

City artist loves painting in winter

By JANICE BRADBEER

Winter may evoke feelings of doom and gloom for those who treasure basking in the warm sunshine of summer, but for artist Sally Durie the first snowfall is prime painting time.

A resident of Mississauga for the past 14 years, Durie looks forward to winter and spring.

"I like it when some of the snow melts and leaves little patches of green," she says. "I don't find the brilliant colors of the fall season the best time for me to paint the earthy colors that I love."

PANORAMIC VIEW

Durie enjoys painting in her home which overlooks the Credit Valley and St. Peter's Anglican Church on Mississauga Rd. N. and Dundas.

"From my window I can look out to Toronto, yet I can also see the beauty of the surrounding countryside. Our family has the best of both worlds and I have great scenery to paint," she says.

Durie travels over Mississauga and the surrounding area in her van to paint her landscape scenes of "everything from a patch of weeds to some hills."

"My van is great for my painting because I don't have to fight too much rain or snow," she says.

BRAMPTON GALLERY

Her painting trips along Mississauga Rd., the Burnhamthorpe area, Caledon Hills, as well as Nova Scotia, Georgian Bay and annual trips to Mexico, have resulted in quite a collection of paintings, some included in commercial and private collections, including Toronto's Eaton Centre Gallery, the Cobblestone Gallery on Niagara on the Lake and a showing until Christmas of 53 of her paintings at the Gustafsson Gallery in Brampton.

Durie has been painting for 20 years and received some art instruction from the Humber Valley Art Club. She used to work in oils, but now prefers acrylics. "I worked in oils for years," she says, "but when the late Adrian Dingle was giving me art lessons, he gave me my first list of acrylics to buy. I gave them a try and I've been using them ever since.

MEXICO TRIP

"I like them because they're neat, easy to work with and you can do glazing with them. They're great to travel with and it's nice to have a dry painting shortly after you're finished, instead of sticky, gooey oils."

Durie doesn't know what she'll be exhibiting after her Brampton show, but has some travelling plans this January. She and her husband will be headed for their annual visit to the land of siestas and sombreros.

"We're going to Ixtapa, Mexico, which is 100 miles north of Acapulco," she says. "For three weeks I'm going to get some sunshine and do some painting. Ixtapa has some big hotels, but also a lovely little town. I'm looking forward to some great scenery there."

OVER



Artist Sally Durie enjoys painting landscapes in the early winter and spring. She is pictured in her studio at home with her favorite medium, acrylics. (Staff photo by Rob Beintema)