
Main Attraction

Earl Klatzel

If it's not good enough for the artist, it won't be good enough for the art collector.

That's the main reason for Earl Klatzel's sudden rise to prominence in the Alberta art community.

"I realized I was storing so many pieces because it was nothing I'd hang on my own wall," says Klatzel, who dropped landscapes and the like and took up painting well-known musical personalities.

From rockers like Neil Young and Jimi Hendrix to Blues royalty like B.B. King and Colin James, Klatzel brings the history of Blues and rock musicians to life.

"I'm a music fanatic," he says. "I have over 1,300 albums. If you go into my house it is all albums."

Born in Calgary, Klatzel worked in that steel mill for 14 years before turning to art full time.

Klatzel's genius has resulted in a request from the Royal Canadian Academy of Art for a portfolio submission.

If accepted his expertise will be verified as a Canadian Artist and that elusive ACA diploma will be as forgotten as his steel-toed boots.

"It's a passion," Klatzel says with know worries of what he left behind. "You can't take it to this level if it's not a passion."



MICHAEL BROWNECHO