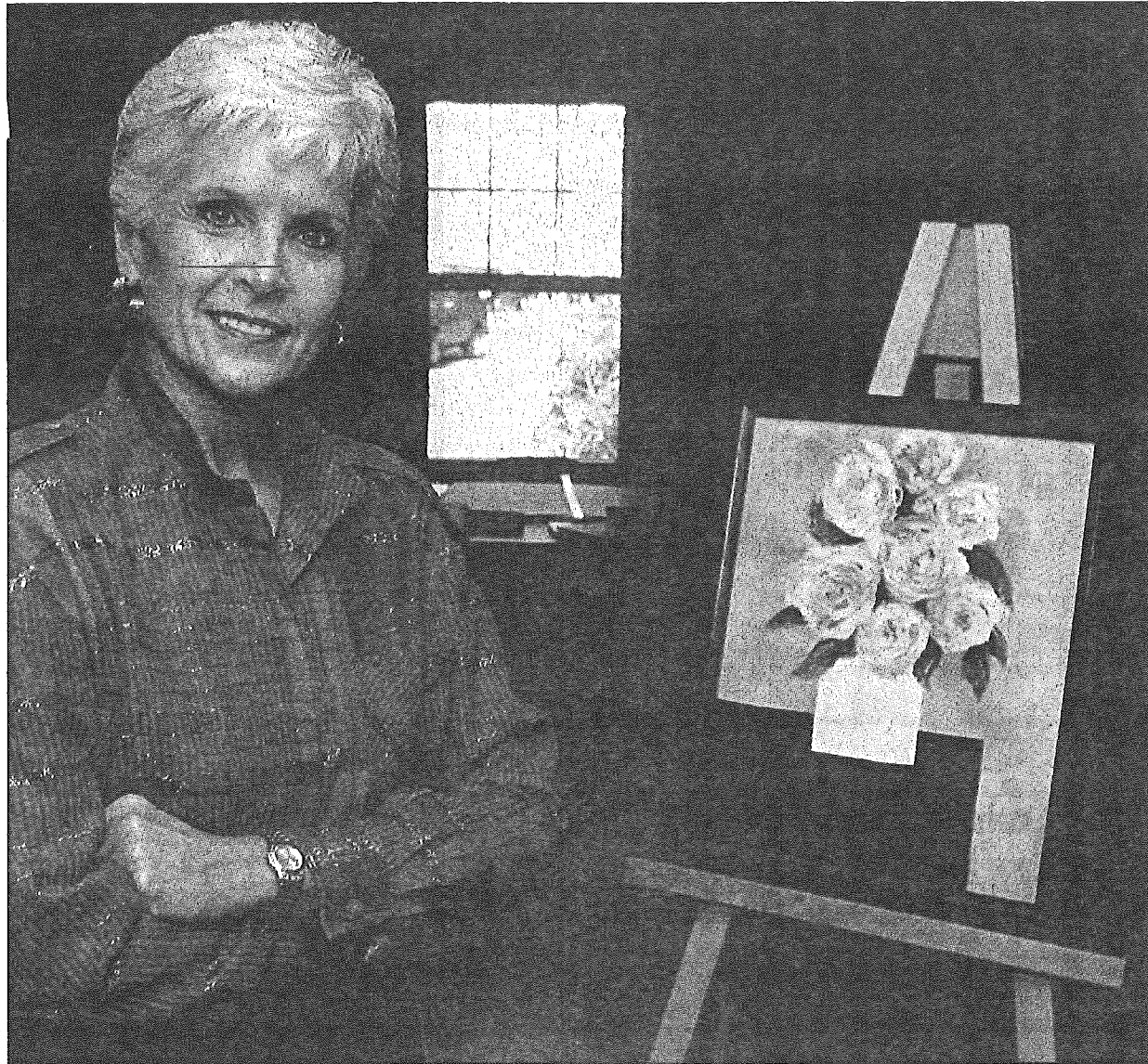


An artist who's easy to please



Staff photo by Fred Loek

Whether she's working in oils, watercolors or acrylics, Mississauga painter Shirley Coleman loves to capture the essence of Canadian landscape and still-life. She's also likes to depict buildings and homes in her paintings.

By TOM MICHIBATA
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Mississauga artist Shirley Coleman is one of a few artists who don't specialize in one particular media.

She loves to dabble in watercolors, with acrylics and oils, and has no great preference for one over the other.

Her versatility is evident in the nine works she is submitting to the White Oaks Art Group's exhibition and sale of oil and watercolor paintings, this weekend at Lorne Park Hall, located at 1288 Lorne Park Rd.

The show runs Friday to Sunday, Oct. 23-25.

Coleman's subjects this time around are Canadian landscapes, still-lives and young children aged 8-10.

A Sudbury native who also models on the side, Coleman also loves to depict homes and buildings in her paintings.

She and fellow White Oaks member Rita Spence recently spent a month in France touring Paris and then visiting Montaigne Le Blanc for a workshop led by a pair of college instructors.

She did some sketching of the mountains there. Coleman has also been inspired by visits to Italy, Greece, Holland and England.

Coleman, who moved to Mississauga at age 3, said she developed her interest in art while attending Port Credit Secondary School.

"I had a good teacher who encouraged me to pursue it," she said.

She took adult education courses in oil and acrylic painting in London, Ontario. It wasn't until she moved to Montreal in 1987 when Coleman launched herself into art fully.

"Art is cathartic for me. There is a sense of accomplishment at the end of the day."

Show hours are Friday from noon-6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m.

Coffee and refreshments will be served.