

PRESS RELEASE

August 21, 2009

**Pat FAIRHEAD
NORTH OF 70°**

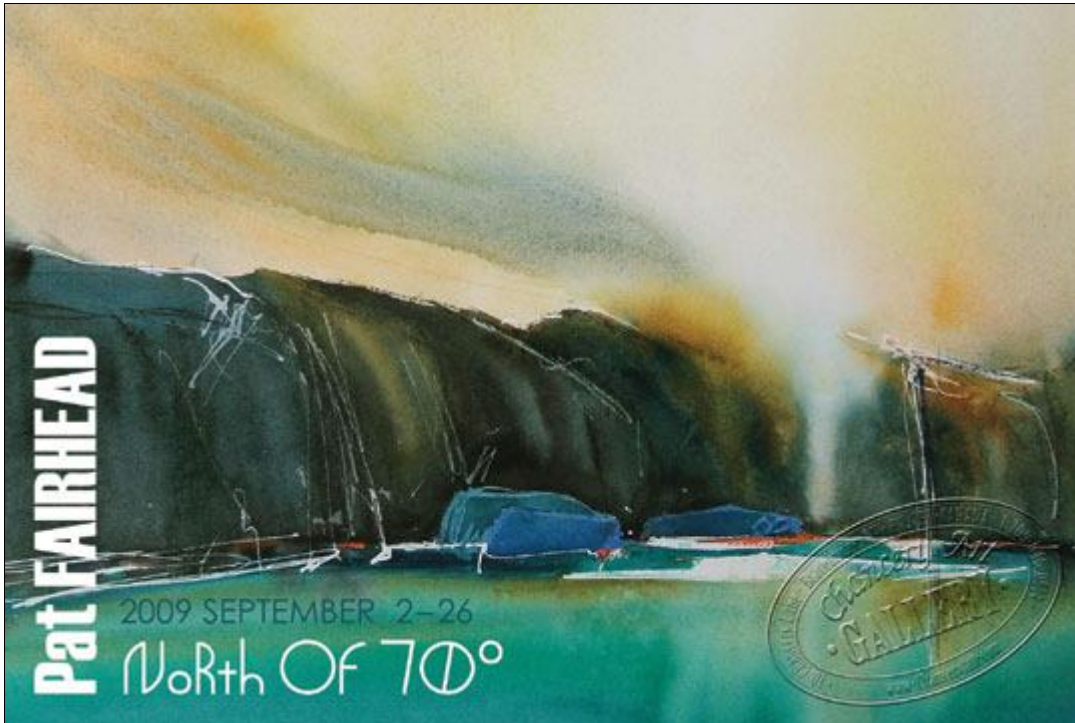
September 2–26

Chancery Art Gallery in downtown Bracebridge (Muskoka)

Opening Reception:

September 3, Thursday, from 3 to 5 pm

The artist's talk at 3:30 pm



Prominent Canadian artist, educator and world-traveler, Pat Fairhead has been making pilgrimages to the North for the past twenty years and ventured as close to the Arctic Pole as you can get by ship. In this solo exhibition *North of 70°* (September 2–26) at *Chancery Art Gallery* in downtown Bracebridge (Muskoka) Pat Fairhead will share her impressions of heart-breakingly beautiful icebergs, but also receding glaciers and unprecedented expanses of open water, witnessing the global warming.

*"The only possible teacher
except torture is fine art"*

Bernard Shaw

The Doctor's Dilemma

Chancery Art Gallery is a commercial gallery which accepts original works of contemporary fine art on consignment and acts as the artist's non-exclusive agent for exhibition and sales.

The gallery is affiliated with a psychology office on premises – www.PrivateCounseling.ca Occasionally, for "artist-in-crisis" a psychological consultation is offered *pro-bono*.

"..The one thing which may in some degree reconcile the cultured person with life – scientific and artistic enjoyment..."

Eduard von Hartmann

Philosophy of the Unconscious

From the Freudian view, arts derive from the same source as fantasies and dreams, and have the same purpose – to reduce tension in the soul. This applies to both creation and perception of the art, regardless of modality – painting, sculpture, literature, music, dance, etc. Thus, in some respects artists are not special – like the rest of us, they have the same narcissistic desires and fantasies, rather shameful to share under our cultural restraints. But unlike us, artists have a very special gift – they are able to exhibit their fantasies in a skilful, camouflaged way, and to attract us first with the external, formal side of their work. It traps us, provoking a preliminary, properly aesthetic pleasure, turning our internal "censor" off guard. And then, it enables us to enjoy our own deep prohibited fantasies – projected on the art – without shame and self-blame, with revealing catharsis. How are artists able to do this? It's their mystic secret; it's art.

The gallery's mission:

*"Piece of pie to the artists,
Peace of mind to the rest of us"*

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Dr. Lena Kolobov
owner & director

Dr. Paul Ivanoff
curator

