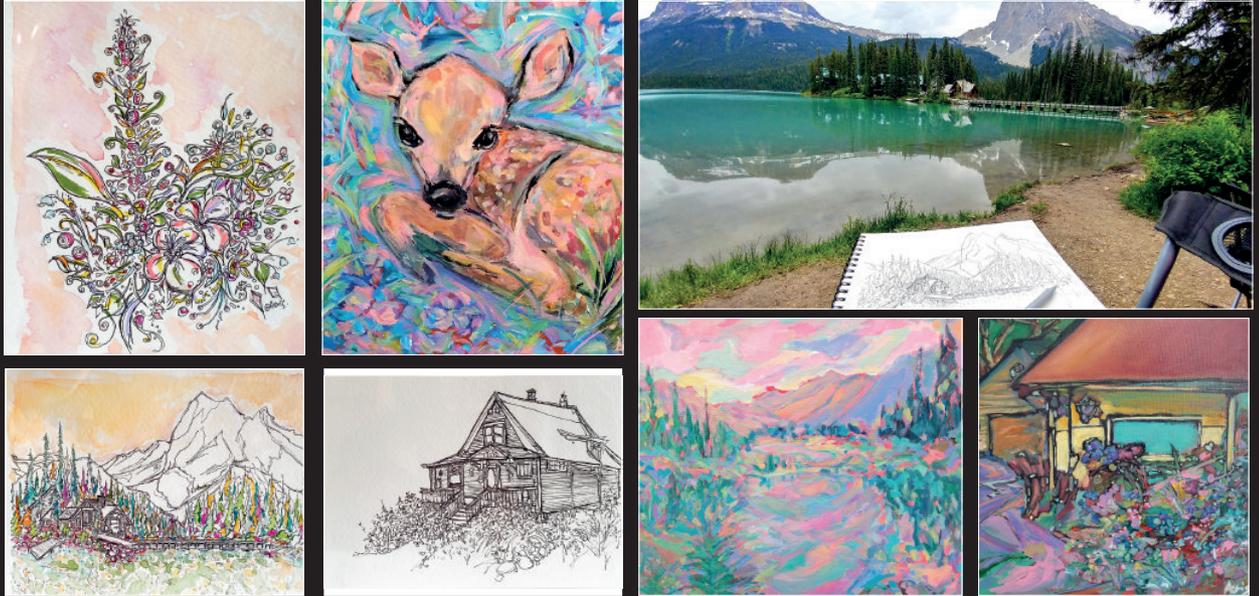


Meet the Artist of the Month



Aeris Osborne

Aeris Osborne's art is illustrative, dreamy and joyful. The Edmonton artist creates bold and luminous colour landscapes, streetscapes and paintings of historical houses. Her prints and paintings are meant to bring joy and convey positivity to her viewers.

Aeris was born and raised in Hong Kong, moving to Canada in 2007. She has a background in social work but when she first arrived in our country, was unable to work while waiting for her permanent residency. As a result, Osborne looked for something creative to do and began knitting and sewing, learning from her neighbour Joyce. However, Osborne discovered her true passion when her husband gifted her with a French easel and acrylic painting set. She has been painting and drawing ever since.

Osborne is mainly a self-taught artist, learning by exploring different mediums, watching online videos or reading books from the library. She has often been inspired by her travels and her artwork shows a sprinkling of scenes throughout Canada and internationally. She quickly discovered that she could draw and paint in the passenger seat on road trips, easily passing the time until their destination. As a result, her landscapes range from the mountains of Alberta and BC to the quaint streets of old Quebec City and Civita di Bagnoregio, Italy. Aeris also loves to portray streetscapes, old architecture and animals. She has depicted a young Ruth Bader Ginsburg, playful lambs and the complexities of an Arts & Crafts home in Highlands. Many of Osborne's pieces start as whimsical pen & ink sketches. She likens this to a comfort with Chinese calligraphy or the simplicity of doodling. Often, she will then add pops of vibrant colours in watercolour. However, Osborne references acrylic painting as her preferred medium that shows her true character. While pen & ink and watercolour are more convenient for travelling, acrylic takes more time and study, requiring her to layer and loosen up her detailed line work. Her most recent body of work used a combination of acrylic painting as well as smaller studies in basic pen & ink.



In 2013 Aeris participated in Edmonton's Whyte Avenue ArtWalk and was invited to promote her work with City TV's Breakfast television. Aeris began creating prints and cards and soon had her work carried by Tix on the Square and the gift shop at the Art Gallery of St. Albert.

Osborne recently completed a residency with the McLuhan House Artist Studio. Her penultimate exhibition *YEG Old Houses* was focused close to home, displaying paintings of homes in Edmonton neighbourhoods such as Highlands, Glenora, Westmount, Garneau and Strathcona. Her warm

portrayals of Edmonton's historical homes brought new life to the architecture in bold, electric colours.

Often, Aeris will provide a new perspective to a recognized landscape. Her painting "Edmonton River Valley" exhibited in the Art Gallery of St. Albert's bi-annual group show for the St. Albert Place Visual Arts Council, *Guided 20:20 Vision*, captured a popular scene of the Muttart Gardens with a bubblegum pink sky and stylized bikes.

Aeris has accomplished so much in just a few years. Her work was recently displayed at the Art Gallery of Alberta as part of a retrospective on the 100th Anniversary of the Edmonton Art Club and selected to grace a digital billboard advertising the exhibition. In 2021 she also took part in the *Four Seasons* exhibition at the Spruce Grove Art Gallery and was interviewed by Edify magazine, CKUA Radio, and Rat Creek Press. She was also shortlisted by the Government of Alberta for the 2021-2022 Alberta Artist in Residence/Arts Ambassador.

Find more of Osborne's work available for sale in the shop at the Art Gallery of St. Albert. **From February 1-13 all jewelry, cards and prints are on sale**, including those by Aeris Osborne. Check out aerisosborne.com or www.etsy.com/ca/shop/ArtbyAeris to see more by this talented artist or to request a custom house portrait of your home.

ART GALLERY OF ST. ALBERT



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AERIS OSBORNE

in the Gallery Shop.