

## HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

The Cotton Factory bee hive project

## FLIGHTS OF FANCY

Our Tenant feature: Lori Le Mare, decorative painter and aerial artist

## SHOP THE COTTON FACTORY

Shop for unique items from the makers, artists and artisans at the Cotton Factory



SUMMER  
2018

# PANES TAKING RESTORATION



The Cotton Factory has many windows - 365 to be exact, and giving them a second chance at life has been the priority of the building's owners, Rob and Laura Zeidler. Approximately 50 windows have been completed thus far.

The restoration process is one that requires skill and patience. As a team, Michael and Avery share the task, with one dealing mostly with any rebuilding that is needed and the other focusing on different required aspects of what is a rather laborious process.



image courtesy of The Hamilton Spectator



When asked about the task, Michael is quick to announce the reward that he feels as a result of his restoration work. Having been a visitor of the Cotton Factory for over twelve years and being witness to its many transformations, Michael considers himself lucky to have made this connection and to have landed the opportunity to contribute to the building's legacy.

Michael's pride is common amongst the tenants of the Cotton Factory, where there is a deep appreciation for seeing the individual components of the structure coming together to weave a story. If only walls (and windows) could talk, we imagine what they might say.



# HUMBLE BEEBEGINNINGS

## An interview with Luc from Humble Bee:

***Was last year the first year you set up hives here? Are there hives in other locations? If so, whereabouts are they and what makes a business interested in this relationship?***

2016 was the year that we brought bees to the Cotton Factory, though we did not harvest any honey that year. We also have bees on the rooftop of the Mustard Seed Coop grocery along with other rooftop and backyard bees

throughout Hamilton. People can also 'Host a Hive' to support the bees in their own backyard while Humble Bee takes care of them and supplies the sponsor with honey.

Humble Bee also works in Toronto for the Toronto Beekeepers Collective in which we are responsible for the bees at the Fairmont Royal York, Ontario Science Centre, Downsview Park and Black Creek Community Farm. Businesses that want to support the honey bees can do so with a partnership with Humble Bee, knowing that they are working with the best urban beekeeping experts. We feel very humbled by positive feedback from our community and feel grateful to feed so many people!

***Is there anything we should be aware of as citizens who are concerned about the future of bees? What can we do to help ensure their survival?***

All bees are good and we should do what we can to encourage their survival. David Suzuki Foundation has a great campaign against the bee (and bird, worm, fish) killing pesticides. When buying plants at a nursery make sure they are free of neonicotinoids. If they don't know, don't buy them or start from seed which is the best way to grow without adding pesticides. Weeds are usually great bee plants. Dandelions and Goldenrod are huge food sources for the bees. Don't buy hybrid plants or very showy flowers as they typically don't have nectar or pollen for the bees, butterflies, and birds.

*Thanks for the tips, Humble Bee! Visit their website at [www.humblebee.buzz](http://www.humblebee.buzz) for more information.*



# A RETURN TO ANALOG

by Warren Hutton

I was born into a world without the Internet but I watched it arrive in my early teens. I can clearly recall first trying new messaging applications (not quite "apps" yet) and complaining about sourcing websites in my school paper bibliographies. I watched its growth accelerate with fascination - so much so that I went on to study its impacts on the music industry.

In the years that followed MSN Messenger, file sharing kicked down the door and truly showed the disruptive possibilities of a more connected world. Facebook began letting people join without university email

addresses, then came Instagram, and you know how the rest goes. It was an explosion of social connection that only seemed to distance us.

The more I learned about the potential of the Internet the more I could see a primal response to it. Jam sessions, yoga, meet-ups, sports, book clubs, and think tanks have all trended upwards. We are actively seeking out opportunities to be in physical contact with each other, and it's wonderful.


We can work remotely giving us more time to be with our families and friends; avoiding

long commutes. We have the ability to find like-minded people and easily coordinate an event to discuss some obscure niche topic.

I believe we are finally starting to use the Internet in a more human way, one that connects us both digitally and physically. A return to analog, you could say.

*Written by Warren Hutton, Community Development, CoWork at the Cotton Factory. Interested in CoWorking? Email [cowork@cottonfactory.ca](mailto:cowork@cottonfactory.ca).*

# FLIGHTS OF FANCY



Lori Le Mare has been in the decorative painting and painting restoration business for nearly 30 years. She has worked on commercial, residential and teaching projects in Toronto, Italy, Spain, The Bahamas, Beijing, and parts of the USA, and her restoration work in Toronto began with projects at Osgoode Hall, Spadina House, and Casa Loma. Lori is skilled in many different types of surface design including “faux marbre” and honed this practice whilst restoring the main hall from 1850 in Dundurn Castle. She has worked on large jobs including Venetian Plaster on the walls of the Agha Kahn Museum to small heritage paintings in her studio. In addition to her restoration work, Lori is an aerialist and runs the Hamilton Aerial Group (HAG) out of the Cotton Factory. What began as a hobby in 1998 quickly became a major commitment after moving to Hamilton and beginning the HAG which now performs frequently at events. Lori choreographs and produces shows alongside her restoration work and when she has time, enjoys creating paintings of her own.

Lori became a tenant of the Cotton Factory about four years ago. Her studio is on the second floor, but the group has access to the Main Event Space which allows them to practice their routines with plenty of space. Having taken a decorative painting

class at age 23 in England, Lori credits chance as a major player in the twists and turns of her life and when asked if she has any advice for artists who are just starting out she says, “say yes to any commission work that you get asked to do. Figuring it out is an education in itself and you’ll learn so many different ways of doing something and in turn, get more work. It’s worked for me!”

For more information about Lori, visit her website at <http://lorilemarestudio.com>.

Lori also offers workshops in making your own decorative floor cloth.

Visit <http://www.hamiltonaerialgroup.ca> for information about Hamilton Aerial Group.



Lori Le Mare

# Meet the team:

## Warren

Warren is a new Hamiltonian and is excited by the vibrant arts and entrepreneurial scene here in the city. With a background in music, social innovation, and coworking, Warren has a unique skill set to share with the Cotton Factory community. He is excited to focus on further developing the CoWork space, through special events and community engagement.

If you're interested in coworking here at the Cotton Factory, sign up for our super sweet summer special and email [warren@cottonfactory.ca](mailto:warren@cottonfactory.ca) for more information.



## Hamilton Estonia

The Cotton Factory and the Hamilton Arts Council are excited to launch an on-going artist exchange with Estonia. Having built an industrial strength, creative community in Hamilton, Canada, we are pleased to celebrate Estonia's centenary of independence by building bridges between our artistic community and that of Tallinn, Estonia. The artist selected for Estonia's centenary year is Peeter Laurits, who has exhibited in London, Berlin, Chicago, Lisbon and Moscow. The Hamilton Arts Council has selected the Canadian

artist, Tor Lukasik-Foss as part of its Cotton Factory residency program.

We would like to thank the Estonian Artists' Association for partnering with us by selecting this year's Estonian artist and helping to host Tor Lukasik-Foss in Estonia. As before, we will work with both the Hamilton cultural community and the local Estonian-Canadian community to organize other related cultural events.

Follow us on social media for more!

## Shop the Cotton Factory



Taking place on the third Saturday of each month from 11am-4pm, Shop the Cotton Factory provides the community with the opportunity to take a peek inside what are otherwise often closed doors and studio spaces. As many of the Cotton Factory's tenants are artisans, entrepreneurs and business owners, it is also an invitation to shop! We provide maps of the building(s), free coffee in the coworking space, food for purchase, a Kids Zone and so much more - just look for the red balloons!

## Looming Events

**June 2 - June 9**

Hamilton Arts Week  
Opening event at the Cotton Factory

**July 20**

Art Spin  
"End of the Ride" event

**June - September**

CoWork Concert Series  
Monday lunch every other week

**September 14**

The Trews live in concert  
at the Mule Spinner



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