

Jill Alexander

Artistic Background:

Jill was born and raised in Ottawa where she completed her education at Sir John A. MacDonald High School, in 1977 winning the Visual Arts Award, graduated from the High School of Commerce Grade 13 Arts Program in 1978, winning the Illustration Award and received her Horticultural Certificate in Floral Design and Artificial Floral Arrangement from Algonquin College in 1984. She is married with a husband, two hockey playing sons and a floral garden which has awakened her artistic interest in whimsical bold colour combinations, evident both in her hockey, figure skating and oversized floral acrylic canvas paintings.

Jill has been devoting herself to her art on a full time basis since 2002. She has been very active in Ottawa art circles as a featured artist in the Ottawa Citizen and on CJOH TV (2001-2005), as a juried artist at the Kanata Civic Art Gallery and the Foyer Gallery at the Nepean Sportsplex (2004-2005), and as a member of the Kanata Art Club, the Nepean Fine Arts League and the Ottawa Art Association. She paints professionally for clients in need of PIZZAZZ effects and WOW factor in canvas commissions, window painting and custom murals.

Artist's Statement:

“The decision to devote myself to art on a full time basis came as a result of illness and major surgery. This challenging time in my life, was in retrospect a gift of which I am extremely grateful. A re-evaluation of priorities arose from the experience. Achieving balance became my focus at the same time expressing my emotions. I do this by putting paint to canvas , in turn satisfying my intense and constant desire to create.

Presently, my subject choice revolves around the calendar. Flowers are my focus when I'm impatient for warmth, colour and new life in nature. The combination of vivid acrylic colour combinations, sensuous shapes and an extreme close up perspective on oversize canvas fulfills this need. I feel a sense of accomplishment if my painting does two things. First, the subject “POPS” from the canvas background through depth and dimension. Second, a common flower takes on exotic appeal as if examined under a microscope then magnified many times over for maximum impact.

Distinctly Canadian hockey and figure skating scenes become the subject of choice as Fall approaches. Raising two hockey players is my inspiration, along with my desire to recreate fond memories. While simplicity in design is my focus for florals, the opposite is true for my hockey scenes. There must be a depth of detail required before I can lay the brush down and feel satisfied.

Continuous growth on an ever changing learning curve is my desire for myself as an artist. My passion to create art will never change.”