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# Studio News

## KAREN RICHARDSON WATERCOLOUR STUDIO: MAKING THE WORLD A HAPPIER PLACE... ONE PAINTING AT A TIME.

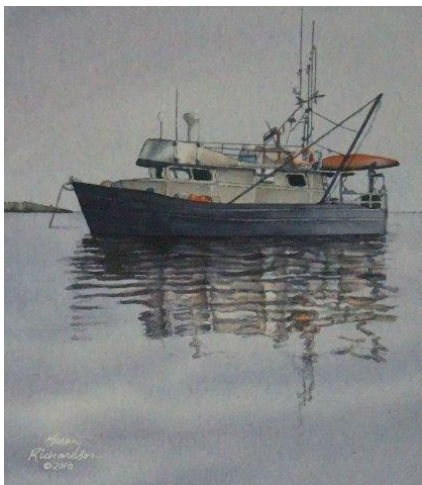
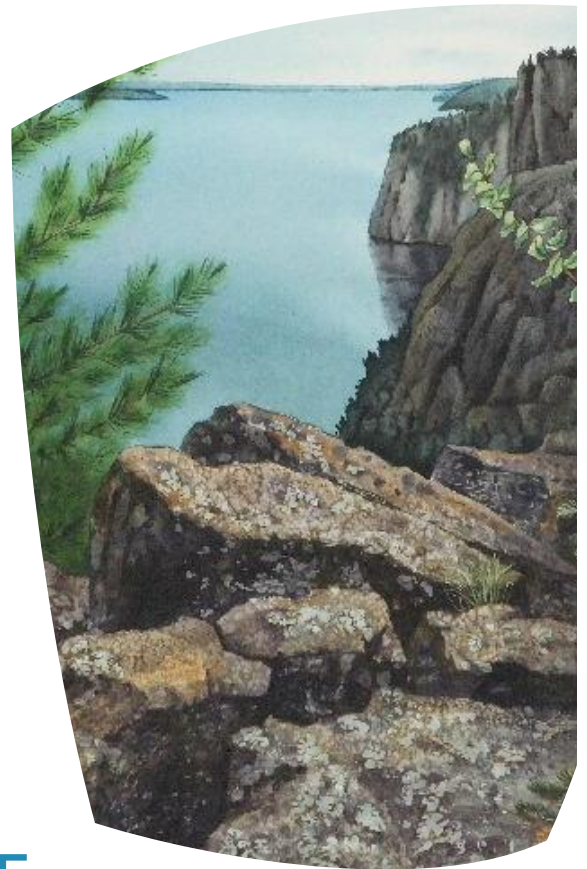
*From June to August I travelled over 8,000 km exploring Northern Ontario with my husband John in our RV this year. Pictured right is a watercolour, titled 'Devil's Rock - Lake Temiskaming', from my new Wild Wonders series.*

### Artist Explores Northern Wilderness

Last February we enjoyed a four day snowmobile trip in the Timmins area with our friends and decided such a gorgeous part of northern Ontario would make a worthwhile destination for our summer RV travels.

So we spent ten glorious weeks camping in the Temagami to Cochrane region this summer. It was a fun and relaxing time, spent fishing, kayaking, hiking, swimming, ATVing, berry picking and getting to know the area better. We admired the serenity and fierce beauty of this accessible wilderness. Of course I always had my camera with me and came home with great reference photos of rocks, pristine lakes, breathtaking skies and wildlife such as lynx, fox, bear, beaver and moose.

Visit my travel blog to read my 'Tales from the Road' and see lots of photos and anecdotes from our trip at [artistjourney.karenrichardson.ca](http://artistjourney.karenrichardson.ca)



### BRUSH FOR HIRE

Over the years, I have been commissioned to create almost a hundred custom paintings for various clients. Usually these watercolours depict homes and cottages or sometimes a favourite flower or scene, but occasionally I am asked to paint more unusual subjects. For instance, this year I created the watercolour shown at left, titled 'The Island Bay', to be given by my client as a wedding gift to the owner of this fishing boat, which is shown here anchored off the coast of British Columbia. My client provided photos of the vessel from several angles so I could design the best composition for the painting.

For more photos, testimonials and an explanation of the commission process, please visit my web page [karenrichardson.ca/commissioned\\_work](http://karenrichardson.ca/commissioned_work).



## The Best Part is When Clients Become Friends

*I met Patti and Brian James, shown left, at an art show in 1999. Since then they have acquired the largest single collection of my artwork and have become my good friends.*

You meet the nicest people at art shows. Take 1999 for instance: I was showing my art at the Buckhorn Wildlife Art Festival for the tenth year and sold a painting and two limited edition prints to a local couple, Patti and Brian James. It turns out they owned a vintage family cottage nearby and planned to tear it down so they could build a larger home. The following year, they hired me to make a painting of the old cottage to keep as a family memento.

A year later, they came to one of my art shows in Port Perry,

bought another painting and invited me to stay with them when I attended the next Art Festival in Buckhorn. Ever since then I have enjoyed their warm hospitality at their cottages (both old and new) for a long weekend each August.

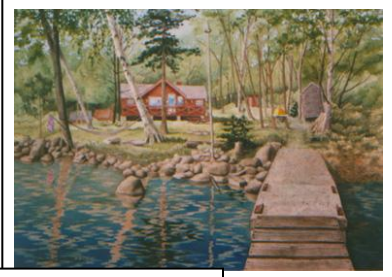
A few years ago, I invited Patti to join me and several girlfriends at our annual Girls' Weekend. She is a wonderful storyteller and fits right in with our gang. Now she even hosts our annual get together at her cottage. Patti and I share a love of perennial gardening and exchange plants from our gardens with each other now

and then. Brian is an engineer and very capable handyman and I enjoy his dry sense of humour.

Over the years, Brian and Patti have continued to acquire a new painting every now and then, and today their 'Richardson Collection' includes eight major watercolours (five of which are shown at right) as well as a half dozen limited edition prints.

As an artist I am grateful for their ongoing patronage, but most of all on a personal level I treasure their friendship.

## CLIENTS' CORNER: The James' Collection



## The Artist's Life: Art Shows, Donations, Art Classes and New Eyes

This past year, I exhibited my 'Canada Rocks!' series at the Spring Cottage Life Show in Toronto, opened my studio and gallery for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Lake Scugog Spring Studio Tour in May as well as for national Culture Days in September, and exhibited on a rocky island in Georgian Bay at Art on the Rocks in July.

Rogers cable TV broadcast an 8 minute interview with me demonstrating painting and I was a finalist in the national Canadian Brushstrokes Competition.

As many artists do, I often donate my time and artwork to local and charitable causes. This year my donated paintings helped raise funds for the Rotary Club, three arts councils and a public gallery.

I had a very busy teaching schedule this year, holding watercolour workshops in my home studio from January through April and in October and November. In addition, I taught

Intermediate Watercolour for the Art School of Peterborough for eight weeks this fall.

In a normal year, I would be announcing my winter classes now, but I have some good news and some bad news...

The good news is I will be having cataract and laser eye surgery this winter to correct my deteriorating vision (hurray!). The bad news is, I won't be offering classes until my eyesight is corrected. I am hoping to host a few workshops in April and will post the schedule on my web site as soon as I am able.

**DON'T MISS OUT - Be first to find out about my next classes - Contact me at [karen@karenrichardson.ca](mailto:karen@karenrichardson.ca) and ask for my email notices.**



Visit my Online Studio & Gallery at  
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