

## Artists offer perspectives

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July 5, 2009

If Port Credit was a colour, what colour would it be?

Artist Shane Krepakevich knows and based that interpretation in an exhibit that is part of *The Projects: Port Credit*, an art exhibition running July 5-30 at 55 Port St. E.

In varying displays, eight regional artists offer their own perspective of Port Credit in the form of posters, maquettes, pictures and interpretations. Krepakevich, inspired by a light blue paint swatch aptly named 'Port Credit,' used the building's existing office as a canvas and washed a large workspace in splashes of blue hue.

"It was really fortuitous that this space was once an architect's office because they make plans for buildings that are going to be made," said curator Christof Migone, director of the Blackwood Gallery. "That's what the concept is for *The Projects: Port Credit*. Instead of presenting an artist's full work, we are presenting the proposal. The form before the work comes to being."

The exhibition, a pilot initiative of the Blackwood Gallery in partnership with community group the Port Credit Village Project, allows the artists to present their initial concept in an artful way, before the idea has blossomed fully to life.

After coming across a broken cinder block on the road, Kerri Reid used her failed attempt to contact the block manufacturer as the inspiration for her exhibit: *Port Credit Free Cinder Block Repair Service*. Reid fixed the cement block herself, and then decided to offer a free repair service to anyone finding themselves in the same predicament. Her efforts were documented with before and after pictures of the cement block, and copies of an advertisement for the unique service.

Painter Jon Sasaki said his *Trying to go Home Again* is an attempt to return to his roots as a landscape painter. Standing in front of numerous paintings depicting snippets of life on the Lakeshore, the Toronto-based artist said, "I've always had a fond spot for Port Credit, I come down here numerous times to clear my head." About his participation in the exhibit, Sasaki explains, "It's playing with that romantic archetype of the solitary artist toiling away to try to represent the world on a little panel."

*The Projects: Port Credit* will be a part of two art bus tours, taking place July 12 and July 26. For more information on the exhibition or the bus tours, visit [www.blackwoodgallery.ca](http://www.blackwoodgallery.ca).



**Puppet.** Isabella Baratta was out for a walk with her mother when she saw the sign advertising *The Projects: Port Credit* at a former architect's office on Port St. today. The exhibit was about the various artists' proposals and ideas for Port Credit. *Daniel Ho*

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