Paintings focus on aspects of nature

'The natural world, in my humble opinion, nourishes the soul and has potential to heal and uplift the human spirit. Observing the perfection of a flower, tree or sea is transformative.'

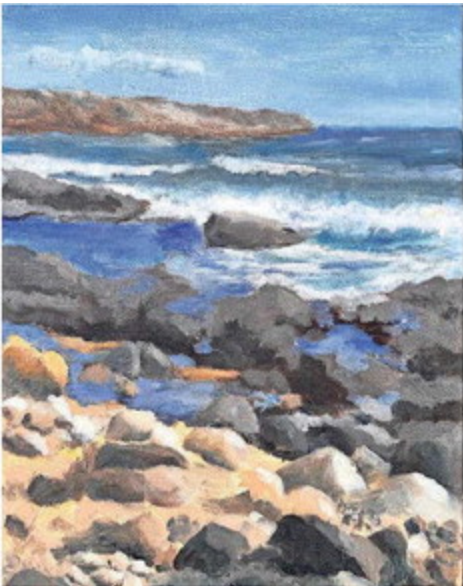**Elke D'Onofrio**

Aimee La Fountain

Correspondent

D'Onofrio also returned to Vancouver's Capilano Suspension Bridge Park in her work. 'I painted, yet again, hoping to entice the viewer into the feeling of being among the massive evergreens in the mist,' she said. 'I think I'm trying to figure out how to paint the fresh scent of the evergreens.'

One series in the display features flowers in various stages of bloom. 'I wanted to create and explore aging flowers as a metaphor, conveying beauty, potential and interest at every stage of life, from the tightly closed bud to the lush and juicy bloom and the fading blossom, ripe with seed,' D'Onofrio said.

The outliers, as D'Onofrio calls them, are two portraits and one night scene. They depict D'Onofrio's dog, her girlfriend's cousin who's a belly dancer and the Amalfi Coast at night. D'Onofrio has painted numerous portraits and plans to make that the subject of her next exhibit.

D'Onofrio offers views a glimpse of the wonders of nature through her work. 'The natural world, in my humble opinion, nourishes the soul and has potential to heal and uplift the human spirit,' she said. 'Observing the perfection of a flower, tree or sea is transformative.'

The Ridgewood Public Library hosts monthly exhibits of work by local artists. For more information, visit ridgewoodlibrary.org. For more on Elke D'Onofrio's work, visit elkedonofrioart.com.

LEFT: 'Wailea-Makena,' RIGHT: 'The Flourish' both by Elke D'Onfrio Photos provided by Elke D'Onfrio

'The Flourish III' from Elke D'Onfrio Photo provided by Elke D'Onfrio

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