



Spring is coming, or so they say. The snow is slowly melting, and the icicles are forming and dripping from our rooftop. Our road is beginning to show its gravel. However, I am told that the big pile of snow created by the snowplow will take many weeks to disappear. All in good time.

For me, the coming Spring is always a season of hope. For the last few weeks I have felt a surge of energy that has shown itself in my painting activity as I prepare for the summer markets. I will be displaying my paintings at the Dwight, Rosseau and Baysville Farmer's Markets, as well as, once again, as part of the Muskoka North Studio Tour. You may want to mark your calendars ... a road trip to in Muskoka is a lovely way to spend a day or two.

Last year I debuted the sharing of my paintings with the world at the Dwight Farmer's Market. I will be there again this summer on Wednesdays from 9 am to 2 pm, July 1 to September 2, inclusive. The painting that follows I call "The cyclist", 14x11, \$350. The inspiration came from a photo I took near Dwight, on South Portage Road. It is a road I have travelled many times, but never on a bicycle ... the scene was begging for something more, so my compositional freedom added the cyclist, free and wheeling along one of Muskoka's back roads.



As well, I am proud to be involved in the second year of the Muskoka North Studio Tour, August 14 - 16, 10 am to 5 pm. I will be a guest, once again, at Jerry Friedman's studio on Billie Bear Road.

Near to Jerry's cottage is Billie Bear Lodge. The story has been told that, during my parents' early life together, they actually stayed at this Lodge. My mother loved telling we children that she actually saw a bear at Billie Bear Lodge. Perhaps this was the cabin they stayed in so long ago. I call it "Billie Bear", 14x11, \$350.

As well, I have been invited to participate in the Rosseau Farmer's Market on three Fridays - June 26 (Opening Day), July 17 and August 28, from 9 am to 2 pm. Most newcomers to this market are given three Fridays for their first season. I am honoured to be involved.

The location for the market is idyllic, down by the waterside. I visited there in early Fall last year. From that vantage point, these two paintings emerged.

"A Sunday afternoon", 11x14, \$350. captures a few cottages on the waterfront. I love the way I captured the wispy clouds in this one.

The second painting I've called "Books?", based on a photo I took in Rosseau. To the left, and upstairs, is the bookstore, with an antique shop in the little white building. Quaint.

On the Fridays when I am not at Rosseau, or in the Muskoka North Studio Tour, I will be participating in The Baysville Farmer's Market, providing me with many opportunities to chat with many art lovers and, perhaps, you.



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