



Ildiko Nova

Ildiko Nova was born in Hungary in the 1960s. She has been doing art since she was a child. Though she is mostly self-taught in art, she took courses in watercolour at George Brown College in Toronto. Ildiko now does spontaneous marker drawings and acrylic paintings, uses recycled materials, and experiments playfully with ceramics. She explores the line between reality and dreaming, and juxtaposes unusual subjects with conscious irony. She concentrates on the urban scene – from architecture to the human element – and believes we may be losing our original “tribal” connectedness to the planet. “I question whether technology makes us better people,” she says. She also wants to see more respect paid to women and children in our society. Trained as a community worker, Ildiko says she is always looking for connections with people and communities. “I don’t want to be an artist in an isolated castle,” she adds. “That’s not my world.” She has taught art to street people, volunteered at Art City, sold paintings to urban institutions like the Mental Health Crisis Centre, and participated in such mural projects as Red Road Lodge, the Daniel McIntyre Community Centre Mosaic, and the Urban Art Gallery’s Portage & Donald mural. For other social agencies, she has designed a logo and sold art for an annual report. With past experiences as a Roma in Eastern Europe at the back of her mind, Ildiko has gratefully accepted invitations from Aboriginal classmates in Canada to learn about their cultures – and this new awareness also surfaces in her art.