

Newlove's work on display in Campbellville

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some of her new line already, and has been commissioned to complete several more.

But painting is not her only love. Many facets of the creative world capture her imagination, and Ms. Newlove is ready to embrace whatever inspiration she receives.

Although she does work in watercolour and acrylic, paintings are generally oil on canvas. Some bear gold leaf embellishments and are stunningly framed. Throughout the house of her mother Rose Anna Newlove where the studio is located are other scattered works.

An antique cabbage shredder holds a "dictionary page" and its tiny, precise Medieval-style illustrations, tacked up inside with a funky handmade cast nail. Wire sculptures abound, and in a display case a couple of tiny paintings highlight multi-hued glass beads. An old medicine cabinet frames another illustration series on a dictionary page, the sides of the box carefully engraved with their own depictions. Overall, the work is a combination of fantasy and whimsy - far-flung flights of imagination.

"I didn't even know that Tina had any talent for art," stated Rose Anne Newlove, "until after she was 11. She didn't bring any art home from school because the other kids always wanted her work. One time she drew this really amazing seahorse, and then a lion. Eventually Tina won prizes at the Georgetown Fall Fair - ribbons and money - and entered the other fairs in Acton and Milton. When she'd won continuously in those, we went to artist Doreen Fitzgibbons, who said she had a wonderful talent."

Thereafter, Ms. Newlove took both private and group lessons, and became curator of the Grade 13 Art Show in Milton before attending university.

"Mac (McMaster University) turned out to be a great program for me. They offered a small array of courses, like painting and print-making... It was a good atmosphere."

After graduation, Ms. Newlove attempted to enter shows here and there.

Some of Ms. Newlove's related artistic experience has occurred through her relationship with the band *Tribe of One*, from Winnipeg.

"We focus as a group. The arts can be freedom and release - we find it incredibly energizing ourselves as we work together, when the band is playing, a dancer is dancing, and there's painting going on... It brought such a wealth of reaction from the audience and the band members - it imparts life into everyday hum-drum living!"

In 1999 the band spent a week in Kosovo, playing for a UNICEF benefit concert coordinated by Vanessa Redgrave. Many big-name patrons invested money into the venture, like Elton John, Bono of U2, Sting, and Mikhail Baryshnikov. The group wanted to go longer, perhaps spending a month and offering music, dance and painting, but the grant from the Canadian government was held up and "took so long the war was over!" she relates.

Still, they were able to be part of the benefit during one week, with other featured talents like Bruce Cockburn, Men of the Deeps, Philip Glass, Big Country,

and the Martha Graham Dance Co. They were somewhat mistakenly billed as children's entertainment, but "we got so many kids! It was so good!" enthuses Ms. Newlove. Adults, too, loved their eclectic work.

For the band, Ms. Newlove created CD covers and inside artwork, some of which has a style reminiscent of First Nations or Celtic creations.

"I am influenced by First Nations work. I see a lot of it in Winnipeg."

Together with her mother, Ms. Newlove is working on marketing her prints and T-shirts. Although the website is still under production, her art can be viewed at www.2souls.ca. She will also be teaching an eight-week Basic Acrylic Painting course at Wyndham Art Supplies in Guelph beginning January 15, 2002.

Obviously, the vast collection of experiences has influenced Tina Newlove's work, from European trips to modeling experience (she appeared in print advertising as a teenager and once doubled for Drew Barrymore during some freelance acting days). She celebrates her art in many forms, embracing all aspects of life and expression. And with work hanging in Canada, the US, England and Australia, and shows such as the one at the Hummingbird Centre, Ms. Newlove says, "It's been good..." After a laugh, she corrects herself. "It's been great!"

If you'd like to view Ms. Newlove's work, please contact her at the Campbellville studio, 905-854-0238 or email crankyfish@stn.net.

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