

# Artist Jack Jelilian's works inspired by local landmarks

By STEVE PECAR  
Staff Reporter

Jack Jelilian has no trouble finding inspiration.

The local painter has discovered a vast source of topics for his work without venturing too far away from his Mississauga home, and can be credited as one artist who has actually made the local citizenry sit up and take notice of its own identity.

As a result, Jelilian is steadily increasing his reputation as an artist as he is able to capture on canvas both the few remaining pieces of the city's history and the various spots of undeveloped landscape that exist between the plazas and high-rises.

And Jelilian has done so without the benefit of local rearing.

Arriving in Canada 15 years ago, Jelilian has developed an affinity for this country that would make any patriot proud and his paintings reflect his love and admiration of the local landscape.

Probably the best, and as it happens the most recent, example of Jelilian's flair can be found in his latest work, entitled "Season of Love."

Released in limited-edition prints and artist proofs, Season of Love is a scene of the Old Barber House in Streetsville captured in all of its winter glory in a setting right out of the 19th century. The work and others by Jelilian are currently on display at his Public Art Centre in the Meadowvale Town Centre.

"Barber House is just a natural," says Jelilian. "Its style and structure represent what this area, whether you call it Streetsville or Missis-



Staff photo by Fred Loek

Artist Jack Jelilian displays his latest work, "Seasons of Love," which is available in limited-edition prints and artist proofs. Jelilian says he is going to donate one of the prints to the Civic Centre.

sauga, is all about. It has history and people can identify with it."

While Jelilian readily admits his painting of the house is somewhat idealistic, he says the house is one that lends itself to nostalgia.

"There is something unique about Barber House," he says. "It has a warm feeling to it. In my painting I tried to bring out that warmth and friendliness."

Jelilian succeeds in doing just that as Season of Love has a welcoming appeal that conveys the timelessness of friends and family gathering together during the winter season.

Because the artist feels the work captures some of the essence of the area, he says he will be donating a print of Season of Love to the City.

While Seasons of Love is one of his most impressive works, the artist

hopes to add to his list even more renderings of local scenes and will soon start work on paintings depicting the senior citizen centre and old high school, both of which are also situated in Streetsville.

"There is so much to paint here," the artist says. "I keep finding things all of the time. It is as if my work has just started and I can't wait to get it all finished."