



Kelly Dodge

Considering her artistic talents to be gifts from God, Lakefield, Ont. artist Kelly Dodge feels it a great blessing to be surrounded by a natural world of beauty and discovery.

In what has been a whirlwind career as a professional artist, Dodge's first show was in 2001. Since then, she has achieved much recognition internationally and has quickly become an acclaimed nature artist.

Primarily painting in pastel, Dodge is perhaps best known for her ongoing focus on birds, which are often combined inspirationally with traditional Christian hymns. She has also garnered much popularity for a series of pastel paintings portraying breathtaking views of the Northern Hemisphere constellations. While she paints in her private studio at home, nature's inspiration continually beckons at her door.

Dodge's painting *Southern Migration* was selected to join Ducks Unlimited Canada's 2009 National Art Portfolio. This limited edition series is available only through DUC fundraising initiatives. The money raised through this program supports DUC's on-the-ground wetland conservation work, scientific research and education programs.



The Inspiration for *Southern Migration*

"The Big Dipper is usually the first star pattern amateur astronomers learn to identify," says Dodge. "It is actually part of the constellation Ursa Major, the Great Bear. Its position shifts during the year, from close to the horizon in fall to nearly overhead in spring. *Southern Migration* depicts a traditional fall migration as waterfowl begin the long journey south with Ursa Major at their backs."

Additional work by Kelly Dodge

Part of her constellation series, Dodge's paintings Twilight Constellations and The Northern Cross capture the same physical and spiritual beauty as Southern Migration and were previously selected to be part of Ducks Unlimited Canada's National Art Portfolios.



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