

times of uncertainty and change

The last time we sat down to write for the cover of the MAWA newsletter, the world was a different place. Since then, we have personally and professionally struggled with the implications of the global pandemic. Our mental health is fragile, as we cycle between anxiety and depression. So much is unknown and unknowable, and we are necessarily separated from one of the prime sources of our comfort and our strength—community.

The past months have been challenging, to say the least. Exhibitions have been cancelled or postponed, stalling careers, and lay-offs have limited employment. Some members of the MAWA community now worry about financial precarity. Others have needed to school their children, a responsibility that has often fallen disproportionately on mothers. Many of us have struggled to look after our elders at a distance, making difficult end of life decisions at a time when care facilities are a particularly fraught option. Our own health care has been delayed, as the medical system works to prioritize and ensure safety. And a few of us have lost loved ones, our grief compounded by not being able to comfort the dying or come together to mourn. In the absence of usual routines and the ability to make plans, the hours and days and weeks slow down and blur together. The spark of creativity and the energy to make art can feel out of reach.

As we write, Manitoba is “opening up,” which gives us hope that MAWA will be able to provide programming this fall, to help reignite that spark. But MAWA will need to remain flexible, in case provincial directives change. Your health and safety are essential to us (you are MAWA!), so please note that events, workshops and lectures scheduled in this newsletter could be subject to change. Please check mawa.ca for the latest information.

Challenges of course always bring opportunities. In the midst of the pandemic, the Black Lives Matter movement has shown us that a return to the way things used to be

is not acceptable. We can use this time to reflect, recalibrate and make change, to ensure that the “new normal” reflects true justice and equality. That means true inclusion of Black, Indigenous and people of colour (BIPOC) and their perspectives in all aspects of society; that means an end to racism, once and for all. Artists have often been able to imagine better futures. Let us help to make this one a reality.

MAWA is working on a series of actions to ensure that MAWA is an anti-racist, safer space. This involves updating policies, being clear about MAWA's actions in cases of racism, instituting an ombudsperson-committee to oversee complaints, committing to ongoing anti-oppression training for staff and board members, developing and supporting programs and opportunities specifically for BIPOC artists, and continuing to hire artists of diverse backgrounds. We can always do better, and we are committed to doing so.

As a feminist organization, we understand the importance of justice and equality. We also must recognize the privileges that able-bodied, white, cis-gender feminists have enjoyed, and make room for other voices—to ensure that racialized visual artists, trans and non-binary visual artists, and artists of all abilities are served by the opportunities MAWA provides.

— Shawna Dempsey and Dana Kletke

Brandon Beading Babes Albyn Carias (left) and Elder Barb Blind (right) flank Cynthia Boehm, whose work (between Carias and Boehm) was featured in MAWA's Community Beading Exhibition, February 2020.



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All are welcome to attend and participate in these free noon-hour lectures on art, art theory and criticism held on the first Friday of each month!

WATCH FIRST FRIDAY LECTURES LIVE online at facebook.com/mawawpg and ask your questions through the comment function. If for reasons of access (lack of computer, lack of internet, neurodiversity, etc.) you would prefer to attend in person at MAWA, 611 Main St., please register by calling 204-949-9490. Limited seating at a safe social distance will be available. We ask those with any cold or flu symptoms, even mild ones, to stay at home for the health and safety of all. Within a couple weeks of their broadcast, First Friday Lectures are available at mawa.ca/videos/lectures to watch anytime!



Photo by Mike Deal

Feminist Theory and Hollywood Practice

BY ALISON GILLMOR

Friday | Sept 4, 2020 | 12 - 1 pm online

Movie reviewer Alison Gillmor has watched tons of mainstream Hollywood flicks. In a complicated collision of pleasure, politics and personal change, she can't help but apply feminist film theory, especially

developments in reception theory and female spectatorship and the exploration of power structures and modes of production. She will discuss what has shifted in pop culture and what—frustratingly—has stayed the same in the years she has been a film critic. (This lecture was originally scheduled in May.)

Alison Gillmor studied at the University of Winnipeg and York University in Toronto. She is a freelance journalist and educator who has written on movies and pop culture for the *Winnipeg Free Press* for over 25 years, as well as writing on visual art, architecture, design, movies, TV and books for *Border Crossings*, *Canadian Art*, *Canada's History* and more.



Alison Bechdel, *Dykes to Watch Out For*, 1985



Photo by Keegan Denty Photography

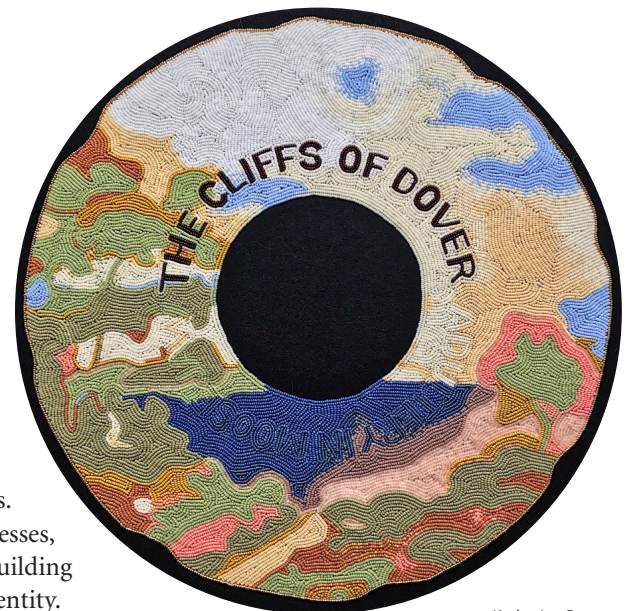
Artist Talk

BY KATHERINE BOYER

Friday | Oct 2, 2020 | 12 - 1 pm online

Katherine Boyer is a multidisciplinary artist whose work is focussed on methods bound to textile arts and the handmade, including fabric manipulation, papermaking, woodworking and beadwork. Boyer's art and research are entrenched in Métis history, material culture and personal family narratives.

Through the experience of long, slow and considerate laborious processes, Boyer contemplates the use of her own Métis body as a conduit for building upon ancestor relations and exploring notions of a mixed cultural identity. Boyer is an Assistant Professor at the University of Manitoba's School of Art. (This talk was originally scheduled in May.)



Katherine Boyer, *Grandma is Collecting China*, seed beads on stroud cloth, 12" diameter, 2018



Photo by Zoë Schneider

Towards a Queer Prairie Aesthetic

BY BLAIR FORNWALD

Friday | Nov 6, 2020 | 12 - 1 pm online

As a maladjusted youth in rural Saskatchewan, Blair Fornwald learnt about lesbianism, performance art and grant funding through reading the ultra-conservative *Alberta Report*, and dreamt of the day when angry taxpayers would fund her degenerate art and gay lifestyle, too. In this talk, Fornwald ruminates on regionalism, class and queer prairie aesthetics.

Blair Fornwald is an interdisciplinary artist, writer and curator with sustained research interests in humour, vulnerability, discomfort and pathos. Originally from Treaty 4 Territory in Saskatchewan, she currently resides in Winnipeg, Treaty 1 Territory, where she is Director/Curator of the University of Manitoba's School of Art Gallery.



Kiss & Tell, *Drawing the Line*, black and white photograph, 1990
Photo by Susan Stewart, courtesy of Simon Fraser University Library



Dr. Freudlove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Patriarchal Theory

The Wendy Wersch Memorial Lecture

BY JEANNE RANDOLPH

Sunday | October 18, 2020 | 2 pm at Cinematheque, 100 Arthur St. | **Limited seating**

Presented in partnership with Video Pool Media Arts Centre

Dinky aspects of psychoanalytic theory 1899-1970, mangled ideas from dead Western philosopher guys, a little gal's childhood in a cancer-ridden Texas town 1947-1959... what could go wrong? This performative lecture will be profusely illustrated.

Jeanne Randolph was born in the Monongahela River Hospital in West Virginia in 1943. In 1965 she graduated with a BA in English Literature from the University of Chicago, and in 1980 she earned her MD (University of Toronto) and F.R.C.P.(C) (psychiatry). She began writing ficto-criticism in 1983. Jeanne Randolph's ninth book, *My Claustrophobic Happiness*, was published by ARP this year. She is grateful for her life of merry Existentialism.

The Wendy Wersch Lecture is an annual event that celebrates the memory of Winnipeg artist Wendy Wersch and is dedicated to exploring issues related to autonomy for women artists. The lectures focus on women in the arts as role models for innovative cultural investigation. The series builds awareness of feminist art criticism, activism and practice. This lecture, organized by the Wendy Wersch Memorial Committee, is supported by Mentoring Artists for Women's Art (MAWA) and The Winnipeg Foundation.

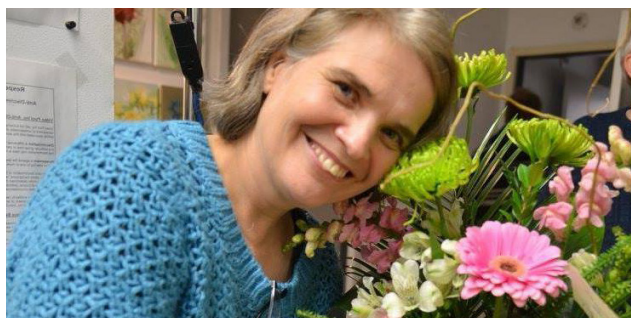


Lecture illustration.

Rural Arts Mentorship Program: Eastman Region 2020/2021

Presented in partnership with Manitoba Arts Network
Application deadline: Tuesday | Sept 15, 2020

The Rural Arts Mentorship Program (RAMP) is a ten-month mentorship for up to five visual artists from the Eastman Region. Meetings will be held at the Winnipeg River Arts Council in Lac du Bonnet over four weekends, tentatively scheduled for November, January, March and May. The mentorship will enhance artistic, conceptual and professional skills through a combination of group discussions, one-on-one meetings, studio visits, artist talks, assignments and workshops. The program will culminate in a final exhibition in the Community Gallery at the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba.



Mentor Brenna George

Participants will be mentored by painter Brenna George, who studied at the Emily Carr College of Art and Design, and exhibits her drawings, paintings and video nationally. Her work is included in the collection of the National Gallery of Canada.

Mentees from past RAMP programs have stressed how important the mentorship was to them. It gave them clarity in the direction they wanted to pursue and helped to forge ongoing relationships with other artmakers in their region.

Apply by email to visualarts@mbartsnet.ca with your name and RAMP in the subject line (i.e., Shelly Singh RAMP) or by mail to RAMP, Manitoba Arts Network, 203-100 Arthur Street, Winnipeg R3B 1H3. Include:

- 1) A cover letter describing your artistic background/practice, including your medium and discipline, the ideas that drive your work and why you want to be in the program (maximum of 600 words)
- 2) Samples of your artwork:
 - up to 10 jpg images on CD or by email, or
 - up to 10 photographs by mail, or
 - a maximum of 2 DVD videos or YouTube links, or
 - a combination of 5 images and 1 video

Participating mentees will be selected on artistic merit and their willingness to commit to the program. It is free to apply. The fee for successful applicants is \$175. For further information, go to tinyurl.com/rampeast.

Focussed Mentorship in Integrated Paint/Collage WITH BONNIE MARIN

Wednesdays | Sept 16, Oct 7 and Oct 28, 2020
6:30 - 9 pm at MAWA

Free to apply; \$75 enrollment fee + \$10 materials fee = \$85

For women and non-binary MAWA members

If finances are a barrier, please speak with MAWA staff

Application deadline: Thursday | Sept 3, 2020 at 4 pm

This three-month Focussed Mentorship is for practising artists who work in paint or collage and are interested in exploring the combination of the two. Sessions will involve discussion about artists who have worked in these twin mediums throughout history, research assignments, and hands-on exploration of various materials and combinations. There is an expectation that participants will continue to develop their work between sessions and will share it in group critiques.

Successful applicants will be asked to bring picture books, magazines and a good pair of scissors to the first session. Please bring source materials that you are willing to cut up and that you are visually and conceptually interested in.

Bonnie Marin's practice includes painting, collage, sculpture and artist's books. Her work can be described as a hybrid of pop and surrealism. It is narrative-based, and deals with gender, body modification, body image, mental health and human behaviour. Her ideas and inspiration come from re-purposing found objects, new and vintage materials, and social issues. Marin teaches at the University of Manitoba. Her work has been shown nationally and internationally and is held in collections around the world.

To apply, send a single PDF document labelled with your name and Focussed Mentorship (i.e., Jane Doe Focussed Mentorship). The PDF should contain: a paragraph describing your practice (what you make and the ideas that drive your work); a paragraph describing why you want to participate in this program and what you hope to achieve through the focussed mentorship; and up to 8 recent images that reflect a commitment to ongoing production, with caption information. Email your application to programs@mawa.ca and put "Focussed Mentorship 2020" in the subject line. If you are not already a member, please also submit a MAWA membership form and payment. Marin will select a limited number of participants to ensure social distancing.



Bonnie Marin, *Page of Drought: The Social* (from Winnipeg Tarot Co.), collage and acrylic on board, 2010

virtual mentorship

We do not know how long COVID-19 will persist, but one thing we have learned in recent months is that a lot of communication can take place online. It has made MAWA pause and reflect: How can MAWA better serve artists through virtual platforms? How can MAWA provide mentorship on a national level, while retaining high program standards? How can MAWA access a greater diversity of artist mentors? And finally, how can MAWA better share its vast wealth of mentorship experience and resources with others?

MAWA is also keenly aware of accessibility issues, and is always asking itself, “Who is not being served?” For reasons including disability and geography, in-person mentorships are not always feasible.

The mentors will be senior artists who live from coast to coast to coast. This is exciting news for MAWA community members! You might have always dreamed of working with an artist who has inspired you who happens to live in Halifax or Vancouver or Inuvik. Potential mentees from across the country will be invited to apply. Stay tuned for details and program deadlines at mawa.ca!



Leslie Supnet (left) and Yvette Cenerini (right) explore some of the roles a mentor can fulfill at MAWA's Mentorship Essentials workshop, September 2019

figure drawing

Feminist Figure Drawing

Tuesdays | Sept 29, Oct 27 and Nov 24, 2020 | 7 - 9:30 pm at MAWA

\$10. All women and non-binary artists welcome

If finances are a barrier, please speak with MAWA staff

To register and pay, go to mawa.ca/groups/figure-drawing

Numbers will be limited to ensure social distancing; sorry, no drop-ins!

Do you miss drawing live models? Want to practise drawing the human body but need the time and space? MAWA offers figure drawing with live models in a feminist environment. Doors open at 6:30 pm to give you time to set up. The model begins at 7 pm for quick gesture drawings, followed by longer poses. Participants are asked to bring their own materials. Drawing boards are provided.

We ask those with any cold or flu symptoms, even mild ones, to stay at home for the health and safety of all.



Figure Drawing, January 2020

THEORY AT HOME

Readings available as PDFs at mawa.ca/critical-discussion/theory-at-home

It's fun! It's theoretical! And you can wear your pajamas! MAWA presents a series of informal critical discussions led by guest facilitators online. People of all genders welcome. Email programs@mawa.ca to receive the Zoom link to the meeting. Or if you are tired out by so many Zoom meet-ups or find the interface challenging, feel free to do the reading or have a discussion on one of these topics with a friend.



Beyond Art for Art's Sake: The Power and Limitations of Feminist Art

WITH ALLISON STEVENS

Thursday | Oct 8, 2020 | 6:30 - 8 pm

Lola Olufemi creates a call to action in the chapter "Art for Art's Sake" in *Feminism, Interrupted* (2020):

"As feminists, if we wish to see a world

of art and creativity, then we must remove the barriers to that creativity and the systems that kill artists." As artists, we have a specific but significant power. Art creates an independent space to challenge and open up discourse. It exposes the pain and trauma of injustice. It has the potential to raise consciousness and propose revolutionary ideas. But art alone cannot dismantle the oppressive system. "[Art] is only as effective as we allow it to be." Can we, as feminist artists, live up to the responsibility of bearing witness and creating work that threatens the social and political order?

Allison Stevens is an experimental filmmaker and mixed media artist from Winnipeg, Manitoba. Her work seeks to embrace the monstrosity of the self as a rebellion against societally defined images/ideas of "appropriate" bodies and ways of being.



Khadija Saye, *Peitaw*, photograph, 2017.
Khadija Saye's photographic series *Dwelling: in this space we breathe* was presented at the Art Biennale in Venice in 2017. Months later, she was killed in the Grenfell tower fire in London at the age of 24.



Art and Science: A Converging World

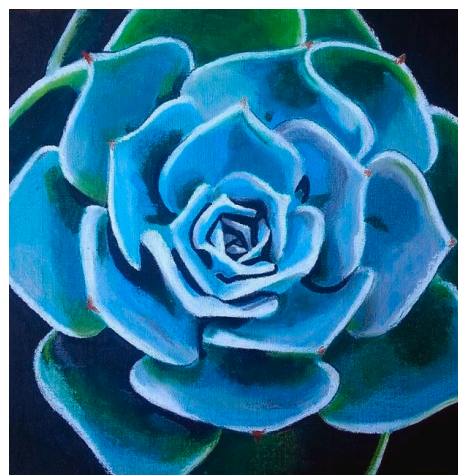
WITH POONAM SINGH

Tuesday | Nov 17, 2020 | 6:30 - 8 pm

Art and science help us interpret and explore the world around us. While the activities of scientists and artists may differ, they share the creative process, are driven by a sense of

curiosity, have a sensitivity to aesthetics in their work and possess a desire to make a positive contribution to the welfare of humanity. Artists observe, interpret and render nature-activities that are very similar to those performed by scientists. To cite but one example, botanical paintings have helped scientists to document plant details, and serve as historical and scientific records. Join in this wide-ranging discussion about the intersections between art and science!

Poonam Singh works in drawing, painting, sculpture and textiles. She combines her technical scientific knowledge with traditional and experimental forms of visual representation. Themes in her scientific and art works include traditional agricultural practices, agriculture-induced environmental issues, genetic diversity and food security, specifically with respect to plant science. Singh sees biological progress and change as a metaphor for human relationships.



Poonam Singh, *Succulent Series 3*, pastel, 2018

ARTIST BOOT CAMPS

Presented in partnership with Creative Manitoba

These free workshops are designed to help you to advance your art career, and welcome participants of all genders and artistic media. Register to attend in person by writing to Alison at info@mawa.ca (attendance will be limited to ensure social distancing) or watch the MAWA website and emails for information on how to tune in to the Zoom livestream.



Pop Ups \$ Pricing

WITH MELANIE WESLEY

Wednesday | Sept 23, 2020 | 7 - 9:30 pm at MAWA

Veteran pop-up vendor Melanie Wesley shares the experiences and knowledge that have helped her to build a creative career that she loves. Her particular approach blends pragmatic planning with intuitive decision-making. Beginning with a simple self-assessment worksheet, Melanie will guide you in figuring out a first step or a next step. Participants will be provided with an extensive list of resources, and ample time for questions and conversation.

In 2007 Melanie Wesley sold her first handmade items at a pop-up market in Winnipeg. Since that first sale, Melanie has participated in more than 80 pop-up events over 13 years. Her ability to evolve and adapt has kept her a strong participant in Winnipeg's vibrant pop-up scene, including a pop-up she and fellow artists ran successfully for 10 years out of their own studios.



Selling Online

WITH CORI JAYE ELSTON

Thursday | Oct 15, 2020 | 7 - 9:30 pm at MAWA

Nowadays, it is not just your main creative medium that can make you money. Learn how to leverage the online world to share your individual skillset, resulting in great payouts that can fund your creative projects. From *Patreon* to *Skillshare/Udemy*, to *Etsy* or *Upwork/Fiverr*, learn about a handful of programs that you can use to generate revenue for creative entrepreneurship, no matter what your artistic discipline. In this workshop, you will learn how to share your creative process skills, help others in your discipline and get paid.

Cori Jaye Elston is a visual artist, teacher and mentor. Her artistic practice consists of vibrant surrealist, pop-art paintings that she utilizes to spread positive messages to the community. Elston has been featured on CBC Radio, Global Television and many podcasts speaking about her career as an artist and the importance of following your dreams. She leverages her background in Marketing, Graphic Design and Digital Media to promote the power of positivity, using social media platforms including *Instagram*, *Facebook*, *YouTube* and *Patreon* as catalysts. In addition, Elston conducts social media literacy workshops, as well as private mentoring sessions, to help share knowledge about how to navigate the ever-growing online artistic community.



Writing about Your Art

WITH YVETTE CENERINI

Thursday | Nov 12, 2020 | 7 - 9:30 pm at MAWA

It's no secret that we creatives dislike (very much) writing about who we are and what we do. Some of us would rather do ANYTHING other than compose our own bios, statements or line notes. However, the ability to professionally articulate the essence of your practice is a skill you need in order to optimize the prospect of your artistic career. Come, let us commiserate and get it done together! Leave this Boot Camp with decent first drafts in hand.

Yvette Cenerini (née Lagimodière) is a Franco-Métis visual artist from Manitoba who lives and works in Winnipeg. Behaviour and relationships are recurring themes throughout her work in media arts and printmaking. Having obtained both a BEd (2001) and a BFA (2010), knowledge-sharing, in the forms of teaching, mentoring, cultural mediation and community engagement, is an important facet of her practice.



Artist Courtney Smith with her MAWA Tiny Gallery exhibition, March 2020. Note, the Tiny Gallery has been put on hold until 2021, to accommodate the Over the Top Art Auction

Get Involved

There are many paid opportunities for artists at MAWA. Have you come across a text that inspires you, and you would like to share it with others? You could lead a Theory at Home. Have something to say about feminist art history or theory? Perhaps you want to propose a First Friday Lecture or a piece of critical writing. Is there a group you have always longed for at MAWA? Maybe you could facilitate it.

We welcome your ideas and proposals ... including your programming "wish lists." Please contact Shawna at dempsey@mawa.ca or 204-949-9490 to talk.

Self-Directed Retreat

The beautiful MAWA apartment is available for rent for self-directed residencies. Need a place to get away from it all, even in your own city? Want "a room of one's own" to focus on your artmaking self? Members can rent the apartment for \$50/night (minimum three-night stay) and \$300/week.

Or if you are a rural member and want to come to Winnipeg to take a workshop, research, network or shop for supplies, the apartment is available as an Urban Retreat, free of charge, for stays of 3-14 days, depending on availability.

Contact Alison at info@mawa.ca with "Residency" in the subject line, and explain why you would like to stay at MAWA. Note: the apartment is up one flight of stairs and there is no elevator.

Bursaries

Did you know that MAWA offers need-based bursaries? If you cannot pay the full cost of any program, contact Dana at dkletke@mawa.ca. Full or partial financial support is granted confidentially on a case-by-case basis. Don't let financial circumstances prevent you from participating.

ASL

Thanks to our partner Arts AccessAbility Network Manitoba, ASL interpretation is available for all MAWA programs if booked two weeks in advance. Just contact Shawna at dempsey@mawa.ca and let us know that you would like to attend.

Mentors on the Fly

Did you know that MAWA maintains a list of recommended mentors you can contact for studio visits, crits, help with grant applications, grad school applications and other professional advice for a fee of \$40/hour? And three new mentors have recently been added! MAWA welcomes Yolanda Paulsen, Seema Goel and Jordan Miller! Check out the roster at: mawa.ca/mentorship/mentors-on-the-fly.

Do you have expertise that you are willing to share? To apply to be a Mentor on the Fly, contact Shawna at dempsey@mawa.ca with your CV and a 100-word bio outlining your skills.



The MAWA apartment, upstairs at 611 Main St.... 700 sq. ft. of possibility!

what you may have missed



Catherine Opie (Los Angeles) delivering her artist talk on Zoom in partnership with Plug In ICA, July 2020



Bronwyn Butterfield (standing) teaching Brick Stitch to 39 attendees at the Cross-Cultural Beading Group, January 2020



Farideh Saffari's First Friday Lecture, "The Art of Iranian Miniature," March 2020



Artist Mothers at MAWA making art dolls, February 2020



Tufting taught by Kanina Terry from Sioux Lookout (left), February 2020



Dr. Libby Otto (Buffalo) delivering her guest lecture "Gender, Sexuality and the Bauhaus," in partnership with the University of Manitoba, February 2020



The Craftivism workshop embroidered patch station, led by mel monoceros (standing left), March 2020



Guest critic hannah_g (left) and Tough Love attendees considering the works of Sacha Kopelow (right), January 2020



Adele Rudorfer delivering their First Friday Lecture, "(Self)-Representation of Madness," on Zoom, June 2020



MAWA's Diorama Sketch Night at the Manitoba Museum, January 2020



Theory and Beer focussing on the notion of feminist embroidery, led by Heidi Eigenkind (not pictured), January 2020



Jennifer Smith delivering her First Friday lecture, "Hands On: Contemporary Indigenous Beading," amidst the MAWA Cross-Cultural Beading Group Exhibition, February 2020

Some Programs on Pause

You may have noticed that a few of your favourite programs aren't listed in this newsletter! Why not? MAWA is always evolving and changing, and the context in which we operate does, too. COVID-19 has necessitated some shifts in the past months. For example, many MAWA programs have traditionally involved learning and creating from shared materials... not something that is advisable at this time.

The Artist Mothers Group concludes this fall. Founding Coordinator Sandra Brown has stepped down after 10 years of providing monthly support, fellowship, professional development, making and exhibition opportunities. MAWA is so grateful for everything she has contributed throughout the past decade! Unfortunately, COVID cancelled the Mothers 10th anniversary exhibition in May but, undaunted, the group is continuing to work on the final group show and meet for en plein air drawing sessions. Stay tuned for details about the showcase, drawing opportunities and other, new MAWA programming that reflects the perspectives and needs of artist-parents. Artist Mothers Group emails, "Coming Up at MAWA" emails and the mawa.ca website will have the most recent information available.

Indigenous Art Nights are still being reimagined! Those of you on the Indigenous Art Nights mailing list will be advised as soon as plans are in place. Traditional Teachings with Alison Stonepoint Cox have been put on hold until we can gather in a circle once again. In the meantime, Coordinator Niamh Dooley will be leading the Cross-Cultural Beading Group every Monday night at MAWA—see page 14. And there is a mentorship opportunity of interest to Indigenous artists on page 12.

Reflective of MAWA's ongoing commitment to New Canadian artisans, the Craft program will offer targeted learning opportunities for small groups. For example, in August, basket weaver Laura Reeves led a group of African and Latin American craftspeople on an expedition to gather local materials. Over the years, newcomer basket weavers have told us they simply cannot find the fibres they are used to working with. It is our hope that through this workshop, they have discovered how to harvest home-grown plants that they can incorporate into their practices. MAWA will provide other craft workshops for small groups throughout the year.

As with so many programs these past months, MAWA's Artist in Residence program had to be postponed. Artists Tomoko Inagaki (Japan), Suiling Yan (China/The Netherlands), Estelle Chaigne (France), Tara Lynn MacDougall (Montreal) and Suryara Bernardi (Brazil) will come to MAWA when travel restrictions have been lifted and we all feel it is safe ... hopefully in 2021!



Top: Indigenous Art Night Acrylic Pour Workshop, February 2020
Middle: Meeting of Artist Mothers at MAWA, June 2020
Bottom: Final Meeting of the *Desire Change* Reading Group, June 2020

Last but not least, the *Desire Change* Reading Group has worked its way through every chapter of the book over the past two years. Kudos to them! This group was the brainchild of a member. Perhaps you have ideas that you would like to see happen at MAWA? If so, contact Shawna at dempsey@mawa.ca. We are always open to suggestions, especially as we navigate health and safety in the months ahead.

Make and Grow Microgrants for Visual Artists

Presented in partnership with QPOC Winnipeg and University of Manitoba Institute of Humanities
Application deadline: Friday | Oct 9, 2020

Make and Grow Microgrants of \$300 each are available to help fund creative projects and professional development. Tell us how we can help you achieve your short-term goals and needs. Do you need to buy materials to make a particular piece? Rent a studio in which to create? Hire a senior artist for feedback, advice or help writing a grant application? Take a workshop? We seek project proposals from Manitoba visual artists at all levels of their career, including students, and of all backgrounds and genders. Projects by Queer, Trans and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Colour) artists will be given priority.

These microgrants are intended to provide rapid support in these uncertain times, when many artists have had exhibitions and other work suspended, postponed or cancelled.

Adjudication will be based on your proposal for creation (what you want to make and what you need to make it) and/or your professional development plan (what you want to do to move your practice forward). Proposals for all visual media (including film and performance) are welcome. Previous recipients of a *Make Anything Microgrant* are not eligible to apply.

The application process is purposefully quick and easy. None of us need to be spending even more time on computers these days! Go to forms.gle/uHmNyNWpXJuh-sUfc9 to apply, and then let's get back to making and learning. Any questions? Contact Adriana at programs@mawa.ca.

Rolande Souliere (left) and her work *Mediating the Treaties* (right), 2018, photographed by D Works Media



15 Minutes of Mentorship

WITH ROLANDE SOULIERE

Thursday | Oct 22, 2020 | 7 - 9 pm via Zoom

Apply by Friday | Oct 16 at noon

Book a 15-minute appointment with artist Rolande Souliere, an Anishinabe artist with an international career based in Australia. Interested in learning more about Indigenous arts around the world and wonder if there are opportunities for you globally? Need advice about how to take your practice to the next level? Want feedback on your work?

Send a brief 50-100 word statement about you and your practice and 3-5 images of your artwork or one audio or moving image file to programs@mawa.ca with "Souliere" in the subject heading. You will be contacted and given a time slot and Zoom link, if you can be accommodated. Artists at all levels are encouraged to submit. Priority will be given to Indigenous artists.

Rolande Souliere's art practice addresses Indigeneity on a local, national and international level through her use and manipulation of readymade objects, handmade processes and abstraction. Since 2013 she has worked with Indigenous communities from Australia and Canada on her social art project *The Collage of Indigenization*. She has participated in national and international exhibitions and residencies. Born in Toronto, Souliere is a member of Michipicoten First Nation. She holds a PhD in Visual Arts and an MVA from the University of Sydney, Australia.

rolandesouliere.com.au



Greeting Card Contest

Deadline: Thursday | Nov 26, 2020 | 4 pm

MAWA uses greeting cards to thank instructors and supporters. If you are a MAWA member and would like to see one of your artworks on the next MAWA greeting card, submit your image to programs@mawa.ca with "card 2020" in the subject heading. Your file should be at least 1350 by 2100 pixels. An honorarium of \$400 will be paid to the selected artist. Note that the finished cards will be rectangular, approximately 4 1/2" x 7", full bleed.

A past MAWA card image: Mélanie Rocan, *Close Up*, 2014



Instagram: Finding and Buying Art

BY ATREYA MADRONE

Art is revolutionary, reactive and community-focussed. It has served and continues to serve the world now in this time of change and upheaval.

With both a pandemic and uprisings against white supremacy taking place globally, it is more imperative than ever to seek out and support artists through purchasing and promoting their work. Social media are a resource in this endeavour, and Instagram is widely used by many incredible artists to promote their practices. This particular social media site has become a main source for promoting, finding and buying art, especially for younger folks. Discursively, Instagram has become a virtual space for identity creation and performance for all users, not just artists, hence its wide appeal. Because Instagram is a free, accessible platform and its reach is global, there is greater space and visibility for artists who have been and continue to be marginalized from more “traditional” art sharing and buying spaces. These artists include queer, trans and non-binary people; Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC); women; emerging artists and all of the intersections among them.

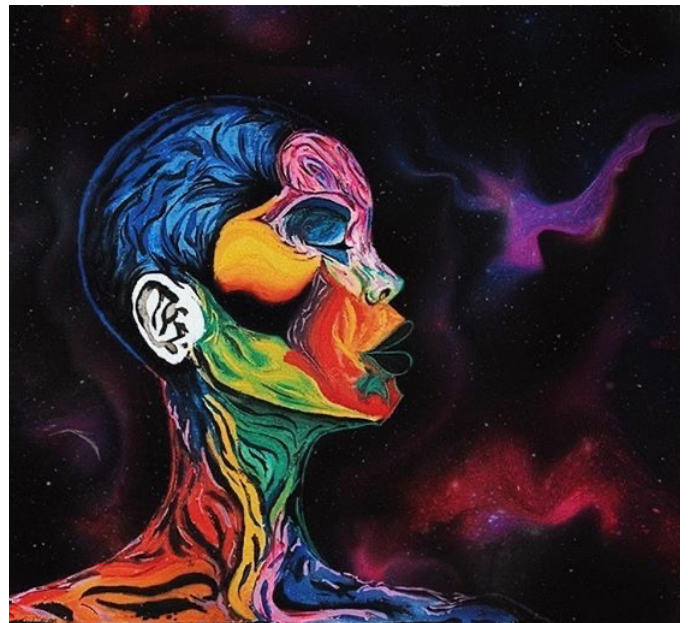
Instagram features a massive range in types and styles of art, usually at more affordable prices. As a young person buying art, a free platform that lets me find marginalized artists and less expensive art makes Instagram an incredible resource.

It can feel daunting to figure out how to find new artists to follow and support, especially if you are new to Instagram or your current Instagram feed isn't diversified. But there is good news! It is absolutely not difficult to do, and you can start by following all of the visual arts organizations in Winnipeg. Scroll through their posts and see which artists they have tagged and linked, but also be sure to search through who they follow. Here is where things get exciting: once you find an artist through an arts organization's Instagram, scroll through their posts and their follow list and keep going from there! Creating and sharing art is inherently grounded in community, and you'll see that this is particularly true for marginalized artists, as artists will often link to and share each other's work.

Some tips for white or other non-marginalized artists who are focusing on social justice movements: now is the time to actively decentre yourself and give back the space that was gained through systemic inequities. Any piece of your art that can be posted or showcased is an opportunity to link to BIPOC, queer, trans or non-binary artists. If you are selling art, make some reparations with the money earned, or make the art accessible for free. Do some research and listen to your community to find the best ways to support each other!

Art has always had a role to play in making change. From protest signs to face masks, art continues to be an essential outlet for discourse. Now is the time to reflect on our own experiences with finding and buying art.

Ted Mokonnen (Instagram: @tedmoko) is a local artist exemplifying the ways in which art disrupts and challenges binaries and systemic oppressions. In the description for *Universium*, Mokonnen writes: “This piece was intentionally created to seem gender-neutral while still exhibiting the beauty behind a gray area. *Universium* is painted with multiple colours and textures to represent their multi-faceted self. You may notice the only part that's not coloured is the ear. This of course is subjective. To me, it means that *Universium* doesn't let their ear get coloured, but rather, hears the information of the universe given to them and makes the best out of it. They are not tied down by worldly thoughts. They are independent. They are free!”



Ted Mokonnen, *Universium*, mixed media (graphite, acrylic, watercolour, digital media), 2020

Normalize accessing art from different sources and buying art from marginalized artists. Build finding and buying art from these spaces into your everyday art habits. Bring your community with you by sharing what you know. Continue to learn, listen and support artists. Individuals are also revolutionary, reactive and community-focused.

Atreya Madrone is a Women's and Gender Studies student at the University of Manitoba and former MAWA intern. Madrone is a white queer currently living on Treaty One Territory.

Cross-Cultural Beading Group

Mondays | 6 - 8 pm at MAWA | starting Sept 21

Note: No Beading on Mon, Oct 12 (Thanksgiving)

Free! To register, email dooley@mawa.ca

or call 204-396-0505

Numbers will be limited to 5 people per session, to ensure social distancing; sorry, no drop-ins!

We ask those with any cold or flu symptoms, even mild ones, to stay at home for the health and safety of all.

Please come and bead every other week, to create space for others to participate.

Everyone is invited to share their skills, learn and work independently in a welcoming atmosphere. No experience necessary. Novice and experienced beaders of all cultures, ages and genders are welcome. Limited free materials will be available in a kit (incl. beads, thread, cloth and leather), but we encourage you to bring your own.

Sometimes, a guest beader will share their history with beading and their techniques. This is an opportunity to learn about traditions from across Turtle Island.

Sept 21 Orange Shirt Day pin with Niamh Dooley

Sept 28 Orange Shirt Day pin with Niamh Dooley

Oct 5 Netted bracelet with Asumpta Mukandutiye

Oct 19 Netted bracelet with Asumpta Mukandutiye

Oct 26 Work on your own project

Nov. 2 Work on your own project

Nov 9 Guest: Prairie Owl Beads

Nov 16 Guest: Prairie Owl Beads

Nov 23 Work on your own project

Nov 30 Work on your own project



Katherine Boyer, *The Cycle Shifts Clockwise*, seed beads on stroud cloth, 2018

Master Class in Contemporary Beading Practices

WITH KATHERINE BOYER

Friday | Oct 2, 2020 | 12 - 1 pm

(artist talk - see page 2 for details)

Sundays | Oct 4, Oct 25 and Nov 15, 2020 | 1 - 4 pm at MAWA

Free to apply; \$50 enrollment fee

For MAWA members of all genders

If finances are a barrier, please speak with MAWA staff

Application deadline: Thursday, Sept 17, 2020, at 4 pm

In this master class, Katherine Boyer will explore meaning-making and object-making with traditional Indigenous beading techniques. Participants will have the opportunity to build upon pre-existing beading skills in a critically constructive environment, and develop and complete one beading project. There will be group discussions and one-on-one feedback at each meeting. You will be expected to devote significant time to your piece during the three weeks between each session, to advance your project. The outcome will be a conceptually cohesive piece that pushes the boundaries of contemporary beadwork practices.

Boyer is a leading Canadian Indigenous artist who integrates beading into her contemporary art practice. For more information about this ground-breaking artist, see page 2! As a kick-off to the Master Class in Contemporary Beading Practices, Katherine Boyer will be presenting a free artist talk, open to everyone online.

To apply, send a single PDF document labelled with your name and Master Class (i.e., Maria Garcia Master Class). The PDF should contain: a paragraph describing what you make and the ideas that drive your work; a paragraph describing why you want to participate in this program and what you hope to achieve through the Master Class; and up to 8 recent images of things you have made, with titles and dimensions. Email your application to programs@mawa.ca and put "Master Class 2020" in the subject line. If you are not already a member, please also submit a MAWA membership form and payment. Boyer will select a limited number of participants.



Cross-Cultural Beading Group, March 2020

*The Indigenous Craft Program at MAWA is supported by
Indigenous Initiatives and the Department of Municipal Relations of the Province of Manitoba.*



Exhibition design superstar and longtime volunteer Louise Duguay hangs the final works in the first lot, with the help of her son Daniel, July 2020



The future of art buying is alive and well! One of MAWA's younger bidders, Fernanda Miranda Alarcón, with her mom at MAWA, July 2020

fundraiser

Over the Top Art Auction and Raffle

Wednesdays-Saturdays | 12 - 4 pm at MAWA

Sponsored by Johnston Group and The Winnipeg Foundation

This is your chance to bid on amazing original artworks by up-and-coming and established artists, and to support MAWA at the same time.

How does it work? This year *Over the Top* is a little different. A group of artworks will be auctioned online each month at charityauction.bid/mawa. We have carefully chosen a secure virtual auction platform.

(Visit auctria.com/creditcards for more information.)

If you prefer, MAWA will be open Wednesdays-Saturdays, noon-4 pm, so you can come admire the artworks and bid in person.

Over the Top is arguably the biggest group show in the city. Pick up a raffle ticket for one of the amazing baskets while you are here!

It is free to bid, either online or in the MAWA space. We recommend that you bid high and bid early to ensure you get that beautiful piece of art that will otherwise haunt your dreams! Bids must be in increments of no less than \$10.

On the last Sunday of each month at 9:00 pm CST, one art lot will close online, and on the First Friday of the following month, bidding on the next lot will begin. Any work that is not sold in a previous lot will be available online at the reserve bid price that has been established by the artist.

Live outside of Winnipeg? MAWA is happy to ship your purchase to you at your expense. Everyone is welcome! Please join in this online celebration of art, in support of visual art education for all.

This is a brand-new format, so we will depend on you to help spread the word via your networks and social media. We hope that by taking *Over the Top* online, we will promote our amazing artists and grow the MAWA community beyond Winnipeg. This event raises up to 12% of MAWA's entire budget and is essential to the programming that MAWA provides.

We look forward to seeing you at *Over the Top*!

September 4 - 27 | Lot 3 | sponsored by Telpay

October 2 - 25 | Lot 4 | sponsored by For Eyes Optical

November 6 - 29 | Lot 5 | sponsored by the Assiniboine Credit Union

Featuring artworks by Dominique Rey, Suzie Smith, Paul Robles, Yvette Cenerini, Michael Dumontier and Neil Farber, Lisa Wood, Bonnie Marin, Takashi Iwasaki, Wanda Koop and many, many more. You might discover an emerging artist who will be the next art star to come out of Winnipeg! For a full list of participating artists, go to the artists tab on charityauction.bid/mawa.

Remember, final bids must be placed by 9 pm CST on the last Sunday of the month. If you have placed the highest bid, we will contact you the following week to arrange for shipping or pick-up.

mawa

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Thank you to our recent donors.
We really appreciate your support!

Andrew Mynarski VC School in celebration of Amy Karlinsky's retirement,

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Jennifer Smith,
Etoile Stewart,

Jackie Turnbull,
Susan Turner,
Terry Vatr (twice!),
Barbara Wood,

Lisa Wood,
Iris Yudai.

Annual General Meeting Online

Wednesday | Oct 14, 2020 | 7 - 9 pm

Despite the pandemic, MAWA is happy to report that we had only a small deficit in 2019/20 and that our accumulated surplus was able to compensate for it. Hear about financial victories and the wealth of programming that MAWA offered last fiscal year at the Annual General Meeting. All welcome! But note, only members may vote. Write to Alison at info@mawa.ca for a link to the Zoom meeting.



Microgrant Recipients

Congratulations to the recipients of the Make Anything CARE Microgrants, funded by University of Manitoba Institute of Humanities, QPOC and MAWA. There were 53 applications, so it was super competitive!

We were able to support 17 worthwhile projects by 17 BIPOC artists. We eagerly look forward to seeing and hearing what you create: Ashley Au, Clea August, Ashley Bieniarz and Gabrielle Fontaine, Nadya Crossman-Serb, Thiané Diop, Niamh Dooley, Carla Hernandez, Issa Kixen, Wendy Lee, Kayleigh Lagimodiere, Chanelle Lajoie, Luis Alonzo Navarrete, Nichol Marsch, Omid Moterassed, Stephanie Phillips, Chukwudubem Ukaigwe and Tanja Faylene Woloshen.

MAWA Residency Exchange Program

Although travel is curtailed at the moment, the residency exchange between MAWA and AllArtNow in Sweden has gone forward virtually.

MAWA artist Connie Chappel has been working collaboratively with Swedish artist Katarina Eismann and Syrian/Austrian artist Nisrine Boukhari on a three-person exhibition that will open on August 20, 2020 at AllArtNow Lab and be featured at Superlocal Art Fair, September 3-6, 2020, in Stockholm. *Through Distant Air*, curated by Abir Boukhari, reflects the artists' shared interest in and concerns with nature. There will be virtual tours of this physical exhibition, as well as online artist talks. Check facebook.com/AllArtNowOrganisation for details.

This project had its genesis in 2015 when Nisrine Boukhari, at the time recently displaced from Syria, came to MAWA as an Artist in Residence. Her sister Abir Boukhari, founder of AllArtNow, an arts centre formerly based in Damascus and now in Stockholm, came to MAWA in 2017. Abir Boukhari curated an exchange between her organization and MAWA for 2019/2020: Katarina Eismann came to MAWA in 2019, in collaboration with Platform Centre for Photographic + Digital Arts; Connie Chappel was scheduled to go to Sweden in the spring of 2020. But COVID-19 intervened! Instead of abandoning their dreams, these artists, who developed a connection through MAWA, took to cyberspace and began planning this exhibition. We are so proud that our networks can extend over such distances.



Community across international borders: Connie Chappel (far left), with curator Jennifer Smith; Nisrine Boukhari (centre right), in conversation after her artist talk at MAWA; and Katarina Eismann (far right), with Grace Han, after Han's Artist Boot Camp about art residencies

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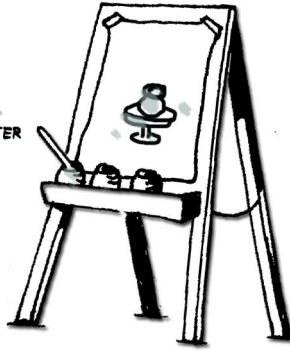
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WINNIPEG ARTS COUNCIL



SEPTEMBER

- Thurs, Sept 3, 4 pm **Application deadline –**
Focussed Mentorship with Bonnie Marin
- Fri, Sept 4, 12-1 pm **First Friday Lecture online**
Alison Gillmor:
Feminist Theory and Hollywood Practice
- Fri, Sept 4, 12 pm **Over the Top Art Auction Lot #3 opens**
- Tues, Sept 15 **Application deadline –**
Rural Arts Mentorship Program
- Thurs, Sept 17, 4 pm **Application deadline –**
Master Class with Katherine Boyer
- Mon, Sept 21, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Niamh Dooley: *Orange Shirt Day Pin*
- Wed, Sept 23, 7-9:30 pm **Artist Boot Camp online**
Melanie Wesley: *Pop Ups \$ Pricing*
- Sun, Sept 27, 9 pm **Over the Top Art Auction Lot #3 closes**
- Mon, Sept 28, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Niamh Dooley: *Orange Shirt Day Pin*
- Tues, Sept 29, 7-9:30 pm **Figure Drawing**

OCTOBER

- Fri, Oct 2, 12-1 pm **First Friday Lecture online**
Katherine Boyer: *Artist Talk*
- Fri, Oct 2, 12 pm **Over the Top Art Auction Lot #4 opens**
- Mon, Oct 5, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Asumpta Mukandutiye: *Netted Bracelet*
- Thurs, Oct 8, 6:30-8 pm **Theory at Home**
Allison Stevens: *Beyond Art for Art's Sake*
- Fri, Oct 9 **Application deadline –**
Make and Grow Microgrants
- Wed, Oct 14, 7-9 pm **Annual General Meeting online**
- Thurs, Oct 15, 7-9:30 pm **Artist Boot Camp online**
Cori Jaye Elston: *Selling Online*
- Fri, Oct 16, 12 pm **Application deadline –**
15 Minutes of Mentorship
- Sun, Oct 18, 2 pm **Wendy Wersch Memorial Lecture**
Jeanne Randolph: *Dr. Freudlove*
at Cinematheque, 100 Arthur St.
- Mon, Oct 19, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Asumpta Mukandutiye: *Netted Bracelet*
- Thurs, Oct 22, 7-9 pm **Mentorship**
Rolande Souliere (Sydney, Australia):
15 Minutes of Mentorship
- Sun, Oct 25, 9 pm **Over the Top Art Auction Lot #4 closes**
- Mon, Oct 26, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Work on your own project
- Tues, Oct 27, 7-9:30 pm **Figure Drawing**

NOVEMBER

- Mon, Nov 2, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Work on your own project
- Fri, Nov 6, 12-1 pm **First Friday Lecture online**
Blair Fornwald:
Towards a Queer Prairie Aesthetic
- Fri, Nov 6, 12 pm **Over the Top Art Auction Lot #5 opens**
- Mon, Nov 9, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Guest: Prairie Owl Beads
- Thurs, Nov 12, 7-9:30 pm **Artist Boot Camp online**
Yvette Cenerini: *Writing about Your Art*
- Mon, Nov 16, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Guest: Prairie Owl Beads
- Tues, Nov 17, 6:30-8 pm **Theory at Home**
Poonam Singh: *Art and Science:
A Converging World*
- Mon, Nov 23, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Work on your own project
- Tues, Nov 24, 7-9:30 pm **Figure Drawing**
- Thurs, Nov 26 **Application deadline –**
Greeting Card Contest
- Sun, Nov 29, 9 pm **Final Over the Top Art Auction
Lot #5 closes**
- Mon, Nov 30, 6-8 pm **Cross-Cultural Beading Group**
Work on your own project



Some members of the MAWA staff and board with MAWA's Traditional Knowledge Keeper Alison Stoneyont Cox (seated left) at Indigenous Protocol Training, February 2020