La professoressa Stefania Lucamante.

Jean-Michel Basquiat: Now's the Time

David Andrew Hoekstra

TORONTO - Now until May 10, 2015, the Art Gallery of Ontario is exhibiting a retrospective on the artistic works of the American artist, Jean-Michel Basquiat. Born and raised in New York City, Basquiat notably conveyed the hard struggles and potential of life in the metropolis during his final work displayed in the exhibition, Eros.

On the other hand, Basquiat's self-portraits illustrate his feelings of inspiration and pride for himself. Whether seemingly unfinished, flayed, or scarred, Basquiat's self-portraits shine a light on the inner tribulations he encountered daily in his psyche. Basquiat's self-portraits illustrate a vulnerability in the artist that underlies the inner mentalities of the artist and his motivations artistically.

There is a vast community of Friulians living in Canada and it is admirable to read of how they were able to overcome adversity and create a life on unfamiliar grounds. It is with great strength and determination that Italian immigrants were able to build a dream of creating a successful future for themselves and generations to come.

Italian-Canadians young and old can appreciate and relish the tale of immigration in this book. It is no secret that Canada is a multicultural country and immigration has certainly played an important role. "Friulians in Canada", translated by Stefania Lucamante, feels a sense of inspiration and pride for Italian immigrants far and wide.

If you would like to learn more, more information can be found on Dr. Prodan's official book launch, presented by Giovanni Di Pozzo (President of the Chamber of Commerce of Udine) and Primo Pozzo (President of the Chamber of Commerce of Canada in Udine) on the occasion of Trade Mission of Friuli Venezia Giulia in Canada.

The event is promoted by the Chamber of Commerce of Udine and co-sponsored by Forum Editrice Universitaria Udinese. There is also support from the Autonomo region and sponsored by Banca Popolare di Cividale.

THE NEW BOOK

U of T's Dr. Sarah Rolfe Prodan Launches "Friulians in Canada"

Sarah Rolfe Prodan

TORONTO - "Thinking of adding a new book to your reading list? Interested in learning about an aspect of Italian immigration in Canada? Well, if you have answered yes, then you should check out "Friulians in Canada," by University of Toronto’s Dr. Sarah Rolfe Prodan.

She writes about the liaison between the Italian region of Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Canada. In addition, this book combines the history of the Friulian immigration, along with biographies of immigrants and stories that reflect the triumphs and challenges of moving to a new land filled with hope, promise, and uncertainty.

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