

"The Gift of Art" Nov Dec, Lifestyle Magazine by Beth Stewart

THE Gift OF Art

By Beth Stewart

With the holiday gift-giving season at hand many people are searching for that special something that goes "beyond the ordinary." Look no further – local art is as unique as it gets. Here is an eight-artist sampling of what can be had.



RICHARD STURGEON

Richard Sturgeon works mainly in steel and stainless steel with "accents and dabbling" in stone, copper, wood, bronze and clay. Whether he is working on a small standing sculpture or a large-scale abstract piece, Sturgeon says his goal is a finished piece that "expresses the emotion behind the subject." His work is dominated by arcs and fluid lines. Sturgeon often explores the concept of balance with pieces he describes as improbably cantilevered over their bases or multi-tiered hanging mobiles. Sturgeon's studio, Metal In Fusion, is located at 538 Adelaide St. N., London. Contact by telephone (519) 318-8078 or e-mail richard@metalinfusion.com.



Above: "Georgian Winds" by Richard Sturgeon, steel wall sculpture, 32 x 20 x 4 in., 2011

JOHNNENE MADDISON

Johnnene Maddison's current work is mixed media – collage, acrylic paint and stitching – on unprimed canvas. She is particularly interested in women's issues and in telling stories about women's experiences. Her current work is about loss. During her late husband's illness she kept an illustrated journal and worked on mixed media pieces about her feelings, fears and concerns. "They examine the stages I experienced and are highly personal, but at the same time apply to all people who have lost a loved one," Maddison explains. Her studio is located at 824 Clearview Ave., London. Contact by telephone (519) 474-7400 or e-mail artgal@hotmail.ca.

Left: "Beginnings" by Johnnene Maddison, mixed media on linen, 21 x 21.5, 2008

CHERYL RADFORD

Cheryl Radford believes that drawing is the cornerstone of all visual art and is pleased to be known as "an artist who draws." She uses the simplest of artistic tools: graphite and ink on paper. Her subjects include the human form, golf-related imagery and architecture with historic elements. "I am not a world traveller or politically motivated, but I can be completely motivated by a walk in the local urban setting or by the natural beauty of a golf course," Radford says. Her studio is located at 129 Wilson Ave., London. Contact by telephone at (519) 432-4829 or visit www.radfordart.ca.

Below: "London Dundas Street" by Cheryl Radford, graphite and ink, 5.5 x 13 in., 2011

