

March-April 2024 Featured Artist

Elissa Anthony

Elissa was born in Ontario and grew up in North Vancouver. She graduated as a *Graphic Arts Technician* from *George Brown College* in Toronto. She worked in many art-related businesses, including advertising (layout artist), printing (creative director), display art (sales manager) and as a scenic artist.

She moved to Europe in the early 1990s and travelled the continent for seven years, visiting major galleries to redefine her artistic outlook. During this time, she studied fine arts at the *Midlands Arts Centre* in Birmingham, England.

In the late '90s, Elissa moved to Vancouver Island. She has flourished and grown as an oil painter, primarily in landscapes, but segues into large-format florals, mixed media, abstractions and funky, fun stuff. She often includes acrylic and oil in the same paintings. Her unique style swings from realism through to expressionism, abstraction, mixed media and back.

Elissa has shown her work in many galleries, such as *The Old School House*, *Nanaimo Art Gallery*, *Nanaimo Arts Council*, *Lloyd Major Gallery*, *Gallery 223*, *Milner Gardens*, *The Rollin Centre*, *Englishman River Gallery*, *Smashing Glass*, *Shore Winds Gallery*, *Island Exposures*, the *Mark Penney Gallery* and the *Village Gallery* in Sidney. She taught and exhibited for three years at the *Major Gallery* in Parksville and was a resident artist at *The Old School House* in Qualicum Beach for four years. *Roger's Chocolates* of Victoria purchased four of her images for their collector *Canadian Art Tins*.

Elissa took part in the *West Coast Mural Mosaic* with over 190 artists to create a large mural, *Kunamokst*, unveiled at the 2010 Olympics. See it online at <https://www.muralmosaic.com/gallery/fine-art/kunamokst-westcoast/> Elissa was the President of the *Arrowsmith Room* at the *Oceanside Arts Council* in Parksville and sat as a founding member of the *Centre for the Arts Nanaimo*. She has been a member of *The Federation of Canadian Artists* since 1997.

She is represented at *Art 10* in Nanaimo and *Rainforest Arts* in Chemainus and the *Village Gallery* in Sidney. When Elissa is not painting, she teaches oil and acrylic painting to adults at her Ladysmith studio, *The Elissa Anthony Studio*, and at several other venues.

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