

At the Harbour Gallery

Thinking just gets in the way

Artist Ralph Ingleton is convinced his mind sometimes gets in the way of his creativity.

The 58-year-old Mississauga resident believes that the less thinking he does, the better the final product, when it comes to his pursuits as a stone sculptor.

Working with various materials — mainly Brazilian soapstone, alabaster and marble — Ingleton works according to intuition and gut instinct.

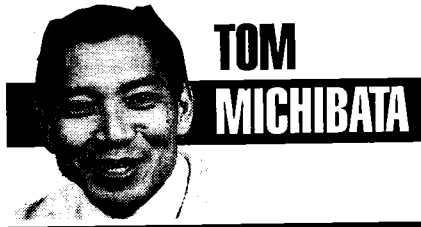
His work is simple by nature, but there's plenty of power and movement in the lines of his pieces. That's particularly evident in the 18 pieces he currently is displaying at Clarkson's Harbour Gallery.

The show runs to the end of the month and also features watercolor paintings by Pat Fairhead and oil paintings by Gisele Comtois-Osgood.

"I use very few pictures," Ingleton said.

"I go by the feel of the stone. About 90 per cent is intuition and the other 10 per cent is hard work.

"Whenever I start being an intellectual, my work is crap. Whenever I follow my natural intuition, I do my best work.



**TOM
MICHIBATA**

"It's my simple work that people seem to like the most."

Growing up as a farm boy in Markham, Ingleton developed a love for nature and wildlife.

When he gave up oil painting 20 years ago because he was allergic to the materials, he immediately turned to sculpting.

His subjects, though, remained the same. He's self-taught. His first piece was a like-

ness of a small trout.

"Somebody just handed me a piece of stone," said Ingleton, who taught natural history for 25 years in various places before retiring in 1993.

Varies moods are caught in Ingleton's work, but the common thread is a celebration of living things.

"We are all part of this Earth. People, animals or birds, it doesn't make any difference," said Ingleton, who's been living in Mississauga since 1986.

"It doesn't matter who came first. We have to co-exist."

Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday from noon-5 p.m.

The gallery is located at 1697 Lakeshore Rd. W.

For more information call 822-5495.