

TWO ARTISTS,

Anne More &

Written by
Gloria Hildebrandt



◀ Anne More poses with her work in The Gallery Upstairs in Milton. Anne is reflected in a mirror she decorated, that is framed with parts of cedar rails. Another of her works can be seen in the mirror.

TWO VISIONS

Tina Newlove

Photographed
by Mike Davis



► Tina Newlove
is surrounded by
her works on
the walls.

It was 45 years ago that Hedi Nowak, owner of The Gallery Upstairs, started The Harrop Restaurant, adding the second-storey art gallery in 1979. In 2013 The Gallery Upstairs took over 3 Mill Street in Milton, where Hedi has filled a garden with sculptures and creative pieces, expanding the selection of art in her multi-room shop. Original works continue to be the main focus. Robert Bateman regularly makes signing appearances here, and Anne More and Tina Newlove have also found an eager market at the gallery.

Playing With Colour

Anne More is passionate about painting and is frequently inspired by scenes on the Niagara Escarpment.

“All the work I’ve done lately has been on the Bruce Trail,” she says. “I try to capture the emotional experience as well. I want to share something of what I’m feeling when I’m on the path. I’ve painted the Bruce Trail as long as we’ve been in Burlington. The last five or six years I started walking it with my daughter. The trees, the ancient cedars...I see metaphors in a number of these places. We’re so lucky to have it in our back yard.”

Her Bruce Trail pieces show the richness and density of rock-filled forests, wild wetlands, mysterious trails and blazing skies.

“I’m a colourist,” she explains. “Not an impressionist, not a realist. I love playing with colour. Within a value range you can use any colour. A tree I paint looks normal but I use other hues in the value. I use warm and cool. Oranges and purples, to contrast.”

Saying she’s not a *plein air* painter, or one who works the whole scene in the outdoors, Anne adds



▲ “Much of my inspiration comes from the beautiful spaces that surround us,” notes Anne More. This piece is entitled “Mount Nemo’s Cedars.”

that she works mainly from photographs with different points of reference. She likes to show her work beside the photo of the image she used as inspiration. While the two are similar, her vision adds light and colour to the darker subjects,

sometimes in vibrant hues.

“I love the optimism of early light and the end of a beautiful day. I have to have a pocket of light in a painting but it’s spiritual, not religious.”

Explaining her process, she says “I will start with a value

sketch. I’ll take less than 10 minutes and decide where the deepest values are, the middle tones, the lightest. I like water-soluble oils. They’re not fast drying so you can pull the colour into other areas.”

Her most important colour seems to be black.



▲ “Comfort in Nature” by Tina Newlove shows the rest and peace possible in nature.



▲ As an abstract expressionist, Tina Newlove draws attention to the rotary phone in this painting through the title “Calling Home.”

◀ “Slipping Into Morning.” Anne More says “The breath-taking views from the Escarpment inspire me to share my experience through the medium of painting.”

Whether she uses canvas or Masonite board, she will use black gesso as the ground or first layer of colour.

“I’ll mix all my dark colours to create a rich dark. Sometimes, I’ll allow the black gesso to remain unpainted.” Certainly, her works are full of colour, but black often outlines the rocks and trees or forms the shadows.

In addition to her own creative landscapes, Anne will take commissions for houses and informal portraits of animals. Her website is annemore.com.

Anything Could Happen

Tina Newlove can paint in front of an audience. She can start and finish a work during what she calls live painting. Sometimes the piece will be bought on the spot. She explains her painting process by comparing her techniques.

“With live painting I try to get something done. I use acrylics for live, oils for studio work. I don’t have time to judge when live painting. It’s by instinct. There’s more critique when in studio. I’ll often have a colour scheme in mind. Occasionally in studio I’ll have a theme. I respond to the moment, let the subconscious flow. It will happen even in studio, but you have to let oils dry. There’s a wild beginning when anything could happen. I love that.”

Tina describes her style as contemporary abstraction but with recognizable features. She thinks that abstract expressionism might be a better term. She says it takes time to see things in her work, and indeed, while there might be a first impression of a landscape or cityscape,



▲ The proximity to nature of Tina Newlove’s Campbellville studio feeds her work. The title of this piece is “Walking Home Together.”



▲ “Some works are more surreal in themes, with dreamlike memories,” says Tina Newlove. This piece is called “Floating Away.”

further study might let you see figures of people, houses, dogs, even a dial telephone.

“Some works are more surreal in themes, with dreamlike memories,” she says. “There are personal images. Rabbit ears suggest

sensitivity. There are lots of female figures.”

With a home and studio in Campbellville, Tina feels a strong connection to the Niagara Escarpment. Walks near her studio have fed some of her work. She

occasionally works with Conservation Halton in their education program and gets inspiration from their parks and the important work she says they do.

In 2017 Tina’s creativity was key to a big project



◀ "I love experimenting with a variety of hues and a composition that will hopefully engage people for more than a passing glance," explains Anne More. "Autumn Palette" is the title of this work.



▼ "Family Ties" by Anne More. She believes that nature trails need to be protected for their beauty and their importance to our well-being and the environment.

involving several people who were responsible for the mural "Milton's Nature Warms the Soul," a work of three panels that are 33 feet long by eight feet high. It now hangs in the lobby of Milton District Hospital, behind the

information desk. Tina says it shows the Escarpment's Rattlesnake Point to Mount Nemo in four seasons.

Explaining how her work has changed over time, she says "It's more layered. There are more intricacies. My early

Local landscape original art by Tina Newlove and Anne More available for sale at The Gallery Upstairs.



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▲ It takes time to see things in the works of Tina Newlove. “Sowing Seeds” is the name of this work.

◀ Closeup of Anne More’s image on the mirror. The painting is “Morning Paddle.”

► Tina Newlove’s “Tree Houses.” “My new work might have a central tree in the painting, or treehouses, houses and figures in it as well. It’s a quiet space for reflection.”

work would have a central object. New work might have a central tree in the painting, and houses and figures in it as well. It’s my landscapes where I give rest and peace in nature, more space. It’s a quiet space for reflection. Lately with COVID I have

more time for reflection. I’m taking advantage of being out in nature. I’m painting and layering images.”

Tina will take on private commissions, but prefers to do them for people who know her work and have a specific space in mind. “Commissions

can be complicated,” she warns. “For large commissions I’ll do a to-scale watercolour. I usually have creative freedom and there are always abstract figures in my pieces, but in a symbolic way.” More of Tina’s work can be seen at tinanewlove.com. **NEV**

Both Anne More and Tina Newlove can be reached through The Gallery Upstairs, 3 Mill St. in Milton, phone 905.878.8161, website thegalleryupstairs.com.



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3408/AS/2021