

## ARTIST: DAWN JOY RITCHIE



"I love to create whimsical animals and people with vibrant colour, childlike simplicity, abstract form, and dimensional texture. Up until the year 2000, I thought I could never draw. Then for some reason, I tried drawing for the first time. I closed my eyes and started to sketch a cat from my imagination, opened my eyes, and I was thrilled to find something I could work with. It was magic . . . my whole life I wanted to create and I finally had an outlet. I hope you enjoy what I have discovered on my journey so far."

**B**orn in Glasgow, Scotland, Dawn Joy is a self-taught, emerging artist who works at the University of Victoria in the Division of Continuing Studies. She likes to vary her media, working in acrylic, digital, paper collage, and mixed media. In 2006, she completed a colourful Spirit Bear commission for the B.C. Lions Club Society, "A Tribute to John Lennon". Dawn Joy is a juried member, and shows with Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA) and Island Illustrators Society (IIS).

***Memberships:*** Juried Member, Island Illustrators Society and Federation of Canadian Artists (FCA), Saanich Peninsula Arts Club (SPAC), Community Arts Council (CAC) Greater Victoria

***Awards:*** Runner-up Peoples' Choice Award Best Artist - Moss St. Paint-In, July 2008, SPAC 50th Anniversary Show and Sale, April 2003, Juror's Choice Award and Patron's Purchase Award. - CAC of Greater Victoria  
Juried "Look" exhibitions, informal, Peoples' Choice Award, 2001.

***Exhibitions:*** 2007 Sooke Fines Arts Show (juried), 2006 Spirit Bears In The City Commission for B.C. Lions Club Society titled: "Was It Just A Dream? ~ A Tribute to John Lennon, 2006 Saanich Municipal Hall Centennial Banner, "Cats Having Fun In Oak Bay" Show - Frame-Up Gallery, Christmas Show 2005 Craigdarroch Castle, SPAC Spring Show, May 2005. - Federation of Canadian Artists, "Spring Show", Victoria, 2005 & 2004 (juried) - Community Arts Council of Victoria, "Self-Portraits" exhibition, 2002 (juried) - Out-Of-Hand Gallery "For the Fun of It", 2002. - "Victoria Art Gallery Salon d'Refuse", Gorge waterway, 2001.

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