



3401 Pleasant Valley Road, Vernon, BC V1T 4L4 250-275-1525 www.caetani.org

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Sponsorship Program Helps Build New Home for Caetani Artwork

Support sought to expand the Caetani gallery exhibition space for Sveva Caetani's Recapitulation Series, a series of 56 unique watercolour paintings depicting the late Vernon artist's incredible life story.

VERNON— After opening to the public with a successful season of sold-out tours, the Caetani Centre is launching its latest campaign — to build a new home for Sveva Caetani's heralded Recapitulation series.

Individuals or groups can now sponsor an original painting from Caetani's Recapitulation Series, featuring over 50 unique large-scale watercolours. Funds raised will be used to build a larger facility to publicly display the entire series at the Caetani Centre in Vernon, BC.

"Art patrons and the greater public now have the opportunity to be a part of history. Our plan is to build a home large enough to display Sveva's unique collection. Those who help sponsor a painting will help expand our current gallery from 800 square feet to about 2,000 square feet to include additional display space, larger archival storage, and a larger presentation space," says Caetani Centre executive director Susan Brandoli.

The Recapitulation Series continues to gain both national and international attention.

The series documents Caetani's life story and outlook and was put under the care of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) in Edmonton in the 1980s when Caetani was still alive. The series remained at the AFA for more than 35 years and was exhibited intermittently during this time.

In March 2021, the AFA shipped the paintings back to Vernon to be housed at the Caetani Centre, Sveva's childhood home, which now serves as a heritage site, museum and cultural centre.

The return of the Recapitulation series followed years of hard work by the Caetani board of directors and staff as well as extensive renovations and upgrades to bring the heritage facility up to code to accommodate public access as well as ensure the safety of the various Caetani collections.

A significant private donation and years of concentrated fundraising and support from local businesses, artists and community supporters also made the return of the works possible.



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“The AFA saw the benefit of repatriating Sveva’s work back to the home where they were created. The timing was perfect as we were getting ready to open the home to the public. We also received Caetani family artifacts back from both the Vernon and Kelowna museums and have had people from near and far coming to see and hear the story of the Caetanis since we started our guided and self-guided tours this summer. Our hope is to involve other organizations and individuals to consolidate the significant Caetani collection further,” says Caetani Cultural Centre Society President Sherry Price.

The sponsorship program’s aim is to raise \$65,000+ for seed money to attain matching capital grants for the gallery expansion.

The sponsorship package includes a five-year patronage, tax receipt, and formal recognition via a permanent plaque on the gallery building, acknowledgement on artwork label, on the Caetani website and through social media channels.

The Caetani Centre is continuing its guided and self-guided tours now through December.

For more information on our sponsorship program, tours, and to view the works, visit www.caetani.org or call the Caetani office for a personal viewing at 250-275-1525.

About the Caetani Family and Sveva Caetani’s Recapitulation Painting Series:

2021 marks the 100th anniversary since the Caetani family immigrated from Italy to Canada. Duke of Sermoneta Leone Caetani and his partner Ofelia and daughter Sveva Caetani arrived in Vernon in 1921, where they lived a life of wealth, privilege, travel, and luxury throughout the Roaring Twenties until the economic crash of 1929 decimated their fortunes.

Following the death of Leone in 1935, Ofelia and Sveva went into self-imposed exile. During this time, mother and daughter rarely left the house, and Sveva was not allowed to pursue her love of art.

It was not until her mother's death in 1960 that Sveva, now in her early 40s, started painting again. Her economic circumstances dictated that she find work for the first time in her life. She took on teaching positions at St. James Elementary and Charles Bloom Secondary. Around this time, Sveva began work on her Recapitulation series, featuring 50 large-scale vibrant watercolour paintings, documenting her story and journey through life.



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In the mid-1980s, due to several mitigating circumstances, Sveva donated the complete Recapitulation series to the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) and the works left the province of British Columbia for over 30 years. The AFA provided access to the collection through exhibition loans and an online database.

Now, after more than 30 years since the first painting travelled to Edmonton, Sveva's Recapitulation has returned home to Vernon permanently.

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Photos attached

Captions:

- 1. Sponsors Darryl and Mary-Jo Payeur, Bannister GM, with Caetani Cultural Centre Society Past President AJ Jaeger.**
- 2. Sponsors Ken Derpak, General Manager, and Ginny Scott, Local Sales Manager, Silver Star Mountain Resort, with Caetani Cultural Centre Society Past President AJ Jaeger.**
- 3. Sveva Caetani with works from her Recapitulation Series**
- 4. Sveva Caetani Recapitulation painting Workmanship**
- 5. Sveva Caetani Recapitulation painting To Ganesha: The Good Companions**
- 6. Sveva Caetani Recapitulation painting Their World**