



**Far Left:** Dennis O'Connor will be more than happy to help select the perfect gift of art for your holiday giving.

**Middle:** Dennis O'Connor is always happy to help guide a client through the art selection process

**Above:** Canadian mandolin luthier Ray Vincent, who produces beautifully crafted and functional musical instruments, currently has several pieces on display at the gallery.

# COLOUR AND CLASS

## Giving Fine Art at the Holidays

By Lorraine Payette

Perfect gifts can make the holidays even brighter, and nothing could be more perfect than a gift. “The more people that see art, the more people that will enjoy it,” said Dennis O’Connor of the O’Connor Gallery in Gananoque. “The more people that enjoy it, the more people that will hopefully want it”

For O’Connor, high quality art is as essential to life as eating, drinking or breathing. He carries a wide variety of art from paintings to sculpture to fine furnishings – everything that will not only make a house a home, but is guaranteed to do so with style and panache.

“Look at those paintings, these furnishings – it’s not instant gratification, nothing is, you have to work at anything,” said O’Connor. “Part of what I do as a job is to teach people

how to look at and understand art. I’ve always been a teacher of art and I’m a champion of the arts.”

Art is available in most price ranges. Knowing the recipient, understanding the tastes of the individual and what would please them the most makes a gift of art something to be treasured for a lifetime.

The works at the O’Connor Gallery are exclusive to Gananoque. As a design house with an art gallery that changes monthly, it provides all that is needed to make a house into an absolutely beautiful space. They carry lighting and Inuit art, as well as doing custom framing. With everything from the casual to the debonair, you can find something for anyone who wants a living space that is truly their own.

He has a BFA from Concordia University in Art History and had a gallery in Toronto for 15 years. He has long provided advice and design services, and thoroughly enjoys helping select the perfect art or furnishings, whether for personal use or for special occasion gifts.

“All of the furniture we carry is Canadian and all of our products are shipped within Canada so nothing is overpriced,” said O’Connor. “And, of course, we have our design services. Art, beauty and grace

are a way of life that should be open for all. An original gift of art or craft is an excellent choice for that someone who has everything. You are supporting the arts and giving something that everyone will cherish. Gift certificates for design work are also great gifts that allow your friends to enjoy their gifts on a very personal level.”

Always keep in mind the size of a person’s space, their personal taste, colour scheme and how much you are willing or able to spend. Good art is something that will bring pleasure to all for many years to come.

“My goal is to make everyone’s life a little more beautiful,” said O’Connor. “With services from design, lighting, custom Canadian furniture, fabrics for drapery and custom picture framing my gallery provides all that anyone needs for their home. Come in and chat, and we’ll find exactly what you need.”

The gallery recently featured a display and concert by Canadian mandolin luthier Ray Vincent, who produces beautifully crafted and functional musical instruments.

**“Art is for everyone, and a gallery is a living breathing space,”** said O’Connor. “There are no limits. Find and share what you love – these gifts will last forever.” **LH**

**Editor’s Note:** You can visit the Gallery at 130 King Street East, Gananoque, Ontario. Or call (343) 363-6844. You can visit the Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/OConnor-Gallery-228073441110725/> to view photos or see about special events or showings. O’Connor Gallery features Interior design for your home and work place. Custom furniture, picture framing, original art, Inuit art, lighting, fabrics and unique accessories.