Vol. 46 No. 5



SEPT/OCT, 2023

# ARTS LETTER

### ROBERT DMYTRUK

ENIGMA: PROLOGUE UNABSTRACTED



Thank You for Recycling this





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### Our VISION



Penticton Art Gallery's vision is a world where the visual arts foster greater inclusiveness, social engagement, critical thinking, and creativity.

### Our MISSION



The Penticton Art Gallery's mission is to engage our diverse community in an ongoing dialogue about issues and ideas as expressed through contemporary and historic art practices and to provide opportunities for interaction with artists and the artistic process.

### 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. Our gallery is accessible to everyone as a vibrant public space in service of our community. Our exhibitions, education and outreach programs engage our community in local, regional, and global issues, while embracing cultural and gender diversity, and the work of indigenous artists.

### TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

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

### **CONTACT US**

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









### **FALL HOURS**

Tuesdays-Fridays: 10am-5pm Saturdays: 11am-4pm

Sundays: Closed

Mondays + Holidays: Closed



Wheelchair accessible



Gender-inclusive restrooms

### **GALLERY STAFF**

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Director/Curator
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Julia Snow Administrator admin@pentictonartgallery.com

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Education + Programming
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collections@pentictonartgallery.com

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dr. Claude Roberto President

Heena Nagar Vice-President

Margaret Gobie Secretary

Ret Tinning Treasurer

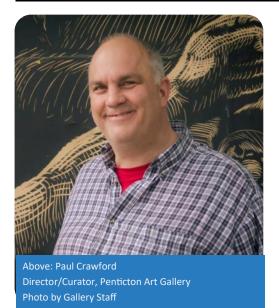
Ann Doyon, Kona Sankey, Nancy Schmidt, Cindi Lou Baker Katie Bowling, Jesse Doucette Directors



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



### Message from the Director



I hope this message finds you in good health and safety. I am writing on behalf of the Penticton Art Gallery team and Board to extend our heartfelt thoughts and best wishes to those who have been impacted by the wildfires that swept across our province this summer. Our sympathies are with those who have lost their homes, faced displacement, and are now confronted with the daunting challenge of rebuilding their lives and communities.

These events weighed heavily on my heart, especially when I began receiving messages from friends who had been suddenly evacuated. I can't imagine being faced with the task of having to curate and reduce your life into a single bag and anything you can hastily fit into your car before you need to flee, not knowing what you might return to.

The gravity of the situation became even more profound when I received the heartbreaking news that my friend Jeannine Caine, who worked at the Art Gallery when I first started here in 2006, had lost everything to the devastating McDougall Creek Fire. Jeannine is a single mother of two daughters, Luna and Zoe, and learning of her loss has really put a face to the enormity of this tragedy. After years of housing insecurity, Jeannine had finally found a place in Traders Cove that felt like home. Over the past year she set up her art studio and planted a large garden where she could grow plant medicines in support of her work as a Master Herbalist-and now that's all gone.

If you'd like to learn more about Jeannine and explore her creative practice, please visit her website at: www.jeanninecaineart.com. And if you'd like to support Jeannine in this difficult time a friend of Jeannine's set up a GoFundMe campaign to provide support to Jeannine and her family as they navigate the challenging journey of rebuilding their lives. If you're interested in learning more about this fundraiser and if you're in a position to assist Jeannine in getting back on her feet, please take a moment to visit the following link gofund.me/326de560 or scan this code:



Given the circumstances surrounding these events and the ongoing endeavors to raise funds and allocate resources to those directly affected by the wildfires, we have made the difficult decision to postpone our Annual Auction. This choice is aimed at preventing any potential overlap or competition for already limited resources. While we understand that this decision will have a substantial financial impact on the gallery, our steadfast dedication to community values continues to guide our actions. It is paramount for us to embrace a broader perspective, giving priority to our collective efforts and reinforcing our commitment to support one another as we embark on a shared journey. (With the cancellation of our annual art auction, we have a number of other fun events and opportunities to participate in and help us raise funds over he next two months. Please look at these events in the events section of this arts letter.)

many other non-profit community organizations, the gallery has faced challenges in returning to our pre-COVID fundraising levels. As we move towards our year-end the impact of our decision to postpone our Annual Auction will become more apparent on our financial standing. Currently, the gallery hosts at least one fundraising event or activity every other month. However, most of these events have already reached their maximum fundraising potential, primarily due to capacity constraints and the amount we can charge for a ticket set against our steadily increasing expenses. While these cherished events continue to play a vital role in generating muchneeded funds and maintaining crucial cash flow, their true value



# A smaller free to the public event will be held on November 26th! STAY TUNED FOR MORE NEWS...

extends beyond finances. They serve as catalysts for nurturing community connections and supporting our outreach initiatives.

The significance of our annual auction cannot be underestimated. as it is our sole fundraiser with growth potential. Over the years, it has proven to be a significant source of our annual self-generated revenue. However, the risk of dependency on events has become increasingly evident in recent years. Given this, despite the event's significant potential, I've come to appreciate the importance of maintaining a conservative budget for expected returns. Nevertheless, it remains our primary source of selfgenerated revenue annually and one of our greatest liabilities should we have to cancel or should it not meet our revenue projections. As with many organizations, the constant pressure to fundraise more is often limited by the time and human resources an organization can commit to hosting fundraising

events without it impacting their mission and mandate.

In addition to our fundraising activities our largest source of revenue is grants and with the advent of September, the annual grant writing season commences. For every grant we received in the year previous we need to complete detailed final reports before we apply again or seek out new funding opportunities. In evaluating the grants there are two main types of grants available to organizations: Operational grants and Project grants, both are critical funding methods for non-profit organizations, and although both aim to provide financial assistance, they vary significantly in their purpose and impact.

**Operational Grants**, are essential for an organization's day-to-day operations. They offer flexibility in fund allocation, covering operational expenses like salaries,

utilities, rent, and administrative costs. These grants aid the organization in maintaining its foundational infrastructure. Donors providing operational grants aim to invest in the organization's overall capacity and long-term impact, rather than funding specific projects or initiatives. These are the hardest grants to find and obtain, as most funders prefer to give funds to short term focused projects rather than ongoing operational costs. Project Grants, on the other hand, are typically one-time funding opportunities tailored for specific initiatives with clear, often timelimited, goals. These initiatives can include launching new programs, conducting research, or delivering community projects. While they provide focused support for innovation and deliverables, they tend to be more restrictive. necessitating adherence to defined objectives and budgets.

Continued on next page ---->

For most non-profits it's a common trap to be consistently chasing and writing every grant application available, using up valuable time and resources. While the possibility of securing additional funds is everpresent, one must judiciously assess the advantages for both the organization and the community in comparison to the time and expenses necessary to obtain those funds. It's also imperative to evaluate whether the project fits within your mandate and that the ultimate benefits alian with your core mission and justify the time, energy, and effort invested in the entire process, from writing the grants to delivering on their objectives and ultimately reporting on the outcomes. In many cases the time, work and costs associated with applying for, obtaining, and delivering a project grant can far outweigh the amount one receives from the funder.

Sadly, providing Operational Funding is not as glamorous as the intense burst of recognition a funder may receive from a Project Grant. Funders who offer operational funding are crucial to our ability to maintain our core services, strateaize for the future, and execute our mission effectively. In the case of the Penticton Art Gallery, we receive Operational Funding each year from three funding sources: the B.C. Arts Council, the Province of BC Community Gaming Grant, and the City of Penticton. While the funding we have received through the BC Arts Council and the City of Penticton has essentially remained the same since 2018, we have been lucky to see some growth in the amount we have received through Community Gaming.

I am grateful that starting this fall, the City of Penticton, is undertaking a two-year pilot program with several community stake holders, to explore how it can enter into a more collaborative multi-year funding/operational agreement, removing them from the grant process. I hope that this initiative fosters a

relationship characterized by mutual understanding, respect, and trust. If successful it will be a huge benefit to all the organizations involved as it will not only show the commitment of the city, it will allow each of those organizations the ability to focus on obtaining additional funding and/or the delivery of additional community events or services.

As an industry we are always appreciative of the support we receive from all our funders, but I must confess there are times when the energy we expend defending our work and the value we bring to society can be exhausting and demoralizing. I will forever by grateful for the unwavering support this community has shown not only the Penticton Art Gallery, but all our arts and cultural partners and our entire not for profit community.

I have been very fortunate to not have my work become a job, and I hope that it never will. It's sometimes hard for people to see or understand that our life is our job, and we are always looking to build bridges, make connections and explore the endless possibilities which exist in the hope that something magical may occur. It's a lifestyle and something I can't imagine not doing. Over the past few years, I have seen a growing number of amazingly talented and inspired individuals reach their breaking point and throw in the towel. It's always heartbreaking when you witness someone's love for their work get snuffed out.

It has always been an honour to serve this community and I thank all those whom I have had the good fortune to work with and learn from over the years. This list includes the inspired Bethany Handfield who has recently left her position as the Administrator of the Penticton and District Community Arts Council. It's been a pleasure to work with you over the years and I admire the incredible range of programs and outreach initiatives you have undertaken. I wish you all the very

best and thank you for the incredible work you've done in service of our community. With Bethany's departure, I am excited to work with Tristan Boisvert and Haley Regan who will be taking on the roles of Managing Director and Outreach and Fundraising Coordinator respectively.

economic and social The repercussions of this summer's wildfires are substantial and as we begin to reconcile the mounting losses and costs, I hope that we can come together and stand united in support of each other, offering solace and strength to those in need as we work to rebuild a stronger community. We thank all incredible Firefighters and first responders who have come from across the globe to help us in our efforts. Finally, our thoughts, prayers, and support go out to all those whose lives and livelihood have been affected in any way by the events of this past summer, thank you.

Take care of yourself and each other.

- Paul Crawford Director/Curator



Above: Bethany Handfield being awesome at the Penticton & District Community Arts Council, located in the Leir House. Thank you for all the great partnerships Bethany!



### Ignite the Arts Artist Applications Open!

We are thrilled to announce that artist applications for the 3rd annual Ignite the Arts Festival are now open! Artists and performers from all backgrounds and disciplines are invited to be a part of this vibrant celebration of creativity and culture. The festival will take place from March 29 to March 31, 2024, once again held in snpintktn on the unceded territory of the syilx (Okanagan) Peoples.

At Ignite the Arts, we're dedicated to fostering a dynamic and inclusive community that thrives. Our mission revolves around embracing the incredible diversity within our arts and culture community. By breaking down traditional barriers between artists and the public, we create an immersive experience that blurs the lines between performers and the audience, enriching our collective journey.

We are committed to achieving gender parity in our programming and providing a platform for underrepresented artists. We enthusiastically welcome applications from individuals of all genders, cultural backgrounds, ethnicities, and identities. Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of this transformative festival and help us celebrate the power of art to connect and inspire.

The deadline for artist applications is midnight, December 31, 2023. Ignite your creativity and join us at Ignite the Arts Festival in 2024!



mnMY5 into your browser or scan the qr below!





### Message from the President



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

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I will start by thanking the firefighters, pilots, RCMP officers, Emergency Response Teams, Forestry experts, volunteers and all the ones protecting us and our communities from the wildfires. We appreciate the incredible work you are doing under very challenging conditions to keep us safe.

The forest fires impacted the Penticton Art Gallery because we are part of the local communities. We feel so sorry for the ones who lost homes! The Gallery has sponsors and friends who are still on evacuation orders or evacuation alerts in West Kelowna. In addition, unfortunately our town lost many visitors because of the fires, and consequently our members and friends who own a business are facing significant losses of revenues. It will then not be a surprise to hear we decided to postpone our Art Auction initially planned for September 16th. It is not the right time to celebrate and we want to give everyone time to recover and rebuild.

However, in our chaotic and challenging times, your Art Gallery remains open and we believe more than ever that art is important in difficult times. We agree with the words of Max Wyman who has just published a book entitled The Compassionate Imagination: How the Arts Are Central to a Functioning Democracy.

In his opinion, "our continued lukewarm support of Canada's cultural sector shows a widespread underestimation of the power of the arts to transform both individuals and communities for the better". Usually, we get grants for basic survival, but does our society deserve only cultural survival? Do you want more? Do we deserve more?

Are we willing to support "a policy that affirms art and culture as the humanizing core of our civil society", such as suggested by Max Wyman for Canada? No doubt the Penticton Art Gallery humanizes as much as possible local communities in difficult times.

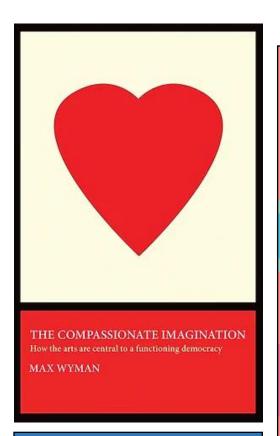
Our exhibits and workshops help to develop compassion, decency, connections, understanding and reconciliation within communities. Our doors were open to everyone as soon as we were allowed to have visitors during the Covid months. Many people, suffering from loneliness and depression, pushed our entrance doors open. We have also partnered up with Foundry Penticton to provide free workshops for people aged 12-18 and 19-24 to explore and experience different art techniques. Our goal is to support access to mental health and decrease substance use, starting from early childhood. Do you know we always try our best to decrease or cancel fees for our young students taking art classes if their families can't afford these fees? We believe it is essential to give to each child the opportunity to learn art and be part of a healthy group of friends. Inclusivity is also found in all our activities. Our two August sessions on sign language were full within a few days and we will offer additional sessions this fall because of high demand for this training in our town. What about our Indigenous exhibits and events supporting reconciliation and giving a voice to Indigenous artists?

Unfortunately, the Penticton Art Gallery often has to justify itself in economic terms. Staff calculates the number of visitors coming from out of town and requiring accommodation in hotels and meals in restaurants. Other expenses, such as gas, parking, and items for sale in gift shops, are added to give an idea of how much money the Gallery brings to Penticton.

We agree with Max Wyman. Our current system of calculating outcomes in dollars is wrong and should not be used to measure success/ensure resources for the following year. We should not value everything in terms of what it cost or contributed to the economy. However, we are part of a system where we must defend our economic value in order to survive—and where art is often not perceived as a priority. Let us all work together with our members, leaders, decision makers and sponsors to bring changes to the value of art and culture! ◆

Dr. Claude Roberto - President of the Board





ISBN: 9781770866997

Max Wyman is one of Canada's foremost cultural commentators. For more than three decades he wrote arts criticism and analysis for Vancouver newspapers and CBC radio. The Compassionate Imagination is his seventh book on the arts in Canada. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a former member of the board of the Canada Council for the Arts, and a former President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. He lives in Lions Bay, near Vancouver, BC.

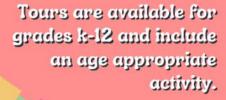
For additional information, scan to view: open-book.ca interview with Max Wyman



Max Wyman Globe and Mail



# School Tours?



If you are interested in booking a tour for your class please email our education coordinator at education@pentictonartgallery.com for more information



### HEENA NAGAR

PERSONAL REAL ESTATE

250-488-9339 heena.realty@gmail.com www.heenanagar.ca







"Helping You Live Your Beautiful Life"



### In the Gift Shop







### FEATURED ARTIST: Vania Burton!

Vania Burton is best known as a fused glass artist who uses "on edge" construction methods and warm temperature firing schedules in a kiln to create colourful, textural pieces that tell a story. Glass is cut into strips then placed on their edge to highlight the inside of the glass rather than the surface. As Vania often says: "like people, the inside of the glass is usually more interesting than the outside".

Although glass "on edge" is her signature style, her work is always evolving and Vania is currently working on new techniques including bubble control, glass movement in the kiln and using enamels to enhance her work. Vania's desire to grow as an artist leads her to seek knowledge, push glass boundaries and create one of a kind pieces of art. In so doing, a story emerges and it is Vania's job to tell the story using the form and context of the medium.

Glass, as a medium, is the perfect marriage between art and science and its complexity demands special treatment and knowledge to bring out its best qualities. Vania has taken glass classes and workshops in Canada, the United States and Italy but also draws on life experiences and her curious nature to experiment. Her favourite question is, "What happens if I...?". She also has experience in fibre arts and painting. Vania's pieces are in collections in Canada, the US and Europe.

Vania is a long time exhibitor at the Beacon Fine Art Show in Calgary, and has also shown work at the Calgary Stampede, Elbow Room Fine Art Show, Riverside Art Group Show, Harmony Fine Art Collective Show, Lake Country Artwalk, and Predator Ridge Inspired Living Art Show. ◆





### PAG's Hidden Gem: The Tait Art Library!



Above: Resident book nerd Rebecca Stocker peruses the library, conveniently located next to her office upstairs at PAG.

The Penticton Art Gallery Library is a "hidden"\* gem! Started years ago by volunteers and book donors, it was first located in a corner of the project room. After more years of book donations, and with a generous donation from the Tait estate, the library was moved to the second floor of the Art Gallery (where Gallery Administration now resides), and named the Tait Reading Room. Then in 2012, a modern library automated system (OPALS) was donated, and the organization of the collection became much easier. A few years later, with herculean effort by staff and volunteers, the library was moved to its present location.

**Why is it a gem?** Because whether you are an artist, a student, an art lover, an art critic, an educator or historian, there is something in this library of over 4000 items, to peak your interest.

So, it's time for you to check it out. Come up to the second floor of the Art Gallery during Gallery open hours, and just browse, or use the computer located there to see what is available. It's easy to use—just keyword access, like searching on Google, etc. In fact, you can search the Library from home: Go the Penticton Art Gallery Website—click on "Collections & Library", then click on "Tait Art Library" and you're there — explore!

In future <u>PAG Arts Letters</u>, we plan to have regular information on the Library and what it has to offer members. Anyone interested in what Monet liked to cook and eat?—we have the answer! •

### **Big thanks to:**

Our amazing Library Volunteers Hazel Fry, Nancy Howes-Olmstead, & Hal Whyte!



\*Not so hidden really - go to the back of the Art Gallery, up the stairs, and turn right through the blue door!



### Toni Onley Gallery

### Meet the Artists!

Exhibition Opening Event @ PAG
September 22nd at 7:00 pm
Free to Attend!

Friday September 22nd – Saturday November 4th, 2023

### THE UNART UNCOMMONS

Exhibition Artists: Lee Bale, Dave Cantine, Karen Cantine, Bob Dmytruk, Ray Harper, Mary Joyce, David Kleinsasser,
Lynn Malin, Sharon Thompson, Sylvain Voyer, Wiz Wensel, & Marlena Wyman

#### ARTICLE WRITTEN BY PAUL CRAWFORD

For nearly a decade now, a gathering of artists has been taking place in Edmonton each Saturday, their collective presence standing as a testament to their seasoned experience and artistic maturity. This isn't a congregation of young, naive novices; rather, it's an assembly of individuals who have meticulously honed their craft over time. Bound together by a shared love for unabashed artistic expression, they convene in local cafés, where tables are pushed together, transforming the space into a hub of creative energy.

At the heart of this group lies a significant contingent of esteemed senior artists, their bond solidified by a notable common thread – many of them were once students of Dave Cantine's influential painting classes at the University of Alberta. This affiliation traces its roots back to the 1970s, a period when the foundation of their artistic journeys was being skillfully laid.

Gathered around these tables, bags are unzipped, and a carefully curated assortment of items emerges. These objects, once scattered across the tabletop, become subjects of exploration. They are arranged, rearranged, stacked, and dispersed in a symphony of creative thought. Amidst the chatter, jests, and hearty laughter, the narrative of their interactions unfolds.

At the core of this tightly knit group of friends lies a central figure who is fondly referred to as the "colour master." As time has passed, a natural evolution has given rise to distinct roles within this collective. There is the enigmatic "trickster," a catalyst of transformation, and the adept "joiner," weaving bonds between seemingly disparate elements. The "virtual virtuoso," the "lens," the masterful "dyer and weaver," the chronicler of community history, the passionate "activist," the visionary "designer," the captivating "animator-orator," and a guardian of nature - each member brings their own unique essence to this dynamic tapestry.

Their camaraderie is palpable, resonating through

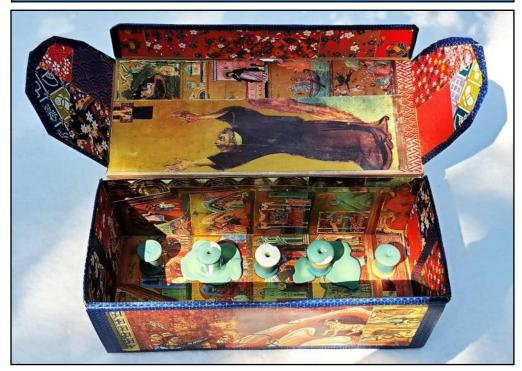
laughter, the playful manipulation of objects, and the free exchange of ideas. Conversations span a spectrum—gossip and confessions about health intermingle with reflections on art and creative processes. And as the day draws to a close, they disperse, each infused with a renewed vigor to face the challenges of their individual studio work.

But what unites them in this ceaseless activity? What thematic undercurrent guides their endeavors? What sustains their bond, and what invisible forces draw them together week after week? The questions abound: Was there a selection process, a membership test? Did a manifesto serve as their guiding light? The answers lie within the anecdotes, the laughter, and the shared creative drive that bind these artists in their quest to cheat death from the clutches of their daily artistic endeavors.



### **UnArt Exhibit Statement**

A group of established senior Edmonton artists have been meeting every Saturday for almost two decades at coffee shops (and by Zoom during the pandemic) to let loose art conventions and find kinship with each other within what can often be an isolating experience as solitary studio artists. Most of the group share the common bond of having been students of Dave Cantine's painting classes at the University of Alberta beginning in the 1970s. The members exchange ideas, have fun playing with colour, shape and material, and create spontaneous, unarty objects that are meant to be transitory and unprecious. No need for philosophical pondering required here – please just enjoy! •









Left Top: Marlena Wyman

Title: Holy shoebox with waxen spools!

Date: 2023

Media: shoebox, pages cut from a book, wooden spools, pigmented beeswax

Left Bottom: David Cantine Title: Stirsticks with Colour Date: 2022-2023

Right Top: Sylvain Voyer Title: For Michelangelo Date: ca. the last decade

Media: mixed media

Media: paper

Right Bottom: Mary Joyce

Title: Little Heartsease: Stroke Felts Towards Sky

Date: 2013-2019

Media: plaster, paint, tubing, red felt scrap



### Project Room

fibre art network

### Meet the Artists!

**Exhibition Opening Event @ PAG** 

September 22nd at 7:00 pm

Free to Attend!

Friday September 22nd -

Tiday September 22nd - Saturday Nov

# RESIST

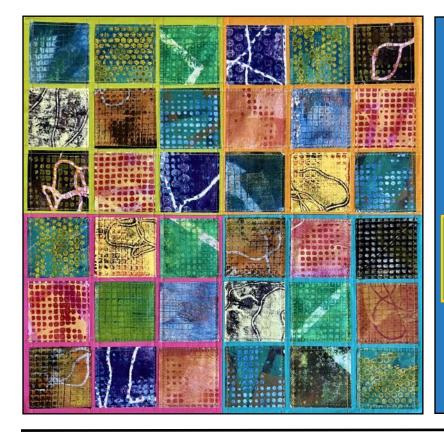
The Fibre Art Network (FAN)

The Fibre Art Network (FAN) is a co-operative of self-defined artists based in Western Canada. The co-operative was first conceived in the spring of 1998 by British Columbians Pat Crucil and Gail Hunt and then organized later that year by Gail. Since then, FAN has created 31 exhibitions exhibited at 98 Canadian venues and 9 International venues.

FAN members come from Western Canada – British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut – and share their learning and news in a newsletter (10 issues per year.) It is a long-distance meeting of minds that spans artistic challenges as well as geographic ones.

Members also meet in community-based subgroups and for an annual conference where they connect and share as they stretch their comfort zone and take their art to a new level.

FAN membership includes emerging fibre artists, teachers, authors, judges, and award-winning textile artists. Many have shown their work nationally and internationally and some have won both national and international recognition for their work. The cooperative engenders fellowship of like-minded friends and celebrates differences as well as common interests.



### <u>Fibre Art Network's</u> <u>Mission</u>

The Fibre Art Network mounts a new Gallery Exhibit each year that is open to all FAN members. These exhibits are designed to be presented in art galleries and are available to travel to venues across Canada for a period of three years.

### September 23rd FAN Artist Demo!

Join FAN Artists at PAG in the tea room for a free art demo at 1 pm on September 23rd. Free to attend!

Left: Terry Aske
Title: Grids and Strings and Other Things
Media: Resist experiments arranged in a grid formation on squares of
solid fabrics. Mono-printing with acrylic paint, creating layers with
grids, strings and various other things.



'Resist' is an art technique that uses several layers to expose or define a design in negative space. Resistant substances are applied as a coating to protect a surface during some process e.g. prevent dye adhering.

Resist can be artistic, positive, negative, frightening, or enlightening... to stand firm or hold out (against), not yield (to), fight (against). To resist something such as change – you refuse to accept it and try to prevent it... resist temptation of... couldn't resist teasing or laughing at...

The Fibre Art Network (FAN) group represents a dynamic and vibrant collective of skilled fibre artists, encompassing members from western Canada, including British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon, and the Northwest Territories. Serving as a tangible embodiment of their creative synergy, FAN stands as a testament to their shared passion for the intricate world of fibre artistry.

In conjunction with the Resist exhibition, FAN is prepared to host its annual conference from September 20th to 23rd, 2023, at Penticton's Lakeside Resort. This year's conference has garnered significant anticipation, as it offers an environment that nurtures creativity, forges camaraderie, and facilitates the unhindered flow of intellectual exchange.

The conference program pledges to present an extraordinary array of activities, enhanced by a diverse range of speakers, demonstrations, member-driven trunk shows, a popup shop showcasing an array of artistic treasures, and an intimately curated exhibition titled "Close Up." This exhibition provides an introspective exploration of their craft. The entire program is meticulously crafted to ignite one's imagination, ensuring that the conference is overflowing with insight and innovation.

While this year's conference remains an exclusive gathering reserved for FAN members, individuals intrigued by the realm of fibre art and eager to become part of this extraordinary artists' community are invited to connect with Gisela Carroll. She can provide further information on how you can become involved. Feel free to reach out at: membershipfan@gmail.com ◆

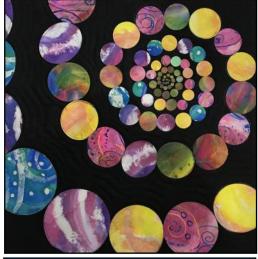
### **About the Artists**

This exhibition features the work of 46 FAN members. To discover the artist bios and photos of each members' selected artwork can be viewed at: fibreartnetwork.com/exhibit/resist

(\*Please note that not all FAN members will be represented in the Resist exhibit.)



Artist: Gisela Carroll
Title: Evolution



Artist: Donna-Fay Digance Title: Spiral Resist



Artist: Joan Kilpatrick
Title: Golden Age or Golden Cage?



### Main Gallery

### Friday September 22nd - Saturday November 4th, 2023

### **About**

Robert Dmytruk is a second generation Ukrainian Canadian whose family emigrated from the Ukraine in 1938. He grew up in Edmonton and studied Fine Arts at the University of Alberta before transferring to the Department of Art Education. Robert began a teaching career in Edmonton,

Canada in 1980 where he taught art at the secondary level. His tenure in art education included an assignment as Department Head of Art at the Victoria School of Art in Edmonton. After which, his career continued as the Art Curriculum Consultant for the Edmonton Public School District. In addition, he was seconded to Concordia University College, in Edmonton, to teach and instill knowledge and understanding of

the Alberta art curriculum for aspiring teachers. After retiring from art education, he moved to British Columbia, Canada where he devotes himself to a full-time career as a visual artist working out of his home and studio located in Trout Creek.

Robert Dmytruk's artistry is a profound journey shaped by upbringing and decades of transformative events. His current exhibition, "Enigma," elegantly

### ROBERT DMYTRUK

### **ENIGMA: PROLOGUE UNABSTRACTED**

In 2020, Robert Dmytruk embarked on a foray into three-dimensional painting. This artistic exploration involved the vibrant application of oil, acrylic, and spray paints onto various shapes and surfaces. Initially, he worked on paper, adhering it to gatorboard, and then applied synthetic resin for both its plasticity and protective qualities. As his journey evolved, he began painting directly onto gatorboard, using a multitude of shapes and layers to achieve his desired artistic outcomes. This intensive process demanded meticulous effort, including painting, cutting, sanding, shape

placement, composition assembly, and a final resin layer, all with ongoing reconsideration.

The year 2020 brought seismic shifts to Robert Dmytruk's art career due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Two galleries that once showcased his work were forced to close. Amid this solitude, a lifeline emerged through social media communication with long-time friend and composer/musician Murry J Reid. This exchange of Murray's symphonies and Robert's evolving three-dimensional paintings served as a wellspring of inspiration, even during life's restrictions.

Murray's composition '1987' emerged as a dominant influence on Robert's work throughout 2020-2021. This captivating symphony compelled Robert to respond visually.. These artworks embody months of experimentation, creative discovery, and the enduring resonance of '1987' in Robert's studio. It's important to emphasize that Robert views his creations not as interpretations of Murray's music but as personal responses, enriching the creative dialogue between two artists.









### Meet the Artists!

Exhibition Opening Event @ PAG
September 22nd at 7:00 pm
Free to Attend!

### Main Gallery

### Friday September 22nd - Saturday November 4th, 2023

blends these experiences and observations. This title hints at the layers of mystery within the work.

Dedicated to idea exploration and material experimentation, his creative practice has evolved, culminating in mixed-media works fusing painting, collage, drawing, and sculpture. These pieces transcend technical prowess, offering a portal to universal truths and human emotions.

With a fusion of ideas, passions, and contemplations, this exhibition harmonizes Dmytruk's narrative. It showcases meticulously curated elements, resulting in a breathtaking collection. Blending diverse materials like plexiglass, wood, gatorboard, paint, charcoal, and synthetic resin, Dmytruk's

art transcends the canvas, becoming innovative forms with intricate shapes, patterns, and colors. This journey culminates in captivating three-dimensional sculptures at the heart of the exhibition.

### ROBERT DMYTRUK

### ENIGMA: UKRAINE

Robert Dmytruk received a file from composer and musician Murray J. Reid in April of 2022, containing Murray's new symphonic composition titled 'Ukraine,' reflecting the ongoing war. While Ukraine fought valiantly against Putin's forces, the devastation haunted Robert.

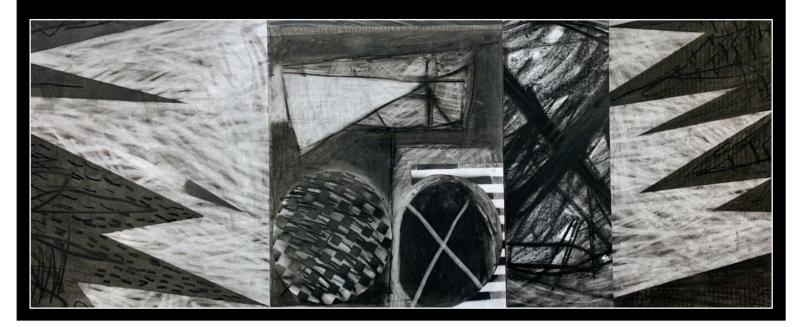
He began his response in his studio, experimenting with materials like gatorboard and resin for three-dimensional paintings. However, these didn't fully capture his response. After months of trial and error, he turned to

charcoal on paper, allowing him to convey the war's horrors and Murray's composition more effectively.

His drawings multiplied quickly, inspiring the idea of a continuous installation blending sound and vision. Initially unsure about exhibiting these contrasting shows at the Penticton Art gallery, Robert questioned their connection. This led him to contemplate his comfortable daily routines, contrasting with the daily struggles faced by the people of Ukraine.

Though these exhibits seem mismatched at first glance, they represent two contemporaneous themes: an outward 'self' and an 'inner subconsciousness.'

These exhibitions, with the overarching name of "Enigma," masterfully fuse ideas, passions, and visual narratives, showcasing Robert's artistic evolution and reflecting the complexities of the human experience. It invites viewers on a journey of self-discovery guided by enigmatic threads in these remarkable works. ◆



# PENTICTON ART GALLERY

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# September 2023

	2	PANOPTICAL POET WORKSHOP 1:00 - 3:00 PM	16	FAN: RESIST ARTIST DEMO FREE TO ATTEND 1:00 – 2:00 PM	30 TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION DAY
	FIRST FRIDAYS AT LEGACY DEN 7:30 PM	σ	15	EXHIBITION OPENING @ PAGI FREE TO ATTEND 7:00 – 9:00 PM	29
		2	14 YOUNG@ART 3:15 – 4:30 PM	21 YOUNG@ART 3:15 – 4:30 PM	28 YOUNG@ART 3:15 – 4:30 PM
		FOUNDRY DROP-IN AGES 12-18 3:30 – 4:30 PM (@ FOUNDRY)	13	20 PRESCHOOL ART 10:30 – 11:30 AM FOUNDRY DROP-IN AGES 18-24 3:30 – 4:30 PM (@ FOUNDRY)	27 PRESCHOOL ART 10:30 – 11:30 AM
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# PENTICTON ART GALLERY

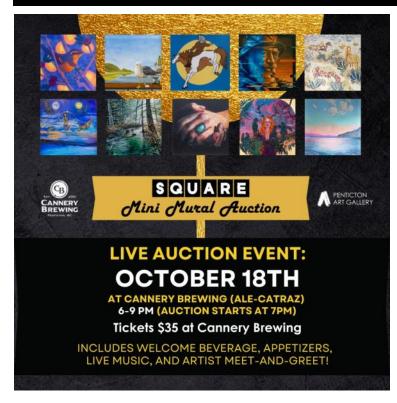
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# October 2023

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### Square Mini Mural Auction



In a harmonious blend of artistic prowess and community support, the Penticton Art Gallery is once again collaborating with Cannery Brewing to present the third annual Square Mini Mural Fundraising Auction. This event promises an enchanting evening that brings together art enthusiasts, local talent, and the broader community to celebrate creativity and provide vital support for artists and community outreach initiatives. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18th, 2023, from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, with a welcoming reception from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Cannery Brewing. Tickets are priced at \$35 and include a welcome beverage, appetizers, live music, and an opportunity to meet the artists.

This year's auction showcases ten remarkable 4' x 4' paintings, each a testament to the incredible talents of local artists. Arianne Tubman, Brittney Bidlake, Endrené

Shepherd, Lukas Lundberg, Naomi Qoyllur Díaz Robledo, Neil Erickson, Robyn Sylvester, Taylor Baptiste, Toni Albert, and Zac Abney have poured their creativity onto these canvases, infusing them with their unique visions.

Notably, each participating artist received a \$500 honorarium and will also claim 50% of the proceeds from the sale of their artwork. The remaining 50% will be reinvested back into the program, ensuring ongoing support for emerging artists. These visually stunning mini murals, have been on display throughout the summer months at Cannery Brewing in the Tap room as well as The Backyard, are suitable for indoor or outdoor display.

Bidding commences at \$500.00 with online bids accepted at **32auctions.com/cannery2023**. The online bidding will continue until midnight on Tuesday, October 17th, 2023, with the bids rolling over to live auction itself held the next day. For those unable to attend the live event, an absentee bid feature is available, allowing participants to leave their maximum bid. In the event of no additional bids at the live auction, the highest current active bid secures the mural. Successful bidders will be notified via email within 48 hours of the auction's conclusion.

"Chelsea and I had a wonderful time unveiling these paintings during Ignite the Arts Festival in March, and we are excited to see who gets to take them home," says Rebecca Stocker, Education Coordinator at Penticton Art Gallery. She continues, "This event not only nurtures the careers of local artists but also fortifies community partnerships, such as the one with Cannery Brewing, and benefits the broader community."

For inquiries, additional photographs, or any information on the auction, please contact the gallery at marketing@pentictonartgallery.com or by phone at (250) 493-2928. ◆



To Pre-Bid, scan QR or visit: 32auctions.com/Cannery2023



### 27th Annual Soup Bowls

# ARE YOU A RESTAURANTEUR OR CATERER INTERESTED IN COMPETING FOR SOUPY GLORY?

CONTACT DONNA-LEE AT RECEPTION@

PENTICTONARTGALLERY.COM

OR CALL 250-493-2828

### Tickets on Sale Now!

Stop by the Penticton Art Gallery, Visit our website, or scan the QR code below!

\*Members! Make sure to check your email for your online discount code! Or call and we will give you the secret password!





Sponsored by the Penticton + Summerland Potters Guilds

### SOUP'S ON

At Penticton Art Gallery \* 199 Marina Way

repare for a simmering showdown at the 27th Annual Soup Bowls Event It's the Gallery's hottest fundraiser and culinary competition, a feast for the senses like no other.

Picture this: Hand-crafted bowls by Penticton and Summerland potters guilds await your selection. Penticton's top restaurants serve sensational soups, and we've not bread, desperts, and drinks to keen you satisfied.

But that's not all – you get to take home your chosen bowl and a recipe book packed with soup magic. Now, the excitement heats up with the soup competition! Local eateries and organizations battle for the People's Choice Best Soup title. Grab your bowl, sample, and vote for your favourites – it's a taste of excitement you won't want to miss!



NIGHT ONE

**NOVEMBER 9TH** 

**NIGHT TWO** 

**NOVEMBER 12TH** 

DOORS 6:30 PM SOUP SERVED AT 7 PM





### 45.5th "Annual" Art Auction

### WHAT IS A 45 1/2TH AUCTION?

It's a pared down (but still fun!) auction you host when you cancelled your 46th annual auction due to wildfires and the belief that to fundraise during that time would be irresponsible and detract from fundraising for firefighters and the people that lost their homes

# NOVEMBER 26TH

As some of you may know, the 46th annual Art auction was recently postponed. However, We didn't want to completely do away with the auction as it is such an anticipated and enjoyed event. So the staff and board put their heads together and decided that we would have a "half auction!" - which is like a regular auction except it's a little smaller, a little more low-key, and a little later in the year. Our 45 1/2th "annual" auction will be taking place on **November 26th from 1-4pm at the Gallery**. It is a free event and there will be snacks and drinks and good company. Also if you're not able to make the live auction- no worries, all of the auction items are up online now and are open to be bid on!

Online bids will end at midnight on the 25th of November—if you can't make the auction in person, please take advantage of the absentee bid feature and leave your maximum bid. A member of the Gallery will bid on your behalf at the live event. If there are no additional bids at the live event, the highest current active bid will win.

We hope to see you at our 45 1/2th "Annual" Auction. It may not be as big as our usual auctions, but it will be just as fun! And if you're really down in the dumps about the 46th Annual Art Auction being cancelled, don't be! As it is not technically cancelled, but merely postponed until next year. The 46th annual art auction will be taking place June 22nd, 2024. So keep your eyes peeled for more information about that as we get closer. ◆







### The Search for "Wandering Spirit" Continues



Article Written by PAUL CRAWFORD

The Penticton Art Gallery is embarking on a quest to unearth the remarkable art and stories surrounding Alvin Elif Constant, known as "Wandering Spirit" (1946-2006). We are excited to announce an upcoming exhibition scheduled to grace our gallery from Saturday, November 18, 2023, to Saturday, January 20, 2024.

Alvin Constant, or "Wandering Spirit," was a captivating artist who left an indelible mark on those who had the privilege of encountering him. One of my early memories as a young observer was seeing him diligently crafting his stencil prints outside the Hudson Bay building on West Georgia St. There, he would proudly showcase and sell his art from a large black folio. At the tender age of 12, I stumbled upon his creative haven, a forbidden land of exploration for me at the time, East Hastings. The Hudson Bay served as my bus stop for the journey home, offering numerous days of fascination watching this jovial and affable man at work.

Little did I know that these childhood memories would etch themselves into my soul, forever shaping my perception of art. A decade later, our paths would serendipitously intersect once more, this time in Victoria, where he set up shop on Government Street or along the Inner Harbour Causeway. Each visit was an opportunity to observe his artistry and engage in conversations as he shared his creations. Remarkably, he always seemed to recall our previous encounters. Regrettably, I never mustered the courage to acquire one of his pieces, swayed more by my status as a student and a lack of confidence in trusting my heart's preference over the allure of a famous artist's name.

The context of how and where we acquire art often influences its value in our lives. This notion is starkly exemplified by the 2013 story of Banksy, the renowned street artist, who sold his original works in New York City for a mere \$60 each. It took hours for the first sale to transpire, with buyers haggling for discounts. However, one woman from New Zealand later sold her purchased pieces at auction for a staggering £125,000. This tale highlights the unpredictable nature of art's worth and the hidden stories behind each piece.

Alvin Constant's life and art serve as a poignant reminder of the tragedies endured by many talented individuals whose lives were tragically cut short. His story mirrors the broader narrative of our colonial history, shedding light on the challenges faced by Indigenous artists

Historically, most Indigenous artists distrusted the Western gallery system, opting to sell their creations directly or through Indigenous craft and tourist shops. Unfortunately, this practice resulted in a lack of records for these artists, a lack of appreciation for their work as fine art, and often, short and tragic lives. Consequently, their art remains underrepresented in exhibitions and art museums, with its value determined by the circumstances of acquisition. Notable exceptions, like Norval Morrisseau (1932-2007), are few and far between.

We yearn to bridge this gap in our collective art history, to acknowledge the lives and legacies that have languished in obscurity outside their communities, friends, and fortunate collectors. Our first step is to explore the life, art, and legacy of Alvin Elif Constant, "Wandering Spirit." We invite the larger community to contribute their stories and artworks to feature in a forthcoming exhibition. If you possess any of Alvin's artworks that you would be willing to lend us or cherished memories to share, please reach out to us at the gallery.

The search continues for the missing pieces of Alvin Constant's story, and we invite you to be a part of this exciting journey. Together, we can illuminate the rich tapestry of his life and art for all to appreciate and cherish. ◆



### Youth Programming

Welcome to the Penticton Art Gallery's exciting lineup of kids' programming! At Penticton Art Gallery, we believe in nurturing creativity and artistic expression from a young age. Our diverse range of programs cater to children of all ages and interests, providing a welcoming and engaging environment for artistic exploration and development.

For our aspiring teenage artists, we offer the Teen Studio Art program, where participants can delve into advanced art techniques, expand their artistic horizons, and express their unique perspectives through various mediums. Our Preschool Art program introduces the youngest artists to the joys of creativity, encouraging them to explore colors, shapes, and textures through fun and age-appropriate activities.

Maker Mondays provide an opportunity for young makers and inventors to unleash their creativity

Join us in the Foundry basement to customize your very own sketchbook provided by the Penticton Art Gallery own sketchbook provided by the Penticton Art Gallery

Ages 12-17

Wednesday September 6th

3:30 - 4:30 PM

PENTICTON GALLERY

FOUNDRY

through hands-on projects that blend art and technology. Little Leos Pro-D Day Camps offer exciting and educational adventures for kids during school breaks, where they can discover the wonders of art while making new friends. Lastly, our Free to Attend Young @ Art sessions invite youth to join us for special art-related events and workshops, ensuring that art is accessible to everyone.

Explore our posters for each program to learn more about dates, times, and registration details. Join us at the Penticton Art Gallery, where imagination knows no bounds, and creativity is celebrated at every age!

Things are filling up quickly! Get your kids signed up today!







PENTICTON ART GALLERY



Running in conjunction with the academic school year, this self directed drop-in program is open to those aged 10 to 16 on Thursday afternoons from 3:15 – 4:30pm. Students draw, paint and focus on projects of particular interest to them. Our new sessions will start on Thursday, September 14th, 2023

199 Marina Way

www.pentictonartgallery.com

250-493-2928

# LITTLE LEONARDOS PRO-D DAY 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 handson projects.

9:00am-3:00pm

Single Class: \$45 members // \$50 non-members

Call, stop by, or visit our website to get your spot: pentictonartgallery.com 250-493-2928 Ages 5-12

Monday September 25th, 2023: ARCTIC ADVENTURES WITH TED HARRISON

Friday October 20th, 2023: EXPRESS YOURSELF WITH EDVARD MUNCH

Tuesday November 14th, 2023: ROY LICHTENSTEIN'S SUPERHERO POP ART

Monday January 15th, 2024: CELEBRATING ART AND IDENTITY WITH FRIDA KAHLO

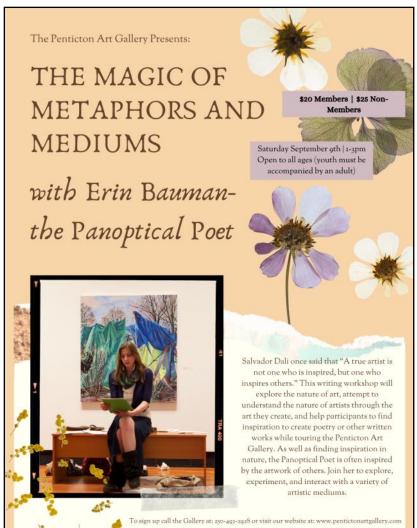
Friday February 16th, 2024: HENRI ROUSSEAU TAKES US TO THE JUNGLE

Monday April 22nd, 2024:
EMILY CARR'S CANADIAN LANDSCAPES





### Adult Programming





We are still locking a few more adult workshops, so stay tuned for more info on our social media channels. But for now, check out:

The Magic of Metaphors and Mediums: Prepare for an enriching experience guided by the renowned Erin Bauman, known as the Panoptical Poet! In this exceptional writing workshop, we'll explore the essence of art, aiming to understand artists through their creations. Participants will embark on an inspiring tour of the Penticton Art Gallery, using the artworks as a wellspring of creativity for crafting poetry and other written expressions. Drawing from nature and the artistic wonders on display, the Panoptical Poet invites you to explore, experiment, and engage with various artistic mediums. Discover the artist within and join us for a transformative journey of self-expression.

Additionally, join us for "Mail Art Mondays," an opportunity to delve into the captivating world of mail art. Dive into the realm of creative correspondence, where each postcard becomes a canvas, and every stamp a brushstroke of imagination. This engaging monthly event is perfect for those seeking an artistic outlet that connects you with others through the simple act of sending and receiving mail. Unleash your inner artist and make a Monday a day to look forward to!



### **Upcoming Events**



### October 12th @ Penticton Art Gallery Starting at 5 pm — Free to attend!

After some unfortunate smoke related postponements, we are happy to announce we have rescheduled our Zine Release with Ace Valentino and Rae Spoon!

Join us for a night of celebration for the 2SLGBTQ+ Zine called "Growth" presented by Ace Valentino. Zines will be available by donation. Join us for snacks, poetry, coffee and tea as well as a special performance from artist Rae Spoon!

### Big thanks to:

The Penticton and District Community Arts Council SOS Pride

All of the wonderful artists who helped create the Zine!

This project was made possible with support from the Penticton & District Community Arts Council and the BC Arts Council Arts Impact Grant.









### October 25th— Topics and Tea: Poetry with Cain Critchlow!



**Join us on October 25th, from 1 to 2 pm.** We're diving headfirst into the captivating world of poetry with none other than the incredibly talented Cain Critchlow!

Cain is a true Valley virtuoso, enchanting audiences with their lifelong passion for the arts. From mesmerizing dance moves to improv wizardry and unforgettable musical theater performances, Cain's talents know no bounds. Yet, they've got a special place in their heart for poetry, and get a deep sense of joy from good wordplay.

Thank you to the Bench for providing treats during our Topics & Tea events!

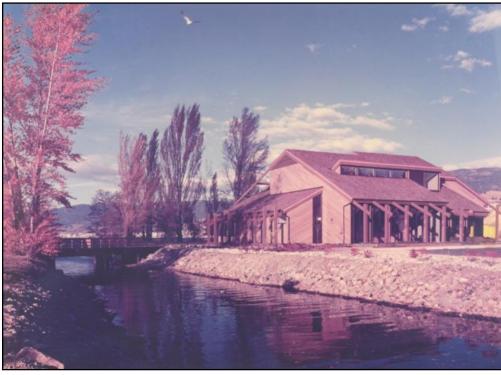






### Collections & Archives





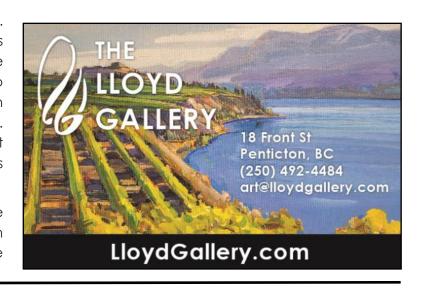
#### WRITTEN BY BRENDON RAW

One of the great things about art is how it can preserve a moment in time. Some art is not meant to be literal (such as abstract or those drawing from the imagination), it isn't trying to accurately depict reality. Some art is. Photography is among the best forms of art for capturing and preserving a moment of reality. It captures the visual detail and scene of a single moment. Unlike painting, or even quick sketches, a photograph can be captured near instantly.

This photograph was taken 1985, by Dan Lybarger. Notice how different the trees are, especially the trees between the parking lot and the stream. The space surrounding the gallery is far more open compared to today. This photo shows why capturing a moment can be important. It lets us see how things have changed. Today, the area around the gallery is much different than it was. This photo allows us to see how far things have come and how they have changed.

One thing to note about the photograph is the colouring. It is de-saturated and less vibrant than reality. Was this a deliberate choice by the

photographer? Even a photo is not a perfect reproduction of that moment. There are still artistic choices for the artist to make when taking the photograph. Framing and shot composition; filters and colour choice. All these factors can affect how a viewer reacts to and understands a photo. They can affect how they react to the subject being photographed. •





### Summer Kids Camp Recap!

# CREATIVE KIDS SUMMER CAMP

As summer fades, we can't help but reflect on the incredible joy and creativity that filled our gallery during this season. Our summer camps have once again brought together over 150 young artists, and it's all made possible by the dedication and hard work of our exceptional summer students: Kyle Hubbard, Cate Robinson, and Rana Ghazy. Their passion for the arts and commitment to nurturing the next generation of artists have been truly inspiring. From salad spinner art to countless other innovative projects, they've shown us that creativity knows no bounds. We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to Young Canada Works and Canada Summer Jobs for their invaluable support. As we embark on another school year, let's cherish the memories, friendships, and masterpieces we'll create together. Adjacent to this message, you'll find a few pictures of our favorite projects from this year! •







# **Volunteer, Sponsor, Donor**

## THANK YOU

### 2022 Volunteers:

Jamie Aberle, Ava Adams, Dorthea Atwater, Ann Avdovich, Diane Beaton, Hazel Bennett, Jane Bruff, Elaine Carbonneau, Thierry Castro, Jane Coady, Coranne Creswell, Margaret Dawson, Donna Falck, Vivian Fox, Yvonne Fox, Hazel Fry and Hal Whyte, Eva Garvaris, Cynthia Geddes, Beth Gleason, Jessica Hilton, Sheena Hooley, Christina Hughes, Julia Kalanina, Gayle Kalmar, Lori Keith, Cornelia King, Tosh Koroscil, Rene Liddicoat, Barb MacDonald, Ron Marsh, Bob McAtamney, Shirley McMahon, Baizid Muhammad, Inez Niemeyer, Martina Payette, Rhonda Radench, Kris Raftopoulos, Bailey Ross, Cindy Rogers, Rebecca Rudnisky, Dellarae Sawchuk, Christine Saddleman, Jean Sanford, Alisa Senecal, Shannon Smith, Bonnie Thatcher, Trish Sweeney, & Natalie Slusarczyk

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### 2022 Donations to Permanent Collection:

Lillian Carlson, Christos Dikeakos, Moshe Dobner, Jana McFarlane, Carole Punt, Wendy Sullivan, Lesley Tannen, & Brian Wilson c/o Okanagan Archive Trust Society

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### 2022 Donations of Art:

Sandra Bassett, Ana Cahill, Jill Cunningham, Lindsey Curtis, Nancy Dearborn, Alan Forsey, Sandy Foreman, Marie D. Levesque, Kris Longpre, Linda Thompson, Wayne Wilson, & Rio Savana Prystay

### June & July 2023 Donors:

Canadian Online Giving Foundation, Canwax West, Cheryl Boswell, Des Anderson, Diane and Gordon Stuart, Harlie Jones, Harvey Baessler and Evelyn Turner, Lee Davison, Maia Copley, Margaret Neuhaus, Merle Waite, Parkway Elementary, & Richard Hunt



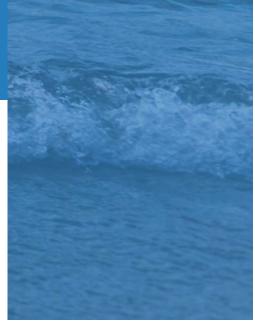


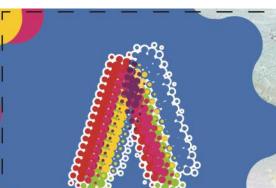


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