

# Renowned artist will attend first Canadian show in C'ville

By KAREN SMITH

Connecticut painter Charles McCaughtry will show his works for the first time in Canada at Wyget Woods Art Gallery tomorrow.

Mr. McCaughtry has gained a reputation for his consistent portrayal of the peace and tranquility of nature's scenes.

"I'm particularly interested in the relationship of earth, sea and air in whatever form or season," he says, "and how light, the scene and the time of day interact."

The artist, who only works in original watercolours, has won countless awards and is named in the *Who's Who of American Art* and *American Artists of Renown*.

His landscapes rarely include figures, birds or animals — a deliberate omission.

"I don't want the viewer to be a spectator of a spectator. I want the viewer to project him or herself into the work so that it becomes alive," Mr. McCaughtry explains.

The owners of the Campbellville gallery, Roy Metcalfe and Betty Bassett, are thrilled that they will be hosting McCaughtry's first Canadian show.

"We've always displayed a few of his works and they have been extremely popular, but to have 30 of his originals and the artist himself here is the chance of a lifetime," said Mr. Metcalfe.

The couple gave up their corporate jobs in Mississauga to open Wyget Woods Art Gallery and Conservation Framing in October, 1988. The gallery is situated in the basement of their country home.

The Charles McCaughtry show runs from August 4-12. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and 2 to 6 p.m. Sundays. Mr. McCaughtry will be in attendance during gallery hours Saturday, Sunday and holiday Monday.

Mr. McCaughtry's works range in size from 21 by 29 inches to 40 by 60 inch paintings. The paper he uses for his larger works is pure linen, specially ordered from a 600-year-old paper company in Avignon, France.

The 45-year-old artist graduated from Capital University in Ohio with a bachelor of arts in art and history. He also received a master of art education degree from the Hartford Art School in Connecticut.

Trained originally in oil, Mr. McCaughtry says he prefers watercolours because they allow spontaneity and layering, which helps him create the depth and texture of his subject matter.

In addition, he says watercolours are a challenge — almost as if they have a mind of their own.

Mr. McCaughtry has been the subject of more than 20 one-man art shows throughout the United States. His works, popular in the U.S. and in Europe, can be found in many corporate and institution collections, where they are valued for their originality and their timeless tranquility.

Wyget Woods Art Gallery can be found by taking a drive in the country. It is located on No. 20 Sideroad, north of Brockville, and just two kilometres east of Guelph Line.

For further details, call the gallery at 854-2173.



Works such as the above illustrated Knowlton Brook Reflections will be on display at the Wyget Woods show.

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