



CAETANI CENTRE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 8, 2022

Caetani Recapitulation Series Sponsorship Campaign Gains Momentum

The Caetani Centre is raising seed money to expand its gallery to exhibit the entire Recapitulation watercolour painting series created by late Vernon artist Sveva Caetani.

VERNON, BC— Support continues to pour in to expand the home for Sveva Caetani's Recapitulation painting series.

The Bringing Sveva Home Recapitulation sponsorship campaign has so far seen more than 20 works of the 47 large scale watercolour paintings sponsored by local businesses, groups, and individuals.

Funds raised from the sponsorship campaign are going towards plans to expand the Caetani Centre's current gallery from 800 square feet to approximately 2,000 square feet.

The expansion is needed so that the entire Recapitulation series of 47 paintings can be permanently displayed. The expanded gallery will also include a more extensive archival storage and presentation space, said Caetani Centre executive director Susan Brandoli.

"We want to thank our corporate sponsors, Silver Star Mountain Resort, Bannister GM, and MQN Architects, as well as the many individuals, book clubs and other groups who have supported our Recapitulation sponsorship campaign so far. Thanks to them, we are moving closer toward our goal of raising \$65,000+ in seed money, which will serve as the base for matching grants to expand the gallery," said Brandoli.

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

This past year, the Caetani Centre exhibited the first 17 paintings in the series as part of its guided and self-guided tours, which attracted interest from near and far since the museum in Caetani's former home officially opened its doors to the public last summer.

"More than 900 people have visited the centre, with many wanting to learn more about Sveva's incredible story of loss, isolation, and emergence as a teacher and prolific artist," said Brandoli,



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citing that the story has received both national and international attention, particularly from the Caetanis' birthplace of Italy.

Several paintings from the show were sponsored soon after tours ended in December.

"We have plans to restart our tours in mid-April, and we will be exchanging the smaller paintings in our series for the larger ones, some of which are multi-panelled and take up an entire wall of space," said Brandoli.

The works are also the subject of a significant research project.

Thanks to a Young Canada Works at Building Careers in Heritage grant, the Caetani Centre has hired intern Jessica Payne, a BFA graduate from Concordia University, to conduct extensive research on the entire series. Payne has gone through many of Caetani's writings, archived at the Greater Vernon Museum and Archives, and other outlets to better understand the underlying themes and imagery shown in the paintings.

The public can see some of the paintings, hear the Caetani story, and see the vast collection of artifacts and exquisite haute couture from the Roaring 20s when the Caetani Centre resumes its guided and self-guided tours later in the spring.

For more information, visit www.caetani.org or call the Caetani office at 250-275-1525.

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

Duke of Sermoneta Leone Caetani, his partner Ofelia and his daughter Sveva Caetani arrived in Vernon, British Columbia in 1921. 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 47 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). The works left the province of British Columbia for 35 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 and is now part of an extensive collection held by the Caetani Cultural Centre Society and on display at Sveva's former home in Vernon, BC.

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Please link to photos or contact us for other artwork/photos:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/12n2Jcl21robzMpTEOg7RK1qGM12yH7jF?usp=sharing>

Credit: Photos courtesy of the Caetani Centre

Captions:

- 1/ Vernon artist Sveva Caetani with paintings from her Recapitulations series.
- 2/ Sveva Caetani's Harbour with Sphinxes from the Recapitulation Series, circa 1982.
- 3/ Sveva Caetani's To Ganesha, The Good Companion from the Recapitulation Series, circa 1987.