



Blue Willow – Michael Reeves

Southlake's Art Enrichment Committee *and the* Rotary Clubs of Newmarket and Bradford

would be honoured by your presence at the official opening of:

The Art Path at Southlake

Wednesday, November 23, 2011

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Southlake Regional Health Centre
Auditorium – Level 1, East Building
596 Davis Drive, Newmarket



Auction Item: Landscape Towards the Lake – Michael Reeves

The evening will include a welcome by Norma Reeves and designer Robin Robinson, followed by the auction of a donated painting by Michael Reeves.

The evening will end with guided tours of *The Art Path at Southlake*, which include the notable works of Canadian artists – Michael Reeves, Norman Knott, and Merton Chambers.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served. Cash bar available.

RSVP by November 20th to 905-895-4521, ext. 6947

To receive complimentary parking, please bring your parking ticket to the event for validation.



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Michael Reeves

*M*ichael Reeves grew up in post World War II England where his remarkable talent earned him entrance to a number of prestigious art schools and eventually an art scholarship in Rome. After finishing art school, Michael supported himself and his growing family as the Director of the British Arts and Crafts Council and as an antique dealer in both Canada and England. By the late 1980s, Michael and Norma's four children were leading their own lives and Michael was able to begin painting full time. During the late 1980s and 1990s, Michael produced a remarkable body of work that gained critical praise and attention from the Canadian art community. With the support of his wife Norma, a talented artist and designer in her own right, Michael was able to keep working during this period despite suffering four strokes. Michael Reeves created all of the paintings in this collection at his studio on the Lake Scugog farm that he and Norma bought and restored in 1984.

Michael Reeves art is influenced by artists David Milne and Stanley Cosgrove. He is also influenced by Neo-Romanticism, a British style of the 1930s and 40s that incorporated nostalgia for the pastoral with personal insights of childhood memory, fantasy, hallucination, and historical legend. Michael transplanted all of this into the landscape around Lake Scugog. His work is part of the permanent collection at the Art Gallery of Ontario, The McMichael Canadian Art Collection, and The Robert McLaughlin Gallery. Notable art critics have singled out Michael's work as a unique and important contribution to the Canadian art scene. Michael's classical training, playful approach, love of the natural world, and technical skills all combine in his paintings to make them both meaningful and accessible.



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