.

"There may be a few more Canadian titles announced but my understanding is that Xavier's film just isn't ready. It's a drag because we're really looking forward to it."

Other highlights of the homegrown lineup include *Eye on Juliet* by Kim Nguyen, whose previous features include *Two Lovers and a Bear* and the Oscar-nominated *Rebelle*.

Eye on Juliet stars Joe Cole as a hexapod operator who is in the middle of a bad breakup when he meets a young woman from the Middle East, played by Lina El Arabi.

The film is "a take on modern relationships in the 21st century," Nguyen told The Canadian Press at last year's fest.

Judy Greer and Russell Peters star in the comedy *Public Schooled* by Kyle Rideout, about a home-schooled teen who enrolls in public school.

"I'm thrilled to be (at the festival)," said Rideout, the director and co-writer.

"When I found out, I was in a locker room just finishing a workout and I had no pants on and I looked at my phone and found out I got into TIFF and I was just really excited and happy in the locker room — and the other guys ... thought it was very strange."

Celebrated Indigenous documentary maker Alanis Obomsawin will be at the fest with *Our People Will Be Healed*, about an innovative school in a remote Cree community north of Winnipeg.

Another noteworthy doc in the lineup is Sean Menard's *The Carter Effect*, about the impact NBA all-star Vince Carter made on Toronto.

Organizers say this year's Canadian roster has one of the highest numbers of feature directorial debuts ever, at over 30 per cent.

Directors making their feature directorial debut include *Trailer Park Boys* star Cory Bowles with *Black Cop*, a satirical exploration of police-community relations.

The Toronto International Film Festival kicks off Sept. 7 with the opening film *Borg/McEnroe*, a tennis drama starring Shia LaBeouf.

A total of 25 Canadian feature films are in the lineup, and all are eligible for the Canada Goose Award for Best Canadian Feature Film.



Actor Sarah Gadon is shown in a scene from *Alias Grace*. The world premiere of Mary Harron's TV miniseries *Alias Grace* and films starring Evan Rachel Wood, Geena Davis and Sandra Oh are in the homegrown lineup for this year's Toronto International Film Festival. PHOTO: THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sunday, September 24

MONCTON COLISEUM
MONCTON, NB

Moncton Coliseum Box Office
1-888-720-5600
tickets.moncton.ca | evenko.ca

Win 2 Tickets to see Daniel O'Donnell

Drop off your ballot to
The Times Transcript Office
939 Main Street

Deadline is Sept 1st | Draws will take place Sept 8th

Name: _____

Phone number: _____