

Canadian Society of Marine Artists

Background : Silver Anniversary Exhibition

The opening the 25th Annual Exhibition of the **Canadian Society of Marine Artists** will be held in the gallery of the Society's new premises *The Victory*, 205 Main Street, Picton, Ontario on Friday the 2nd of May, 2008.

The **Canadian Society of Marine Artists** is dedicated to excellence in marine art and to those Canadian artists who have been and always will be inspired by our oceans and lakes, our ships and those who sail in them. The Society was federally incorporated in 1983 as a not for profit organization, based on the West Coast in the Vancouver area where it was very active for many years.

Five years ago the **Archives and Collections Society**, founded as a federal charitable organization in 1999 dedicated to maritime history and conservation, marine research and nautical education, took over the administrative organization of the **Canadian Society of Marine Artists** whose headquarters thus moved to Picton, Prince Edward County on the shores of Lake Ontario. This is the fifth year the annual exhibition has been held here, and is the first time to be held in our new premises at *The Victory* - four thousand square feet of dedicated gallery space.

The opening gala celebrations will start at 6pm on Friday May 2, 2008. This will be the first event of an arts and culture weekend organized by the Societies. On Saturday, May 3rd there will be talks about Marine Art, opportunities to meet with many of our artist members, and local tours featuring County landmarks and our burgeoning wineries. The day will conclude with the Annual Dinner of the **Archives and Collections Society** at the Waring House Conference Centre – an event that has become a fixture on the cultural calendar.

A number of invitations have been extended to prominent citizens, who, together with our member artists and our trustees, leads us to expect an attendance in excess of a hundred guests.

We are delighted that the Honourable Lyle Vanclief has accepted the role of Master of Ceremonies. He will introduce the distinguished guests and coordinate the greetings and remarks.

Dress is black tie, dress uniform or yacht club regalia. Champagne and hors d'oeuvres will be served and a classical music ensemble will complement the ambiance.

The guests will have a unique opportunity to meet the artists several of whom are coming from the Pacific coast and the Maritimes.

Travel time by automobile between the event and Ottawa is about 2 ½ hours; Toronto is at less than two hours, Montreal three. If arriving by air in Trenton, please allow for about a 30 minute drive to our venue.

Catalogues from the 2007, 24th Annual Exhibition are available in limited quantities. Our web site is www.ultramarine.ca and our Executive Secretary, Ms Betty Ann Anderson, may be reached:

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