

entertainment & arts

WILDLIFE ART

Gloria Masse - a special exhibition



IMAGES SUBMITTED

Mix a passion for the outdoors with a box of vibrant colours and you have Gloria Masse's 'Whistling Marmot' and 'Sky Bear' works of art, showing at Art Junction @ Function starting Dec.7.

A wonderful mix of realism and fantasy has brought fame and fortune to the retiring Gloria Masse, who lives in a humble abode deep in the rainforest of Gambier Island.

As I catch the eye of her cougar, I wonder if this is how its prey must feel... totally mesmerized.

Jan Holmberg is holding a special exhibition and showing of her latest paintings in his gallery, Art Junction @ Function, starting Dec. 7.

The eyes certainly have it. Gazing out at the viewer are cougars, lynx, grizzly bears, black bears, white bears and marmots.

Each painting captures the spirit of her subject and embodies them with the characteristics of the species. The dignity, beauty and wildness

of her subjects are apparent. These animals are definitely not pets.

Her large works are full of texture and seem three-dimensional. One can easily see how the sculptural quality of the animals interests her.

Grass and hair, so similar, provide the opportunity for thousands of brush strokes, often in transparent layers.

She sees the light reflecting from the transparent hair on the back of a bear as being similar to Monet's haystack paintings.

Painting with watercolours, or with watercolours mixed with acrylics, her colours are rich and glowing with shades of raw sienna, burnt sienna, ochres and umbers, green, reds, blues and purples.

Masse obviously loves and



art works Judy Szabo

enjoys nature. "The cedar, fir and hemlock trees tower over my studio; the winds from the north and music help to keep me in touch with the muse, the earth and the animal within," she says.

Of special note in this show are Sky Bear, Six Cougars, Lynx with Glacier Eyes, Cougar

Gaze, Spirit Bear and Whistling Marmot. Absolutely fabulous!

There are a number of other new works at Art Junction @ Function.

Two new paintings titled "Whistler Mountain" and "Blackcomb Mountain" by Alex Fong catch my eye. They are painted in his inimitable style with his trademark confetti and provide a new view of our familiar mountains.

Ellen Mahon, whose works have often appeared in movies and film productions, has three new paintings. "Lost Lake I" and "Lost Lake II," grab your attention. They invite you to walk into the painting to stroll along the trail.

Pulsing with reds, yellows and oranges, these strong oil paintings have a verve and joyfulness that refresh and de-

light the viewer.

On an altogether different note is "Armchair Glacier" where shades of green create a crisp and cool world.

These are just some of the many reasons to hit the trail south to Function.

Another reason is the framing services of Harve Lim. Framing something special for that person you love a unique Christmas gift. Just don't leave it too late.

DID YOU KNOW...

That a "modello" is a preparatory drawing or painting for a larger work? It was usually made to be shown to a patron. Since the object was to impress the patron and give him a clear idea of the picture which the artist had in mind, the 'modello' was more elaborate and more fully worked out than the "sketch."