

Vintage White

MOB Mentality

By Kate Gilderdale
Stouffville Free Press



The countdown clock to my daughter's wedding is now plummeting towards zero faster than the Bank of Canada's lending rate.

In the past few months I have become immersed in all kinds of mother of the bride rituals of which I was hitherto blissfully unaware.

I have been to a dressmaker who has performed miracles on my MOB dress, even though she hasn't quite transformed me into my style icon and fellow Essex girl, Helen Mirren.

I have spent hours looking for pantyhose with sandal feet and supportive bits in the right places that will also offer at least a modicum of longevity (i.e. the duration of the wedding celebrations).

Until now I had no idea that many fashionistas regard pantyhose as a grave faux pas committed mostly by ancient crones and/or people who have a collection of colour coordinated sweat pants and fleece tops in their wardrobe. Even Forbes magazine weighed in on the issue, coming out heavily in favour of bare legs. It's February. I'm old. See you in the hosier aisle.

I have agonized between fake diamonds and fake pearls for earrings. I have written and re-written my speech and still can't practise it without going all mushy and teary-eyed.

I have purchased a beautiful jacket at Chic Thrills for a song, and paid almost three times the sale price to have it altered so that it fits perfectly. This is because I've been receiving stern instructions from my BFFs about the importance of looking my best, instead of my usual approach of looking OK considering.

Next up will be the dreaded girly grooming stuff, most of which I fervently hope to avoid. I've only had my fingernails done twice in my life and my toenails once, and on each occasion I couldn't wait for

the ordeal to be over. Sometimes I wonder whether I am fully human, because many of my friends, even those who are fiercely committed to sexual equality, love these rituals. But my brand of feminism got stuck somewhere in the early days of Germaine Greer, when being strictly a female female was practically a capital offence, and I even used to feel guilty about shaving my legs.

On the plus side, when hairdressers are prepping you for the big day they no longer turn your crowning glory into a cross between Marge Simpson's blue do and the headgear of a busby-wearing ceremonial guardsman outside Buckingham Palace.

In my youth, back in the 20th century BiP (before iPhones), having your hair done for a special occasion meant you ended up looking like a country singer who had missed the last bus to Nashville. Frantic attempts to fix the unfortunate result were doomed, since your tresses had been practically shellacked to your scalp with industrial-strength hair spray, and disentangling the bird's nest on your head without ripping your hair out would take several days. Not to mention the fact that you were in imminent danger of asphyxiation from breathing in the toxic fumes of Aqua Net's chlorofluorocarbons.

All this aside, nothing makes me happier than knowing my beautiful daughter is getting married to a wonderful man. And if my hair's all wrong, no one will notice, because all eyes will be fixed on her. As the big day approaches, my own feelings are summed up by that wise and prolific pontificator, Anon.

"A daughter is the happy memories of the past, the joyful moments of the present, and the hope and promise of the future."

Wet Your Whistle



Whistle Radio is Stouffville's community radio station.

We love stories about Stouffville and the people who live here. If you have a story that you would like to share with us please let us know. We also like to hear about good Samaritans in your neighbourhood. Feel good stories warm our hearts and the hearts of our listeners, and it's always nice to acknowledge those groups or individuals who do wonderful things in the community.

Do you know of a local athlete (student or grown up) who is doing something great? Please let us know.

We are your community radio station and our motto is "About People You Know, By People You Know."

Everyone has a birthday, anniversary or special day. We broadcast your special wishes and acknowledgments on *Stouffville Morning*, which is broadcast weekdays between 7 and 9 a.m.

Call the station at 905-640-1027 or send us an email at admin@whistleradio.ca. We would love to hear from you.

Tune in and listen to Whistle Radio 102.7 FM or online at whistleradio.ca

February at The Latcham Gallery

By Chai Duncan

January 31st saw the opening of *Bent Lines and Folded Space*, with works by artists Colette Laliberté and Nicholas Wade.

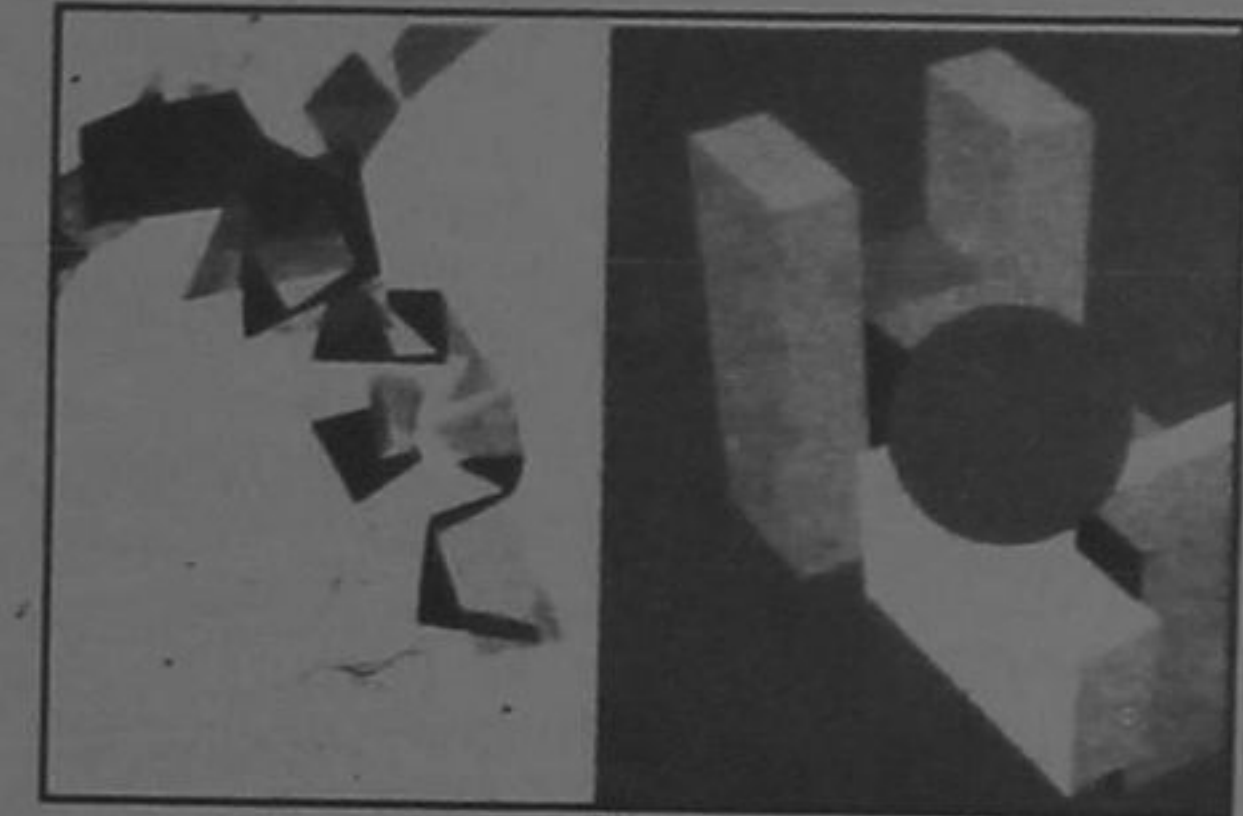
Both are established artists and art educators who work with extended painting practices, which in this exhibition involves works that are painted onto everyday construction materials as well as directly onto the gallery walls. Their art considers architectural spaces and our relationships to them - how we move through and negotiate the buildings we inhabit. A passage through time is also explored as cubular box-like structures are folded in on themselves, and in some cases turned inside out.

This exciting exhibition will be on view until March 7, and on Thursday March 5 Nicholas Wade will also present an artist talk at the gallery at 7 p.m. A \$5 donation is suggested for admission.

Calling all artists
It's time to start thinking about

submitting a work to our Annual Juried Exhibition. Works in all media will be considered for this popular exhibit, which opens March 14. Please check www.latchmagallery.ca for submission dates and details.

Chai Duncan is curator at The Latcham Gallery



The new exhibition at the Latcham Gallery, *Bent Lines and Folded Space*, runs until March 7.

Here We Go Again!

2014 Tax Season is Just Around the Corner

TAX JOKE: *It's tax time. I know this because I'm staring at documents that make no sense to me, no matter how many beers I drink.*

A sense of humour certainly helps us get through the day-to-day issues we face but is most needed by many at tax time. And as already mentioned above, tax returns can be confusing.

This year, because March 1st falls on a Sunday, the RRSP 2014 contribution deadline is Monday, March 2nd, 2015. Before contributing to an RRSP, there are many factors a person should take into consideration. RRSP's vs TFSA's vs Debt Reduction??? Regular or spousal, contribution limit, what is the maximum amount for the best results? Call us before the March 2nd deadline and we can discuss your various options.

There will also be the new tax rules to consider. Every year, CRA changes some of the income tax laws - some are minor, some more dramatic. Our job is to keep up with these changes in order to best serve our clients.

As well as preparing tax returns, we offer many other services as well: assistance in applying for the Disability Tax Credit; we can file late returns as far back as 10 years; returns already filed can be reviewed to ensure all credits were used.

LDB Business Services has been preparing income taxes since 1992 and offer personal, one-on-one service. Let us help you make the taxation process as easy and as painless as possible. Beginning Monday, February 9th, 2015, our office will be open Monday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Michele, Lynn, Debbie and Lynn (and Georgie!) can look after all your tax needs.

LDB Business Services Income Tax Specialist Since 1992

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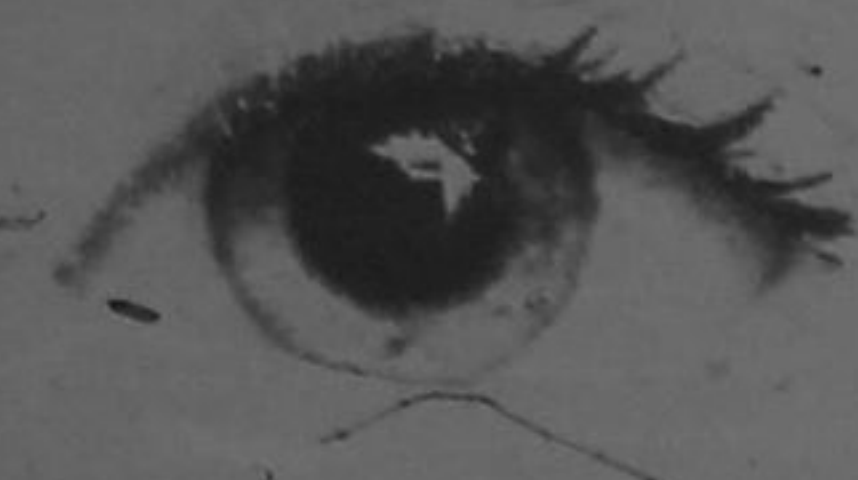
Stouffville optometry

DID YOU KNOW? ...
exposure to excessive light,
including from extended
use of electronic display
screens, can disrupt sleep.

new patients welcome
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