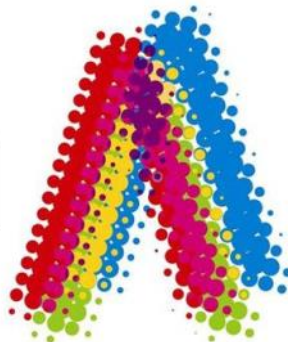




Bentley Meeker: Immaculate Refraction

PENTICTON



GALLERY
ARTS LETTER

March | April 2019

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PENTICTON GALLERY

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GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday to Friday - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday - 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

GALLERY ADMISSION

Admission free; Donations welcome

MEMBERSHIP

Members of the gallery pay an annual subscription fee and receive the following benefits: six (6) issues of the *Arts Letter*; library and voting privileges; invitations to gallery receptions; exclusive discounts in the *Gift Gallery*, workshops and for special events. Annual Fees (includes 5% GST):

Corporate	\$157.50
Small Business	\$ 94.50
Individual	\$ 31.50
Family/Dual	\$ 47.25
Senior	\$ 26.25
Senior Dual	\$ 36.75

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Email: artprep@pentictionartgallery.com
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The gallery is wheelchair accessible.

OUR MISSION

The Penticton Art Gallery exists to exhibit, interpret, preserve and promote the visual, artistic and cultural heritage of Indigenous Peoples and Canada; to educate and engage the public on local, regional and global social issues through the visual arts.

OUR VISION

We envision a gallery accessible to everyone as a vibrant public space in service of our community, to foster greater social engagement, critical thinking and creativity.

OUR VALUES

The following inform all initiatives and shape the mission and vision statements of the gallery:

Community Responsibility: the gallery interacts with the community by designing programs that inspire, challenge, educate and entertain while recognizing excellence in the visual arts.

Professional Responsibility: the gallery employs curatorial expertise to implement the setting of exhibitions, programs and services in accordance with nationally recognized professional standards of operation.

Fiscal Responsibility: the gallery conducts the operations and programs within the scope of the financial and human resources available.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GALLERY

Wednesday March 27 ~ 2:00 – 3:00 ~ Lecture

Kerry Younie: Designing Costumes for Community Theatre

Friday March 29 ~ 8:00 pm - 12:00 am ~ Opening Party

Bentley Meeker: Immaculate Refraction

Saturday March 30 ~ 1:00 - 4:00 pm ~ Opening Reception

Bentley Meeker: Immaculate Refraction

Saturday March 30 ~ 2:00 - 3:00 ~ Artist Talk & Exhibition Tour

Bentley Meeker: Immaculate Refraction

Tuesday April 9 ~ 7:00 - 8:30 pm ~ Lecture

Under the Tuscan Sun: Siena & the Val di Chiana

Monday April 15 ~ Pro D Day Art Camp

(SD67 & Ecole Entre-Lacs)

Thursday April 18 ~ 4:00 & 7:00pm ~ Kitchen Stove Film ~ Sir

Wednesday April 24 ~ 2:00 – 3:00 ~ Lecture

Kate Twa, Ronan Reinart & Andrea Agur: Riding into the Storm - How Making a Movie Launched a Tempest

Friday April 26 ~ 7:00 - 9:00 pm ~ Live Music

Ross Douglas Live in Concert

Tuesday April 30 ~ 6:00 – 6:30 ~ 2019 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday April 30th ~ 6:30 – 8:00 ~ Celebration

Annual Donor/Volunteer Appreciation

Friday May 3 ~ (SD67) Pro D Day Art Camp

Saturday May 4 ~ 7:00 pm - 12:00 am ~ Party

South Okanagan Pride Spring Fling

Tuesday May 7 ~ 7:00 - 8:30pm ~ Lecture

La Conca d'Oro: Sicily

Thursday May 16 ~ 4:00 & 7:00pm ~ Kitchen Stove Film

Wild Rose

Tuesday May 21 ~ (Ecole Entre-Lacs) Pro D Day Art Camp

Wednesday June 12th ~ 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Mehrnaz Massoudi Book Launch and Reading



has revolutionized medicine, opened up international communication via the Internet, and continues to be central to linking cultural, economic and political aspects on a global scale. For centuries light has transcended all boundaries, including geographic, gender, age, culture and race. Light underpins all the technologies on which our daily existence has come to rely; from smartphones, laptops and the Internet to medical instruments, LED lighting are all modern-day technologies made possible largely by photonics.

I am particularly excited by this next exhibition as I hope it will truly change the way you see the world around you as light and the effects of light impact us on a daily basis. I love the way the light of a single incandescent bulb or a candle can draw us closer bringing us together in an intimate way and the power a bright light has to clear out nightclub and dissipate a crowd. Its incredible to consider how much light impacts our lives on a daily basis, and how much we invest in illuminating our homes and public spaces, yet we don't consider light as art, and we don't fully appreciate the power it has to change and transform our lives for better and for worse.

I would like to encourage you to attend our AGM on Tuesday April 30th and I hope you can also mark you calendars and make plans to attend our 42nd Annual Art Auction on Thursday June 27th. You can begin to preview the works up for offer this year online now at the following link and for those who can't make it to the live event can start leaving advance bids as of Friday May 17th.

www.32auctions.com/Summer2019

This is our largest and most important fundraiser of the year and I believe this years auction is our strongest ever. We have received an overwhelming number of significant works through the generosity of donors and they are all in need of a good home and I love nothing more than being able to offer you the rare opportunity to enhance your life and home by acquiring one of these important works of art along with the incredible stories they tell and the social history each piece represents.

With that in mind I would like to once again put out the idea of an art appreciation and collectors support group. If you would be interested in getting together once a month to share your stories, discoveries, mysteries and treasures please drop me a line and lets start a conversation and see what days would be best to gather together to share our passion and love for art and art history.

Please drop me a line at: curator@pentictonartgallery.com
Subject line: Art Appreciation

In closing I want to send much love, endless gratitude and best wishes to Laurel Burnham for her tireless support of Penticton's arts and cultural community. You have set the bar high and we are all indebted to you for showing us what is possible when we chase dreams and all pull together. XOXO

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
And the earth was without form, and void;
and darkness was upon the face of the deep.
And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.
And God saw the light, and it was good;
and God divided the light from the darkness.
God called the light "day," and the darkness he called
"night."

And there was evening, and there was morning-the first day.

~ Genesis:1:3

Light, like no other physical phenomenon, is critical to the biological phenomenon of life as we know it. You are able to read this page, for instance, because light is reflected from it and carries the information to your retina, where it can be converted to nerve signals. While you're doing this, you breathe oxygen which was produced by green plants using the energy of sunlight your skin is absorbing Vitamin D, and your organs are breaking down food all of which can also be traced back to photosynthesis. I hope you're sufficiently awake to understand these thoughts (unless you happen to be still recovering from daylight savings time), a result of biological clock having set itself using the cues of light and dark meaning that at this very moment, you are making direct or indirect use of three fundamentally important interfaces between light and life: vision, photosynthesis, and the biological clock.

Light also plays a vital role in our daily lives and is an imperative cross-cutting discipline of science in the 21st century. It



President's Report | Eric Hanston

So, is it actually on the way? Is that warming of a coming spring about to start?

I, for one, am certainly anxiously awaiting it's arrival. Spring has always been a happy time of year for me. The greyness of the Winter gives way to the renewal of colours that comes with the change of season. There is that vibrant freshness that arrives with Spring that makes all things seem possible. It is hard to not feel one's spirit lift when all around new life is coming forth in a splash of colours!

One can understand inspiration that Spring can bring to an artist when you look at works such as Monet's Water Lilies, Georgia O'Keeffe's Red Cana series or the joyful Jeff Koons sculpture "Puppy" and it's splash of colourful flowers. I don't think anyone can look at a photo of that and not have a smile form on their face. People in general I think, become more pleasant. Quicker to offer up a smile or a hello as you pass them by.

The Gallery also takes on the mood of Spring, there is the exciting new show that Paul has put together, which will be opening on March 29th and 30th. I am sure Paul will be touching on this in his column. New Kids Art Camps are now being offered over spring break. Also I would be remiss if I did not mention the amazing artwork that our own Glenn Clark has pro-

duced on the walls of our Gift Shop! It brings a whole new fresh feel to the area and really is a wonder to behold.

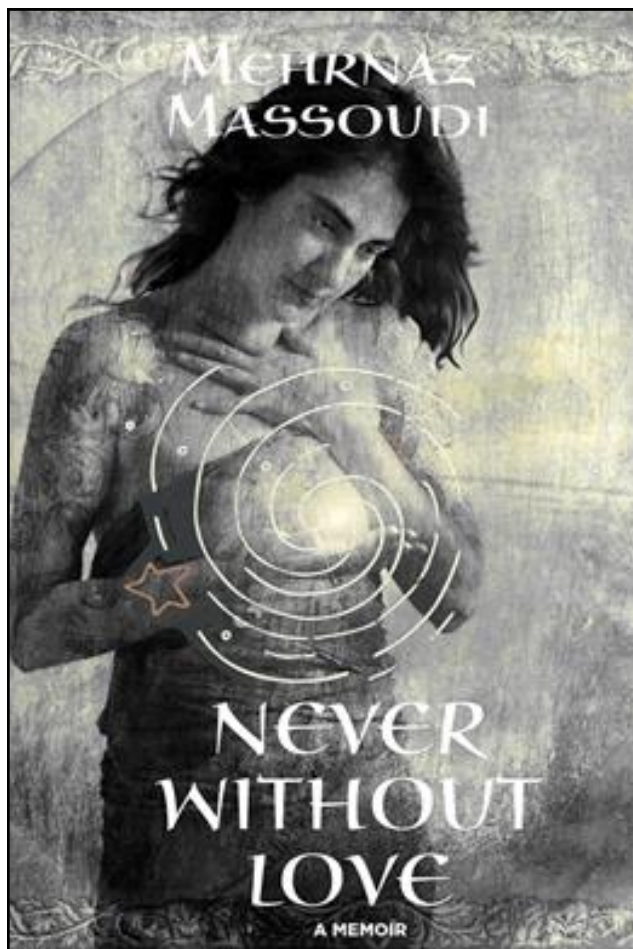
With the coming of this new season also comes the start of working on our 42nd Annual Art Auction. This is our largest annual fundraiser for the gallery so I would like to plant the seed in everyone's mind to keep on the lookout for the coming information on this event, and come out to support it and your gallery. Also, if you think you might want to be a volunteer at our gallery, please get in touch with Jacinta and she will get you looked after.

Our AGM is also coming up on Tuesday April 30th, so please mark your calendars and plan on attending as well!

Looking forward to seeing you at one or more of our upcoming events. A sincere thanks for all the past support you, the members, have shown.

First Friday's Update

Due to unforeseen circumstances First Fridays will be suspended until further notice. We hope to bring this much loved program back in the fall. Thank you for your support of this important community outreach program initiative.



Never Without Love

A Memoir by Mehrnaz Massoudi

Book Launch and Reading

7:00 - 9:00 pm Wednesday June 12th

Music by Mia Harris and Tavis Wier

Admission By donation

www.mmassoudi.com

Mehrnaz Massoudi was born in Iran and immigrated to Canada in 1983 after the Iranian revolution and in the midst of the Iran-Iraq war. She obtained her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Guelph, Ontario, and worked as a molecular biologist at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto and the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. She integrates her science background with her knowledge of meditation to guide seekers toward new levels of self-love, courage, and inner tranquility. Her memoir, *Never without Love*, is a profoundly revealing narrative of her own life as an Iranian woman who escaped her beloved, war-torn homeland to find peace in Canada.



Ross Douglas Live in Concert

Friday April 26th

Doors: 7:00 p.m. ~ Showtime 7:30 pm

Tickets:

\$10 members/Seniors and Students

\$15 non-members

www.rossdouglassongs.com

A little bit of vaudeville, mixed with eclectic folk topped off with ukulele, piano & guitar. Ross Douglas has a storied career in which he was initially drawn to theatre, touring much of the world as Pianist/Narrator in the second-ever cast of the **Billy Bishop Goes To War**, and was in the original Vancouver production of **Angry Housewives**, for which he also received a Jessie Award for "Outstanding Musical Direction". He also spent nine years as writer, musical director and performer at Theatre Royal in Barkerville, BC.

Ross Douglas is a one man vaudevillian whirlwind, a consummate and versatile entertainer. His live show is always a crowd pleaser with astute songs that blend history, comedy, theatre, a variety of musical genres and a litany of instruments from keyboards to mandolins and ukuleles - Julie Fowler; Executive Director for ArtsWells Festival of All Things Art.

If that were not enough Ross Douglas was a Semi-Finalist in the 2017 Great Canadian Song Contest.



Bentley Meeker: Immaculate Refraction

March 29 through May 12, 2019

Opening Party: Friday March 29th ~ 8:00 pm - 12:00 am (artist in attendance)

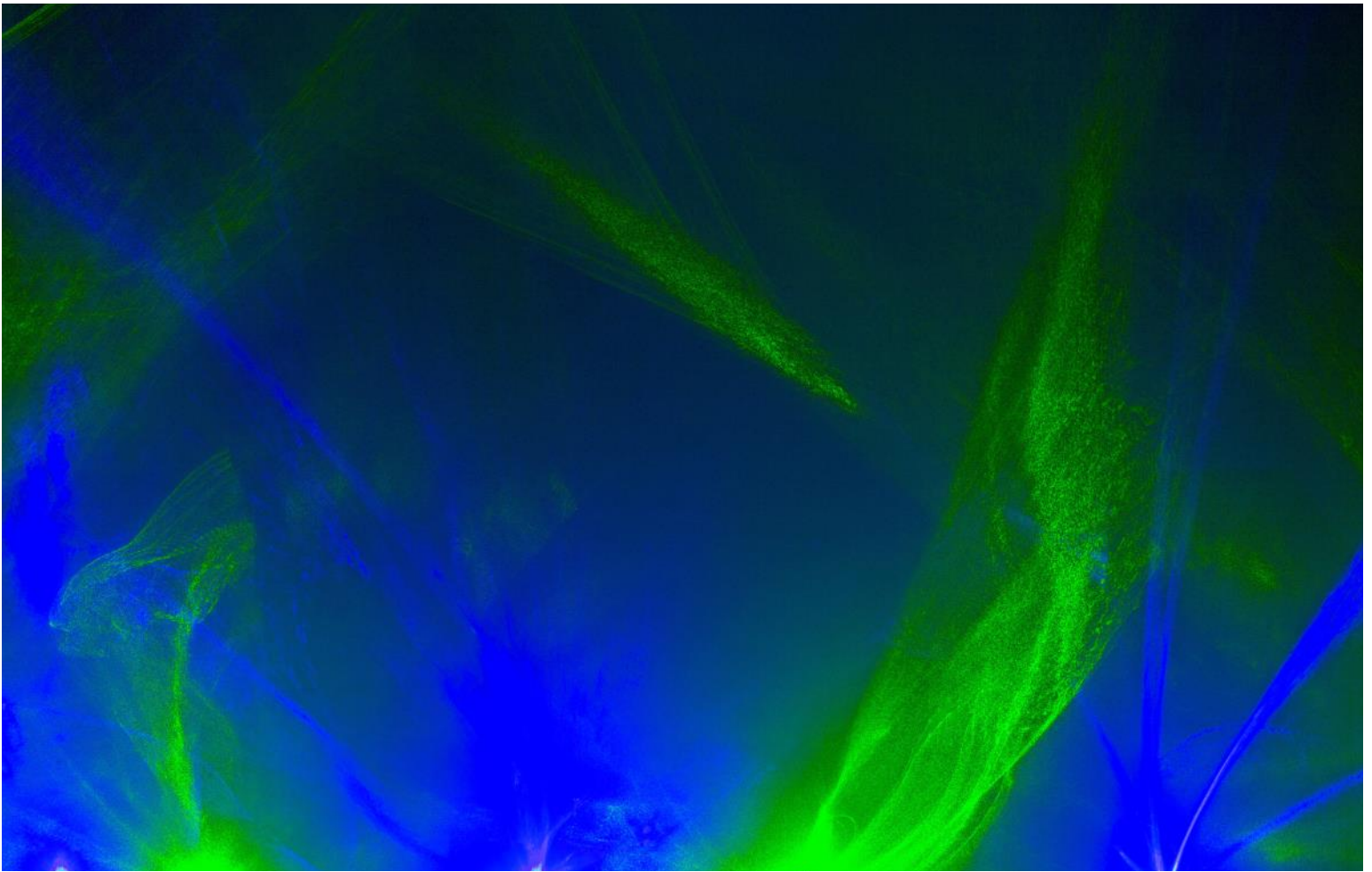
Exhibition Opening ~ Artist Talk & Exhibition Tour: Saturday March 30th ~ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

The Penticton Art Gallery is proud to present, Immaculate Refraction, the first solo exhibition in Canada by the New York City-based lighting artist Bentley Meeker. For over 30 years his practice has focused on the component properties of light, contrasting light sources and frequencies to create a specific range of subtle hues which he uses to illuminate his unique sculptural reliefs. By its very nature, the work encourages visitors to pause and consider the varying possibilities of light sources as well as their potential effects on the human psyche and how light might affect our shared humanity.

The 42 contemplative sculptures, along with a separate installation in the gallery's Project Room, are the result of Meeker's extensive study of light and its impact on humanity, developed from decades of keen observation and experimentation through his studio practice, museum exhibitions, gallery shows, large-scale public installations, as well as his commercial career as a celebrated lighting designer. Meeker's mission is to inquire about and examine the reactions and relationships we have

with light and how that relationship impacts everything from our daily existence and beyond including the collective human experience.

In the installation, light is refracted from various surfaces allowing the artist to "paint" with light, using the powerful, primary hue generated from two juxtaposed immaculate, unencumbered frequencies in the colour spectrum, converging on a single point within a very recognizable frame to remove unfamiliarity from the otherwise highly conceptual sculptures. The phenomenon of the light being refracted through these elements, in addition to inspiring the exhibition's name, allows the viewer to see light as it has never been seen before. Each unique piece is constructed by hand using wood, resin, canvas, incandescent light and LED light. Since each source has a unique spectral quality, the objective of the artist is to increase the viewers understanding of light, its various properties, and its effect on our everyday and notional existence.



Bentley Meeker (b. 1967 Roanoke, Virginia) is a NYC based contemporary artist and lighting designer who grew up in the Bahamas, and Canada before his family moved to New York City when he was 14. Art critics call him a visionary. With shows at the Whitney Museum of American Art and edgy downtown galleries like Gallery nine5, lighting artist Bentley Meeker has garnered international acclaim for his unparalleled ability to use light as a means to convert physical spaces into illuminating works of art. "Light is the most powerful tool we have to create any feeling," says Meeker.

Bentley's artistic practice is primarily focused around the essence and exploration of what light is, what it means to us and what the changes in our collective use of light have been and are becoming. Working from his studios in both the Hudson Yards district and in Spanish Harlem, Bentley has created numerous significant public commissions and has exhibited numerous galleries and museums across the United States and internationally.

In 2012 Meeker created a solo light installation in five parts, "Flame to Now IV," at the Whitney Museum of American Art's Breuer building, and in 2015 in collaboration with performance artist Carolee Schneemann, they were the first artists to have a work of any kind grace the museum's building downtown in the Meatpacking

District. Additionally, he was a featured artist twice at the Southampton Arts Center, once for the opening exhibition in 2014 and has put up multiple solo shows at the National Arts Club, the CORE: club, as well as at galleries in Chelsea and SoHo.

He has also been a featured artist at the Burning Man festival in Northwestern Nevada, creating the lighting for the Temples of Transition, Whollyness, and Promise in 2011, 2013, and 2015 respectively. In 2016, Meeker was commissioned by Michelle Obama to create lighting at a number of White House state dinners. That same year Susan Holland and Bentley Meeker created the much celebrated installation Oculus Lights at the World Trade Center.

Meeker is the founder of Bentley Meeker Lighting & Staging, Inc., and is the author of, *Light x Design: 20 Years of Lighting*, featuring a unique survey of his professional career including case studies of his work.

The Penticton Art Gallery owes a huge debt of gratitude to Felipe Ribeiro, Celeste Mittman and the rest of Bentley's team in New York for their time and invaluable help and patience in helping realize the logistics behind making this exhibition a reality.



Made in Italy Lecture Series

Let Italy come to you the first Tuesday evening of each month (or thereabouts! see schedule). Take in a university lecture; during the break enjoy a glass of wine generously sponsored by Bench 1775 with Italian cookies & nibbles.

PAG's very own Antonella De Michelis, PhD will be leading the MADE IN ITALY Lecture Series, presented by MAD Studio, as a gallery fundraiser.

Single lecture \$13 | Door \$15

arTTalks | continuing education programming

Upcoming Lectures

Tues. Apr. 9th, 2019* 7-8:30pm

Under the Tuscan Sun: Siena & the Val di Chiana

Tues. May 7th, 2019 7-8:30pm

La Conca d'Oro: Sicily



SECOND TOUR | Travel with the PAG

We are doing it again! Our first tour is full and we are now planning a second trip for October.

ARRIVAL 9 OCT. 2019 | DEPART 17 OCT. 2019

Day 1 - Travel day; bus transfer to hotel (included)

Day 2 - Museum visit: Castel Sant'Angelo.

Onsite tour: Via Papalis, the Pope's Road.

Welcome aperitivo (included)

Day 3 - Museum visits: Colosseum & Roman Forum.

Group dinner (included)

Day 4 - Museum visit: Villa Farnesina. Onsite tour: Neighborhood of the Jewish Ghetto.

Group dinner (included)

Day 5 - Museum visit: Villa Borghese. Onsite tour: The Caravaggios. Group dinner (included).

Day 6 - Onsite tours: Baths of Diocletian & EUR World Fair Site of Mussolini (visit to EATALY) Group dinner (included)

Day 7 - Museum visit: Vatican Museums & St. Peter's. Free evening.

Day 8 - Day excursion to the archaeological site of Ostia Antica with archeologist; Beach side lunch (included). Free evening.

Free evening.

Day 9 - Travel day; transfer to airport (included)

COST: \$3,750 + applicable taxes

(does not include airfare & insurance;

surcharge for a single room; changes may be made to the itinerary)

SOS Pride 2019 Spring Fling Dance

MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU

FOR MORE INFORMATION



@SOSPRIDE



South Okanagan Pride Spring Fling ~ Saturday May 4th, 2019

At the Penticton Art Gallery

Featuring: DJ Shakes

Drag show by: Jenna Telz & the Drag Daughters

* Jenna Telz was recently featured on CBC's Canada's a Drag.



19 + Event ~ Doors open at 7:00 pm

Wines from Bench 1775 and Cannery Brewing

Tickets \$25.00 in advance on Eventbrite / \$35 at the Door



2019 Annual General Meeting
6 pm Tuesday April 30th, 2019

2019 Donor and Volunteer Appreciation
6:30 - 8:00 pm Tuesday April 30th, 2019



Come join us as we review the year 2018, including the presentation of our audited financials, appoint our auditor and vote on your 2019 - 2020 Board of Directors.





**2ND ANNUAL LOVING MUGS CHILI COOK-OFF
THANK YOU TO ALL
PARTICIPANTS AND SPONSORS**

**Just Pies
&
Serious Breads**

This year marked our 2nd Annual Loving Mugs Chili Cook-off and the evening was filled with joy, revelry, and friendship. Everyone left satiated, happy and content in knowing that they had feasted on amazing chilis by Penticton's finest chefs, all of whom graciously donated their time and art in support of the Penticton Art Gallery's education and outreach programs. We thank each and everyone who helped make this evening a success.



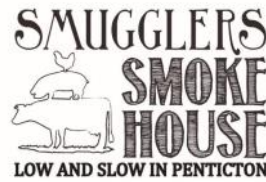
Photos courtesy of Penticton Now
Photographer Gord Goble
www.pentictonnow.com

BENCH775





The Nest & Nectar





Upcoming Programming | Kitchen Stove Films at Landmark Cinemas

Series subscription: \$38 members | \$44 non-members
 Single tickets: in advance \$13 | Door \$15

Thur. Apr. 18th, 2019; 4/7:00pm

Sir Director: R. Gera
 Drama. 99 minutes (India/France, subtitled)

Young widow Ratna works as domestic live-in help for Ashwin, an architect from an affluent family. Although Ashwin appears to have it all, Ratna can sense that he has given up on his dreams, while Ratna, who seems to have nothing, is full of hope and courage and works determinedly towards her dream. Despite finding understanding and connection, the barriers between these two individuals seem only more insurmountable.

Thur. May, 16th, 2019; 4/7:00pm

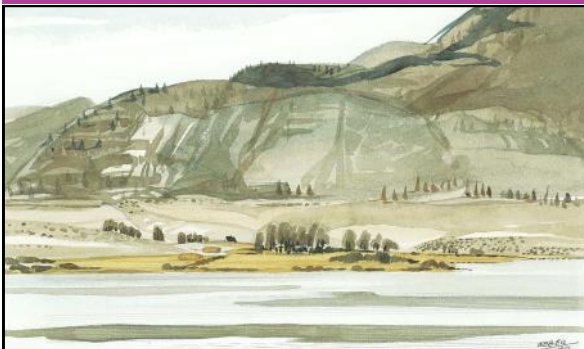
Wild Rose Director: T. Harper
 Drama/Comedy. 101 minutes (UK)

Rose-Lynn Harlan is bursting with raw talent, charisma and cheek, and has dreamt of becoming a country music star for as long as anyone can remember. But Glasgow isn't exactly Nashville, and as a convicted criminal and single mother of two young children, Rose-Lyn is more country song than country starlet.



42nd Annual Art Auction ~ Thursday June 27th, 2019

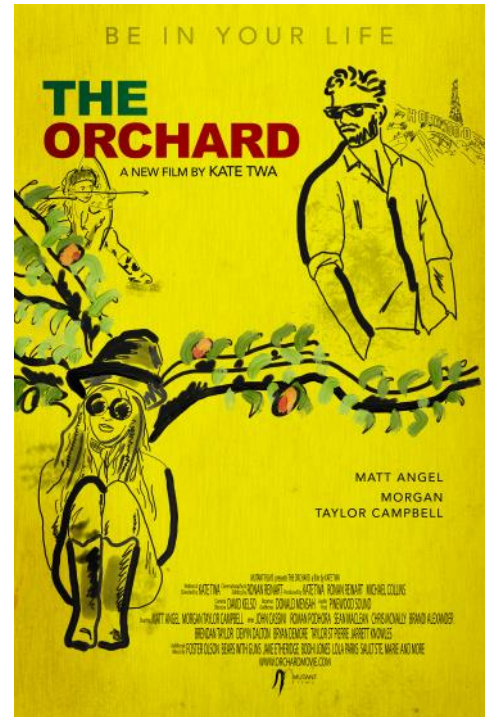
Online preview and advance bidding: www.32auctions.com/Summer2019



Angela Leible (1969 -)
Águila, nd.
 etching on paper
 edition: 23/35
 10" x 15 1/2"
 Donated by: Terry Munro

George Weber (1907-2002)
Inkakeep Reserve, Osoyoos, B.C., 1951
 watercolour on paper
 6.75" x 11"





Upcoming Programming | Topics & Tea

Wednesday March 27, 2019 at 2-3 pm
Kerry Younie: Designing Costumes for Community Theatre

Kerry will speak about her loves of collecting vintage clothing, hunting for treasures in thrift stores, and sewing customized items. She will share how she uses all three to produce costumes for local theatrical productions and historical fashion shows. Kerry has been in charge of costuming for Soundstage Productions for twenty years. This theatre troupe annually transforms the Penticton Lakeside Resort & Conference Centre's East Ballroom into a world-class theatre, and showcases large-cast professional musical theatre productions. Their 2019 production was *Newsies*. For four years Kerry also owned Vintage and Vogue, a vintage clothing shop on Main Street in Penticton, and she has produced many fashion shows over the years, including shows for the Penticton Art Gallery's annual summer auction.



Wednesday April 24, 2019 at 2-3 pm
Kate Twa, Ronan Reinart & Andrea Agur:
Riding into the Storm - How Making a Movie Launched a Tempest

In 2015, filmmakers Kate Twa and Ronan Reinart shot a feature film, *The Orchard*, in the Okanagan. The process, the location, and the people captivated them, and they soon moved to the region and, along with Andrea Agur, launched Tempest Theatre & Film Society. This is their story.

Kate Twa is the Artistic Director of Tempest Theatre & Film Society in Penticton and Co-Founder of Vancouver's Railtown Actors Studio in Vancouver. She is an instructor of acting, and a writer and director for film and theatre. **Ronan Reinart**, Founding Director of Tempest Theatre & Film Society, is a cinematographer and editor. He is also a commercial and entertainment lawyer, and practices with the Vancouver law firm, Bell Alliance. **Andrea Agur**, Managing Director of Tempest, is also co-founder of Red Giant Theatre Society in Vancouver. She is a fifth generation resident of the South Okanagan who began her formal acting training with Kate Twa at Railtown Actors Studio. She continues to expand her acting experiences in theatre, television and independent film.



PAG Children's Programming

Pro-D DAY ART CAMPS

Another Pro-D Day and don't know what to do? Leave it to us! Little Leonardos is an art history-inspired program where children are introduced to the history of art through crafts, literature, and interactive activities. Register early as space is limited to only 15 spots each day. Ages 6-12. Price \$40

UPCOMING DATES

Monday, 15 April (SD67 & Ecole Entre-Lacs)
ON THE TRAIL OF MARCO POLO

Great adventure awaits as we travel the Silk Road from Italy all the way to China.

Friday, 3 May (SD67)

CASTLES, AND KNIGHTS,
AND DRAGONS, OH MY!

Welcome to the Middle Ages! A day dedicated to the Celts, castles, and cathedrals.

Tuesday, 21 May (Ecole Entre-Lacs)

CASTLES, AND KNIGHTS,
AND DRAGONS, OH MY!

Welcome to the Middle Ages! A day dedicated to castles, cathedrals, and life in a French town.

SCHOOL TOURS

The Penticton Art Gallery offers educational tours for all ages, from kindergarten to grade 12. Students have the opportunity to learn about art and art history, interact with the exhibitions, and participate in activities.

Do you think your school might be interested? Let us know! Contact Antonella De Michelis at education@pentictonartgallery.com

CREATIVE KIDS SUMMER CAMP

Smock it up at the gallery this summer!

Penticton Art Gallery will be running weekly themed art camps Starting on Tuesday July 2 and continuing through Friday August 30th.

There will be new weekly themes to explore, and every day will bring new projects. Camps are limited to only 15 students per week and scholarships and bursaries are available. Please contact the gallery to save your space and for any questions you may have.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The gallery is looking for 2 - 4 dynamic students between the ages of 16 - 30 to coordinate and run our creative kids summer art camp. We invite all interested candidates to drop off a resume at the gallery or submit one by email by Friday May 3rd to:

education@pentictonartgallery.com



New jewelry by Susan Scott ~ now on display!

News From the PAG Gift Shop Jacinta Ferrari

What do Michelangelo, Peter Paul Rubens, Barnett Newman, and Maurits Cornelis Escher all have in common? Answer: They are all represented on the walls of the PAG Gift Gallery. In a whimsical flip through the pages of art history, resident artist and art preparator (aka “art perpetrator”), Glenn Clark, has created a wrap-around mural that pays tribute to the works of these artists alongside mock Greek freizes and the Mondrian-inspired windows.

As a public art gallery, we are always on the lookout for new ways to raise funds to cover operational costs, and the Gift Gallery has so much potential as an income generator. In Clark’s mind, one of the ways to boost its appeal as a go-to shopping destination is to give it a facelift. All that is now required to complete the makeover is a neon light spelling out the words “Gift Shop,” to be mounted at the feet of God where He reclines on the wall, casually handing a gift box to Adam.

Clark has created more than 15 murals in the area over the years, the best-known of which is on the exterior of the Elks Lodge, depicting the Penticton Vees hockey team after they won the 1955 World Championship. It has taken a lifetime of study and artistic practice to develop his skill, but Clark shared that “In



Keishia Trebor's ~ jewelry is back!

the end [the PAG mural] really was a small project for me, only taking a few days to complete.”

It is a given reality that the life span of murals is shorter than that of framed art. “At least three of mine have been painted over as ‘visions’ changed,” confesses Clark. One of his painted-over murals was the iconic grapes that once graced the exterior of the former Wine Country Information Centre. As for how long Clark’s new murals will live on the walls of the PAG Gift Gallery, that remains to be seen. So come and celebrate them while they are still fresh. Create the first selfie-with-mural-as-backdrop to be shared on social media. Invite your friends to like it, and put the PAG Gift Gallery on the map.



**Coach's Corner
Glenn Clark**

My daughter and I kidding around used to nickname stores we shopped at with their opposites. Dangerlost was the best we could come up with for Safeway. For over a decade this store has been the source of sustenance for my art class. I sure do remember as a kid how ravenous I was after a long day at school and nothing has changed; growing bodies need food to grow, and make art! So I am excited to tell you that Safeway has committed to supporting our Young@art classes through an ongoing donation of fruit and snacks.

Over the years I too have picked up a few nicknames and this year I added two more; *Fargo*, from my hockey buddies for the large fluffy hat I got for Christmas and *Michelangelo*, that I was repeatedly called while painting some cheeky decorative murals in the gallery gift shop. Visitors will now enter the gift shop and find a potpourri of art history that includes some cherubs presenting a framed version of the *Voice of Fire*. While we have collectively forgotten the rage that was provoked by the GST, not many have forgotten the controversy that surrounded the National Gallery purchase of *Voice of Fire*, an abstract painting made by American painter Barnett Newman. In 1990, the National Gallery purchased the painting for \$1.8 million igniting a firestorm of media attention and controversy in Ottawa, mostly centered around the question of if the work was worthy of being called art. Political car-

toonists stoked the embers. *Voice of Fire* became a symbol for other social, political, and economic uncertainties of the time.

This always intrigued me; how is it that a piece of art becomes the distraction, the whipping boy for all that is wrong? To what end is a campaign meant to smear art in the public eye? This is almost thirty years ago, and sounds eerily familiar to the “fake news” and “public information” campaigns currently pitting people against people.

Art had become a symbol for the controversies of the time. With similar rhetoric, a few years ago when the provincial government slashed funding for galleries and museums, we were told “you can’t have art if you can’t feed the kids.” I don’t think so... thank you for your support Safeway!

What's your word Penticton?

The City and Valley First are bringing a new sculpture to Main Street. The Helping Hand sculpture will feature words that convey the spirit of community in Penticton suggested by residents. You can drop by an event on March 29 to meet the artist and share your suggestions or go on shapeyourcitypenticton.ca today.



Time	Location
10 am to 11 am	Penticton Art Gallery
12 pm to 1 pm	Downtown at the corner of Main St. and Westminster Ave.
3 pm to 5 pm	Cannery Brewing





PAG Shout out | Sponsors Feature

The Nest & Nectar | Meet the Fosters

We sat down with Fergy and Randy Foster, co-owners of “Nest and Nectar”. Fergy said she knew that their location would have to be in the cannery when she walked into the space and it smelled like her Grandma Fergy’s house. Fergy and Randy fell in love with the space and made it their baby in August 2018, which brought late nights and lack of sleep, but also pure devotion and joy that parenting can bring. The “Nest and Nectar” is a great supporter of the local art scene and has partnered with the “Many Hats Theater”, is a venue for local musicians and artists. They believe that community and creativity are worth supporting.

The Fosters participated in the first Soup Bowls Event at the Penticton Art Gallery and went on to participate in the Chilli Bowls fundraiser and to “rob the Gallery” by buying some amazing artwork at the last Art Auction in June. They want their restaurant to be a place where family and friends gather, feel welcome to stay as long as they like and to feel free to be whomever they want to be. This aligns with the values of the Art Gallery that strives to be a place where people can go to learn, relax, celebrate, eat, play and create. The Gallery looks forward to a long relationship with Fergy and Randy, filled with support of the arts and delicious food!

Bench1775 Winery | Val Tait, winemaker

Val Tait took some time to talk to us about her relationship to the Okanagan and the Penticton Art Gallery.

Val originally came to the area to as a student of plant biology and molecular genetics to study plant viruses in grapes. She soon realized that the folks who grew the grapes were a lot more interesting. She found her home at Bench 1775 where the owner has allowed her to manage the winemaking process from vine to bottle with the one goal being to make the best bottle of wine possible. Val is thrilled to sponsor the Penticton Art Gallery by having donated a 2 year supply of wine for events. This allows the Gallery to raise much needed operational funds not always covered by grants and government funding.

Val feels that Penticton is very fortunate to have a public gallery that brings such exciting and diverse events and shows to the city. She said “the Penticton Art Gallery is a landmark institution that brings important artistic credibility to our city. Their exhibitions are thoughtful and creative and raise the cultural profile of Penticton which attracts interest to the valley. We’re in this together and by supporting our local arts culture, it brings tangible benefits for everyone!”

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Sonja Marobic, Sandra Henson, Jane Bruff, Diane Beaton, PJ Mohr, Karen Walls, Trish Sweeney, AJ Tkach, Brigid Kemp, Barb Dawson, Cornelia King, and Rebecca Nowell for their services at the front desk; Bonnie Thatcher for her time; PJ Mohr, Amida De Michelis, Zuzana Kaufriender, Franco De Michelis for their help with arTtalks; Ron Marsh for photographing our exhibitions and arTtalks lecture series; to Brigitte Liapis and Denny Raincock with the Kitchen Stove Film Series; Daryl O'Neill and Lauren Burnham for leading First Fridays; Hazel Fry and Hal Whyte for their ongoing work in the Tait Reading Library; Val Reger for the loan and setting up of the scaffolding for the gift shop mural.

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Honorary Life Memberships are given to individuals who have rendered extraordinary service to the gallery: June Argyle, Yvonne Adams, Marion Armstrong, Jim Brittain, Alan and Laila Campbell, Betty Clark, Gayle Cornish, Robert Doull, Candy Foran, Rosemarie Fulbrook, Vickie Garrett, Rob Hill, Sandra Henderson, Virginia Jewell, Jeanne Lamb, Audrey Lawrie, Les & Sandy McKinnon, Natalie Minunzie, Evan Mitchell, Dennis Nielsen, Stan & Elizabeth Pringle, Marge Punnett, Sophie Rankin, Jill Leir Salter, Ruth Schiller, Ret Tinning, Roy & Olga Tomlinson, Lillian Vander Zalm, Barbara Watson, Hazel Fry & Hal Whyte, Alphons & Nel Witteman, Les & Sandy McKinnon.

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