

comfort zone



FALLING IN LOVE WITH ART

BY LISE LAROCQUE // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDIE HEWSON

THE PLACE: At first glance, the façade of Koyman Galleries on St. Laurent Blvd. has a somewhat ordinary

appearance. But open the door and take a step inside and discover a vast space that is anything but ordinary. A wide assortment of original artwork is showcased in this breathtaking 13,000 sq. ft., two-level gallery. Here, artists' works are displayed individually, giving buyers the opportunity and space to experience a sampling of each unique collection of work. "This location is the end result of nearly 50 years of business," says Terence Koyman whose father began the business in 1965. Terence and his brother Robert

have three other store locations in the National Capital but this one is somewhat unique. "It's different in that it's only Canadian originals," says Terence. "It's probably the largest gallery of its kind."

THE STYLE: The second level offers works that are more traditional in scope; florals and landscapes painted in both subdued and vibrant strokes, many depicting Canada's natural beauty. "We have artists from Newfoundland to Victoria," says Terence. The main level showcases multimedia works, photography and paintings that are contemporary in style.

SERVICES: Home consultations, installation and custom framing, just to name a few. A separate area of the store known as the "Design Gallery" also provides a large selection of limited edition prints and reproductions, decorative mirrors and countless custom framing options.

ADVICE: Terence says when choosing a piece of art for your home, you should let your heart be your guide. "Fall in love with it," he says. "If you fall in love with it, it will always work; you will always find a home for it." He says the challenge usually arises when couples come in to purchase art together. "That's where it gets a bit complicated," he says. "So we sort of say one has to love it, one has to like it. It happens where two people come in and fall in love with the same thing, but usually one loves it and one likes it, and the like will turn to love over time."

WHERE: 1771 St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa 613.526.1562
www.koymangalleries.com or

