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Supplied photo

Painting of Mazatlan by Efim Konovalov.

ARTISTS ABOUT TOWN

Around the world

All the way at the back of the Bookstore on Perron, there is a fine little area completely empty of books, knick-knacks, teddy bears and everything else that the quaint, well-established store sells.

In this quiet room, there is some seating, some counter space and a sampling of art from two members of the St. Albert Painters' Guild: Elizabeth Tessier and newcomer Efim Konovalov.

Together, the works make a great match. They both represent a travelogue of picture-perfect postcards from the artists' sightseeing excursions around the globe. Tessier has a few watercolours of a San Francisco dock and Piccadilly Square over the years. He, on the other hand, takes the viewer to Jerusalem Tower, Prague and Mazatlan.

"I lived in Jerusalem for seven years and I've been to Mexico. My mom has been to Prague so that's where that picture came from," he explained. "I like to have different images of different countries and paint them. I want to have as many paintings from other countries as possible. I try to select the best spots."

Konovalov was practically destined to be this kind of artist. Born in the central Russian industrial city of Kemerovo, he started off his artistic career studying with Elena Makarova at the Museum of Israel. He moved to Canada about 14 years ago where he got further training from Alex Kostenko, Igor Postash and Grant MacEwan University art history Prof. Ming Yee.

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