



3401 Pleasant Valley Rd., Vernon BC, V1T 4L4, 250-275-1525, [www.caetani.org](http://www.caetani.org)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 28, 2023

## **Stay Warm as the Caetani Centre Heads into the Holiday Season**

*The Caetani Centre hosts fun textile workshops for varying ages, a global holiday concert, and self-guided tours this December.*

VERNON —The Caetani Centre has several ways for locals and visitors to make it through December with workshops, music and more.

The centre's 1895 heritage house museum will be decked out for the holidays and visitors are welcome to visit during office hours for a self-guided tour.

Visitors will learn the story of the Caetani family and see a new short film that relays the history of Caetani's fascinating lineage in Italy.

"The museum includes family-owned artifacts, custom-designed haute couture by the likes of Chanel, Vuitton and Vionnet, family home movies, and more. Tour admission also includes a visit to the centre's Sveva Caetani Gallery to see a selection of Caetani's Recapitulation Series, 47 watercolours that recount Sveva's life, family, and influences," said Kristin Froneman, Programs and Communications Coordinator.

Self-guided tours are available until Dec. 22, Tuesdays to Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$6 for youth 18 and under at the door. Contact the Centre for private guided tours for groups of six or more.

The Caetani Centre is also hosting a series of textile workshops offered by the centre's new studio artist Salinger Snarf, who many will know from when they operated Furhouse Textiles in downtown Vernon.

Those who sign up for the workshops will be able to choose their own fabric to create a magic bag, which will then be filled to create the perfect dose of cozy.

A multimedia artist with a focus on textile programs in the community, Snarf's colourful workshops feature inclusive opportunities for creative skill-building and self-exploration through hands-on activities.

Workshops will take place:

- Saturday, Dec 2: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. for ages 8-12 (Max 6 participants)
- Saturday, Dec 2: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for ages 12-18 (Max 6 participants)
- Sunday, Dec 3: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for ages 16 and up (Max 8 participants)
- Sunday, Dec 17: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. for ages 8-12 (Max 6 participants)
- Sunday, Dec 17: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. for ages 12-18 (Max 6 participants)

All equipment (sewing machines included) and supplies are provided. More information and registration are available by calling 250-275-1525 or online at

<https://www.caetani.org/2023/11/23/make-a-magic-bag-with-sal-of-furhouse-textiles-workshops/>

On Dec. 9, the Centre hosts a matinée concert of worldly music by local quintet the Wind Jammers.

Featuring established Okanagan musicians Janet Watson on flute, Karen Gibbons on oboe, Lucy Benwell on clarinet, Edmund House on horn and Cuyler Page on bassoon, the Wind Jammers will incorporate music from diverse cultures, composers, styles, instrumentation and eras, pushing the boundaries of wind quintet repertoire.

“We will perform a diverse selection of music from Renaissance to modern, romantic to ragtime, with a few holiday tunes mixed in,” said Page. “The six continents will be represented with traditional and contemporary music by a variety of composers. You will also be able to see and hear some less familiar instruments such as the piccolo, English horn, hunting horn, bass clarinet, and contrabassoon.”

Concert tickets are \$20/adult and \$15 for Caetani Centre members and youth 18 and under. Admission is at the door, which opens at 1:30 p.m. Some refreshments will be available for purchase.

The Caetani Centre is located at 3401 Pleasant Valley Rd. Vernon. For more information, visit [caetani.org](https://www.caetani.org).

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**Images/Photos/Posters:**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1K7WK4lpaYaX6zHMgyZb83iLI2bUwoD\\_G?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1K7WK4lpaYaX6zHMgyZb83iLI2bUwoD_G?usp=sharing)

### **About the Caetani Family:**

Duke of Sermoneta, Leone Caetani, his partner, Ofelia, and their 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.

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, which is now the Caetani Centre in Vernon, BC.