

culture days



Culture Days collaborations

SANDRINE PELISSIER

SOPHIE BABEANU

2015/2016/2017

Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeanu

We did prepare a large watercolor paper sheet by tracing the lines for participants to write their message:



On the weekend of Culture Days people were asked to listen to a recording of Sophie's voice to guide them and help them find some words of positive wisdom to share on the project. They had to write their message on a piece of paper before copying it on the drawing, so they could be sure about what they wanted to share before writing on the art work.

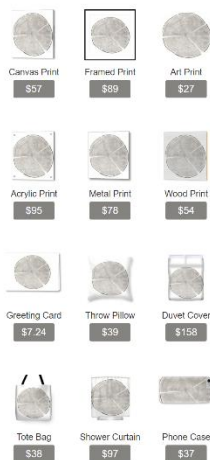
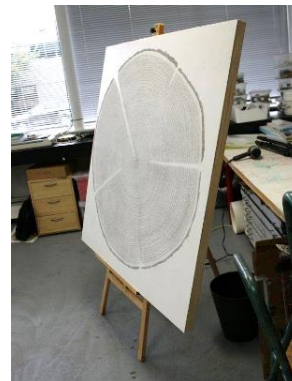


Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeau



For people participating over the internet, we did write for them the text they sent us through an online form.

Once all the lines on the tree had been filled, we mounted the paper on board and varnished it. One participant did win the finished painting after we organized a draw



We have prints of this artwork for sale on [Fine Art America](#):

A20 - North Shore News - Friday, September 18, 2015

ARTS

Collaboration taps into Culture Days

Time Lines makes it easier for people to enjoy creative process

■ **Collective Art Project: Time Lines, Sept. 26-27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 125 Garden Ave., North Vancouver. Part of North Shore Culture Days, which takes place Sept. 25-27 at various locations. Visit artsoffice.ca or culturedays.ca for details.**

CHRISTINE LYON
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Opportunity awaits all those who aspire to create visual art but panic at the thought of drawing something in the likeness of anything.

Mixed media artist Sandrine Pelissier and expressive arts facilitator Sophie Babeanu are inviting people to take part in a collective art project called Time Lines. No drawing skills are required. Participants will be asked

to simply write a few words along pre-drawn guidelines. Once finished, the text will form a visual representation of a cross-section of a tree.

"A lot of the time people are a bit intimidated to draw or paint, so we want to make it easy for them to participate," says Pelissier, who asks that participants bring along a non-perishable food donation to support the Harvest Project.

When people arrive at her studio on Garden Avenue, they will be greeted with a relaxing recording Babeanu has put together that encourages listeners to share a piece of wisdom. They will then be directed to a large piece of paper with concentric circles drawn on it and given the opportunity to write their words of



Mixed media artist Sandrine Pelissier and expressive arts facilitator Sophie Babeanu have developed the Time Lines public art project to coincide with this year's Culture Days Sept. 25-27. PHOTO KEVIN HILL

See More page 21

More people means a bigger painting

From page 20

wisdom along the gently curving lines. Pelissier expects the final product will contain a vast array of penmanship styles, languages and ideas.

"So, it should be fun to read," she says. "The more people, the more circles, the bigger the painting."

At the end of the weekend, she plans to mount and varnish the artwork. Those who contributed to the piece can enter a draw to win the original and those who don't win will be able to purchase prints, with proceeds benefitting the Harvest Project.

The Time Lines project is part of Culture Days, an annual Canada-wide event that happens Sept. 25, 26 and 27 and sees artists, cultural groups and volunteers self-mobilize to host free participatory public activities. On the

North Shore alone there are more than 40 free events and hands-on activities set to take place.

Pelissier and Babeanu decided their collaborative art project should result in the image of a tree to reflect one of Pelissier's favourite muses.

"Most of my work in landscapes is related to the forests and the trees," she explains. "I'm really inspired by the everyday life around me."

As a resident of the Upper Lonsdale area, Princess Park is one of her top spots to go walking and gather creative energy.

Originally from France, Pelissier moved to Canada 16 years ago and has been painting ever since. While many artists struggle to define their own work, she has found that "Zen Art Nouveau" is a fairly accurate descriptor of her style.

"What I really like to do

is mix elements of painting with elements of drawing," she says, noting she often likes to create repetitive patterns inspired by nature.

"To me, it's almost like a meditation thing because it takes me a lot of time, but then it's also very relaxing," she says. "That's where the zen part comes from."

Her French heritage also influences her work, particularly the intricate linear designs and flowing curves characteristic of Art Nouveau that can be seen all over Paris.

In addition to making and selling paintings, Pelissier also teaches a variety of art classes and workshops at her studio. For her and Babeanu, Time Lines offers a way for people to express themselves through art, without the intimidation factor.

"It's a way to make it more accessible to everybody," Pelissier says.

CULTURE DAYS 2016: EVERYONE CAN DO IT! THE NO-PHONE SELFIE



No Phone Selfie !

The hands- on way

125 Garden Avenue in North Vancouver

part of
culture days
CREATE, PARTICIPATE & SHARE
September 30, October 1 & 2, 2016

In 2016, we shared with studio visitors a simple technique that allowed them to easily draw a self-portrait.

They could outline their reflection on a mirror with washable felts and then make a monoprint directly from the mirror drawing.



Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeanu



Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeanu



Here are some of the self-portraits done by studio visitors.

Our activity has been featured in that video from the North Vancouver Recreation commission:

<https://youtu.be/WX2RREgU4oQ>

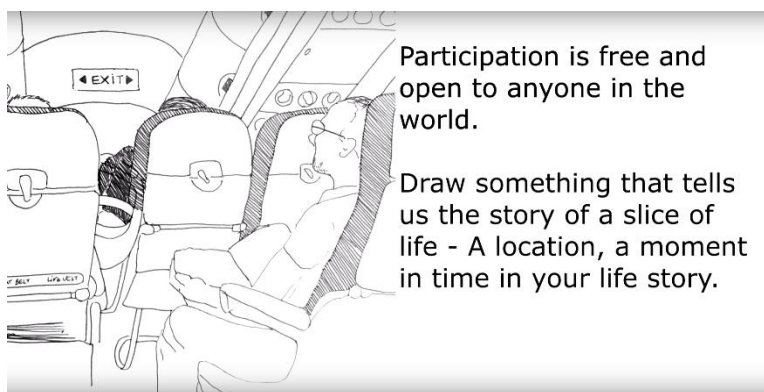


CULTURE DAYS 2017: EVERYONE CAN DRAW



Visual artist Sandrine Pelissier and art therapist Sophie Babeanu are calling on artists and doodlers from around the world for *The Big Picture*, a North Shore-focused art project that will draw on thousands of drawings, sketches, stories and paintings. PHOTO **MIKE WAKEFIELD**

For 2017 Culture days, we did organize a drawing workshop in my North Vancouver studio to facilitate participation in the [Big Picture Art Project](#), our new collective art project.



Watch a video that explains the project here:

<https://youtu.be/whyoiBoKg6o>

Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeau



We arranged a few drawing stations in the studio with simple instructions.



At each station, you could try a different drawing technique.

STATION
1

**Drawing with
your non dominant hand:
Personality goes a long way !**



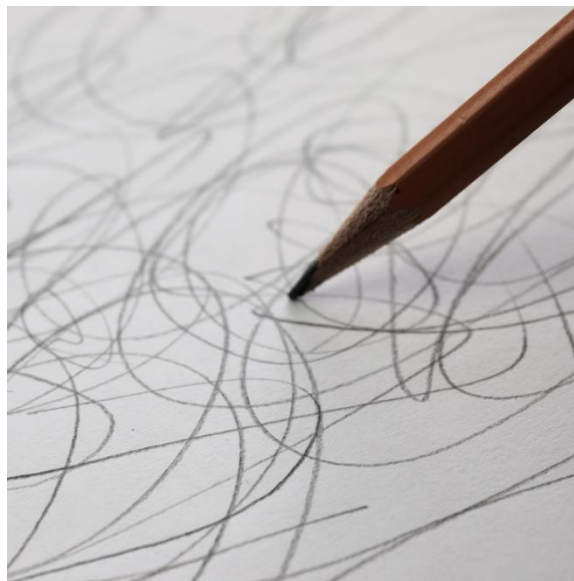
This one doesn't need much explanation :)

1. Find your non dominant hand (the one that is not usually holding the pencil)
2. Find a reference picture either from our materials or from your cell phone pictures
3. Draw with your non dominant hand and hope for the best !

This technique often leads to very interesting drawings with a bit of a rough side and lots of personality !



Like drawing with your non- dominant hand



Or finding a drawing from random scribbles on paper



Or drawing a self-portrait with a mirror monoprint easy technique (the no-phone selfie).

Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeanu



Once the drawings were made, participants had the opportunity to have their drawings scanned and to upload them to the [Big Picture Art Project](#)

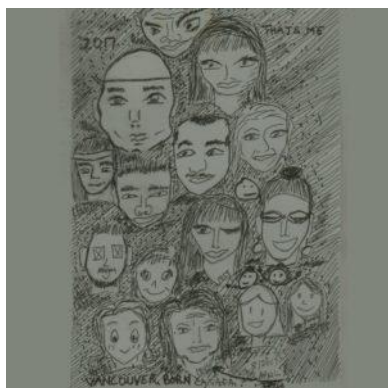


Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeanu



Culture Days collaborations : Sandrine Pelissier- Sophie Babeanu

We had some awesome participations to the big picture from our Culture Days visitors.
Here are a few:



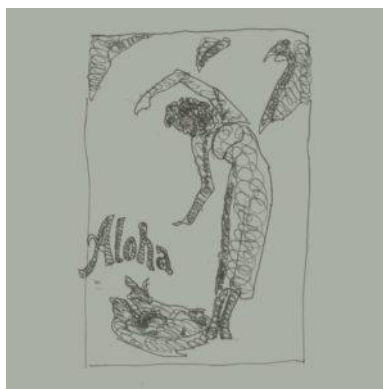
[See this drawing on the Big Picture](#)



[See this drawing on the Big Picture](#)



[See this drawing on the Big Picture](#)



[See this drawing on the Big Picture](#)



[See this drawing on the Big Picture](#)



[See this drawing on the Big Picture](#)

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The Big Picture

Two artists are drawing on thousands of volunteers for a civic self-portrait. See page 17.



LOCAL NEWS
LOCAL MATTERS
SINCE 1969

North Vancouver artists Sandrine Pelissier and Sophie Babeau are seeking sketches and stories to create a single massive mural. PHOTO MIKE WAKEFIELD

9/15/2017

Big Picture comes into focus

north shore news

Big Picture comes into focus

[Jeremy Shepherd](#) / North Shore News

May 7, 2017 08:58 AM

Visual artist Sandrine Pelissier and art therapist Sophie Babeanu are calling on artists and doodlers from around the world for The Big Picture, a North Shore-focused art project that will draw on thousands of drawings, sketches, stories and paintings. photo Mike Wakefield

Picture Vancouver.

Not as a map or an aerial photograph but as a panoramic self-portrait composed of the squiggles, stories, brushstrokes and strokes of luck that brought so many folks to the city.

That's what artists and North Vancouver residents Sandrine Pelissier and Sophie Babeanu are embarking on with The Big Picture, a mosaic that will require thousands of artists and memories.

"It's almost like a huge comic book," Pelissier says.

She and Babeanu wanted to undertake a project that would make art "accessible to everybody," she recalls.

"We can make something bigger, something more ambitious," Pelissier says.

Ambitious is a good word for a project that invites artists and secret doodlers from around the world to create a piece expected to be more than six feet in height and 72-feet wide.

Once complete, the work may become an artistic version of Google Maps, allowing art appreciators to zoom in on drawings and their stories.

After three weeks of submissions, Pelissier says they're on the second column with a planned 400 remaining. "So, we have a long way to go," she says with a laugh. "It's finished when the picture is completed but I have no way of knowing when it will be."

So far, many of the stories are about immigration, family life and travelling.

Having moved to Vancouver 18 years ago, Pelissier suspects her outsider status gives her a different perspective.

"I think as an immigrant I maybe am more sensitive to stories connecting the places you've been living."

Artists are invited to write – in the language of their choosing – about how they got here, why they stayed, or why they left.

"You can have a good story with a simple drawing or you can have a very good drawing with a simple story," Pelissier explains. "Even better you can have an excellent drawing and an excellent story."

Artists don't need to live in Vancouver – only to have some connection to the city.

Pelissier also emphasizes that she's not interested in finding perfection.

"I can see beauty in every kind of drawing," she says. "It's just for people to share a slice of life."

In the October 6, 2017 issue of the North Shore News.



THE BIG PICTURE During Culture Days, Sandrine Lejeune draws on a mirror creating a non-cellphone portrait "selfie" that will go into The Big Picture collective art project led by visual artist Sandrine Pelissier in collaboration with art therapist Sophie Babeanu. For more information on the project visit thebigpictureartproject.com. PHOTO CINDY GOODMAN