

Isaacson Releases Self Portraits In Time For Virtual Arty Awards Ceremony

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Artist and poet Emily Isaacson has decided to release a cache of over 30 photographs that are considered self portraits. Over the span of the last 15 years, she has taken numerous self portraits with digital cameras along with her artistic landscape photography that was exhibited both online and at local exhibits, including a solo exhibit in Mission, B.C. in 2010. They can be viewed online at www.wildlilyinstitute.com.

Since 2005 she has directed what is today the Wild Lily Institute to protect her art and legacy. In anticipation of her next exhibit with the Abbotsford Arts Council, she is preparing her photographs with digital art; historic scenes of the Fraser Valley. Isaacson has already exhibited twice this year in group exhibits, once with the Mission Arts Council's Peggy Staber Exhibit, which was hosted virtually this year and once with the Abbotsford Arts Council's Women in Art.

Isaacson's bid to go public with more transparency has come in the face of recent illness and an attack on her published work. She was in the hospital for two weeks at the beginning of August, and went public about her illness by starting a Go Fund Me campaign to raise funds for her medical bills. The campaign is located at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-pay-emilys-medical-bills>

Subsequently Isaacson found out that one of her books was being pirated online, and that a minimum of 7,000-14,000 people has seen or downloaded the PDF for free. As her e-books and published poetry are copyrighted in Canada, she has now addressed the issue by posting a notice on piracy, and offering a free e-book during the pandemic to her fans. She has had almost 1.8 million visits to her multimedia sites over 15 years and over 5,000 social media friends, as she went viral in late 2019 with thousands of fans friending her.

A free-lance photographer and author, she has fifteen books published on Amazon and available in brick and mortar bookstores. Her books and poetry are considered Canadian literature by her publishers for their historical content and nostalgic poetry forms, including what she has called 'distressed sonnets'. She has been nominated this year for an Arty Award in the Literary Arts, the 17th annual awards ceremony in Abbotsford. It will be hosted virtually this year by the Abbotsford Arts Council on Saturday, September 25 at 7PM [<https://abbotsfordartscouncil.com/artly-awards-2/>].

