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creased and folded in upon itself in a pattern of symmetrical triangle shapes. No cutting or gluing is required. As it nears completion, there are two long, narrow triangles at each end- one of which is the tail, while the other is bent to become the head. The two broad triangles at the side are folded down as wings, and it is ready to dangle with its friends.

Only one side of the paper is visible on the finished bird. That is why Gisela likes to use wrapping paper; it is an inexpensive material, with a wide variety of lively colours and designs that decorate the finished product.

She makes the birds in different sizes, some small enough to be used as earrings, and often does custom orders, with cus-

John tells people that he wakes up at night and finds her folding birds in her sleep. It's not true, of course, but he still likes to tell the story.

An origami bird starts out as a square of paper, which is sharply

tomers providing the paper they like. As an art gallery operator, she knew that a unique presentation of simple elements could be very appealing to the public.

She experimented with hanging the birds in various ways, such as from a metal ring, but decided that branches would be the best setting, since they imitate a natural environment.

The birds move with the flow of air in a room, and even from the warm updraft from a television. Gisela said many people also appreciate the dramatic shadows they cast on a wall, when there is a bright source of light.

Her mobiles are a popular feature at the Main Street Inn, a restaurant and bed and breakfast establishment in downtown Georgetown, where the work of more than 30 artists is on display. John assists with the hanging of works there.

"They (the Sommers) are great lovers and supporters of art," said Main Street Inn owner Brian Flood. People are welcome to drop in and see the art at 126

Main St. S., even if they aren't dining at the restaurant.

Origami creations can range from the simple hats, boats or gliding airplanes that children are taught to make, to complex works of art, like paper sculptures. Go to www.origamitoronto.org to see everything from a winged horse to a mountain bike, complete with a suspension system.




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