



Port Credit artist Frank Barry is showing a selection of his works at the JM ArtSpace in the IB Your Office Business Centre on City Centre Dr.

Frank Barry *Feb. 1/98 M.N.*

Looking back over 40 years

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Staff

Port Credit artist Frank Barry is the real McCoy.

You can judge for yourself, because more than 20 of his works are now on exhibit at IB Your Office Business Centre.

For art lovers, Barry's work set the standard when it comes to technique. And, while his images spark interest in even casual viewers, the artist's biting social comment is felt by those who care to look deeper.

Born in England, Barry, 84, spent a lifetime studying, teaching and creating art.

He attended London's Ealing School of Art and later taught kids, from grammar school to university.

His Mississauga show is dubbed *Selection of Works*, on exhibit at JM ArtSpace, the centre court area at IB Your Office Business Centre in suite 400 at 201 City Centre Dr.

A martial arts demonstration by the Port Credit Tai Chi Association marked the official opening of Barry's show earlier this month. That was a reflection of Barry's wide range of interests. Barry took up Tai Chi only eight years ago.

"I'm inspired, like most artists, by looking around and seeing what interests me. Or ideas. I work mostly from ideas," Barry said.

Those ideas have resulted in far-ranging subject matters.

A paint-on-wood piece he dubbed *CEO Presentation Portrait* depicts an executive being squeezed by life and surrounded by evil.

La Reve is another mixed media work that includes a draped canvas and deck chair. It studies a woman dreaming of her serpent-like lover.

As easily as Barry plays with these themes and ideas, he plays with artistic techniques.

His works range from engraving on wood to mixed media pieces. Draped canvasses are his signature style.

Barry's show will be on display until Feb. 21. Visit weekdays from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.