

Show heralds bright new local talent

BY ARGUS

Olga Nazarkina, a young Ukrainian artist, is a recent arrival to Deep River.

Nazarkina, who studied art in the Ukraine and US, is already having a considerable impact on the local art scene as indicated by her current exhibition in the Deep River Library program room.

Entitled "Past, Present and Future," the show includes a wide spectrum of Nazarkina's talents presenting a variety of media dating from 2004 to 2011.

Nazarkina's skill at drawing is evident in two winter scenes. The first scene is graphite on white paper and the second white pencil on black paper. Both scenes depict the monochromatic landscape we might see on a cloudy February day.

While the second scene is successful in its use of the intense black of the paper, I find it less appealing as it might benefit from a simpler composition.

I prefer the first scene as it draws the eye of the observer into the image to a small clearing in the trees where the snow piles up around the base of a tree and fresh snow clings to branches.

Nazarkina has included some of her earlier work. A striking watercolour titled "Poppies," dated 2007, is reminiscent of oriental brush work with a simple composition and superb control over the red wash making up the poppies' petals.

Nazarkina's arrival in New York in 2004 is marked, in contrast, by two stark oil paintings depicting her impression of landing at La Guardia Airport in fog and rain.

Amongst my own favourites in the exhibition is a more recent watercolour series of dried flowers; the series depicts a tangle of plant



material, tissue-paper thin dried petals being tossed in the wind and leaves that droop on twisted stems.

Finding beauty in that which is usually overlooked, Nazarkina demonstrates her classic training in composition and colour theory.

Regrettably some of the framing does not live up to the quality of the work itself.

SCULPTURAL

Recent large scale sculptural pieces are sure to intrigue many people. Nazarkina made thousands of ladybugs and other insects and incorporated them into three dimensional works.

These may be enjoyed for their aesthetics but have much greater meaning. A sunflower with ladybugs for seeds, for example, evokes joy and summer.

Nazarkina's intention was to represent global warming and human interaction. The overcrowded sunflower features thousands of crea-

tures crawling away to escape the results of their own activity.

Less successful for me is a mushroom sculpture whose surface is covered with 14,000 ladybugs. While the piece continues the theme of the other works, its form is somewhat stiff and uniform detracting from its impact.

The mushroom sits in contrast with the organic form of a large papier-mâché pomegranate which, with a wonderfully convoluted and pithy interior, brimming with red ladybugs, indicates that as individuals we are but part of a whole.

Olga Nazarkina is talented, versatile, curious and driven by a desire to question and create. We are very fortunate to have her here and this show should be seen by young and old alike.

"Past, Present and Future" is on until February 26, open during most library hours. Glimpse at her artistic past, enjoy her present work, and look forward to her future creations!

The best of both worlds

BY DARIA TURNER

Happy Wednesday, NRT readership! My name is Daria Turner, and I will be the North Renfrew Times' new co-op student for the next four months.

I took this placement because I am a lover of the written word, and above all else, story - whether it's told through visual art, theatre, film, fiction, or facts.

So I'm hoping through working with the fantastic staff here at the NRT (especially the awe-inspiring associate editor, Vance) to bring you fascinating news stories and my less fascinating personal thoughts.

A bit about me: I've been told I am both nine and 90 - supposedly I have some mature philosophic ponderings on life, but with a less mature sense of humour. But it's good to have the best of both worlds, right?

Really, I am a mesh of contradictions. I am set in my old ways but I'm always trying to change and grow. I reject modern conveniences like Facebook, but I couldn't live without my mp3 player.



I'm definitely a right-brainer with all my creative juices, but I'm great at math.

I love the modern art forms (minimalist writing styles, free-form poetry, abstract art, and yes, even non-objective art) but there's nothing better than the smell of a 100-year-old book.

Thus, maybe I can provide a different point of view on a story or idea which some of you may enjoy.

And that's probably as much as you need to know about me. So enjoy the rest of your paper and be seeing you!

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THIS WEEK

Items are listed free for non-profit community groups. To have an upcoming event listed, call the NRT at 584-4161 or email <NRT@magma.ca> before 10 am Monday. For more listings, check the DR Events Calendar at <www.magma.ca/~drevnts>.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 10 am - 4 pm, Canadian Clock Museum open (Tuesday to Saturday), 60 James St., Deep River *
- 11 am - 5 pm & 7-9 pm, "Past, Present and Future," exhibition of works by Olga Nazarkina, sponsored by Deep River Library Arts Committee, Deep River Library program room (show continues until February 26)
- 12:30 pm, Weekly Progressive Euchre, play starting at 1 pm, Chalk River Legion *
- 1:30 pm, Social Bridge, sponsored by Friends of the Library, Deep River Library program room *
- 7:30 pm, Toastmasters meet, North Renfrew Long Term Care Centre (for information, call 584-2505) *

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 10:45 am, Circle Time for You and Me (Birth to 6 Years), FEN Early Years, Deep River, Mackenzie High School, Rm 153 *
- 6:30 pm, Lions bingo, Chalk River Lions Hall *
- 6:30-8 pm, "Get WITH It!" walking program, Mackenzie HS *
- 7 pm, Al-Anon meeting, everyone welcome, Laurentian Hills municipal hall, Point Alexander *

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 10-11:20 am, Coffee morning, everyone welcome, Deep River Community Church *
- 1:30 pm, Casual cards, North Renfrew Long Term Care Centre, 47 Ridge Rd. *
- 4:15 pm, Junior Music Club concert, Childs Auditorium, Mackenzie HS
- 5-7 pm, Friday night dinner: Fish & chips, Deep River Legion
- 8 pm, Friday fun darts, Deep River Legion *
- 8 pm, Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, Pt. Alexander municipal building, Hwy 17 *

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 4 pm, Rusty Dillabough Memorial Draw weekly prize draw, Deep River Legion *
- 4-8 pm, 1st Annual Pat Harvey Fun Day, everyone welcome, Mount Martin Ski Club
- 8 pm, Deep River Symphony Orchestra concert, with guest pianist David Jalbert, Childs Auditorium, Mackenzie HS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 7-9 pm, Old-tyme square dancing, everyone welcome, Pt. Alexander municipal hall (for information, call 584-4645) *

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

- 10 am - 1 pm, Deep River and Area Food Bank open, at the Deep River and District Hospital (for information, phone 584-2484)*
- 6:30-8 pm, "Get WITH It!" walking program, Mackenzie HS *
- 7:30 pm, Deep River Choral Group rehearsal, Childs Auditorium, Mackenzie High School *
- 7:30-10 pm, Country Line Dancing, Bear's Den, Hwy 17 Deep River (for information, call 589-2644) *
- 8 pm, Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, Pt. Alexander municipal building, Hwy 17 *

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

- 10:45 am, Storytime, Point Alexander Library *
- 12:30 pm, 49ers meet, Deep River Legion *
- 7:15 pm, Duplicate Bridge Club meets, Faith Lutheran Church, Deep River *

An asterisk (*) indicates weekly events.

Sharron's Big Broadway Show

An Evening of Music and Comedy

Friday, March 4, 2011 at 8pm
The Deep River Legion

3 course dinner available (\$16) at 6:15pm if booked by Feb. 25th.
To book dinner, call Patti Kinghorn 584-4463

Tickets \$30 adults, \$15 students available at the Valley Artisans' Co-op

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Pat Harvey Family FUN DAY

This Saturday, Feb. 26 • 4 - 8pm
at the **MOUNT MARTIN SKI CLUB**
82 Double Dip Road, Deep River

EVERYONE WELCOME
free food & fun for skiers & non-skiers

chili	hot dogs	hot chocolate
music	videos	torchlight parade
bonfire	games	activities & prizes

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Donations to the OSPCA or MMSC accepted.

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