

Ysabelle Vautour - Artist Bio

A former crisis intervenor Ysabelle Vautour started out working in the mental health and disability support sector. In 2019 she decided to paint and create art every day for a year. A few months into her 365 art everyday challenge, she was featured in CBC and invited to speak at Artslink's Short and Sweet Speaker Series and participated in a few live painting competitions. Ysabelle's work was also selected for a juried exhibition at the Nails on the Wall Gallery in Metuchen, New Jersey.

Ysabelle's artwork tends to be close up, bringing a sense of intimacy to the viewer and is a better view for the legally blind painter. She shied away from painting, thinking it was not for her as she only sees in black and white and wouldn't be able to tell if the colors looked muddy. It wasn't until she tried art as therapy that she was able to focus on how it feels making the art as opposed to how it will look in the end.

In 2020 Ysabelle became a board member at Connexion Artist Run Center. She was featured in the Shediac Artist Village, Ami Ami-télé, and Created Here Magazine. She was recruited to give a public talk to NBCCD Craft College art students and was the artist in residence at the Fredericton Arts Alliance. Ysabelle received a micro-grant for her self-directed Alone Together residency from NBCCD Craft Library.

Ysabelle had exhibited in Penny Gallery in Fredericton and at Corid'art Gallery in Shediac. And she was awarded two grants from Arts NB for her project "Bodies in Motion," which she presented at Leon Leger Gallery in September of 2022.

In 2021 she was featured as a live painter on the national stage at the Disability Without Poverty August Roundup event. A graduate of Sync Leadership and Artslink's Catapult arts and business accelerator program. Later that year she worked on Atlantic Canada's first Disability Art Conference. The project was in collaboration with Theatre New Brunswick and the JRG Society for the Arts.

In 2022 she was the recipient of the Jane Leblanc Visual Artist Award and was selected to be a mentor for the JL Legacy Fund Mentorship Engagement Program in 2024. No stranger to trying new things Ysabelle created and co-curated the NB Disability Artist Showcase at Fredericton Playhouse, and the National Access Art Center in Alberta. Look out for well as in a new television documentary on Ami-télé called 100% Passion.

Ysabelle work has been featured at the Centre des arts et culture de Dieppe in Moncton, Third Shift in Saint John, Sappy Fest in Sackville, Nocturne Festival in Halifax, Steps Public Art in Toronto and the James Black Gallery in Vancouver

Lately, Ysabelle sits on the board of ArtsNB. Look out for her upcoming solo exhibits at the Fredericton Public Library, NB Provincial Archives and the Pattes de Mouches Gallery in 2024.