

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2015 Cowichan Artisan Studio Tour Open Now

Cowichan Valley, BC

The 2015 Cowichan Artisan Studio Tour is now open and features 10 participating studios and artisans between Mill Bay and Ladysmith. This diverse group of professional Artisans have opened their studios to the public and will be on hand to share their stories and discuss the inspiration behind their latest works.

The tour includes two well-known Valley potters, Mary Fox and Cathi Jefferson. Fox, well-known for the sensuously curving bodies of her sculptural vessels and unique lithium and crawl glaze finishes, will be introducing new sculptural work. Jefferson's studio is exhibiting the latest pieces in her finely crafted salt-fired functional pottery as well as her nature-inspired sculptures.

At KilnArt Glass Studio you will find Jo Ludwig's glittering kiln-formed glass vessels and Peggy Brackett's exquisite dichroic jewellery including her new Batik line.

Woodturner Ken Broadland and custom furniture maker Karen Trickett are also featured on the tour. Trickett specializes in finely crafted furniture, marquetry, automotive trim and custom restoration work, and Heartwood Studio is home to the beautiful turned bowls of Ken Broadland.

Participating painters include Jennifer Lawson and Cheryl Painter. In the oldest log house in the Cowichan Valley, the Jennifer Lawson Gallery features Jennifer's critically acclaimed watercolours which capture the soft light and vistas of our valley while evoking comparisons with pastoral English landscapes and gardens. With the beautiful Cowichan Valley as her home base, Cheryl Painter uses escapades with her family for inspiration and you will find familiar local parks, beaches, vineyards, and bays featured in her work.

In addition, this self-guided tour will introduce visitors to Venturi-Schulze Vineyards for high quality estate grown wines and ancient method balsamic vinegar along with other home-grown culinary treats.

The Cowichan Artisans studio tour is a wonderful way to explore the rich culture and stunning landscape of the Cowichan Valley. Studio Tour maps and brochures are available throughout the Island. Details and information can also be found at www.CowichanValleyArtisans.com The Cowichan Artisans is a group of professionals who, through experience, creativity and talent, make a living from their craft. Working together, they aim to enrich the region with a professional artistic voice that will showcase the many skilled artisans, galleries and studios of the Cowichan Valley. For more information contact: Cathi Jefferson 250-743-1469 cathi@cathijefferson.com