

Elizabeth Wilkes Hoey Art Exhibition

BY BREN CHISHOLM

The Textile Museum of Canada located at 55 Centre Avenue at the St. Patrick Subway in Toronto is hosting a special exhibition entitled, "Thor Hansen: Crafting a Canadian Style" featuring the works of one of his contemporaries, Nassagaweya designer Elizabeth Wilkes Hoey. The show is scheduled to run from January 19th, through to and including April 3, 2005.

From the mid-1950's to the end of the 1960's, Danish émigré, Thor Hansen (1903-1974) was a popular artist, designer and tireless promoter of the craft movement in Canada and is currently facing a re-emergence. His work is being displayed at the exhibition and hosts the works of Hoey, honouring a unique blend of history and creativity.

Many of Hoey's original Silk Screen Show Lengths, as well as The National Film Board's ten-minute movie clip detailing her numerous works will be on hand to view.

Hoey is best known and respected for her uncanny ability to bring forth the subtleties of nature within her creations. Many fine artists and established businesses, such as The Royal Botanical Gardens, The Art Gallery of Ontario, Edwards Gardens, Queen's Park and the MacDonald-Stewart Art Gallery, recognize her design techniques.

One of her proudest works, a hand-printed silk screen drapery called the "Jack in the Pulpit", is just one of the gorgeous pieces you will view at the exhibition.

Hoey, now 90-years-old had, as her daughter, Martha recalls, "a fully viable business in silkscreen printing and design in 1945 where you could go into a special design department of 'Eaton's' and choose from mom's designs."

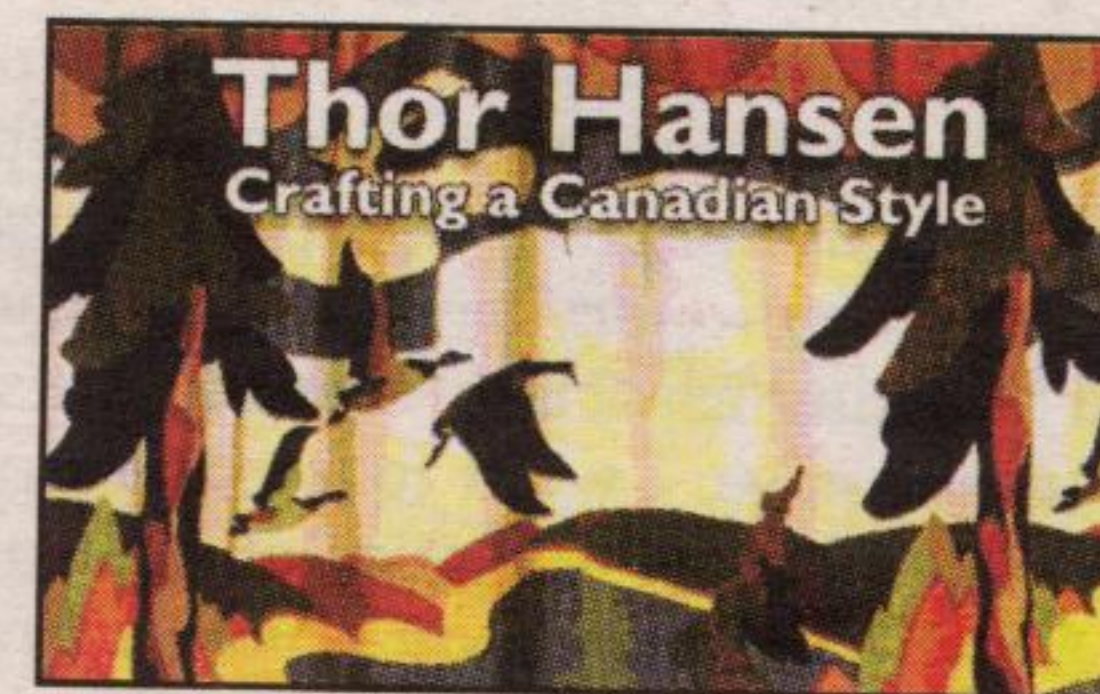
In 1954, she moved to the "Elm Tree Centre" (www.elmtreecentre.com), a facility that offers life-enhancing courses that teach balance between one's practical and creative sides. Hoey and Martha, a fellow artist and Life Skills Consultant, stand by their slogan, "Where the Heart Leads the

Way" because guests who step inside their doors make lifestyle changes in an understandable, approachable manner.

As an addition to her long list of accomplishments, Hoey won the "John Robarts Award" for her Trillium design and has the appreciation and recognition of many fine art collectors throughout the world.

Hoey is also world-renowned for her watercolour work and designing expressions. Her wide variety of media ranges from the "Angels of Healing" greeting cards to ceramic tile paintings and original creations with feathers.

One of the last large orders Elizabeth produced was the hand-designed silk screen printed draperies that were done for the Halton County Court House. She has also designed the crest for the Township of Nassagaweya, which hangs in the Township Hall in Brookville.



Check out the Textile Museum of Canada at www.textilemuseum.ca for more information on the exhibition!

You are also welcome to meet Elizabeth Wilkes Hoey at "Elm Tree Centre" located at 25 Side Rd., west of Guelph Line, where she currently continues her art business with her daughter, Martha Hoey. Their Art Gallery and Studios are open weekends from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and weekdays 12:00 noon - 5:00 p.m. Their telephone numbers are (519) 823-5091 or (519) 823-5847.



Elizabeth in her Art Gallery at Elm Tree Centre with her hand designed silk screen printed drapery lengths.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Milton Library Sesquicentennial celebration



PHOTO BY DONNA DANIELI

A grand celebration was held on Tuesday January 25 to launch the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Milton Public Library. On hand for the event (and a celebratory piece of cake) were Milton Mayor Gord Krantz, Chief Librarian Leslie Fitch and Library Board Chairman Ron Banyai. Upcoming events in the year long celebration include a quilt design contest, a "150 Reasons to Love the Library Contest", and a "Stories of Milton Public Library" project. "The opportunity to celebrate these kinds of events is welcome, as it gives us a chance to acknowledge our past, to highlight the achievements of the present, and to look forward to the challenges of the future," explained Ms. Fitch.



"150 Reasons to Love the Library"

Let us know why you love Milton Public Library (5 words or less)

A commemorative poster has been designed to record the "150 Reasons to Love the Library"

There will be 3 prizes of \$50 each
All entries chosen will receive a limited edition poster

Drop by the Library or visit our website www.mpl.on.ca for details

AM 740

prime time radio

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