

# Dayton Daily News

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- **BYLINE:** Pamela Dillon Contributing Writer
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Artist: Dayton resident Rina Ronis **Thau**. Currently exhibiting:

**Thau** has three landscape oil paintings on view at Rutledge Gallery, Second and Jefferson streets, through Aug. 31.

Her inspiration: "If I could meet any person in the world, it would be Cezanne. I went to the (Museum of Modern Art) in New York last year, and I saw Cezanne's paintings in a traveling exhibit upstairs. I literally cried, I was so touched. Then I came home and did some research, and these paintings are what came out."

Other artistic influences: She based these paintings on photographs she took in Maine last summer. **Thau** was born near Tel Aviv, Israel. She believes the light is stronger and makes scenes more vibrant in Israel, and she uses past visual memories in her work.

On choice of subjects:

"The change of seasons is just an excuse to use color. A white canvas is very scary to me. My first thought is to get it totally covered with paint. Once that happens, then the creativity starts with brushstrokes and playing with colors."

Arts background: She studied at the School for the High Arts in Tel Aviv. Her husband, Jeffrey **Thau**, is a retired Air Force Colonel. They have lived in various parts of the United States, and have resided in Dayton for the past eight years. She serves as a docent at the Dayton Art Institute.

Thoughts on Middle East conflict: "It's been really hard for me, and makes me feel so sad. It breaks my heart for both sides, when there's carnage in Lebanon, or carnage in Israel. My whole family is in Israel, and I know the Israelis want peace. Fifty-eight years of war, it's just enough already."

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- **Rina Ronis Thau says her three landscape oil paintings on display at the Rutledge Gallery were inspired by the works of Cezanne, which she saw at the Museum of Modern Art in New York last year. Contributed photo by Pam Dillon**
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