

COMING UP

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STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Motus O's Cynthia and James Croker with dancers Rebecca Steiner, Kohl McVicar (blue man) and Kimberlee Walker prepare for their performances around the works of Lynne McIlvrde Evans at the Latcham Gallery. The show will be held Aug. 25 at the Main Street gallery.

Art meets dance during gallery exhibit

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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Lynne McIlvrde Evans didn't just want to paint what she saw in Spain during an artist's residency near Barcelona. She wanted her watercolours to depict what it was like to actually be in the Montserrat mountain range.

The result is the exhibition *The Mountain Was Like This*, which is at the Latcham Gallery until Aug. 27.

"It's a very bizarre mountain range," the Uxbridge artist said. "It's not like any mountain range I've ever seen. The rhythm of the mountain is what really interested me."

Ms McIlvrde Evans' work is not your typical petite and properly framed muted watercolour.

Instead, these works go up to 10 feet wide and for the most part, are unframed.

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A sculpture, comprised of about 30 pieces of rolled up sketches and paintings, sits directly on the floor, similar in shape to one of the Montserrat mountains, Ms McIlvrde Evans said.

Another unique aspect to this exhibition is its colour scheme,

which is vibrant and reminiscent of the board game Candy Land.

"It's a beautiful medium. It just needs to be re-invented in a non-conventional way," Ms McIlvrde Evans said, adding working with watercolours has actually "dulled my pallet down a bit".

Embedded within one of her works are words written in the Spanish dialect of Catalan. "Trepo" in English means "I climb", while "poco" means "little by little". The words allude to being lost within the landscape, said Ms McIlvrde Evans.

"There was a definite feeling of being overwhelmed," she said.

As part of the exhibition, Motus O will perform two improv pieces

inspired by the exhibition in the gallery Aug. 25.

A group of performers from the area's drama and dance camps have taken part in six workshops over the summer with all of their movements based on Ms McIlvrde Evans' work, which co-artistic director of Motus O, Cynthia Croker, described as "almost cartoonish", "electrifying" and "playful with colour".

Although the group has been rehearsing, the Aug. 25 performances, at 12:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., will be unique and totally improvised.

"That's part of the fun of it. You'll see what happens," Ms Croker said. Admission is by donation.

For more information, go to www.latchamgallery.ca.



LYNNE McILVRIDE EVANS: Artist's mountains exhibition inspired Stouffville dance company



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