

Subscriber profile: **Enda Bardell**

Originally from Estonia, via Sweden, I now live in Vancouver painting expressionist watercolour landscapes.

I studied at Vancouver Art School, now ECUAD, and completed studio workshops with prominent Canadian artists such as *Toni Onley* and *Joan Balzar*. Joan mentored me in acrylic hard edge abstracts decades ago while Toni had a strong influence in painting fast and loose watercolours. Both became good friends.

My art career began at a young age, living in Sweden as refugees from Soviet occupied Estonia. My Mom worked in a paper factory, having access to lots of leftover cardboard and paper, which gave me the opportunity to make back to front paper dolls, and design clothes for them, which I gave away hoping to win friends and influence girls in school.

While maintaining an active art practice, my inquisitiveness has taken me through stimulating, creative careers such as costume designer in the early days of the movie industry in Vancouver, fabric artist, and founder of *Enda B Fashion Limited*, which I no longer own but is still flourishing.

In 2010, I had the honour of being invited to show two of my early abstracts in the *Estonian Art in Exile Exhibition* at KUMU, the National Art Museum of Estonia, in Tallinn. One painting is in the permanent historical collection at KUMU. The other is at the Art Museum of Tartu, Estonia.

Being a bit of a risk taker, I enjoy the challenge of the least forgiving medium – water colour – which allows me to experiment and explore my subject. My watercolour landscapes are painted on location or from reference photos of places which I have experienced. My work is about the feeling of having been there, rekindling the experience and memory of a particular place.

At the moment I am excited about my one month solo residency this summer at the Ted Harrison Cabin, Yukon Territory where I hope to produce a huge body of rugged Yukon landscapes which seem to be popular with collectors of my work.

In addition, a life line to art calls and art news for me is *The Artists' Journal*, of which I have been a subscriber for nearly a decade. Thank you Eve!

For more information:

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