Kyle Sherwin is painting history

Fashion paintings featured at Warkworth gallery

By Bob Owen NOV. 29/07 lowen@xplornet.com

At 17, Kyle Sherwin is working his way back in time – through his paintings.

The Hastings resident opened his first solo show at the Warkworth Gallery of the Cheeky Bee Candle Company Nov. 3.

Many of the close-to-30 works were depictions of historic fashion ads inspired by the style of Paul Poiret, a French fashion poster painter. Others were distinctly oriental, taking traditional subjects like cranes, apple blossoms, samurai warriors and water lilies and painting them in the eastern style. Many of them have their titles painted in Chinese or Japanese script.

Mr. Sherwin became interested in oriental paintings three or four years ago but wasn't ready to paint them the way he wanted. He

> tried again last winter and admits he "got it a little better".

> His latest works have evolved from



PHOTO BY BOB OWEN

Kyle Sherwin has been painting all his life, and admits he "grew up with a paint brush in his hand". He opened his first solo show at the Warkworth Gallery of the Cheeky Bee Candle Company Nov. 3. Kyle is the grandson of Colborne's Viola Stickle.

there. The models in some of his fashion works have oriental hairpieces

The Grade 12Campbellford High School student is clearly prolific and capable of capturing the essence of the subjects he has tackled. All of his works have been completed since last Christmas. Three stunning fashion paintings were done on a summer camping trip with his family.

Most of the pieces in the show, which runs to Jan. 15, are acrylics and water colours; a few are pencil sketches. Prices range from \$30 to \$250 for works up to 24 by 36 inches.

The show opened last Saturday, the direct result of Kyle's initiative.

Last summer, he went into the Cheeky Bee with a few of his pieces and showed them to Perry Melzack and Amanda Gardner. They wanted him to produce more and the concept of a show was formulated.

Where to from here?

Kyle is looking back in time again. The current works are art deco from about 1910. He's headed back a couple of decades to the art nouveau of the late 1890s.

He is doing the research on line and has already started some sketches. The water colours will come out next.

They will all go into his growing portfolio which he hopes to use to gain admission to the Ontario College of Art and Design.

Next year, if the money is there, he hopes to continue his studies at a more advanced level.

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There was lots of girl power on display at the Castleton United Church Bazaar Dec. 1 – and they had lots to sell. From left, Laiken Starreveld, Nikki Carr, Lauren Taylor, Sasha Keeler, Madison White, Tyra Keeler and Oshan Starreveld display some of the popular items on sale.