

the HERALD

## Entertainment

Howard exhibition  
leaves gallery awash  
in color and light

For the next six weeks the Halton Hills Cultural Centre Gallery will be filled with explosive "color and light."

Famed Canadian artist Barbara Howard's exhibit at the gallery includes 11 drawings, 13 paintings and 25 wood engravings.

Halton Hills residents have until mid-August to take in the brilliant colors and more subtle drawings and wood engravings.

To the layman who first enters the gallery, it's the oil-on-canvas paintings which might capture the imagination.

The brightly-colored paintings, such as *Talisman* and *Arizona Moon* automatically draw the viewer's attention.

Most paintings are done in what Ms. Howard calls the "broken technique."

It gives the viewer the impression of looking through something before seeing the setting.

The slightly distorted images give the viewer a different perspective on an otherwise simple setting such as a small island in the distance.

For Ms. Howard the exhibit, and even the name "color and light" is representative of her work.

"You can't paint without being extremely aware of light," said the 62-year-old Toronto native, at the special opening, Wednesday.

"My main preoccupations are color and light."

Water is also a common theme among Ms. Howard's work. "Oceans and lakes, in all kinds of weather, in all times of the year, I find extremely fascinating," she said.

"There is still something in me

that responds to water."

Described by her close friend and another famous Canadian artist, Rebecca Sisler, as a "committed and passionate artist," it may surprise no one that she is married to poet Richard Outram.

Ms. Howard's art is to be found in many notable collections throughout the world, including the British Museum in London, the Bodleian Library, Oxford, the National Gallery of Canada and the Houghton Library at Harvard University.

Ms. Howard has been the subject of several personal profiles in books and magazines such as *Equinox* and *City and Country Home* and she is included in both the *Who's Who of Canadian Women* and the *Who's Who in American Art*.

The paintings and drawings hanging in the gallery were mostly done in the last five years, said Ms. Howard.

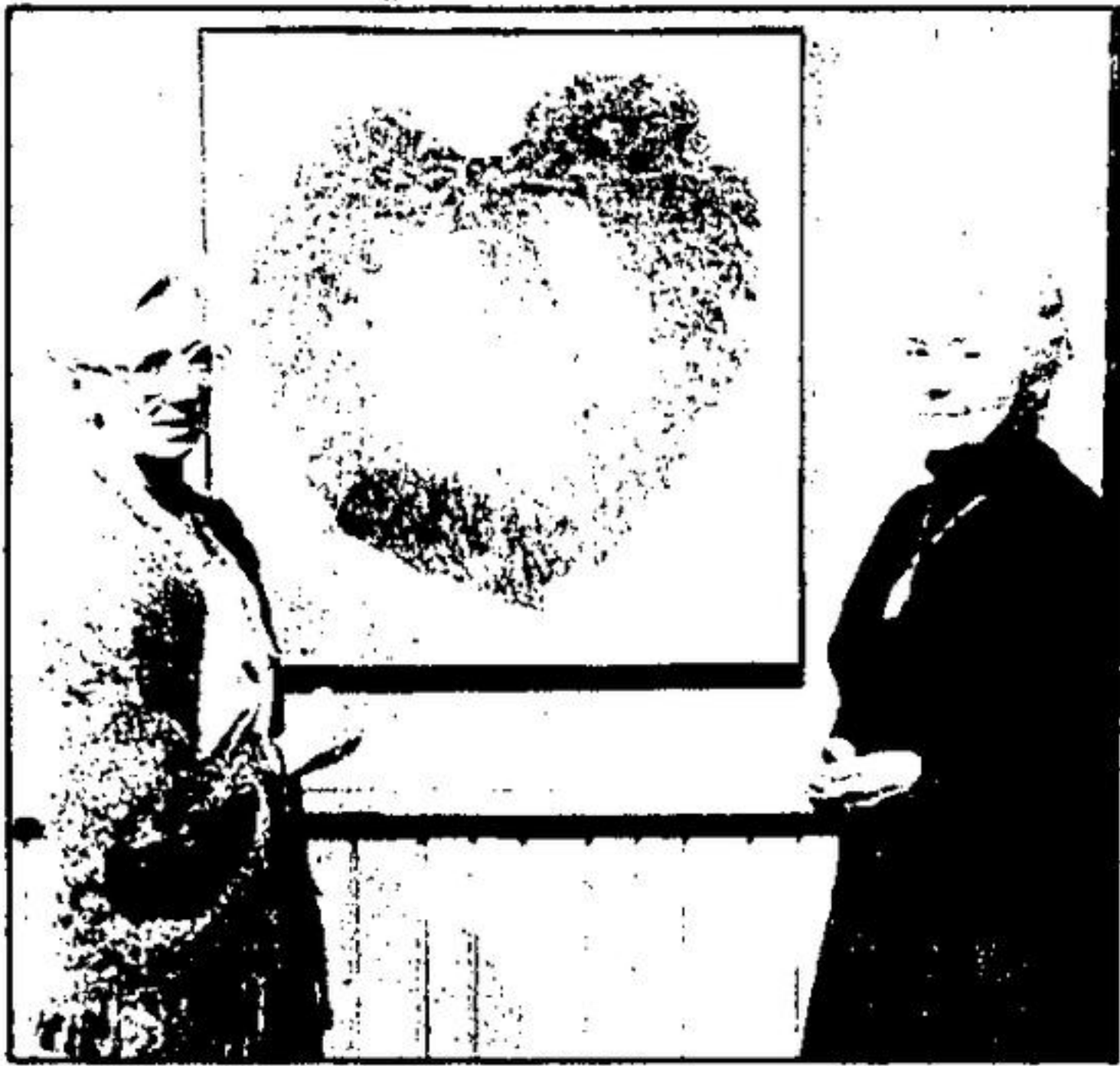
Asked what work she finds the most interesting, or what she holds a special place for, Ms. Howard could only look to her most recent paintings. "I usually find my latest paintings the most interesting," she said.

The recent paintings tend to display a path to her future work, she added.

When she was asked to do the exhibition by the Friends of the Halton Hills Libraries, Ms. Howard picked out the appropriate work.

"There is so much that people find in paintings and drawings that sometimes can even be a surprise to the artist," said Ms. Howard.

Halton Hills residents can view Ms. Howard's work at the gallery until Aug. 13.



Famed Canadian artist Barbara Howard (right) was on hand for the opening of her exhibit entitled "Color and Light" at the Cultural Centre Gallery June 28. She was in-

troduced by her friend, another famous Canadian artist, Rebecca Sisler. Ms. Howard has drawings, paintings and wood engravings on display at the gallery until Aug. 13.

Program takes aim  
at stopping the sale  
of 'butts' to minors

The first phase of a Canada-wide program to inform retailers, their employees and customers that it is illegal to sell tobacco products to minors is being launched in Ontario, by five major merchandising associations.

The program is sponsored by Retail Council of Canada, the Canadian Council of Grocery Distributors, the Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers, the National Association of Tobacco and Confectionery Distributors and the Canadian Automatic Merchandising Association in co-operation with the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers' Council.

An Ontario law makes it illegal to sell tobacco products to a person under the age of 18. The federal law states it is illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under the age of 18. Penalties for breaking these laws range from a \$2 to \$100 fine.

"Retailers and distributors recognize the obligation on both the merchant and the customer to obey the law," said Alasdair McKichan, president of Retail Council of Canada.

"It is a fact that the law is not widely known, nor is it enforced in any consistent way. For that reason we have prepared an information program to communicate the facts about the law and to encourage retailers and customers to obey it," Mr. McKichan said.

The Ontario information program features decals that say, "We don't sell cigarettes to under 18's," to remind customers of the law, and "Remember it is illegal to sell cigarettes to under 18's" to remind sales staff of the law. Decals in the other provinces will read 16, in conformity with the applicable federal law.

The decal's cigarette package logo features a bold red "ban" symbol through the appropriate age. The decals can be placed on store windows, glass doors, cash registers, cigarette racks and vending machines. A brochure explaining the law and urging it to be obeyed will also be distributed to retailers and their staff.

It is expected that the information kits will reach over 38,000 retail outlets and some 5,000 vending machines across Ontario in June and early July. Distribution to the other provinces will begin in August and is expected to be completed in late September.

The estimated cost of the Canada-wide program is more than \$400,000.

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By DIAHANN NADEAU  
Herald Special

How lovely to be able to escape to another world and another time, a time of legends and villainous queens and tiny people.

Willow ushers the audience into such a world, offering delights along the lines of Tolkien and the Wizard of Oz. This is a wonderful film, full of fantasy and adventure with a lot of laughs thrown in for good measure.

Willow Ufgood is a Neivyn, small people who live simply in peasant villages (imagine medieval Munchkins). Willow becomes the guardian of a baby princess with a powerful destiny, and must take her to sanctuary across a mythic landscape. On the way he encounters the Brownies, who are extremely tiny people, the Dalkin, who are average size adults, and Trolls, horrid, hairy beasts with nasty instincts.

Willow reluctantly enlists the aid of Madmartigan, a wayward Dalkin who releases from a slow death in a tiny prison cell. Together with their Brownie guides, who are smaller than rats and mouthier than Billy Martin, they fight their way across a savage land, pursued by evil villains (complete with skeleton Darth-Vader masks) and a beautiful princess who serves an evil mother. Will they make it to safety, will they save baby Elora Dunham from evil Queen Bavmorda? Yes, but it takes awhile.

Willow has engendered great expectations because it comes from the combined talent of George Lucas and Ron Howard. Apparently some people feel it does not live up to the publicity, but I certainly didn't find this to be true. Willow is all things an epic fantasy should be: heroic,

scary, romantic, funny, and full of heart. Willow Ufgood himself is a lovable character, an ordinary farmer forced into extraordinary bravery and wisdom. He has the audience rooting for him every step of the way.

I think one of the interesting twists Howard and Lucas have given us is that the world of Willow is a maternalistic one, instead of the usual paternalistic kingdom. The land is ruled by the villainous Queen Bavmorda, with a warrior daughter to fight her battles. Bavmorda's reign will be terminated by a baby girl, and an aging sorceress is the baby's ally. Willow, Madmartigan and the Brownies are the common males caught up in a heroic struggle between powerful women.

Warwick Davis plays Willow, and he is great. It is impossible to imagine that Warwick Davis is not Willow - he is so completely in character. Val Kilmer is the handsome Madmartigan, tall and dark and long-haired; Johanne Whalley is Sorsha, Bavmorda's misled daughter, and Jean Marsh (of *Upstairs, Downstairs*) is Bavmorda herself. Patricia Hayes is the sorceress Rozel, and Kevin Pollack, of *Arts and Entertainment's* *Comedy Break*, is Rool, one of the crazy Brownies.

The special effects are pretty good, but they are not the stars of the movie. No, it is Willow and the Brownies and Elora Dunham herself that will enchant and amuse you. There is a fair amount of violence, and if your child is prone to nightmares you might want to think twice about bringing him. But Willow is a family movie, and the kids in the theatre loved it.

## AT THE MOVIES



VAL KILMER is the renegade warrior Madmartigan in the new George Lucas/Ron Howard fantasy epic, "Willow."

## Travel consultants get royal treatment

No one will be able to pull the wool over the eyes of these travel representatives!

Twenty-one Ministry of Tourism and Recreation travel representatives boarded a bus on June 23 for a familiarization tour of Halton's attractions.

The group visited Bronte Harbour, Ontario Agricultural Museum, Chudleigh's, Olde Hide House, Royal Botanical Gardens and Bronte Creek Provincial Park.

The travel counsellors represent the Ministry's six busiest travel centres: St. Catharines, Niagara, Fort Erie, Windsor, Sarnia and Toronto.

With over 1.2 million consultations with visitors - it's important for counsellors to have first hand knowledge of the product they're selling, states Joanne Essan from the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation, Customer Sales and Service Division.

"We get a lot of inquiries about the Halton area. People travelling from Niagara are looking for things to do before they hit Toronto. Also Toronto people are interested in day trips for their kids," says Ms. Essan.

The Ministry requested the tour after they learned of a Halton's successful familiarization tour during National Tourism Week May 16-20.

The tour is the result of Halton's Regional Tourism program that collectively promotes the area.

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Hydro stations offer  
tours of facilities

Last year more than 100,000 people visited Ontario Hydro's information centres and generating stations. With the start of the summer season, a number of Hydro facilities are open for public visits.

Four Ontario Hydro information centres are open seven days a week throughout the summer:

The Saunders Energy Information Centre, just west of Cornwall on the St. Lawrence River, is in a glass-enclosed gallery above the R.H. Saunders hydro-electric generating station. The centre is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day during July and August. Take Power Dam Drive off Highway 401 east, to the St. Lawrence River. Telephone (613) 938-1518.

The Pickering Energy Information Centre, at the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station east of Toronto, is open every day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Take the Brock Road exit at Pickering south from Highway 401 and follow the signs.

From the Darlington Information Centre, east of Oshawa, bus tours run daily through the Darlington construction site. The information centre is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The site is south off Highway 401 bet-

ween Oshawa and Bowmanville. The Bruce Nuclear Power Development Information Centre is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bus tours of the power development, on Lake Huron, are available seven times daily through July and August. Take Highway 21 from Kincardine to just north of Tiverton, then follow the signs.

Walking tours inside the stations are available at Pickering, Bruce and Darlington. Visitors are asked to call ahead to book tours: At Pickering, (416) 839-0465; Darlington, (416) 623-7122; Bruce, (519) 368-8687.

Tours are also offered at four of Hydro's coal-fired generating stations. Visitors must call ahead to book visits. At Thunder Bay Thermal Generating Station, on Lake Superior in Thunder Bay, tours run Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:30 a.m. throughout July and August. Telephone (807) 623-2701. At Lakeview Thermal Generating Station in Mississauga, call (416) 274-3461. At Lambton Thermal Generating Station near Sarnia, call (519) 867-2663, and at Nantleoke Thermal Generating Station, near Simcoe on Lake Erie, (519) 587-2201.

## Harbourfront sizzles

Harbourfront sizzles with hot programs for the month of July.

North America's longest running musical, *The Fantasticks* opened July 5 for a five-week run at the Premiere Dance Theatre. This is the first major Canadian revival in 25 years.

From July 8 to 10, Freedom Fest celebrates black culture, arts and heritage. On the music front, the third annual New Country Music weekend returns July 15 to 17, along with the Soul 'n' Blues Festival, July 21 to 24. A spicy weekend is in store for visitors during the Caribbean Jump Up, July 29 to Aug. 1.

Film devotees should not miss the Luis Bunuel Film Festival

celebrating one of cinema's greatest directors. Screenings take place July 4 to 29. For craft enthusiasts, the ninth annual *Maker's Eye* runs July 20 to 24, with a show and sale by over 100 of Canada's best artisans.

Every Tuesday evening beginning July 5 Kidstage returns with free outdoor performances by popular children's entertainers. Seniors can enjoy free entertainment on Musical Memories Day, July 13. Cloggers, Highland dancers and a craft sale are all part of Seniors Follies Day, July 27.

Most of these events are free or affordably priced. For more information, contact the Harbourfront Information Centre at 973-3000.

## Appointments announced

The Canadian Wildflower Society is proud to announce the appointment as Honorary Patron of Sir David Attenborough, CBE, FRS.

Sir David is among the best known conservationists in the world today. His books and television series *Life on Earth*, *The Living Planet* and *The First Eden* have been read and viewed by millions around the world.

The Society also announces the following appointments as Honorary Directors: Canadian nature artists Glen Loates and Robert Bateman; author Farley Mowat; nature photographers Freeman Patterson and Mary Ferguson; Fred Case III,

North America's foremost expert and author on North America's native orchids; Dr. Miriam Rothschild from the United Kingdom, author of hundreds of scientific articles and a renowned biologist, entomologist and botanist.

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