

PENTICTON ART GALLERY

Arts Letter Vol. 44 No. 2

March / April 2021



OUR MISSION

The Penticton Art Gallery exists to exhibit, interpret, preserve, and promote the visual, artistic, and cultural heritage of Indigenous Peoples and of Canada; and 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.

VISIT US

199 Marina Way Penticton, British Columbia V2A 1H5, Canada



This gallery is wheelchair accessible

CONTACT US

(250)-493-2928 info@pentictonartgallery.com www.pentictonartgallery.com



HOURS

Monday-Friday: 10am-5pm Saturday: 11am-4pm Sunday + Holidays: Closed

Publication Agreement #40032521 ISSN 1195-5643

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 its operations and programs within the scope of the financial and human resources available.

Territorial Acknowledgement: the Penticton Art Gallery acknowledges that the land on which we gather is the unceded territory of the Sylix (Okanagan) Peoples.

GALLERY STAFF

Paul Crawford Director/Curator curator@pentictonartgallery.com

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Cornelia King + Lou Rutherford On-Call Receptionists

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Hanston President

Kristine Lee Shepherd Vice-President

Dr. Claude Roberto Secretary

Ret Tinning Treasurer

Heena Nagar; Eric Corneau; Ann Doyon; Jane Bruff; Robert Doull Directors



Above: Love Penticton Local designed by Skyler Punnett, 2020.

Cover: Laurie Landry, Pandemic Lipreading, 2020, oil on canvas, 10" x 20". Commissioned by City of Vancouver Public Art Program.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD



Where has the time gone? It seems like it was just last week when I was rushing to get my message in for the first Arts Letter in 2021. Time has a way of passing you by if you aren't paying attention.

For my message in this Arts Letter, while time still allows, I would like to focus on asking you to consider putting your name forward to join the Gallery's Board of Directors. The AGM will be upon us before we know it, and with that comes the election of a new Board. Mark down May 26th in your calendars! As it is every year, there are returning Directors and Directors who are departing after serving their time. Having new people with new ideas and energies joining is what keeps things thriving and alive. It is one of the finest ways a person can contribute to keeping our Gallery doing the fantastic things it does.

We are in a good place right now at the Gallery. Staff and Board are working well together focusing on bringing about as much success to the Gallery as they can. So why not consider what YOU can contribute and bring it forward into an even brighter future? I am finishing up my 4th year on the Board, my 3rd as Board President, and it is time for me to step aside and let others take up the helm, so to speak. I leave knowing things are going well and hope that the new Board will have some new faces. If you are interested, get in touch with Paul Crawford or myself.

I urge any of you reading this that might be thinking you have something to contribute by being on the Board, please, come forward. It is time well spent!

All the best,

Eric Hanston, President

Above: Eric Hanston, President of the Board of Directors, Penticton Art Gallery. Photo © Bill Blair.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR/CURATOR



It's hard to believe that after watching it work its way across the globe, March marks the one year anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic's arrival in our community. As we cross this milestone we do so knowing that while there may be a light at the end of the tunnel, the reality for the foreseeable future remains the same. As we cross this milestone I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who have stuck with us over the past year. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to deliver as many of our regularly scheduled exhibitions, while also developing new ways for increased community engagement. Every day is an adventure as we collectively navigate the constantly shifting landscape.

We miss our role of being seen by many as a community living room, providing a place for everyone to gather and be beguiled, inspired, enchanted, and challenged. We long for that day when we can all gather again to share our stories and partake in the joy and value of the collective experience.

It has been incredible to see how our community's already tenuous and fragile arts and culture ecosystem has adapted to these new found realities. I tip my hat to the team at the Penticton + District Community Arts Council who have found many new and exciting ways to expand their outreach into our community, building partnerships to distribute programming and art supplies to those who might not otherwise have had access to these resources. It has been incredible to see the community come together in support of the Okanagan School of the Arts as they adjust not only to COVID-19, but the move and relocation of their operations from the Shatford Centre to CoWork Penticton and the Elks Lodge. The Penticton Academy of Music continues to deliver programming and has moved their lessons online. While the recent spat of needless vandalism to the Leir House Cultural Centre has diverted much needed resources and funds from the activities of all the tenants, it has also been a gift allowing for some renovations and upgrades to the building. I would also like to acknowledge the work being done by Chandra Wong and the team at the Penticton Museum + Archives for all the online programs they have developed over the past year. Similarly, the folks at the Penticton Public Library are adapting and innovating how they develop and deliver new programming ideas. There is so much out there to discover and I am constantly amazed and inspired by the work and creativity which exists here in our community. We are far richer for all you have done to help us through these times, and I hope the legacy of your hard work will continue pay dividends well into the future.

In spite of the challenges this past year, I have been encouraged by the interest and support our artists and cultural institutions have received. I hope this experience has highlighted the often overlooked value the arts have to the economic, social, and emotional well-being of our society. Universal access to the arts is intrinsic to enjoying a high quality of life. Looking ahead we have the real opportunity to experience a significant cultural renaissance while reimaging how we want our community to look. Back when we could travel it was easy to see how the arts had the power not only to transform a city, but define our experience and memory of the place. Anyone who has been to Puerto Vallarta cannot deny the incredible asset of the Malecon Boardwalk, creating a pedestrian-friendly amenity. It is constantly animated by artists, artisans, buskers, public sculpture, sandcastles, sports, recreation, and food. We are doubly blessed here in Penticton with two incredible and distinct waterfront experiences tied together by the channel, which when combined, could be so easily developed into a world class amenity.

I don't believe this is an outrageous dream. This is entirely possible and within our reach and financial capabilities, with our only limitations being the collective will, unified vision, leadership and courage to make it happen. There are so many exciting examples of dynamic community planning and we have the privilege of choosing and borrowing from the best examples that exist.

It's hard to predict the long term effects of COVID-19, but I do believe that we will be able to travel as widely and freely as we enjoyed previously. As a result there will be a greater focus on domestic travel. There are few places as blessed by the raw potential of what we have here in our own backyard. Let's not forget the incredible potential we have to partner with the Penticton Indian Band, which occupies more than 46,000 acres of land, making it the largest reserve in the Province of British Columbia. Throw in the Naramata Bench, Apex, Summerland, and OK Falls... the untapped potential is somewhat overwhelming.

I need to stop myself here but I hope that I have imparted my excitement for what is not only possible, but what I think is achievable. I would welcome any opportunity to dream and scheme over a cup of coffee and invite you to reach out at any time. Let's share ideas on how we can move our community forward with arts and culture acting as the catalyst for change.

A well-supported creative community is the social and cultural tie that bind us together, and is the lasting legacy by which future generations will ultimately judge us. One of the exciting aspects of our new reality is that everyone one of us, regardless of economic standing, has the capacity of becoming a meaningful patron of the arts. You can do this by simply choosing to buy an artist's album rather than burning a copy for free online, or by introducing artists to friends who will purchase their work. Patronage does not merely create job security — it also ensures that an artist has the foundation from which they can springboard their creative aspirations. Ultimately, there is neither a right nor a wrong way to become a modern-day patron, nor is there a definitive definition of the role it plays within our artistic ecosystem. What is true, however, is the underlying motivation that unites all artistic enthusiasts — a genuine passion and innate understanding of the value of art in enhancing our engagement with, and understanding of, the world around us.

We can build a contemporary model of patronage which values and supports the role of the artist in our society today. This ensures their contributions to the quality of our life are valued and revered to the same extent as they were historically.

Respectfully,

Paul Crawford, Director/Curator

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Drawing from the Margins Laurie Landry, Bruce Horak, Robin Hodgson

March 27, 2021 to May 15, 2021

As we reach the one year anniversary of the COVID-19 pandemic, it's becoming harder to ignore the social, physiological, and psychological toll the pandemic is having. This is the first truly global pandemic in modern times and each of us has been forced to grapple with its effects, both individually and collectively.

It's far too easy to become caught up in the immediacy of our own experience, forgetting about the larger narrative and far reaching impact on our society as a whole. We continue overlook the profound impact this has on the more marginalized members of our community. According to Statistics Canada, just over one-fifth of the Canadian population has one or more disabilities. People living with disabilities have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the publicly available data on COVID-19 cases has so far not been properly disaggregated to show the impacts on people with disabilities, disturbing reports are emerging on the severe impacts on people with disabilities. Lockdowns have also led to increased difficulties in obtaining home support services which provide such basic assistance as showering and using the restroom. Public restrictions, self-isolation, and disruption of community life have also resulted in a marked increase in reported violence.

Main Gallery

This exhibition aims to lift the veil and introduce you to the work of three incredible artists and activists, each of whom has had to overcome unimaginable challenges to be able to function within the confines of our increasingly unpredictable and ever-shifting landscape. For Laurie Landry and Bruce Horak, they have both learned from the beginning to live and function in an able bodied world, with many people unaware of that Laurie is deaf and Bruce is legally blind. Robin Hodgson, on the other hand, is in the unique position of having grown up able bodied and then becoming a tetraplegic in 2004. At the age of 19 he broke his C5/C6 vertebrae in his neck. This injury left him paralyzed from the chest down, with limited arm and hand function. After several years of rehabilitation and adjusting to his new lifestyle, he graduated with a BFA from TRU.

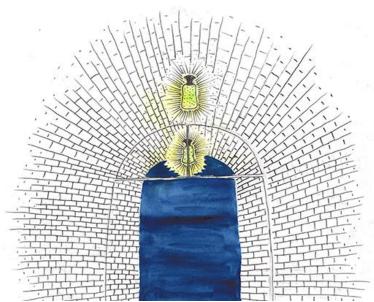
I am grateful for the trust and time each of these artists have afforded us to gain insight into their world. I hope the lasting legacy will be an increased awareness and sensitivity to those living with disabilities in our community.

Visit our website for detailed artist biographies.

Paul Crawford, Curator

Above: Laurie Landry, Man with Cochlear Implant and Scarf; Bruce Horak, Untitled Abstract; Robin Hodgson, Untitled.





Green Glass Ghosts Written by Rae Spoon / Illustrated by Gem Hall

March 27, 2021 to May 15, 2021

Over the past year the famed Canadian musician, activist, and author Rae Spoon partnered with illustrator Gem Hall to produce *Green Glass Ghosts*, their first Y.A. novel to be published by Arsenal Pulp Press this spring. This exhibition will feature the original illustrations for this book.

At age nineteen in the year 2000, the queer narrator of Green Glass Ghosts steps off a bus on Granville Street in downtown Vancouver. Armed with only their guitar and their voice, our hopeful hero arrives in the West Coast at the beginning of the new millennium, and on the cusp of adulthood, fleeing a traumatic childhood in an unsafe family. They're eager to build a better life among like-minded folks, and before they know it, they've got a job, an apartment, openly non-binary friends, and a new queer love. But their search for belonging and stability is disrupted by excessive drinking, jealousy, and painful memories of the past, distracting the protagonist from their ultimate goal of playing live music and spurring them to an emotional crisis. If they can't learn to care for themselves, how will they ever find true connection and community?

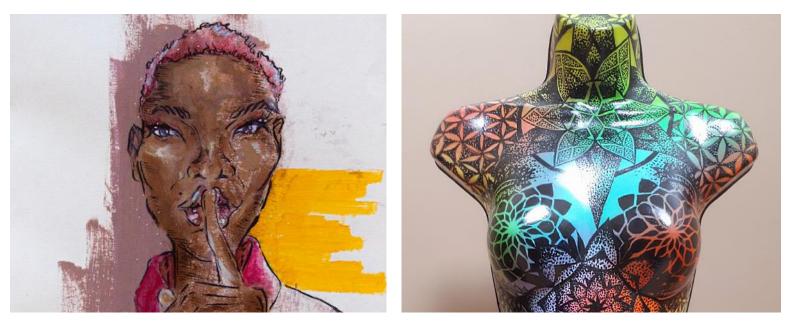
The haunting illustrations by Gem Hall conjure the moody, misty urban landscape and represent a deep collaboration with the author based on their shared experience of seeking safety, authenticity, and acceptance on the West Coast. Green Glass Ghosts is an evocation of that delicate, aching mo-

Toni Onley Gallery

ment between youth and adulthood when we are trying, and often failing, to become the person we dream ourselves to be.

Rae Spoon is a non-binary musician, producer, and author from Treaty 7 (Calgary) living on Lekwungen territory (Victoria). Rae is the author of the Lambda Literary Award finalist *First Spring Grass Fire* (2012), and co-author (with Ivan Coyote) of *Gender Failure* (2014). Rae was awarded a Dayne Ogilvie Prize Honour of Distinction by the Writers' Trust of Canada. They are the subject of a National Film Board documentary entitled *My Prairie Home* (2013), which screened at film festivals internationally, including the 2014 Sundance Film Festival. They are the founder of Coax Records, dedicated to work by marginalized musicians traditionally underrepresented in the music industry.

Gem Hall is an itinerant interdisciplinary artist of mixed Romani/British heritage currently based on Coast Salish lands. Gem is interested in creative work as a means of survival and language to express stories and songs of resilience, diaspora, and the magic of storytelling and witnessing. With a background in DIY/zine culture and queer and trans community organizing, they use illustration, textile work, writing, harp playing, tarot reading, and plant medicines to hold liminal spaces between worlds and ways of being.



Living While Marginalized Artwork from LGBTQ2S+ and BIPOC Communities

March 27, 2021 to May 15, 2021

Featuring artists ranging from up-and-coming to established, *Living While Marginalized* focuses on unpacking and highlighting the daily marginalization and discrimination LGBTQ2S+ and BIPOC Communities face.

Marginalization is when a group or individual is put into a position of lesser power or isolation within society because of discrimination. We see the impacts of marginalization in housing, when job applications are dismissed because of the individual's name, when an individual is denied a workplace opportunity because of their gender, sexuality, or race. We see it in the healthcare system, when individuals are misdiagnosed based on preconceived ideas of what's wrong based on racial, gender or sexuality based biases. Marginalization happens anywhere on the spectrum from micro to macro aggressions.

The lasting impacts of marginalization can lead to poverty/wealth disparity, health challenges (both mental and physical), isolation, harassment, the list goes on.

Through the ages, we have seen a direct link between art and activism. Some of our most popular and valued forms of music, dance, and fine arts have been the result of resistance and rebellion in the name of advocacy and activism. *Living While Marginalized* embraces this history by taking an

Project Room Gallery

approach that incorporates elements of proactive activism, by providing resources and guidance on how to continue advocating for marginalized communities, even after the exhibition has ended.

Through art, education, understanding, and compassion, we can begin to change the systemic nature of marginalization.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Kathleen Martunez; Des Spence (her); Scottie Macleod (they/them); Anais (she/they); Stephanie Chambers (she/they); Serena Ebuchi (she/they); Kasey Moran (she/her); Zane Jules (he/him); Sylvia Ramos (she/her); Tiernan (any); Iris Fai (she/her); Idris Hudson; Tet (he); Jennifer Jules (she/her); Evelyn Travis (she/her); Vaelei Walkden-Brown (she/her); Cyndi McLean (she/her); Carmyn Elvidge (she/they).

Keisha McLean, Guest Curator

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Above: Des Spence, Untitled, mixed media on paper; Iris Fai, Untitled, sculpture.



4TH ANNUAL LOVING MUGS PROJECT

Packages available in our Gift Shop now!

Due to restrictions surrounding COVID-19, we will not be hosting this event in person like we usually do. Instead, we are offering take-home packages!

Each package will be lovingly wrapped and ready for you to give to your partner, a friend on a coffee date, or for you to enjoy for yourself! Each package will have one handmade mug, a Top Secret Recipe Book featuring recipes for delicious specialty drinks and treats, coupons for coffee and other goodies from some fabulous local cafes!

All proceeds from the Loving Mugs Project will benefit the Penticton Art Gallery's events and programming, including: Little Leonardos Pro-D Day Camps; Creative Kids Art Adventures; Young@Art after school program; Topics + Tea Lecture Series; Artist Talks; Workshops; Spring Break Creativity Classes; Seniors Wellness art classes, and many more!

Each package includes:

- A lovingly handmade mug
- Our Top Secret Recipe Book, featuring recipes for delicious specialty drinks and treats
- Coupons for coffee and other goodies from the cafes featured here

Loving Mugs Packages \$30 Members / \$35 Non-Members

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH











YOUNG COLLECTORS CLUB

Tickets go on sale April 1, 2021

Traditionally, art collecting was an activity reserved for royalty, the church, and the wealthy. Michelangelo – one of the world's most famous artists – is a great example of the historical relationship between religion, art, and finance. His painting on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel was commissioned by Pope Julius II in the 15th century, and Michelangelo worked closely with the powerful Medici family, who used their wealth for patronage of the arts.

Today, many people still believe that you must be a royal or billionaire to collect art. This is simply not true! In the 21st century, art collecting is more accessible than ever and there are more diverse reasons for acquiring art.

With this project, we want to encourage young people to start creating their own unique collection. The Penticton Art Gallery will have a selection of 150 original works of art for children to choose from. **Aged 5-12**, these young collectors will be escorted into a gallery space designed especially for them. Inside the room will be Gallery staff to assist with selecting their chosen artwork.

NO PARENTS ALLOWED IN THE GALLERY SPACE.

The young collectors will need to select the artwork for their collection with no outside influences.

Young Collectors Club runs from May 22—May 29 at the Art Gallery. Tickets are \$25 each. Each ticket is guaranteed a work of art.



UNDER 500 / 2020

Thank you for your support!

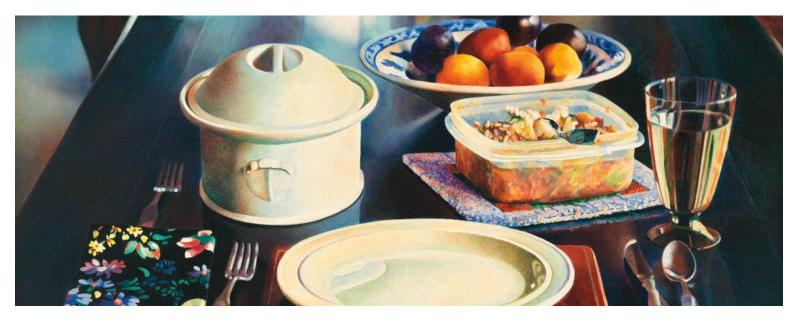
Thank you to the incredibly talented artists in British Columbia who submitted their work to our Under 500 Exhibition + Sale! This exhibition is definitely a staff favourite each year. Every time you wander through the galleries, you encounter a fabulous piece that you haven't seen before.

We received 609 works of art to display — our highest amount to date. Our hanging team even had to spill into the Main Gallery to fit all of the artwork! Of these pieces, 147 of them sold to collectors around the world.

Because the exhibition was also online this year, we had buyers across Canada, the USA, and the UK. Thank you to every person who purchased a piece of original, local art. We hope that you're thrilled with the new additions to your collections.

There is so much talent in our province, and we are so excited to continue this exhibition this year — bigger and better than ever!

McKaila Ferguson, Collections Manager



365 DAYS OF ART

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 / ONLINE

Join us as we delve deep into Canadian art history, both historic and contemporary. Tune in each day of 2021 to learn the stories behind the art!

Visit our website at: www.pentictonartgallery.com/365-days-of-art and follow along with us on our social media pages.

DAY 28 / MARY PRATT (1935-2018)

Encouraged from an early age to develop her artistic abilities, Mary Pratt found her expression in drawing and painting. She refined her skills during her studies in the Fine Arts Department at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, graduating in 1961. She studied with artist Alex Colville, who influenced the development of her style and her subsequent move toward realism. Pratt remarks that childhood memories of light informed her visual vocabulary and influenced her work.

She began to experiment with the use of light to transform an ordinary moment into a charged theatrical scene. What she found, however, was that light changed faster than she could sketch or paint. She responded to the dilemma by using a camera to "still" the light and the moment. The image became a record of a potent visual experience that she could later interpret in her paintings. With this methodology Pratt began working steadily in her studio.

In her work of the 1970s, Pratt addressed everyday objects of women's domestic lives. By depicting them

close-up and in detail, she suggested larger symbolic meaning, as well as a sense of absurdity. This celebration and re-contextualization of the ordinary has earned Pratt a national reputation.

The National Gallery of Canada mounted an exhibition of Mary Pratt's work in 2015, as part of its Masterpiece in Focus series. Titled *This Little Painting*, the small exhibition was mounted concurrently with an Alex Colville retrospective. The title came from how Mary had described *Red Currant Jelly*, 1972, her first work acquired by the National Gallery. The exhibition marked the first time that the Masterpiece in Focus series featured a living artist.

When Mary Pratt died in St. John's on August 14, 2018, she was one of the country's most popular artists. Mary Pratt had to deal with many realities that she could not change, but she persevered and became, in the words of former Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, "our greatest female painter since Emily Carr."

McKaila Ferguson, Collections Manager

Above: Mary Pratt, Dinner for One, 1994, oil on canvas, 61 x 91.4 cm. Private Collection.



CREATIVE KIDS SUMMER ART ADVENTURES

July - August 2021 / Monday - Friday / 9:00am - 3:00pm / Ages 5 - 12

WEEK 1 / ARTISTIC ADVENTURES

Monday, July 5 - Friday, July 9

Learn about some of the most iconic artists and their diverse techniques that changed the art world like Andy Warhol, Jackson Pollock, and street artist Banksy.

WEEK 2 / ICONIC COMICS

Monday, July 12 - Friday, July 16

Join us as we look at the history of comics. We will examine Manga, newspaper comic strips, Pop Art, and enter into the Marvel Universe.

WEEK 3 / NATURE EXPLORERS

Monday, July 19 - Friday, July 23

From Emily Carr's forests to Ted Harrison's colourful skies, be inspired as you create your own art based on the natural environment.

WEEK 4 / CLAYFUL CREATIONS

Monday, July 26 - Friday July 30

Come explore the wonderful world of hand-built ceramics! Learn how to make mugs, plates, and sculptures using only your two hands and clay.

WEEK 5 / CONTEMPORARIUM

Tuesday, August 3 - Friday August 6

Join in the fun as we explore Keith Haring's dancing figures, Damien Hirst's polka dot paintings and Jeff Koons' balloon animals. We will paint, draw, and sculpt our way back to the 1980s!

WEEK 6 / ANIMATION STUDIO

Monday, August 9 - Friday, August 13

Create a cast of characters and bring them to life right before your eyes. Start with storyboarding. Move into sculpting and stop-motion animation, and then watch your creation come to life on the big screen!

WEEK 7 / SPACE RACE

Monday, August 16 - Friday, August 20

Let's explore the history of space travel and science fiction from the Atomic Age to present day.

WEEK 8 / COLOUR ME MODERN

Monday, August 23 - Friday, August 27

Come explore the wonderful world of Henri Matisse! We will paint, sculpt, collage and explore our own abstract style through bold colours, shapes, and fun!

WEEK 9 / CARTOON MANIA

Monday, August 30 - Friday, September 3 Familiar faces and new creations are what this week is about! Come learn the art of cartoon drawing and create some of your very own characters.

Full Weeks

\$150 Members / \$165 Non-Members **Short Weeks** \$130 Members / \$150 Non-Members



AFTER SCHOOL ART CAMPS

Mondays + Wednesdays After School

MAKER MONDAYS: CERAMICS March 29 / April 12 / April 26 / May 3

3:00pm-5:00pm / Ages 5 - 12

Come explore the wonderful world of hand built ceramics! Learn how to make mugs, plates, and sculptures using just your two hands and clay. All supplies included.

\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members

GET ANIMATED

March 31 / April 7 / April 14 / April 21 / April 28 / May 5

3:00pm-5:00pm / Ages 5 - 12

Create a cast of characters and bring them to life throughout the week! Start with drawings and script development then move to storyboarding. Move into sculpting and stop-motion animation and then watch your creation on the BIG screen.

\$85 Members / \$90 Non-Members



SPRING BREAK ART CAMPS

March 15-19, 2021 / March 22-26, 2021

WEEK 1 / BACKYARD TREASURES March 15-19, 2021

9:00am-3:00pm / Ages 5 - 12

Come learn about our wonderful local environment and create beautiful creations from various sustainable materials including driftwood, recycled resources, and found treasures. We will create natural inks, make paper, bind books, and sculpt.

\$150 Members / \$160 Non-Members

WEEK 2 / ANIMATED March 22-26, 2021

9:00am-3:00pm / Ages 5 - 12

Create a cast of characters and bring them to life throughout the week! Start with drawings and script development then move to storyboarding. Move into sculpting and stop-motion animation and then watch your creation on the BIG screen.

\$150 Members / \$160 Non-Members

Call us at (250)-493-2928 or pop into the Gallery to register your child!



SQUARE MURAL PROJECT

A New Public Art Project in Partnership with Cannery Brewing

The Penticton Art Gallery and Cannery Brewing are pleased to partner in a new public art project called SQUARE. In January, a call went out to artists interested in participating and nearly 80 applications were received. A jury reviewed the applications and have now completed the artist selection. Eight local artists have been selected to create 4' x 4' mini murals.

2021 SQUARE Mural Project Artists

ZAC ABNEY / BENJI ANDRINGA / DIANE BENNETT-WAY / LIZ DEMER / JOLENE MACKIE / DIANA PALMER / STEPHANIE PERRY / GABRIELLE STRONG

Once the murals are completed in March 2021, there will be a series of unveilings at Cannery Brewing. In the summer, the murals will be moved outside to Cannery Brewing's Backyard. At the end of the program, the murals will be auctioned off to the public in the fall.

Ian Dyck, co-owner of Cannery Brewing explained, "We are thrilled with the strong and diverse group of artists that have been selected to participate in this project. They all have distinct styles, and we can't wait to see what they create for display at our brewery."

Paul Crawford, Curator at the Penticton Art Gallery said, "Taking inspiration from the ArtsWells Festival's wildly successful Mini Mural Project, we are thrilled to bring a similar program to our community." The original project was started in 2009 by the Wells, BC artist Caroline Anders as part of their annual festival. Once completed, the murals would be displayed at the Island Mountain Arts Art Gallery and then auctioned off. In the subsequent years, the town has become an outdoor art gallery with dozens of homes and businesses sporting one or more of the paintings for everyone to enjoy.

Crawford continued, "We are so excited about this project, and I hope this is something we can continue in years to come. There was an overwhelming number of applications received, so thank you to our great local artists. We would love to fill the town with as many murals as we can! Thank you to Cannery Brewing for partnering with us on this. They have always been huge supporters of the Gallery, and we can't wait to see this project come to light."

Follow along with each artist's progress through the Penticton Art Gallery and Cannery Brewing social media accounts. Follow **#Square2021** on Instagram.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH





ART AUCTIONS / ONLINE

March 2021 / April 2021 / June 2021

SPRING CLEANING ART AUCTION I

Friday, March 5, 2021 - Sunday, April 4, 2021 www.32auctions.com/March2021

SPRING CLEANING ART AUCTION II

Friday, April 9, 2021 - Sunday, May 9, 2021 www.32auctions.com/April2021

44TH ANNUAL ART AUCTION

June 2021 www.32auctions.com/PAG2021

This year marks the Penticton Art Gallery's 44th Annual Art Auction, which is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Penticton Art Gallery on Saturday, June 25th, 2021. Due to COVID-19 uncertainties, it is possible that this will only be an online event. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the event. The 44th Annual Art Auction promises to be out of this world!

Items are added daily, so check back often!



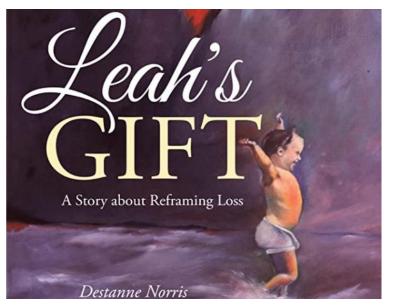
CALLING ALL ARTISTS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

We are compiling an ever-growing list of contemporary artists practicing in British Columbia, in any medium. As we build up the database, it will be available on our website for you to peruse! This project is meant to act as a launching pad for art historians, collectors, and other artists to learn about you and your practice.

Are you an artist? Fill out our online form to be included in the database!

Visit the database here: www.pentictonartgallery.com/contemporaryartists-in-bc-database

Do you have any questions? Get in touch with our Collections Manager, McKaila Ferguson, at (250)-493-2928 or collections@pentictonartgallery.com.





NEWS FROM THE GIFT SHOP

Destanne Norris + Dirk Van Stralen

Destanne Norris / Leah's Gift a story about re-framing loss

How do you live with the unanswerable questions that surface when someone you love dies? This question and others lay beneath visual artist Destanne Norris' voyage through the mysteries that shroud life and death.

In this autobiographical story, Norris journeys through the loss of her daughter as she illuminates her artworks — some of which were created before her daughter was born — that were mounted in an exhibition entitled, *Leah's Gift*. Through her narrative and paintings, she tells how she navigated grief and learned to reframe her questions to find new purpose and meaning in life.

By sharing her experience and insight, people from all walks of life and places on the planet may be inspired to reframe the challenging questions they may be living with, leading them to make positive changes that benefit themselves and those they love.

Okanagan Regional Library Librarian Christina SueChan writes, "A work of art, 35 years in gestation, created by a courageous woman. This is for those who have lost, yes — but also for those who want to live fully."

Dirk Van Stralen / KEEP CALM AND BURY ON 88 pages of daily cartoons created between 21 March and 27 November 2020

Dirk Van Stralen saw his first cartoon published in Coquitlam's Tri-City News in 1987. In 1990 he began a 17-year relationship with the Georgia Straight producing the much loved and award-winning weekly single panel cartoon, vanstralen. The cartoons stopped running in the Straight in 2007.

As the reality of COVID-19 started to sweep across North America, Dirk started to see the impact of the pandemic. Suddenly he found himself with an abundance of time to think, and for the first time in over a decade, he could dedicate himself wholly to a project of his own. On March 21st he drew his first cartoon.

Since then, he has produced a drawing a day. In creating each day's commentary, he doesn't write with a specific audience in mind, but rather follows his own observations of what is transpiring in the world. Dirk has now published a collection of his daily pandemic cartoons called Keep Calm and Bury On: A selective history of a plague year.

Visit the Penticton Art Gallery's Gift Shop to get these books today!



BATEMAN'S SKETCH ACROSS CANADA

Pick up your very own Robert Bateman sketchbook at the Penticton Art Gallery!

Bateman's Sketch Across Canada is a nationwide project by the Bateman Foundation. Working with Black Press Media, they're producing 33,000 free sketchbooks to be distributed across the country, asking Canadians to venture outside and, in the words of Robert Bateman, "become bright-eyed three-year-olds again."

Sketching nature promotes knowledge, understanding, and connection to the environment, and the act itself is a mindful one: taking the time to stop, look, and sketch can be a useful tool for managing anxiety and depression.

Want to get involved? Visit the Penticton Art Gallery to collect your free sketchbook, and share your finished artwork on social media with the hashtag **#mynaturesketch**.

You can also donate to the campaign and help us spread the joy of sketching from coast to coast! For contributions of \$100 or more, your name will be added to the Canvas of Hope, which will be updated periodically along with the total funds raised. If you'd like to donate, visit the Bateman Foundation website: https://batemanfoundation.org/sketchacross-canada/

For access to more sketching resources, like activities and tutorials, please visit the Bateman Foundation's Digital Resources page. The purpose of the Robert Bateman Foundation is to promote the preservation and sustainability of the environment by:

1. Establishing and maintaining an art gallery to perpetuate, protect, enhance and promote the artistic and cultural legacy of nature-inspired artists, including Robert Bateman.

2. Supporting or developing educational programs relating to the environment and nature-inspired artists.

Robert Bateman is already aligned with child-innature philosophies. He is associated in the public mind with pro-nature education by his work, writings and public speaking. He is widely regarded by the national and international conservation community as a hero because of his lifelong support and clearly articulated perspective. He is a natural and gregarious teacher and his artwork is vastly instructive. Finally, Robert Bateman is perceived by many to be one of the voices of reason and hope for healthy, rejuvenated and creative engagement with the natural world.

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Thank you to our volunteers who help at the front desk on a weekly basis: Diane Beaton, Trish Sweeney, Senka Tennant, Jill Moreton, Lou Rutherford, Isabel Davies, Cindy Rogers, Cornelia King, Prabhdeep Dhaliwal, Janice Shalagan, Carol James, Nicole Fox; to Ron Marsh for photographing our exhibitions; to Karla Hennig for helping with our mail-outs; and to Hazel Fry and Hal Whyte for their work in the Tait Art Library.

Honorary Lifetime Members

Honorary Lifetime Memberships are given to individuals who have rendered extraordinary service to the gallery.

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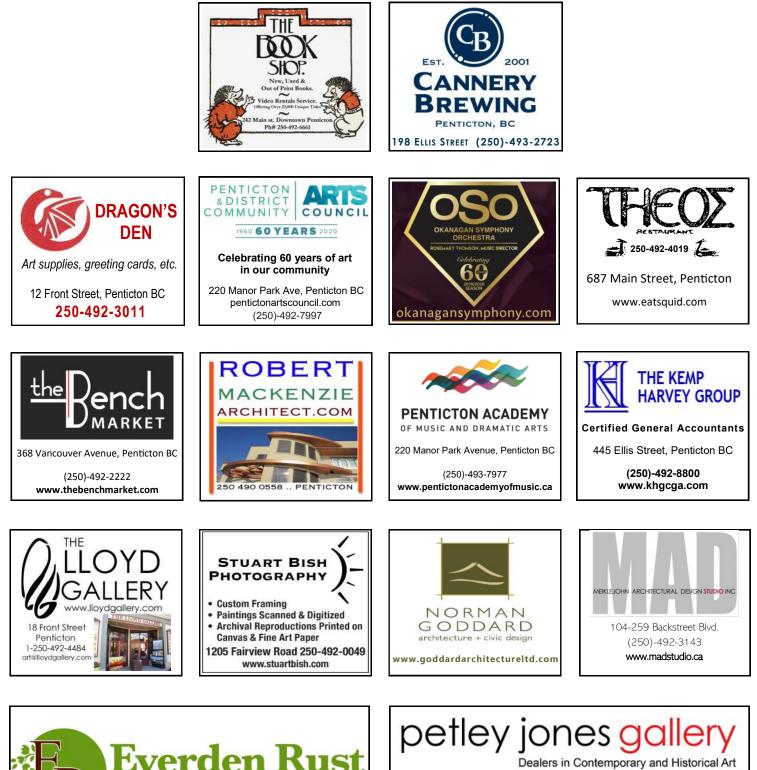
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