



Mississauga artist Gil Caldwell is presenting his *Retrospective* exhibit through September in the Texaco Room at the Port Credit Library.

Artist Gil Caldwell

Looking back over 30 years

By TOM MICHIBATA
Staff

As an artist, Mississauga's Gil Caldwell looks for the softer and more innocent qualities in his subjects.

He takes what he finds and then records his vision in watercolor on canvas.

Although his subjects are real, usually depicting urban and rural scenes, old cars, steamers, houses and bandstands he's seen around Southern Ontario, Caldwell re-creates them as semi-abstracts.

His works are on display as part of his *Retrospective* exhibit through September in the Texaco Room at the Port Credit Library.

The display is a collage of Caldwell's works done throughout his 30 years of painting. It's only been during the last decade, though, that he's been able to ply his talent with diligence, since retiring as a

public school vice-principal. He did teach art before coming a vice-principal.

Caldwell explores and experiments in his medium. Besides the traditional transparent watercolor, he also works in gouache.

He calls his works "composites of ideas gathered from on-site sketches and photograph" that suggest a naive quality.

The artist utilizes bright colors, detail and a strong design element.

"I like architecturally crisp edges and I prefer to use a more vertical approach, especially on my downtown paintings," Caldwell said.

The artist boasts many credits.

He is represented on the Art Gallery of Mississauga and Mississauga Arts Council web sites.

He has exhibited extensively throughout Ontario and his prints and originals can be found in Ireland, the U.S., Costa Rica, Italy, Saudi Arabia and Uganda.

He is an elected member of the Ontario Society of Artists, Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolor and the Colour & Form Society in Mississauga.

His black-and-white pen-and-ink sketch titled *Parkette* was recently accepted to be shown at an exhibition in Kariya, Mississauga's twin city in Japan.

Parkette depicts a small park with trees and buildings in the background.

Caldwell studied commercial art at Danforth Tech school in Toronto before working in the field for about a year. Next he studied at the Ontario College of Art.

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