



Col Mitchell

I work primarily with pen nibs, acrylic inks and fluid acrylics on a textural multilayered fusion of crumpled and manipulated papers combining extreme linear detailing.

www.colmitchell.com

Artist Statement

I work primarily with pen nibs, acrylic inks and fluid acrylics on a textural multilayered fusion of crumpled and manipulated papers combining extreme linear detailing.

Paper is outrageously versatile. It brings to the process history, character, personality, individuality, and a remarkably wide range of performance levels. It is critical to not overprocess the paper back to its pre-paper form or pulp state, but to work with the crinkles, folds, ridges, tears, absorbency, repellency or sizing that are personal and individual to every type and sheet. I am fascinated by the way these crumpled and gently manipulated surfaces contribute to the process and influence the outcome.

Fluid acrylics and acrylic inks allow me to alter paint consistency without sacrificing color strength; using this attribute to assist the paint's exploration of the surface while maintaining colour intensity. Layered washes are achievable with semi transparent acrylics while the opaques are perfect for layering a galaxy of multi-hued lines enhancing the depth and movement offered by the unique surface.

I am continually exploring the alluring intricate synergy between the paper structure, the paint and my own contribution; the result greater than the sum of the individual effects. I strive for each piece to project the internal energy inherent in all matter, establish rapport, grasp that most basic language at work; a beautiful alignment of atoms where a natural magnetism or recognition occurs. A "visual pheromone" if you will.

My current work continues with the exploration of subject compatibility to technique, and of the capacity of the material to endure manipulation without losing its "voice".

- Col Mitchell.



Col Mitchell
Cedar Raven Fine Art Studio
1221 Cedar Lane, Bracebridge
www.colmitchell.com
President Huntsville Art Society
www.huntsvilleartsociety.ca

Professional Practice and Independent Projects

2008 – present : President of Huntsville Art Society

- Current project: originator and curator of ArtSHIFT, an exhibit which partners 5 artists with 5 local industries to explore creativity and innovation in local industry, and showcases works which incorporate those concepts, utilizing related raw materials supplied by each local industry sponsor.

Implemented :

- *The Art Space: Gallery•Workshops* - Huntsville's first contemporary art gallery venue which offers exhibitions and workshops to the public.
The inaugural exhibition *Celebrate* features the rich and diverse work of many of Muskoka's art colony artists. It is currently installed and on view.
- Co-originator and implementer of Creativation: Art, Kids, Community
A new pilot program offering innovative and challenging programs and activities that support and enhance the Ministry of Education's Visual Arts Curriculum, as well as expose students to the vast range of creative experiences and visual culture available to them in their local and regional community. This pilot project is a model designed for potential use both for other sectors within Muskoka and for other Ontario communities. www.artkidscommunity.com
- Initiated establishing the Town of Huntsville's Arts Placement Working Committee to shape policy on art in public spaces and buildings in the municipality of Huntsville, and which select and curate local art in the new Canada Summit Centre Exhibition Hall.
- Initiated and implemented the HAS Awareness Campaign
The makeover and promotion of the Huntsville Art Crowd as the Huntsville Art Society, a crucial step in a major campaign to increase community awareness of the existing professional organization and its endeavors to advance the status of the visual arts within the community, contribute to local cultural development, and to add value to the existing business community and local economy.
- Produced additional web based venues to support and promote Huntsville Art Society members, positively effecting membership numbers, interest by presenters and media groups.

- 2003 – 2004 ; Moderator , Hogwarts SCS e-Group <http://tinyurl.com/7v8djq>
- 2004-2009 ; Moderator and Owner, MHSL e-Group
- 2003-2008 ; Activity Leader, Living Waters Homeschool Group 705-788-1361

Studio Practice

Selected Exhibitions

- 2010 August 20-21; *Art & Lyrics*, Huntsville Art Society Annual Juried Exhibition, Huntsville
- 2010 August 7-8; *The Woodland Art Experience*, Wood's End Studio Show, Kilworthy
- 2010 July 29; *The 2nd Annual En Plein Air Painting and Auction*, Student Bursary Fundraiser presented by Shutterbug Gallery and Huntsville Festival of the Arts, Huntsville
- 2010 July 24- August 29; *Eight Back From The Lake Exhibition* curated by Suzann Greenaway, The Art Space Gallery/Workshops, Huntsville
- 2010 June 30 to present; *Sense of Place*, Group Exhibition curated by Mary Rashleigh, Canada Summit Centre Exhibition Hall, Huntsville
- 2010 June 26; Muskoka Tourism's G8/G20 Muskoka Corridor, Direct Energy Centre, Toronto
- 2010 June 18-27; Huntsville/Lake of Bays Chamber of Commerce G8 Exhibit, Algonquin Theatre, Huntsville
- 2010 March; *33 Annual Spring Members Show*, Muskoka Art and Crafts, Bracebridge
- 2010 Jan 30; Muskoka Tourism's Huntsville/Lake of Bays Chamber of Commerce G8 Media Familiarization Tour Exhibit, Mark O'Meara Club House, Huntsville
- 2009 Winter Issue; *Beyond The City's "The Last Word,"* publication
- 2009 Oct 8-10; *Huntsville Art Society Thanksgiving Exhibition*, Huntsville Place Mall
- 2009 Sept 3-15; *Second Chances Exhibition*, Group Exhibition, Six Degrees Gallery, Bracebridge
- 2009 July 30; *En Plein Air Painting and Auction*, Student Bursary Fundraiser presented by Shutterbug Gallery and Huntsville Festival of the Arts, Huntsville
- 2009 July 23-26; Cedar Raven Studio event: *The Raven's Garden pARTy*, Bracebridge
- *2009 July 11-12, Art in the Heart*, Bracebridge
- 2009 June 25- July 7; *Heroes and Villains*, Group Exhibition, Six Degrees Gallery, Bracebridge
- 2009 June 12- 23; *Trees Rocks Water*, Group Exhibition, Co-curator, Six Degrees Gallery, Bracebridge
- 2009 May 15-17; *A Body of Work*, Group Exhibition, Muskoka Art and Crafts, Bracebridge
- 2009 May 8-9; *The Art of Remembering*, Group Exhibition, curated by Carolyn Wagland, Hidden Valley, Huntsville
- 2009 May 1-2; *Elements in Art: Earth, Air, Water, Fire Show and Sale*, Huntsville Art Society, Huntsville
- 2009 April 1-30; *Elements in Art: Earth, Air, Water, Fire Exhibition*, Algonquin Theatre, Huntsville
- 2009 April 24; *6th Annual Evening of Wine, Words, Music &, Art*, Dorset
- 2009 March; *32 Annual Spring Members Show*, Muskoka Art and Crafts, Bracebridge
- 2009; Muskoka Visitor Guide, publication
- 2009 Feb; *About Face*, Group Exhibition, Muskoka Art and Crafts, Chapel Gallery, Bracebridge
- *2008 Aug, Andersen, Fox, Mitchell Exhibition*, Group Exhibition, Windermere
- *2008 July-Aug, Multiple Artist Weekend Exhibitions*, Cedar Raven Studio, Bracebridge
- *2008 Mar 14-16; Signs of Spring*, Group Exhibition, Huntsville Art Crowd,
- Currently showing Soleyne Online Gallery www.soleyne.com
- Currently showing Silver Bridge Gallery, Bracebridge

Awards

- 2010; Award of Excellence in Mixed Media, Muskoka Arts and Crafts
- 2009; June Best Memorial Award, Member's Choice, Huntsville Art Society
- 2009; Best in Theme Over All, Huntsville Art Society

Education

- 1984 – 1987 Fine Art, Fanshaw College, London
- 1984 Graphic Arts, accredited program, H.B. Beal, London, Canada

Through Muskoka Future's Innovation Muskoka, Muskoka Arts and Crafts, Huntsville Art Society, the Arts Council of Muskoka, Creative Muskoka, Huntsville/Lake of Bays Chamber of Commerce, Huntsville BIA, and the Town of Huntsville, I have attended over 100 workshops, demonstrations and meetings relating to business, art, education and community collaborations.