

**Mississauga artist Ilze Flynn**

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## *A day without painting is a day without sunshine*

Mississauga artist Ilze Flynn is currently displaying 27 of her newest works at the Sheridan Mall Library in an exhibit called *A Tale of Three Fantasies Revisited: In Flight, On The Earth and In Water*.

Flynn, a 62-year-old Kindergarten teacher-turned-artist, said painting has become an enormous part of her life.

"If I don't paint every day, then I don't feel like I've had a day," said Flynn.

For Flynn, painting gives her a chance to spend time alone.

"I'm a loner," said Flynn. "I like my own company, the quietness and the solitude."

Flynn took up painting in 1981 following an operation that left her housebound. Since then, the self-taught artist hasn't been able to put down her brush.

Almost two decades years later, Flynn displays her art in just two annual exhibitions because "it's a lot of foot work. It takes up too much time," said Flynn.

"The painting is the fun part. The other part is a pain."

Her paintings, mostly watercolors,

with some use of colored pencil, pen and ink and acrylic, sell for \$35-\$900.

Prints and originals of her works hang in such restaurants as Copperfield's in Clarkson and the Chelsea Bun in Port Credit.

Flynn's environmental concern is portrayed subtly in many of her works that feature various flowers, butterflies, birds and underwater creatures.

She takes inspiration from Native Canadian ways of thinking and her fascination with Tibetan culture.

"I am fascinated with the quiet ... we don't have that," said Flynn. "We run around like we're crazy and don't take the time ... we're missing out."

Television scientist David Suzuki and singer Bruce Cockburn have also inspired Flynn.

Flynn's painting, *Pacing the Cage*, is dedicated to International Women's Day.

Flynn's exhibit is on display at the Sheridan Mall Library through April before moving to the Lorne Park library in May.



Staff photo by Chris Horobin

Ilze Flynn brings her exhibition of paintings to the Sheridan Library Gallery for the month of April. The show, called *A Tale of Three Fantasies Revisited: In Flight, On the Earth, In Water*, moves on to the Lorne Park Library gallery for May and June.