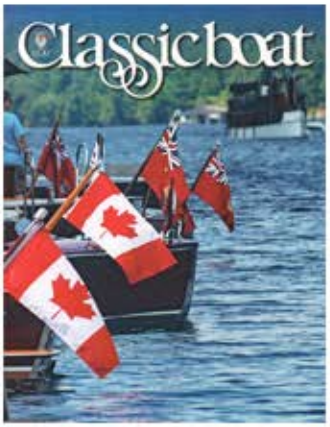
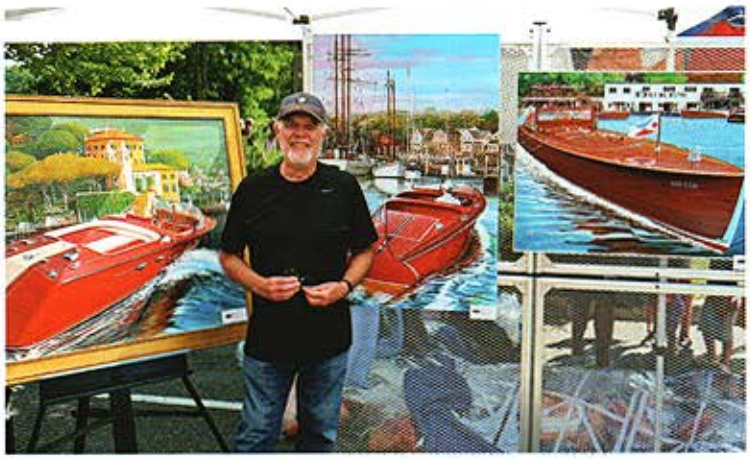



Classicboat, Fall 2026

# New Poster Format by Jay Koka

By Chris Bullen



Over the past two years, you may have noticed a new look to our boat show posters. This transformation is thanks to the generosity and remarkable talent of artist Jay Koka, who graciously offered to provide his original artwork for our promotional materials at no cost to ACBS-Toronto.

This year's painting, featuring Ed Skinner at the helm of his Ditchburn with the historic Duke Boat Works building in Port Carling as the backdrop, is particularly meaningful. For those who knew Ed, the artwork is a fitting tribute to his lifelong passion for vintage boats and his dedication to preserving our wooden boating heritage.

Jay's generosity and artistic vision have become a valued part of our annual boat show, helping to celebrate both the beauty and the history of the antique and classic boating community. As a small token of our appreciation, we'd like to introduce you to Jay and share a little about the artist whose work has become such an important part of our event.

A unique blend of realism and impressionism.

Well known and internationally respected, Koka offers a unique fusion of realist and impressionist styles in the automotive world in North America and Europe.

Since 2020, Jay Koka's work has expanded to his other interest – wooden boats. With the nearby Muskoka area historically so famous for classic boat construction, this move was a natural.

Celebrating the 38th anniversary of the studio in 2026, Koka continues to experiment with subject, style and media – realism and impressionism exist side by side in his body of work.

Always in demand for his poster work, he has been poster and featured artist for many international events. Some highlights include the Pebble Beach Concours, Meadow Brook and St Johns Concours, the Ferrari Club of America annual meets, the Barrett-Jackson Auctions, Daytona 500, 24 Hours of Daytona, multiple Eyes on Design, AutoShow Canada and many more. Honored with a 20th anniversary one-man show at the National Automobile Museum in Reno, NV, USA in 2007, the work then moved on to the Peterson Museum in Los Angles for a three month showing.

A major 30th anniversary hardcover book "30:30" was released in 2016 followed up with an expanded Second Edition in 2021. The high quality volume features an extensive profile of the artist and his work over a 35 year span.

Koka regularly exhibits at the RetroMobile show in Paris France as a member of the European-based Artist'Auto group. He also exhibits throughout Canada and the US and was a 30-year member of the Automotive Fine Arts Society.

Ever expanding the scope of his work, Koka has captured his extensive international travels in often exotic-themed works with an entire section of the studio website devoted to the "Art of Travel".

The extensive Studio website www.jaykokastudio.com as well as a standalone Archive site www.K20.ca feature all themes and his published works.