

ESCARPMENT NORTH: **Works**

**The Bruce.
Manitoulin.
First Nations.
Nature.
Spirit.**



▲ Paul Duff's work "Larch Study Cape Croker." Duff loved the Bruce Peninsula and captured many scenic landscapes in his paintings.

of Nature or Spirit

The northern part of the Niagara Escarpment in Canada is sparsely populated. Wild spaces are bigger here. It's easy to get close to nature. Big bodies of water are near. Where there is water and wild space you can often sense spirit, the feeling of calm, awe or even fear you may get when immersed in landscape that's beyond the human-made.

The works by the artists featured this year share the theme of nature or spirit. Some are by First Nations people, some with family ties to Manitoulin Island. Others have chosen to make Manitoulin their home. Others work from a love of the Bruce Peninsula.



▲ This display in Gallery de Boer in Owen Sound has the works of Wikwemikong artist Leland Bell at the top. Left, is his piece entitled "Coming of the Three Fires." On the right is "Oath for Peace." The bottom row, second from left, is Randy Trudeau's "Thunder Birds." Next is Randy Trudeau's "Medicine Bear," and right, his "Amik the Busy Beaver."



▲ The two large pieces are by James Simon or Mishibinjima, originally from Wikwemikong. The top left is his "The Boy Keeper of Manitoulin Island." The one on the right is "Dreamer's Cove." Leaning against the wall at left is one of his untitled works. Available at Gallery de Boer.

► Spotted in Gallery de Boer: Carl Beam's signed self portrait, "Artist in Studio in Progress," contains the lines "in the earth-block house Ann & I built" which is an interesting reference to Ann Beam, his wife, and their Neon Raven Art Gallery/studio/house adobe complex in M'Chigeeng. For Gallery de Boer, see gallerydeboer.com.



The painter Paul Duff, originally from the Hamilton area, chose to move to the Bruce Peninsula with his wife Leila, decades ago.

"Paul loved nature and this is what he was attracted to," says Leila. "We'd go out for a walk and take a little picnic and hike for a few hours."

Leila shows the many paintings by her late husband in the gallery dedicated to his work. "He had really almost a photographic memory. He would see something and

continued on page 20



▲ Just one of the many rooms in the Paul Duff Gallery on Hwy. 6 near Mar on the southern Bruce Peninsula. The gallery is dedicated to the many works of the late Paul Duff. More of his paintings can be seen at paulduffgallery.com.



▲ ► Ann Beam in her Neon Raven Art Gallery at the edge of M'Chigeeng, with only some of her pieces. The huge-scale multi-media "Earth Incorporating" was created around 2000 and shows her signature technique of including brands and pieces of packaging. The smaller piece declares and is entitled "Go Into the Kitchen of Your Heart and Cook Up Some Love." More information is at neonravenartgallery.com.



FEATURED GALLERIES

PAUL DUFF GALLERY

South Bruce Peninsula
226.974.1928, paulduffgallery.com

EDWARDS STUDIOS

Kagawong
705.282.1919, edwardsartstudios.com

GALLERY DE BOER — FINE ART

Owen Sound
519.376.7914, gallerydeboer.ca

GOLDEN GALLERY

Tobermory, 800.449.5921
goldengallerytobermory.com

NEON RAVEN ART GALLERY

M'Chigeeng
705.377.6088, neonravenartgallery.com

THE GALLERY UPSTAIRS

Milton
905.875.8134, thegalleryupstairs.com



▲ The Gallery Upstairs, in Milton, offers a selection of Norval Morrisseau originals, prints and serigraphs. For more, see thegalleryupstairs.com.

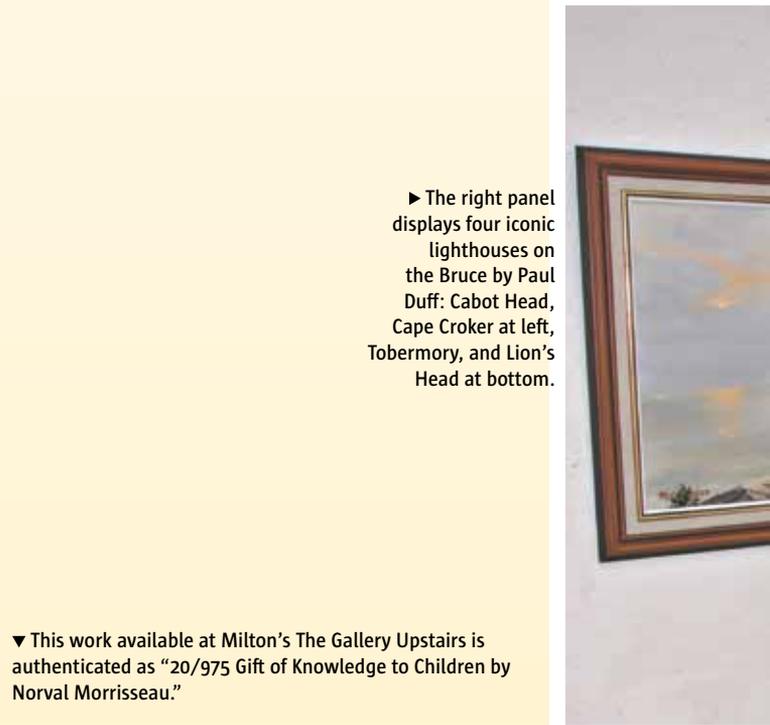
continued from page 18

remember it and paint it. He didn't take a photograph."

Natural Talent

"He developed just by painting all the time and getting tips

from various artists," Leila adds. Paul's natural talent was identified at an early age. "A famous director of a big gallery in England came to Canada and advised Paul's



► The right panel displays four iconic lighthouses on the Bruce by Paul Duff: Cabot Head, Cape Croker at left, Tobermory, and Lion's Head at bottom.

▼ This work available at Milton's The Gallery Upstairs is authenticated as "20/975 Gift of Knowledge to Children by Norval Morrisseau."



mother not to let Paul study with any school because they all had various ideas and they decided you should paint this way or that way and so this director said don't let him

study, so he just advanced." This year is the 30th anniversary of the Paul Duff Gallery near Mar, South Bruce Peninsula. The gallery is open through September

continued on page 22



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▲ Kent Wilkens in his Golden Gallery in Tobermory. On the easel is his version of Tobermory's Little Tub Harbour in 1925, inspired by an old photograph. "It is documenting the beginning of the 'turtle' that would affect the look of tugs on the Great Lakes for the next century," notes Kent. "You can see the beginning of it on the boat to the left. The large steamer on the right I think is the Caribou, but I still have to confirm that. A packet steamer from back in the day, that serviced Tobermory." Reach Kent through goldengallerytobermory.com.



▲ Paul Duff painted windows on the world, with many works featuring the Bruce Peninsula.

continued from page 20

and by appointment by calling 226.974.1928.

Other Galleries

These pages also feature some of the works of other artists, available at other galleries along the Escarpment. Plenty

of artists love to live and work here, particularly inspired by nature, landscape and animals. Autumn is also great for viewing and buying new works, as it is a popular time for gallery open houses and artists' studio tours.

All of these gallery owners and artists welcome visitors, no matter whether their knowledge of art is great or little. It's easy to enter the world of art along the Escarpment. **NEV**



▲ Richard and Barbara Edwards of Edwards Studios, Kagawong, show some of their work. Richard paints mostly local landscapes and creates serigraphs; Barbara creates works in glass, jewellery and weaving. See more at edwardsartstudios.com.

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MIGWETCH

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Daphne Odjig
Mary Pudlat
Kenojuak Ashevak**

and many others

Gallery de Boer - Fine Art
969 - 2nd Ave East, Owen Sound, (519) 376-7914
Hours: Tues - Fri 9:30 - 6; Sat 9:30 - 5
www.gallerydeboer.ca