

# Artist is back on the scene

*Peel Bio. Nov. 22/98 MW*

Yana Headford is back, and marked her return to the local scene after 14 years with an exhibition at the Crescent Hill Gallery in the Sherwood Forrest Village on Dundas St. W.

It was her first public show since the death of her husband of 43 years, Sam Headford, in 1984.

The well-known and highly respected Lorne Park artist said she's thrilled about returning to public exhibitions.

"Painting is my life work. It's my passion."

Headford likens her return to public exhibitions to recovering from a long bout of sickness.

When her husband died, Headford stopped displaying her highly acclaimed work and no longer taught art.

However, she never stopped painting during her self-imposed withdrawal, working on watercolor pieces and maintaining her skill while attempting to deal with the loss of her lifelong love, a man she married at age 16. Her husband was diagnosed with cancer in 1982, on the same day Yana accepted a longevity award for teaching at Sheridan College.

Headford has been painting since 1947 and has successfully earned her living from her profession. She paints landscapes, figures and abstracts.

"I paint abstracts from my mind, but the landscapes come from my heart. I love the Canadian landscape," she said.

Her work encompasses scenery from the Georgian Bay, Muskoka and Creemore area. Headford's work is found in private collections around the world and she was invited to display her paintings at the prestigious Canadart exhibitions in 1976 and 1977. Her paintings were displayed alongside the works of Picasso, Ken Danby, Dahli and other major international and Canadian artists.

Highly talented and very knowledgeable, Headford once hosted her own television show on Cable 10. She also helped organize art exhibits at the Port Credit Library that displayed local and Canadian talent to the public.

Crescent Hill Gallery will be exhibiting Headford's work for the next few months. For information, call the gallery at 403-3131.



Staff photo by Chris Horobin

Well-known Mississauga artist Yana Headford shows off one of her works in the living room of her Lorne Park home.