



PENTICTON ART GALLERY

Arts Letter
Vol. 44 No. 4

July / August 2021



OUR MANDATE

The Penticton Art Gallery exists to exhibit, interpret, preserve, and promote our collective artistic and cultural heritage as expressed through the visual arts. This is supported by the creation of education and outreach programs to engage our community in local, regional, and global issues while also being attentive to cultural and gender diversity and the work of Indigenous artists.

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

VISIT US

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



Wheelchair accessible



Gender-inclusive restrooms

CONTACT US

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



SUMMER HOURS

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

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OUR MISSION

The Penticton Art Gallery's mission is to engage the public in an ongoing dialogue about issues and ideas that affect our numerous communities, as expressed through contemporary and historic art practices, while providing opportunities for the public to interact with artists and the artistic process.

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.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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City of Penticton Liaison



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

Cover: Buffy Sainte-Marie, *Self-Portrait*.
Printed on Kodak Professional Endura Metallic VC Digital Paper, 33" x 45 1/2".

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD



I wish to thank Eric Hanston, our past President, and our Board, past and present, for their ongoing hard work allowing the Gallery to be in a very good position. I am proud to be your new President because the Penticton Art Gallery is one of the best galleries in Canada. I wish also to welcome our new Board members: Cindi Lou Baker, Vanessa Sutton, Kona Lynn Sankey, and Nancy Schmidt who are bringing new energies.

Two main priorities identified in our January Visionary Session are fundraising and membership. Vanessa Sutton will chair our Fundraising Committee and Heena Nagar will chair our Membership Committee. Do you have a few hours to donate to the Gallery? Please think about joining one of these two committees. We would love to hear from you because our members help the Penticton Art Gallery to be so successful. This is your Gallery!

Our summer will be busy, probably as busy as last summer. The Gallery will host a Buffy Sainte-Marie



exhibition, thanks to our outstanding staff and Curator who had the idea of presenting her digital art. Sainte-Marie might even visit the Penticton Art Gallery if COVID-19 restrictions allow it. So please follow our news if you wish to meet her. I can confirm she is a very exceptional person.

Dr. Claude Roberto, President

Above: Dr. Claude Roberto, President of the Board of Directors, Penticton Art Gallery. Photo © Government of Alberta.

Above: Buffy Sainte-Marie, *Pink Village*. Printed on Kodak Professional Endura Metallic VC Digital Paper, 49" x 52 1/2".

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR/CURATOR



As I sit down to write this column, I cannot help but take a moment to acknowledge National Indigenous Peoples Day. For the majority of Canadians, the recent revelation of 215 unmarked graves at the site of the former Kamloops Residential School, operating on the territory of the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation between 1890 and 1969, may have come as a shock. Like ripping off a Band-Aid, the sting has exposed, in all its sharp undeniable detail, a long and deeply engrained history, one which still cuts deeply, impacting each Indigenous community across Turtle Island. Sadly, for those whose lives have been irrevocably defied and altered as a result of these experiences, one which was forced upon them, this serves as a painful validation of what they have long known. For the rest of us, we are forced to come to terms with our colonial past and acknowledge the gravitas of the injustices imposed upon Indigenous communities. While we cannot undo the past, I hope we can use this moment to recognize and truly honour the rich history, knowledge, and culture that existed long before any Europeans stepped foot on this land.

For many activists and elders, this has been a topic of conversation for generations. To that end, I

would encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (www.trc.ca). I hope that we can provide space for Indigenous communities across the country to share their stories and lead us in this process of healing. In this light, the Penticton Art Gallery will be undertaking a series of Indigenous-led community conversations and programs to stimulate an important dialogue. Please check our website for more information.

I cannot express enough how often serendipity plays a role in my life, weaving together seemingly unrelated interactions and opportunities to create timely, culturally important events. Recent examples of this include the following exhibitions: *Kabul Art Project: Contemporary Art from Afghanistan*; *Behind the Lines: Contemporary Syrian Art*; *Jim Logan's Requiem for Our Children*; *Ipseity*; and last summer's exhibition featuring Bob Ross' original paintings.

The theme of our summer exhibitions has been something I had been thinking about since I was introduced to the art of the Huichols by my father in 1999. I still vividly remember the first pieces of their work I saw being sold on the streets of Guadalajara. This was further enhanced by my father's stories of visiting their communities and being invited to participate in their ceremonies in the mountains of the Sierra Madre Occidental range. Before he passed away, he gifted me the violin the Huichol Marakame (shaman) given to him after the ceremony in which he participated.

This January I received an email from Kristin Lang who had been given my name by an old friend, Leah Carnahan. I worked with Leah in 2007 to display her collection of paintings by Choegyal Rinpoche in an exhibition which included bringing the monks from the Drepung Loseling Monastery to Penticton. In the email, Kristin told me of the collection of Huichol art she had acquired decades earlier. I immediately saw the opportunity and significance of what this collection represented and began looking for an opportunity to host an exhibition. Little did I know, the opportunity would arise months later as my previously scheduled summer exhibitions had to be deferred due to challenges brought on by the pandemic.



Last September I received another unsolicited email from Roger Lee asking if we would be interested in works by the late Brian Fisher. He was working on behalf of the artist's widow to place the remaining works from the estate. I have long admired Brian's work since I saw one of his Op Art paintings in the McPherson Library while studying at the University of Victoria in the 90s. I pitched our case for a possible donation and inquired if we could feature the collection here before the works were dispersed. The Gallery has two early examples of his work in our Permanent Collection. While researching, I came across a major canvas that had been offered for sale in 2013 by the Greg Kucera Gallery in Seattle on behalf of Francine Seders, one of Seattle's leading galleries. I wrote to the gallery asking to borrow this major canvas for our exhibition. Francine Seders was willing to loan us this painting for the summer. I am hoping that over the course of the exhibition we can raise the \$6,000 required to purchase this significant piece of Canada's contemporary art history for our Permanent Collection. I also just discovered that Brian had taught at the Okanagan Summer School of the Arts in 1978, and one of his best childhood friends was the late Rory McIvor.

The final piece of this large puzzle was planted at

the 2019 Folk Alliance International Conference held in Montreal, where Buffy Sainte-Marie was the keynote speaker. At her book signing, I gave her my card and mentioned that I would love to host an exhibition of her work at the Gallery. While she drifted in and out of my consciousness, it did not occur to me to follow up until I stumbled across a mixed media painting of her by the late Regina-based artist and cult figure, Roger Ing (1933-2008) at Value Village in West Kelowna in March. On my way home I stopped to pick up some groceries, and as I was standing in the checkout line, I looked up and saw Buffy again, this time smiling at me from the cover of the latest issue of *Chatelaine Magazine*. I purchased the magazine and immediately sent an email to see if we could host an exhibition of her work. Within a week I received a reply from her management saying that the timing of my email was excellent. They had been looking at developing a touring exhibition focused on her visual art.

Serendipity continues — today I ran downstairs at the Gallery and saw someone looking at the Huichol exhibition installation. We strike up a conversation,

Above: Buffy Sainte-Marie. Photo © Paquin Entertainment Group.

Opposite: Paul Crawford, Director/Curator, Penticton Art Gallery. Photo © David Secor Photography.

and I am floored when she introduces herself as the renowned Dene artist, Jane Ash Poitras who is visiting the Okanagan. It was incredible to randomly meet her for the first time and to learn more about her life, art, and her friendship with Buffy Sainte-Marie.

In the weeks since we started down this road, Buffy has appeared on the live broadcast of the Juno Awards addressing the discovery of the 215 children buried in unmarked graves. I could not think of a more timely exhibition and an artist to feature this summer. I am honoured and humbled that we are the first venue to host this exhibition.

I am excited to partner with the Q'əmcín 2 Rivers Remix Festival in Lytton to kick off the exhibition with an exclusive streaming performance on Saturday, July 3 at 5:00pm. You can stream the event online or register for one of the limited opportunities to gather in the Gallery to enjoy the performance, surrounded by her artwork. To reserve your place for our opening event, please visit: www.virtualfeast.ca.

We are partnering with the En'owkin Centre to host a live online celebration with Buffy in the coming months. Check back with us later this summer once this event is confirmed.

We are hoping that Buffy will be able to attend the

closing of this exhibition. As restrictions become clearer, we will provide more information on what this might look like.

As we transition back into a world where we can gather and celebrate together, I hope we will remember the importance of art, culture, and community. We will need to make an effort to support the artists, institutions, and venues that are so desperately needed to keep this fragile ecosystem alive and functioning. I hope COVID-19 has given us the gift of perspective allowing us to reflect, reevaluate, and identify what is truly important.

I would like to invite you to mark your calendars to join us for our most important annual fundraiser on Thursday, September 30 — our 44th Annual Art Auction. This year's event will feature 200 incredible pieces of history ranging from a signed first edition of *Klee Wyck* by Emily Carr, to James Irwin's NASA Apollo XV test pilot flight suit, to two iconic silkscreen prints by Andy Warhol from the Sunday B. Morning edition. The funds raised from this event are critical to the ongoing development and delivery of our community engagement programs and initiatives. We are hoping that this will be a hybrid live and virtual auction. Items can be previewed online at: www.32auctions.com/PAG2021. Advanced bidding will start on August 1st and continue online up to the live event.

As usual I have way more to say than space permits, but I do want to express my heartfelt gratitude for all the incredible support the Gallery has received over the past year. I am so excited to welcome you into the Gallery and share these exciting exhibitions with you. I wish you all the best of the summer and ask that we make an effort to be kind and compassionate to each other.

Paul Crawford, Director/Curator

VIRTUALFEAST.CA • 2RMX REDUX • PRESENT
BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE: DECOLONISE 2020
In Collaboration with the PENTICTON ART GALLERY

INFO/REGISTER:
VIRTUALFEAST.CA

SAT • JULY 3 • 5-6PM • PDT

2RMX acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Canada and the Government of BC

BUFFY SAINTE-MARIE: PATHFINDER

A RETROSPECTIVE BY AN INNOVATOR OF DIGITAL ART

July 3 to September 11, 2021 / Main Gallery

Buffy Sainte-Marie's exhibition *Pathfinder*, presents a rare and unique window into the evolution of one of the early innovators of digital art starting with the purchase of her first Macintosh personal computer in 1984. Within this unassuming beige cube, Buffy quickly discovered the power, flexibility, potential and the infinite possibilities presented to her through this sudden democratization of technology. The Macintosh presented a transformational and enlightened way of developing and processing a lifetime's worth of imagery and memory. The works presented in this exhibition provide a unique insight into her creative process and represent the most comprehensive survey of her digital paintings to date.

Buffy Sainte-Marie approached the digital medium as she has with every facet of her diverse career — with trailblazing ingenuity. Reflecting back to 1984 — a time when the internet was almost unheard of and home computers were in their infancy — Buffy was there, building pieces of this collection within the confines of the very first versions of MacPaint on the earliest Macintosh models. The technology was nothing like the digital production resources we have today and were used primarily as tools for marketing and graphic design, not creating fine art with emotional impact. Being void of prefabricated filters or options for multiple layers, the process of creating artful images required dexterity and patience. Rising above the limitations of the software, she injected as much depth of tradition and attention to detail with pixels as one would with intricate beadwork or classic oils. Meticulously blending scanned images of her wet studio paintings, in-progress drawings and sketches with those of real fibers, feathers and beads, Buffy crafted these digital tapestries with the precision and care of a natural-born storyteller. The visual and intellectual brilliance of this collection is undeniably ahead of its time.

This exhibition features 16 of Sainte-Marie's groundbreaking digital paintings as well as never-

before-seen sketches, artifacts, and behind-the-scenes photos that speak directly to this respected icon's unique perspective of her own multi-disciplinary life, culture, and the experiences that inspired these masterpieces. Discover and celebrate Buffy Sainte-Marie's contribution to contemporary art history, the rise of digital art, and the powerful role she continues to command in educating and inspiring individuals and Indigenous communities across the globe.

Examples of Buffy Sainte-Marie's digital art can be found in the permanent collections of many important public collections including, the Institute of American Indian Arts Museum, First Nations University, and the Tucson Art Museum, and her work has been featured in exhibitions at the Glenbow Museum, the MacKenzie Art Gallery, the Isaacs Gallery, the Walter Phillips Gallery, the Gallery for Contemporary and Indigenous Art (Tucson), the Winnipeg Art Gallery, and Gurevich Fine Art (Winnipeg).

It is incredible to consider that this past spring Buffy celebrated her 80th birthday, a point in one's life where many are enjoying the fruits of their labour. Buffy refuses to slow down, actively developing important new works and creating online content from her home and studio tucked away amongst the idyllic Hawaiian Islands.

Paul Crawford, Director/Curator

SUPPORTED BY



BRIAN FISHER

EVENT HORIZON

July 3 to September 11, 2021 / Project Room Gallery

Brian Fisher was born in Uxbridge, England in 1939, moving to Canada with his family as a child. He first studied fine arts at the University of Saskatchewan's Regina College under Arthur McKay, Roy Kiyooka, Ron Bloore, and Kenneth Lochhead. His paintings were also influenced by the Russian Constructivist style that emphasized a sense of movement. Leaving Regina in 1958, Brian along with his friend Claude Breeze, moved out to the west coast for the first time to further their studies at the Vancouver School of Art. In 1960 Brian was awarded a two year Canada Council grant which allowed him to return to Europe with his partner Carol Itter to take courses at the Accademia de Belle Arti in Rome.

It was an exciting time to be in Europe, where the full impact of contemporary abstraction was being showcased in exhibitions featuring the work of Tapies, de Stael, Wols, Karel Appel, Fontana, Burri, Mark Tobey, and Mark Rothko who was the subject of a major exhibition down at the British School in Rome.

Brian was a very methodical person who thought about problems from a somewhat mathematical perspective. Looking back it was a quality he remained faithful too for most of his life. At the time he was a great fan of Mark Tobey, and his calligraphic impulses, reference to Chinese brush painting. Like many young people at the time we were both influenced by Zen and its simplicity of form.

Returning to Canada in 1963 Fisher taught at the University of British Columbia and at the Vancouver School of Art (1964-1965). Following his first solo exhibition at the New Design Gallery in 1965, Fisher garnered national attention when his work was shown in the Canadian Pavilion at Expo '67 in Montreal and in Perspective '67, the Canadian Centennial exhibition at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Fisher's most important Canadian commission was a mural for the Montreal International Airport at Dorval, which has long been regarded as "one of the most



successful marriages of art and architecture in Canada." Brian would go on to teach sessionally at the University of Calgary (1969), the Banff Summer Workshop (1973) and the Okanagan School of the Arts (1977), returning to Saskatchewan to teach at the University of Regina (1976-1983).

Brian Fisher's paintings evoke the vortex of a sorcerer's ball or, perhaps, a sci-fi portal into a faraway galaxy. Colours swirl and blend, candy-floss pinks mixing with red, white, violet and ochre, all with a sedimentary quality suggesting the drift and flow of water. Fisher created the marbled core by pouring acrylic paint on a wet canvas and letting the colours run together as the entire substrate spun on a wheel. Once dry, he added a series of precise concentric rings, making a mandala of sorts.

Fisher would go on to be included in solo and group exhibitions at institutions across Canada.

Paul Crawford, Director/Curator

HUICHOL (WIXÁRIKA) YARN PAINTING

MYTHIC VISIONS

July 3 to September 11, 2021 / Toni Onley Gallery

This incredible collection of artwork was assembled between 1958-59 by Ken and Gladys Davis who were living at that time in Guadalajara, Mexico where they were assisting with the restoration of Mexican churches. Ken Davis first gained fame in 1936 as a graduate student at the University of New Mexico when he stumbled upon the Sandia Cave, a grotto tucked into a limestone cliff on the eastern side of Las Huertas Canyon in the northern Sandia Mountains in New Mexico. Sifting through the dirt at the mouth of the cave he uncovered a series of artifacts which were created 9,000-11,000 years ago.

While living in Guadalajara he first came into contact with the Huichol, and with an anthropologist eye and curiosity he proceeded to acquire a collection of their artwork, including these 22 Yarn Cuadros representing the following Huichol communities: San Andrés Cohamiata, Guadalupe Ocotán, San Sebastián, Santa Catarina, Tenzompa, and Saledad.

The yarn paintings are the continuation of a variety of ritual arts long practiced by the Huichol, with the emergence of this art form beginning in the late 1950s. The art form builds on the rich history of Huichol iconography, translating the imagery to a flat surface. They are created through the application of beeswax on a board where the artist sketches out a design and carefully pressing brightly colored yarns into the wax. The first paintings were largely

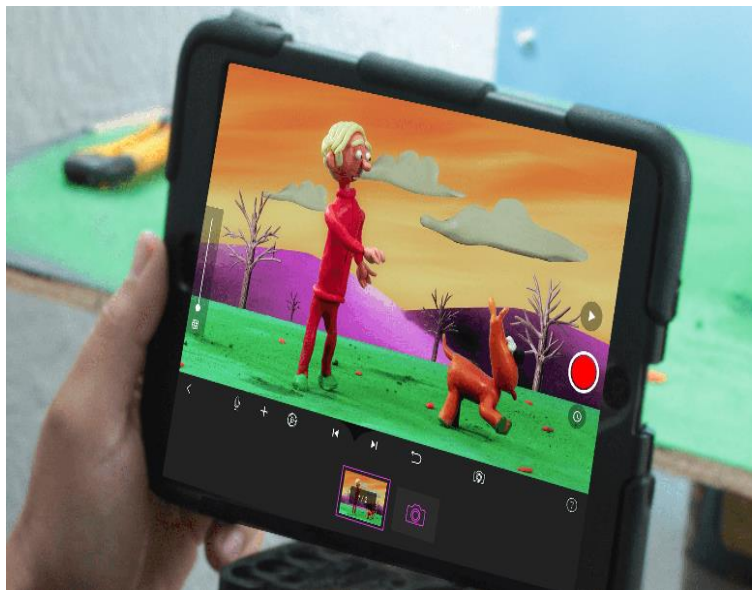
decorative, sold in government craft shops creating an industry and bringing in some much needed income into their communities. It was not long before that the shaman-artists realized the potential for these paintings to tell the stories and myths of the Huichol, and to record their sacred visions recording the stories of the creation, the peyote/deer hunt, the journey of the soul after death, and the origins of Father Sun and Tatewari, Grandfather fire. Stylistically these early yarn paintings resemble brightly coloured petroglyphs and considering the relatively new adoption of the materials they show an extraordinary degree of sophistication that can only be achieved through the transference of generations of knowledge that comes.

Thank you to Ken and Gladys Davis for their foresight in assembling this collection, and to Kristin and Colin Lang who saw its significance and purchased the whole collection. Thank you also to Leah Carnahan for the introduction to Kristin Lang, my father Howard Fryer who first introduced me to the art of the Huichol, and all those who have contributed art and objects to add context to this exhibition.

Paul Crawford, **Director/Curator**

Opposite: Brian Fisher, *Visitation*, 1985. Acrylic on canvas, 28" x 28".





SUMMER ART ADVENTURES

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

Monday, July 5 - Friday, July 9
WEEK 1 / ARTISTIC ADVENTURES

Monday, July 12 - Friday, July 16
WEEK 2 / ICONIC COMICS

Monday, July 19 - Friday, July 23
WEEK 3 / NATURE EXPLORERS

Monday, July 26 - Friday July 30
WEEK 4 / CLAYFUL CREATIONS

Tuesday, August 3 - Friday August 6
WEEK 5 / CONTEMPORARIUM

Monday, August 9 - Friday, August 13
WEEK 6 / ANIMATION STUDIO

Monday, August 16 - Friday, August 20
WEEK 7 / SPACE RACE

Monday, August 23 - Friday, August 27
WEEK 8 / COLOUR ME MODERN

Monday, August 30 - Friday, September 3
WEEK 9 / CARTOON MANIA

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

All Summer Camps are sold out. Please contact the Gallery to join the Waiting List.



LITTLE LEONARDOS

2021-22 Pro-D Day Art Camps

Another Pro-D Day and don't know what to do? Leave it to us! The Penticton Art Gallery offers educational day camps for children during Pro-D Days for the School District 67 Okanagan Skaha. Little Leonardos is an art history-inspired program where children are introduced to the history of art through hands-on projects and crafts, literature, and interactive activities. 15 spots are available for each class, and please bring a lunch!

Monday, September 27, 2021
TED HARRISON

Friday, October 22, 2021
EMILY CARR

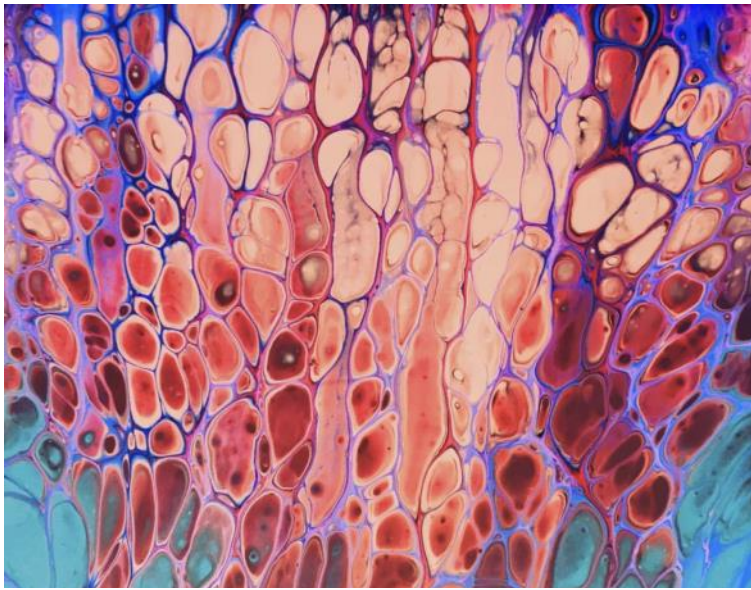
Friday, November 12, 2021
GEORGIA O'KEEFFE

Friday, February 18, 2022
PIET MONDRIAN

Monday April 25, 2022
MAUDE LEWIS

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

\$40 per class



ACRYLIC PAINT POURING

With Carla O’Bee

Join our Education and Programming Coordinator, Carla O’Bee, for an introduction to acrylic paint pouring. Learn about the tools and mediums you need to get started, how to create cells, basic colour theory, and how to use the ever popular flip cup technique.

Wednesday, July 21, 2021 / 6:30pm-8:30pm
\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members
All supplies included.

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 / 6:30pm-8:30pm
\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members
All supplies included.

Wednesday, August 18, 2021 / 6:30pm-8:30pm
\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members
All supplies included.

Wednesday, August 25, 2021 / 6:30pm-8:30pm
\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members
All supplies included.



PAINT LIKE BOB ROSS

With a Certified Ross Instructor

Join Certified Ross Instructor, Janette Smith, for a day full of happy little trees and painterly brush strokes! Learn step-by-step how to paint just like Bob Ross while using the official Bob Ross Oil Paint and Bob’s signature techniques.

All supplies included. Each participant will receive a Bob Ross Apron and table top easel to take home!

Saturday, July 17, 2021 / 11:30am-3:30pm
\$155 Members / \$165 Non-Members

Saturday, August 14, 2021 / 11:30am-3:30pm
\$155 Members / \$165 Non-Members

Saturday, September 25, 2021 / 11:30am-3:30pm
\$155 Members / \$165 Non-Members



JULY 17



AUGUST 14



SEPTEMBER 25



HUICHOL YARN PAINTING

With Carla O’Bee

Join our Education and Programming Coordinator, Carla O’Bee, for a private Gallery tour and learn all about traditional Huichol artwork. Pull inspiration from the pieces in the exhibition and then learn how to make your very own!

Saturday, July 24, 2021

11:30am-2:00pm / Ages 6 - 12

\$20 per person

All supplies included.

Saturday, August 7, 2021

11:30am-2:00pm / Ages 6 - 12

\$20 per person

All supplies included.



MAKER MONDAYS

Weaving / Jewelry / Holiday Cheer

Maker Mondays is an after school program in which children are introduced to a variety of artisan craft techniques and mediums. This hands-on program runs in a series of four lessons on Mondays.

WEAVING

Using both traditional and contemporary weaving techniques, students will design and create their very own custom wall hangings.

Sept 13 / Sept 20 / Sept 27 / Oct 4

3:15pm-4:30pm / Ages 5-12

\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members

CERAMIC JEWELRY

Design and create your very own ceramic jewelry using a variety of clay bodies and colourful glazes.

Nov 1 / Nov 8 / Nov 15 / Nov 22

3:15pm-4:30pm / Ages 5-12

\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members

HOLIDAY CHEER

FA LA LA LA LA! Come design and create your very own festive wooden sign, sustainable gift wrap, and fresh holiday wreath.

Nov 29 / Dec 6 / Dec 13 / Dec 20

3:15pm-4:30pm / Ages 5-12

\$60 Members / \$65 Non-Members



PRE-SCHOOL ART DROP-IN

Every Wednesday from September-May

The early years are a key point in a child's development. Art can help early learners develop self confidence as they explore, observe, and imitate. Pre-school Art is designed to encourage discovery in a fun, supportive, and inspiring environment. With a process art-based approach, our Preschool Art Program will help to nurture your little one's social and emotional health, reinforcing skills such as relaxation, self esteem, and emotional sharing.

Wednesdays from 10:30am-11:30am / Ages 2-5
First class will begin September 15, 2021

A parent or guardian is required to attend.

\$5 drop-in fee
All supplies included



TEEN STUDIO ART PROGRAM

Every Tuesday from September-June

Running in conjunction with the academic school year, our Teen Studio Art Program aims to develop a student's creative potential in a wide range of visual media including: painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, and mixed media. With an intensive hands-on studio experience, students will develop their creative talents and confidence while exploring their artistic voices in an engaging, inspiring, and supportive atmosphere.

All students participating in our Teen Studio Art Program will be featured in our Studio Art Gallery Exhibition at the end of May 2022.

Please email Carla with any questions at education@pentictionartgallery.com.

September 2021 – June 2022 / Ages 13-18
First class will begin September 7, 2021

Tuesdays 5:30pm – 7:30pm weekly

Members \$65 per month
Non-Members \$75 per month

Payments will be pre-authorized on the 1st of each month or can be paid in full before the start of the program. **All participants MUST sign up for the full 10 month program.**

All supplies included.



YOUNG@ART

Happy Summer Vacation!

The heat is upon us and the beaches are patiently waiting for the return of sunbathers and sunshine. This also means that another year of Young@Art has come to an end.

Despite this year having its ups and downs, one thing was for certain – this group of kids were full of creativity, inspiration, and PAINT! We welcomed back our Young@Art crew with COVID friendly open arms, and as always there were lots of laughs, drawing, painting, newly formed friendships, and of course snacks!

Young@Art will return in September and will run in conjunction with the school year. In the meantime, some of the Young@Art youngsters will be helping me with a top-secret project over the summer. Stay tuned for the BIG reveal!

A big thank you to our donors, our granting agencies, and Safeway for providing the snacks. Without your support we would not be able to offer this much needed program at no cost.

See you all in September and have a sunny summer!

Carla O’Bee
Education and Programming Coordinator



YOUNG COLLECTORS CLUB

Thank you for a successful event!

What an absolute joy it was to watch the thrill in those small faces as they entered our Top Secret Gallery to select their very FIRST piece of original art. The smiles, the laughs, the contemplating. From landscapes to abstracts and everything in between, there was something for every little collector at our first annual Young Collectors Club.

The event was a HUGE success with 99 out of 100 tickets sold. That’s 99 new little collectors in our community. 99 new little pieces of inspiration for our future artists and leaders.

A big thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket for the event, and to all of our staff and volunteers for helping to lead the young ones towards our magical rainbow entrance. Without your support, this event would not be possible.

Our Young Collectors Club will return in 2022! Keep an eye on our website for future details.



RAINBOW MURAL OF TOGETHERNESS

Community Art Project

A giant mural of 'togetherness' installed outside the Penticton Art Gallery celebrates the success of this year's Ha Ha Ha Kidzfest in Penticton. Over 1,500 wood tiles painted by students from Summerland, Penticton, and Oliver have been glued together to form the 8' x 16' mural.

It took the better part of two days for Art Gallery summer students Rebecca Britton and Isabelle Burnip-Gerhardt to glue the tiles onto the mural and the results of the rainbow-coloured display are worth it, they said.

"We certainly achieved our goal of reaching the South Okanagan with our programming and offering experiences in many different ways and the feedback from the participants has been overwhelmingly positive," said Kidzfest Board Chair Rachel Bland.

"It would not have been a success without the support of our partners and sponsors. We did it "All together," said board member Jacki Kliever.

The theme for Kidzfest Week was "All Together Now" and was carried out through the activities created with community arts and culture partners, including the Penticton Art Gallery.

The kids' mural will hang at the back of the Gallery for a year, said PAG Education and Programming Coordinator, Carla O'Bee. It's located on the way to the Japanese Gardens.

"We put it up this morning (June 21). The sun in the morning shines down and reflects a rainbow onto the Gallery wall. So when people are walking by their shadow has rainbow colours in it," said O'Bee.

"Thanks to Ha Ha Ha Kidzfest for asking the Penticton Art Gallery to be a community partner and to contribute a project idea for this festival. It's definitely been one of our favourites. So happy to see it all come together. Rainbows and art forever," said O'Bee.

By Monique Tamminga, Penticton Western News
June 22, 2021

COMMUNITY PARTNERS





SQUARE MURAL 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

The murals are completed and on display in Cannery Brewing's taproom. At the end of the program, the murals will be auctioned off to the public in the fall.

Follow the SQUARE Mural Project's progress through the Penticton Art Gallery and Cannery Brewing social media accounts. Follow **#Square2021** on Instagram.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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.

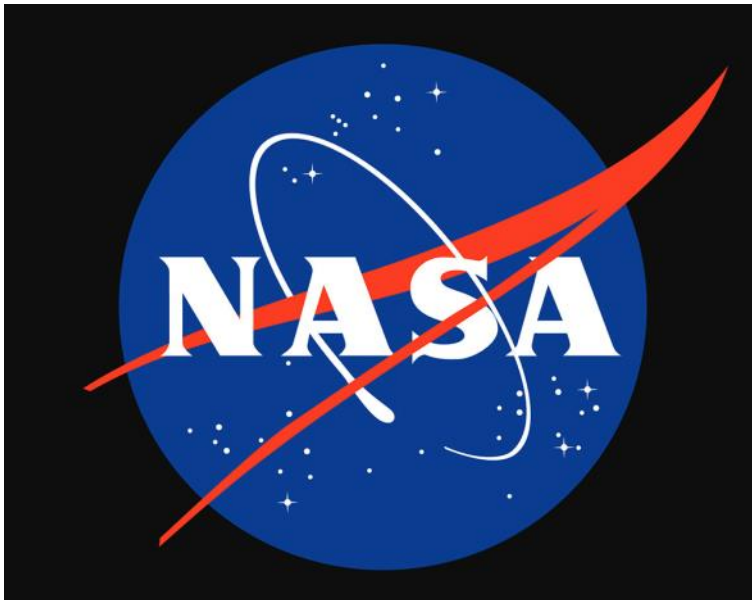
Are you an artist? Fill out our online form to be included in the database!

Visit the database here:

www.pentictonartgallery.com/contemporary-artists-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.

Above: Cannery Brewing Taproom featuring some of the 4' x 4' murals. Photo © Gord Goble, PentictonNow Media.



44TH ANNUAL ART AUCTION

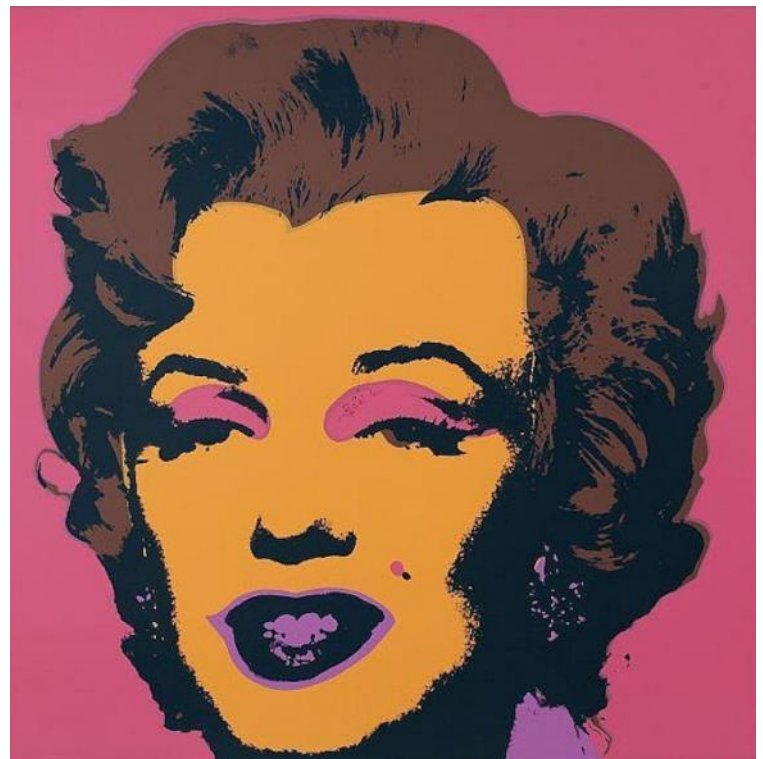
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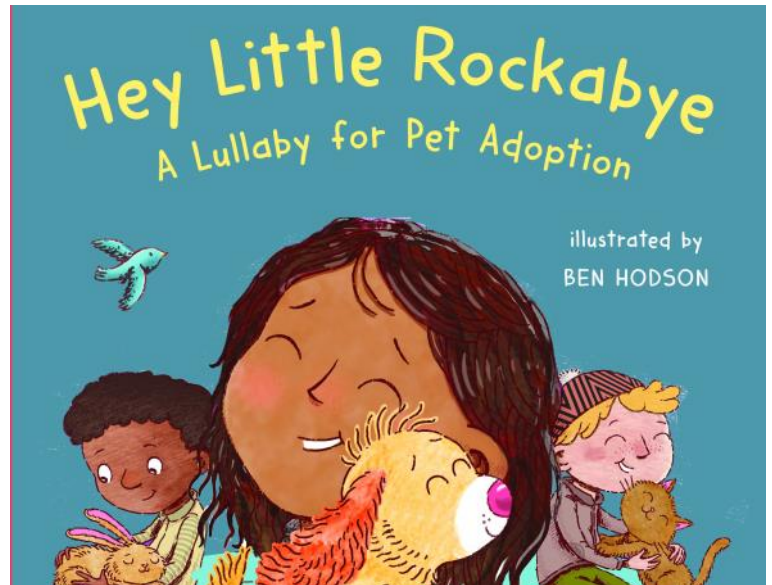
This year's event will feature 200 incredible pieces of history ranging from a signed first edition of Klee Wyck by Emily Carr, to James Irwin's NASA Apollo XV test pilot flight suit, to two iconic silkscreen prints by Andy Warhol from the Sunday B. Morning edition.

The funds raised from this event are critical to the ongoing development and delivery of our community engagement programs and initiatives. We are hoping that this will be a hybrid live and virtual auction.

Items can be previewed online at: www.32auctions.com/PAG2021. Advanced bidding will start on August 1st and continue online up to the live event.

The 44th Annual Art Auction promises to be out of this world!





NEWS FROM THE GIFT SHOP

Huichol Artwork + Buffy Sainte-Marie Merchandise!

Do not forget to check out the Penticton Art Gallery Gift Shop this summer!

Not only will we have goodies created by our amazing artisans, as well as our Bob Ross merchandise, we will also have our shelves filled with beautiful pieces created by the Huichol People. The Huichol are an indigenous tribe living in secluded settlements within Mexico's Sierra Madre mountains.

They are known for their beautiful artwork — animal figures, jaguar heads, masks, and ceremonial bowls coated with beeswax then covered in tiny, glass beads. Hundreds of beads, set in place one at a time, produce dazzling patterns derived from their ancestry and spirituality. The creation of this Huichol bead art requires a great deal of inspiration, patience, and concentration, all characteristics of the Huichol outlook on life. You can read more about the Huichol on page 9 of the Arts Letter.

Our Gift Shop will have handmade bracelets, turtle figures, crosses, and various sizes of votive bowls!

Two of Buffy Sainte Marie's books, *The Authorized Biography* and *Hey Little Rockabye* will be in our Gift Shop this summer.

Folk hero. Songwriter icon. Living legend. Buffy Sainte-Marie is all of these things and more. In this, Sainte-Marie's first and only authorized biography, music critic Andrea Warner draws from more than sixty hours of exclusive interviews to offer a powerful, intimate look at the life of the beloved artist and everything that she has accomplished in her seventy-seven years (and counting).

Young and old alike will cheer and sing along with this heartfelt picture book about pet adoption based on a new song by Academy Award-winning singer-songwriter Buffy Sainte-Marie.

In this tender and moving picture book, a puppy is looking for someone to love him. Will the girl who rescues him convince her parents to let her keep the little dog? Buffy Sainte-Marie advocates "putting the songs to work" and, like her other lyrics, *Hey Little Rockabye* conveys an important message about finding love and acceptance. Brought to life in charming illustrations by Ben Hodson, *Hey Little Rockabye* shares a not-yet-released song with the world for the first time.

We will also be carrying other Buffy Sainte Marie merchandise. Keep up-to-date with our Gift Shop this summer by following us on our social media pages!



365 DAYS OF ART

January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 / ONLINE

DAY 160 / ED HILL (b. 1948)

Ed Hill was born in Paris, Ontario in 1948, moving to Peterborough, Ontario at a very young age. At 20 he joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and in 1969 he was posted to Surrey, BC. He had studied art in high school, but his dream of becoming a professional artist did not take shape until the mid 1980s.

In the summer of 1985 that all changed. Ed and his family were posted to Tofino, British Columbia where he met and befriended renowned west coast artist Roy Henry Vickers. The two men became teacher and student. Ed spent many hours watching, questioning and listening before ever putting brush to paper in Vickers' style. Only through the tutoring and encouragement of Vickers did he produce his first limited edition print entitled *Old Man*. The two men shared a great interest in the wilderness, fishing, and indigenous culture. It was that association that allowed Ed to develop as a professional artist while still performing his daily duties as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. To this day the awesome beauty, power, and energy of British Columbia as a landscape inspires Ed in his artwork.

ABOUT THE ARTWORK / WRITTEN BY ED HILL

"Skardon Island is really just a small rock island with a few trees at the entrance to Pender Harbour, BC. If you check on Government maps you'll see that it's listed as Skardon Island Indian Reserve.

So many times in conversations with people on the matter of reconciliation with First Nations people, I hear the words "Why don't they just get over it?" I'm always frustrated in hearing that, in that none of us truly get over what's happened to us in the past. I have long been associated with Indigenous people. Luckily, my work many years ago allowed that to happen. I'm now personally and intimately aware of the issues of Residential Schools, the Reserve system, and all the other bureaucratic and systemic abuses of the First Nations people over the years.

But, even with all that knowledge I must admit to having been emotionally shocked at what I saw in Pender Harbour this past year. On a day of paddling with school kids in traditional canoes in the Pender Harbour area, we came up to Skardon Island. That's when I learned that in the late 1800s this became a Reserve. With no water, no firewood, and no food source, up to 30 families were relegated to live there. This would be their "home" now, while the European population would take over their long traditional land for their own purposes.

I found it hard to imagine a single family living there on a permanent basis. I couldn't envision 30 families forced to live there. I hope my painting of this serene island at first struck you as beautiful. I hope now that you know of its history, you can understand why First Nations people are taking a bit of time to GET OVER IT."

Above: Ed Hill, *Get Over It*, n.d. Acrylic on paper, 14" x 24".



MEET OUR NEW HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS

Richard Armstrong

Richard is syilx Okanagan, a fluent speaker and teacher of the Nsyilxcn Okanagan language, a traditional ecological knowledge keeper, Indigenous knowledge, customs, lifestyles, practices and performance through the use of c'aptikwl (Okanagan Legends), songs and stories.

Richard is one of the leading knowledge keepers at E-community Place, a project for syilx guided restoration and recovery for species at risk. With this specialized knowledge Richard has been a part of the efforts in habitat restoration and protection for the Yellow Breasted Chats, the Tiger salamander and the Western Screech Owl along side with the Black Cottonwood ecosystems habitat. As a part of his humbleness and generosity he has been an inspiration for many years and is a strong advocate for creating awareness and education through public events and festivals like the Meadowlark Nature Festival and the children's festival.

Dr. Jeannette Armstrong

Dr. Jeannette Armstrong is syilx Okanagan, a fluent speaker and teacher of the Nsyilxcn Okanagan language and a traditional knowledge keeper of the Okanagan Nation. She is a founder of the En'Owkin Centre, the Okanagan Nsyilxcn language and knowledge institution of higher learning of the syilx Okanagan Nation.

She currently is Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Okanagan Philosophy at UBC Okanagan. She has a Ph.D. in Environmental Ethics and syilx Indigenous Literatures. She is the recipient of the Eco Trust Buffett Award for Indigenous Leadership, and in 2016 the BC George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award. She is a visual artists and a prolific author whose published works include poetry, prose and children's literary titles and academic writing on a wide variety of Indigenous issues, she is considered one of the great thinkers in the arts and culture of British Columbia. Dr. Armstrong currently serves on Canada's Traditional Knowledge Subcommittee of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.



MEET OUR NEW HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERS

Glenn Clark

Glenn studied art at Okanagan College before attending the University of Calgary where he received a BFA in 1991. Immediately after graduating he was hired by the Art Gallery of the South Okanagan.

In 2012, in recognition of Glenn's 20th anniversary of working for the Gallery, we honored him with the largest solo exhibition held here to date. The exhibition *Glenn Clark: First Person Narrative* served as a mid-career survey, featuring more than 100 paintings going back to his university days. We owe a debt of gratitude to all that Glenn has brought to the Gallery since he first walked through our doors.

In early 2020, after 28 years, Glenn retired from the Gallery in pursuit of making his lifelong passion for art and teaching into a full-time career. It's been an honour and pleasure to have had Glenn here at the Gallery. The nearly three decades he dedicated to the Gallery will be felt well into the future.

Glenn has created numerous public art commissions, including more than 20 murals, with his most famous one featuring the Penticton Vees at the Brandenburg Gate after winning the 1955 World Championship, a painting commissioned by the Penticton Elks Lodge. His work has been exhibited across western Canada and can be found in countless private and public collections. Today he can be found painting full time in his custom built studio or, en plein air, out the back of his dragon wagon.

Follow Glenn on Facebook and keep updated with his painting sales!

Antonina + Bernie Cattani

Toni Cattani has been a dedicated member of the Penticton Potters' Guild. Her donation of bowls to our much loved Soup Bowls Project are among the most coveted and sought after. She is a highly regarded member of the arts community and a great friend, supporter, and mentor to all she comes into contact with. In a pre-pandemic world, an opening or Gallery event would not be complete without her in attendance with her laugh and smile brightening the room. Her work can be found for sale in our Gift Shop and in many distinguished collections the world over.

Toni's late husband, Bernie, was an active member of the Federation of Canadian Artists and resided in Penticton. His recent works were done in watercolour, and he became an established artist in this medium. Prior to retiring to the Okanagan Valley, Bernie's railroad career moved him from Thunder Bay to Winnipeg to Calgary. While in Calgary, Bernie participated in many art shows, becoming an active member of the Calgary Art and Sketch Club. After retiring, Bernie and his wife spent their winters in Yuma, Arizona, where he attended courses offered through the University of Western Arizona.

The Community Foundation of the South Okanagan Similkameen hold in trust the Toni + Bernie Cattani Legacy Fund for the Arts, a fund which provides an artist the opportunity to travel to Wells, B.C. each summer to participate in an intensive artist in residency program organized by Island Mountain Arts.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERS, DONORS

Volunteers

Thank you to our volunteers who help at the front desk on a weekly basis: Diane Beaton, Trish Sweeney, Karla Hennig, Senka Tennant, Jill Moreton, Lou Rutherford, Isabel Davies, Cindy Rogers, Cornelia King, Prabhdeep Dhaliwal, Janice Shalagan, Carol James, Gail Kalmar, Bonnie Motter; to Ron Marsh for photographing our exhibitions; to Sam McNally 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.

June Argyle; Dr. Jeannette Armstrong; Richard Armstrong; Yvonne Adams; Marion Armstrong; Jim Brittain; Alan + Laila Campbell; Antonina + Bernie Cattani; Betty Clark; Glenn Clark; Gayle Cornish; Lee Davison; Robert Doull; Candy Foran; Rosemarie Fulbrook; Vickie Garrett; Rob Hill; Sandra Henderson; Virginia Jewell; Cornelia King; Jeanne Lamb; Audrey Lawrie; Les + Sandy McKinnon; Natalie Minunzie; Evan Mitchell; Dennis Nielsen; Daryl O'Neill + Laurel Burnham; Stan + Elizabeth Pringle; Marge Punnett; Sophie Rankin; Jill Leir Salter; Ruth Schiller; Bruce Stevenson; Ret Tinning; Roy + Olga Tomlinson; Lillian Vander Zalm; Barbara Watson; Hazel Fry + Hal Whyte; Alphons + Nel Witteman.

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The Gallery recognizes those donors who have made a significant financial contribution to the gallery (\$20,000+)

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May/June 2021

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