

PRESS RELEASE

July 20, 2010

Chancery Art Gallery
at walking Chancery Lane in historic
downtown of Bracebridge, ON,
the hub of Muskoka –
world-renowned retreat.

JULY 28 – AUGUST 21

There & Then

solo exhibition of
Valeria MRAVYAN
(Kleinburg, ON)

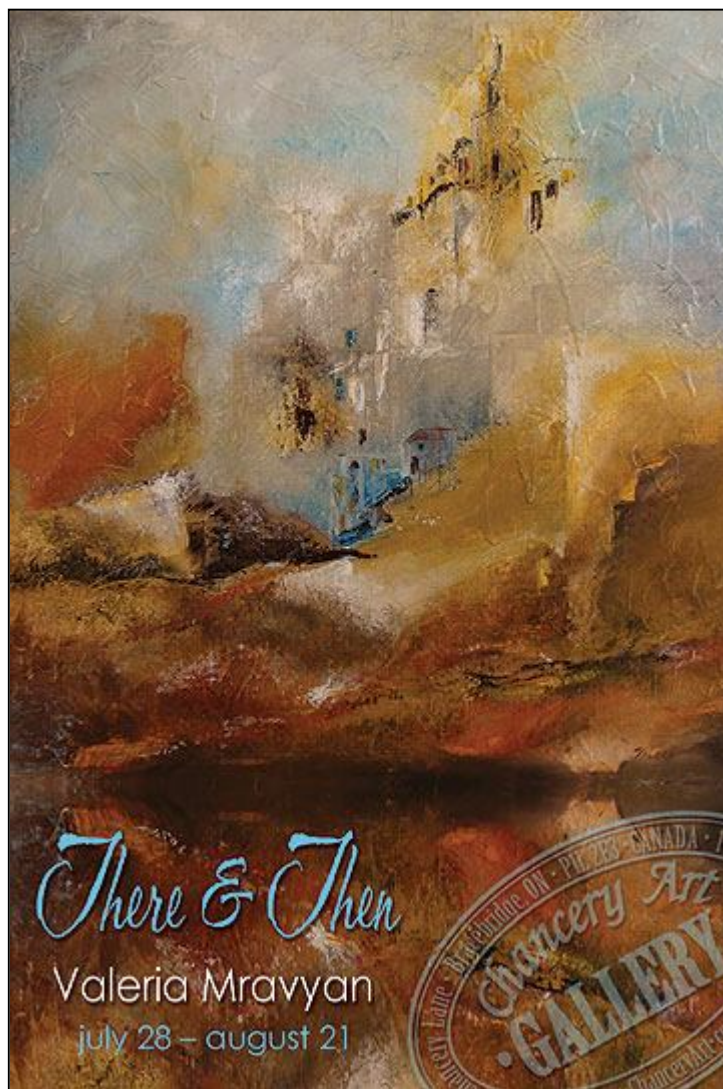
Opening Reception:
Thursday, July 29, 4-8 pm

To name a few galleries out of
Canada, Valeria exhibited her
painting, batik and tapestry in Tokyo
Metropolitan Museum of Arts
(**Japan**), Frankfurt Messe (**Germany**),
Chagall House (**Israel**), Krinsky Most
Gallery (**Russia**), Monserart Gallery
(**NY, USA**), Los Gatos Museum of Art
(**CA, USA**).

At age 19, Valeria earned her first
professional artist's diploma from the
Industrial Arts College; at 26 she got a
master's degree in applied arts from
the *Moscow State Textile Institute*.
Since then, Valeria happened to
change cities and countries before she
settled in Toronto (Canada), but
through all the years she was doing
what she does the best – *turning a
plain fabric into the Art*.

Some critics find her paintings to have a delicate touch of classical Russian constructivism; Some emphasize a flavour of interesting multi-cultural "symbiosis"; Some point to her expressive freedom of sharing how she feels... Perhaps all this appears fairly true. However, there still seems to be a bit of an intrigue around Valeria's paintings. One gripping detail could be probably exposed in this context. When you see more of Valeria's oils, an odd idea emerges: She does not actually "paint *on* canvas" – she "paints *the* canvas."

Find more at
www.ChanceryArt.com



At the announcement postcard (above, available in the gallery)
artwork © 2005 by Valeria Mravyan. *Town on the Hill*.
oil on canvas, 36" x 36"

*"The only possible teacher
except torture is fine art"*
Bernard Shaw
The Doctor's Dilemma

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 one thing which may
in some degree reconcile the
cultured person with life –
scientific and artistic enjoyment..."*
Eduard von Hartmann
Philosophy of the Unconscious

Chancery Art Gallery is a
commercial gallery which offers
solo and group exhibitions of
contemporary fine art and acts as
the artist's agent with exclusivity
limited to Muskoka district of
Ontario, Canada.

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 gallery's mission:
*"Piece of pie to the artists,
Peace of mind to the rest of us"*

Dr. Lena Kolobow
owner & director

Dr. Paul Ivanoff
curator

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