

msvu art gallery

Mount Saint Vincent University



Annual Report 2019 – 2020

msvu art gallery

Mount Saint Vincent University
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3M 2J6

2019-2020 Annual Report

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Cover image:

Heather Hart: Northern Oracle (installation view)
MSVU Art Gallery, January 18 – April 5, 2020.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

When we started the compilation of this report in the early months of 2020, we couldn't have imagined the challenges and changes the new year would bring. As the fiscal year changed, we looked back on a cycle that was cut off just before completion and looked forward to an uncertain future. We're still in that boat.

But before COVID-19 took over the world in March 2020, and before global pandemic ushered in an as-yet undefined era of 'new normal,' we at MSVU Art Gallery were celebrating an incredibly successful local year. In the exhibitions and public programs, we executed between April 2019 and March 2020, we expanded our network of neighbourhood friends and community family. Working with the Africville Museum and the Africville Genealogical Society was a highlight of the year, as together we looked back on Art Gallery history to community projects of the past, and toward an Afrofuture with Heather Hart's *Northern Oracle*. Working with Nova Scotia Talent Trust, we celebrated 75 years of scholarship in the arts and shared the work of 10 Nova Scotia visual artists across the province. Working with artists here in Halifax, Carrie Allison, Sunetra Ekanayake, Letitia Fraser, and Megan Kyak-Monteith, we initiated the production and exhibition of new artworks. Together, we've achieved a lot.

Of course, we couldn't have had such a year alone. Our team expanded to include two community liaisons funded by Canada Summer Jobs (Lisa Bouraly and Ashley Preston), a curatorial assistant (Darcie Bernhardt), three gallery attendants from among MSVU Student body (Faiza Abdulle, Michael Fong, and Elayna Foran), and two dedicated volunteers from NSCAD (Connor MacKinnon and Lori Mombourquette). Our Acquisitions Committee secured the acquisitions of two new works for the MSVU Art Collection, and we thanked Myra Freeman for her years of service on that committee. We said goodbye to retiring Vice President Academic and Provost Elizabeth Church and Dean of Arts and Science Brook Taylor, and welcomed in their respective successors, Julie McMullin and Carrie Dawson. We thrive because of their support, on both sides of the transition.

My thanks go out to the staff who continue to live their dedication the Art Gallery and who have been constant in their commitment to seeing the Art Gallery serve its community. Well done, David Dahms, Claire Dykhuis, Kelsey McLaughlin, Robyn MacKinnon, and Traci Steylen.

At the end of 2019-2020, we secured a new four-year cycle of core funding from the Canada Council for the Arts, and with the road map that grant renewal afforded us, we look to 2020-2021 with optimism. The Art Gallery doors closed to the public on March 15, 2020 as the state of public health and the potential spread of Corona virus brought our in-gallery activities to a halt. But our optimism persists. With ongoing support and encouragement, MSVU Art Gallery looks forward to a year of contemplation and well-timed change.

With many thanks and all my best,

Laura Ritchie



Director, Art Gallery

EXHIBITIONS

James R Shirley: Landscapes from the Soul

Organized by MSVU Art Gallery

February 9 – May 19, 2019

Landscapes from the Soul presented seven of Jim Shirley's prints from the collections of Mount Saint Vincent University and Dalhousie University. A writer and artist, Shirley moved from New York City in 1972 to Nova Scotia, where he lived in Cape Breton and then Halifax until 1979. Featured alongside his own thoughts and words, Shirley's *Landscapes from the Soul* illuminated personal experience in a way that only an artist's voice can.

Since 1979, Shirley has lived in Rankin Inlet, Nunavut, where he is founder and coordinator of the Matchbox Gallery.



James R Shirley, Self Portrait II 1976

Skawennati: Teiakwanahstahsontéhrha' | We Extend the Rafters

Organized by Vox

16 March – 5 May 2019

Born in Kahnawa:ke Mohawk Territory, Skawennati created Indigenous virtual environments addressing history, the future and change. *We Extend the Rafters* framed the machinima *The Peacemaker Returns*, a futuristic saga set in 3025, yet firmly rooted in the ancestral Haudenosaunee confederation story. This machinima was an animation-style film produced on the virtual reality platform Second Life. *The Peacemaker Returns* was designed specifically for children aged 5 to 11 but visitors of all ages were invited to explore traditions and imagine the world of tomorrow in this “museum of the future.”



Skawennati, *Teiakwanahstahsontéhrha' | We Extend the Rafters* 2017

First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust

Organized by MSVU Art Gallery in partnership with Cape Breton University Art Gallery and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Curated by Greg Davies, David Diviney and Ingrid Jenkner

May 18 – July 28, 2019

The Nova Scotia Talent Trust was founded in 1944 and has been awarding scholarships to visual artists since 1949. To celebrate the NSTT's 75th Anniversary, *First You Dream* developed out of a call for entries to all scholarship recipients, inviting submissions of recent work. The final exhibition selection resulted in a broad range of media, including drawing, ceramics, fiber, jewelry, mixed-media, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and video. The generational mix of the exhibition's artists (indicated by the dates of their Talent Trust scholarships) ranged from 1979 to 2016—a span of 37 years.

The Nova Scotia Talent Trust and partner galleries recognized the support of the Province of Nova Scotia through the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage.



First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust, installation view, 2019

Carrie Allison: clearing

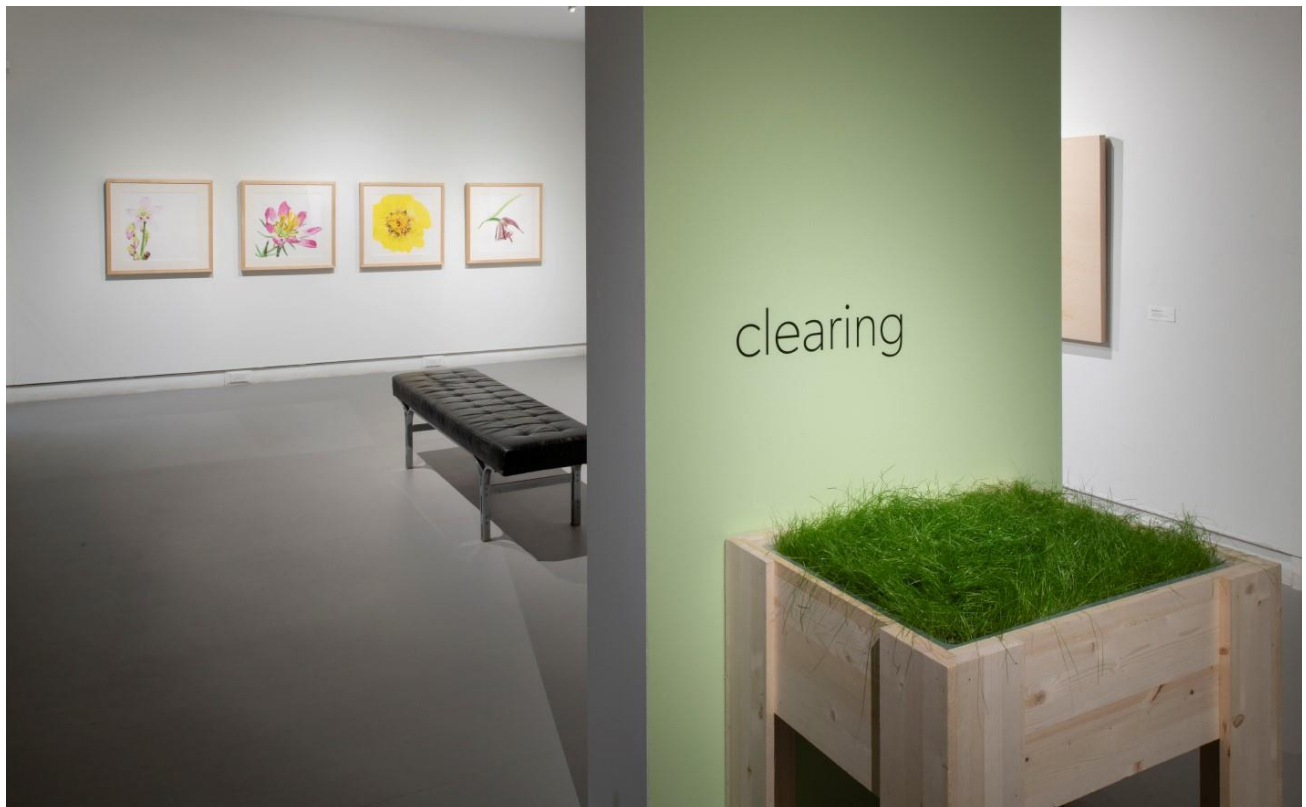
Organized by MSVU Art Gallery

Curated by Claire Dykhuis

May 25 – September 8, 2019

clearing brought together *Displaced*, Carrie Allison's 2017 watercolour and ephemeral ink drawings, and her new series of beaded portraits of grass. Using landscape imagery, botanical studies and the symbolism of institutional collection and preservation, Allison contemplates what is lost and found through the consumption and commodification of land. In conjunction with the exhibition, Allison hosted public events and workshops as part of her summer residency at MSVU Art Gallery.

Carrie Allison is an Indigenous mixed-ancestry visual artist born and raised on unceded and unsurrendered Coast Salish Territory (Vancouver, BC), with roots in High Prairie, Alberta. Situated in K'jipuktuk since 2010, Allison's practice responds to her maternal Cree and Métis ancestry, thinking through intergenerational cultural loss and acts of reclaiming, resilience, resistance, and activism, while also thinking through notions of allyship, kinship and visiting. Allison holds a Master in Fine Art, a Bachelor in Fine Art and a Bachelor in Art History from NSCAD University.



Carrie Allison: clearing (installation view) 2019

Africville: A Spirit That Lives On — A Reflection Project

Organized by MSVU Art Gallery, in partnership with the Black Cultural Centre for Nova Scotia, the Africville Genealogical Society and the Africville Museum.

August 17 – November 10, 2019

In 1989, MSVU Art Gallery, in partnership with the Black Cultural Center for Nova Scotia and the Black Genealogical Society, collaborated on the exhibition *Africville: A Spirit that Lives On*. It celebrated the legacy and spirit of Africville and set a benchmark for collaborative, community driven exhibitions. It travelled across the country and resulted in books and conversations that remain ongoing. 30 years later, the collaborators reunited, joined by the Africville Museum, to look back at the original exhibition and take the opportunity to reflect on what has happened since.

The artworks on view were selected from responses to a public call for submissions; the selection committee included Kim Cain-Simmonds (BANNs), Irvine Carvery (Africville Genealogical Society), David Dahms (MSVU Art Gallery), Letitia Fraser (artist), Juanita Peters (Africville Museum), Ashley Preston (MSVU Art Gallery), and Laura Ritchie (MSVU Art Gallery).



Africville: A Spirit That Lives On — A Reflection Project (installation view) 2019

Letitia Fraser

Organized by MSVU Art Gallery

Curated by Laura Ritchie

September 14 – November 3, 2019

This exhibition showcased a selection of works by Halifax painter and recent NSCAD graduate, Letitia Fraser. A proud descendent of North Preston, Letitia weaves faces from her life into textiles, both literal and figurative. Her recent accolades throughout Nova Scotia are many and this project allowed a closer look at and meditation on her intimate work.



Letitia Fraser, *Blue Magic* 2018-2019 (courtesy of the artist).

Sunetra Ekanayake: Botanical Watercolours

Organized by MSVU Art Gallery

Curated by Laura Ritchie

November 9, 2019 – January 26, 2020

Dr. Sunetra Ekanayake is a biologist and naturalist. Exploring the wilderness of Nova Scotia, she records flora and fauna encountered along the way. In this exhibition of botanical watercolours, Dr. Ekanayake invited us to consider the precious and distinct nature of plant species found around the province and on the MSVU campus.

Dr. Ekanayake is part-time faculty in the department of Biology at Mount Saint Vincent University.



Sunetra Ekanayake: Botanical Watercolours (installation view) 2019-2020

Annual Mount Community Show

Organized by MSVU Art Gallery

November 16 – December 15, 2019

Mount Saint Vincent University students, staff, faculty, alumnae and their families were invited to display their creative work in this annual extravaganza.



Annual Mount Community Show, Opening Reception, 2019

Heather Hart: Northern Oracle

Organized and circulated by the Doris McCarthy Gallery. Curated by Ann MacDonald. Presented at MSVU Art Gallery in Partnership with the Africville Heritage Trust. We acknowledge the support of Arts Nova Scotia.

January 18 – March 14, 2020

Northern Oracle was an ambitious rooftop installation that emerged from the floor of the gallery and was accompanied by a series of mixed media drawings. Through her work, Heather Hart considers Black histories, access to ownership, taking up physical space, and the significance of having a place to call home. Visitors were able to access both the rooftop and its floor level attic, while contemplating and enacting upon these vantage points. *Northern Oracle* provided a performative area: a locale for demonstration of power, influence, and for “shouting from the rooftop.” The “Oracle” was the heart of the work and a shrine where visitors were able to leave offerings.

This exhibition ended early due to MSVU Art Gallery’s closure in response to COVID-19 restrictions.



Heather Hart: Northern Oracle (installation view) 2020

Prospect 19: Megan Kyak-Monteith—Whale Hunt: I Think Everyone is Here

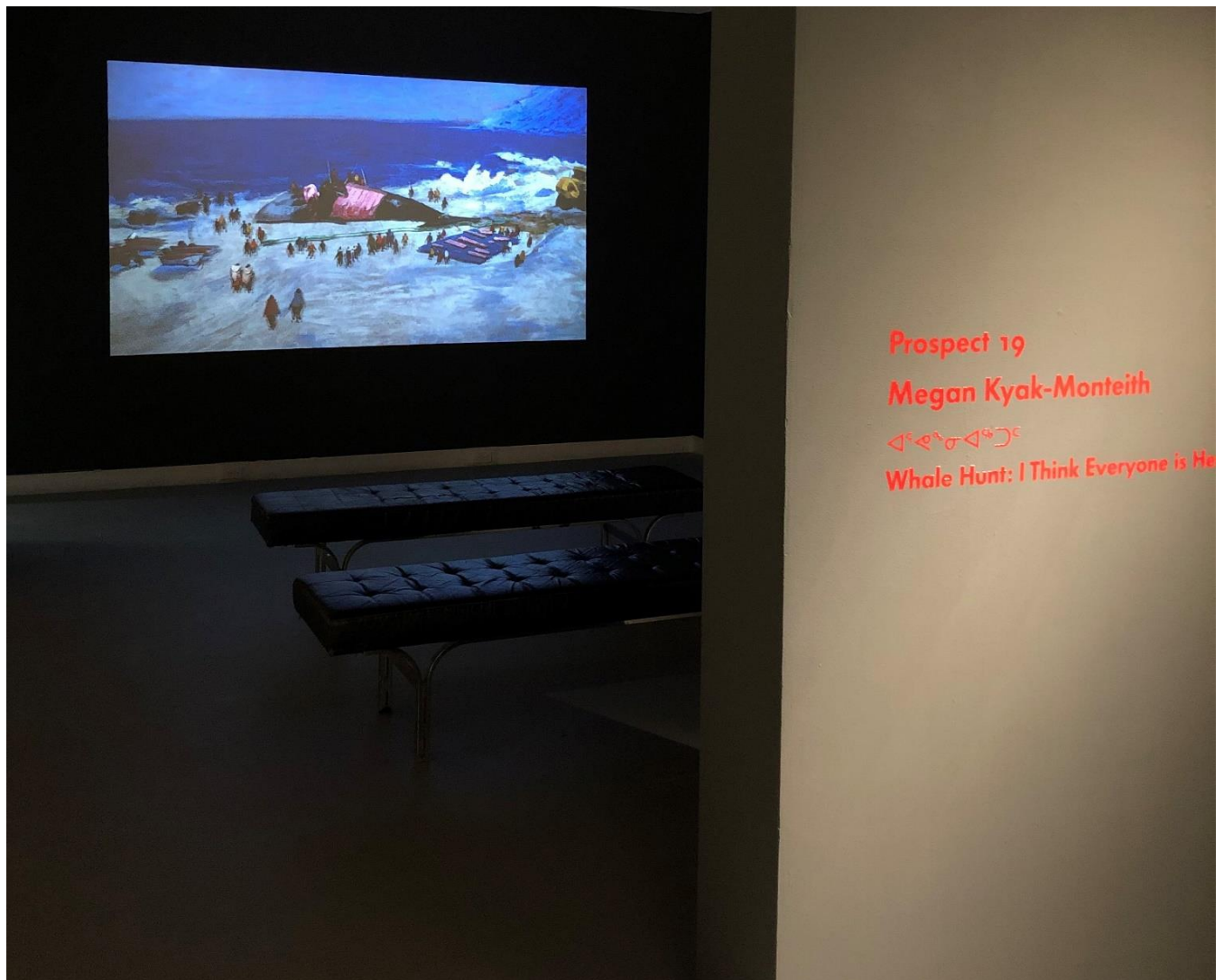
Organized by MSVU Art Gallery

Curated by Laura Ritchie

February 1 – March 29, 2020

Exhibitions in the *Prospect* series introduce artists in the early phase of their careers. Megan Kyak-Monteith is a recent graduate of NSCAD from Mittimatalik (Pond Inlet), NU who lives and works in Halifax. In her painting, Kyak-Monteith often combines images from her memory with stories shared with her by others. This new animation brought her painting to life, merging the labour of community endeavor (here, the whale hunt) with the work of turning still images into moving ones.

This exhibition ended early due to MSVU Art Gallery's closure in response to COVID-19 restrictions.



Prospect 19: Megan Kyak-Monteith—Whale Hunt: I Think Everyone is Here (installation view) 2020

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

April 15 – May 5, 2019

Educational Tours for grades 3-6 of the *Skawennati: Teiakwanahstahsontéhrha' We Extend the Rafters* exhibition.

May 4, 2019

Family Day MSVU Art Gallery invited guests to time travel with their kids and discover the children's exhibition, *Skawennati: Teiakwanahstahsontéhrha' | We Extend the Rafters*. Visual art facilitators were on site to offer guided tours and hands-on activities.

May 9, 2019

Artist's Talk. Emily Vey Duke at the Art Bar in Halifax in conjunction with the exhibition *First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust*. Participating artist Emily Vey Duke offered an informal artist's talk about her practice.

May 11, 2019

Pinhole Photography Workshop Working with artist Ursula Handleigh, participants learned the basics of pinhole photography. This workshop was offered alongside the exhibition *James R Shirley: Landscapes from the Soul* February 9 through May 19, 2019. No experience was necessary, and materials were provided.

May 25, 2019

Opening Reception of *First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust* with a performance by cellist, India Gailey

May 25, 2019

Opening Reception of *Carrie Allison: clearing*

June 3, 2019

Retirement Reception was held at the art gallery for MSVU staff and faculty members retiring in 2019.

June 4, 11, 18, 25 2019

Artist Residency studio days with Carrie Allison working on a new project she described as “a body of work that examined the act and impact of clear-cutting trees, thinking and beading through this difficult theme with contemplation, meditation and duration.” in conjunction with the exhibition *Carrie Allison: clearing*.

June 29, July 20, July 27, 2019

Workshops Artist Carrie Allison facilitated workshops that experimented with the photosensitive drawing techniques used in her exhibition *clearing*. The workshops each began with a walk to a nearby site of clear-cut woods (what was the urban forest at the top of the hill behind MSVU, which was the subject of the communal drawing component of the workshops).

July 9, 2019

WWOS Dinner The gallery hosted an artist's talk with Carrie Allison and dinner for Walking With Our Sisters organizing committee volunteers.

July 9, 16, 23, 30, 2019

Artist Residency studio days with Carrie Allison working on a new project she described “a body of work that examined the act and impact of clear-cutting trees, thinking and beading through this difficult theme with contemplation, meditation and duration.” in conjunction with the exhibition *Carrie Allison: clearing*.

July 24, 2019

Panel Discussion with artists Lux Habrich, Dan O’Neill and Pamela Ritchie, moderated by Laura Ritchie, in conjunction with the *First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust*.

July 31, 2019

Guided Tour of *clearing* in collaboration with the Wellness Committee’s Lunch and Learn program.

August 17, 2019

Opening Reception *Africville: A Spirit That Lives On-A Reflection Project*.

September 14, 2019

Poetry and Performance An afternoon of musical performances, poetry, and storytelling by artists in *Africville: A Spirit that Lives On—A Reflection Project*, including George Borden, Linda Carvery, Martha Mutale and Gloria Wesley. Guest, Ricky Anderson performed George Borden’s poem.

September 14, 2019

Opening Reception *Letia Fraser*

September 28, 2019

George Elliott Clarke A presentation of music, readings, and reflection on Africville by poet, playwright and literary critic George Elliott Clarke.

October 18, 2019

How We Build: On Craft and Blackness Presented by MSVU Art Gallery, Visual Arts News and Nocturne: *Art at Night* panel discussion with Sobaz Benjamin, NAT chantel, Letitia Fraser and Juanita Peters, moderated by Francesca Ekwuyasi. Event Location was the Art Bar + Projects, Halifax.

Based on curator Pamela Edmond’s statement “I am no longer interested in a seat at the table. I now want to build my own table,” this panel discussion focused on the concept of Black artists creating work for a Black audience. Illuminating ideas about sharing intergenerational knowledge and craft as a means of fostering solidarity and resistance within and between various Black communities in Nova Scotia, this panel explored locating pleasure, joy, and celebration as tools for survival while navigating structural oppression.

October 20, 2019

StART Festival StART Festival organizers and MSVU Art Gallery held a *Closing Party* for the [StART Festival](#) and a screening of select films from the exhibition *Africville: A Spirit That Lives On – A Reflection Project*

November 20, 2019

OPENING RECEPTION *Sunetra Ekanayake: Botanical Watercolours* and the *Mount Community Show* with an artist’s talk by Sunetra Ekanayake.

November 26, 2019

MSVU Annual Tree Lighting reception

January 18, 2020

OPENING RECEPTION *Heather Hart: Northern Oracle* with an artist's talk by Heather Hart.

January 31, 2020

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH OPENING RECEPTION Members of the MSVU community were invited to the Seton Lobby and Art Gallery. Community historian and advocate Dr. Lynn Jones offered an understanding of the significance of the Pan-African Flag. A drumming procession to the flagpole attached to Seton followed, where the flag was hung.

February 1, 2020

OPENING RECEPTION *Prospect 19: Megan-Kyak Monteith—Whale Hunt: I Think Everyone is Here.*

Coffee Hours 2019

April 10	September 25
May 1	October 23
June 5	November 6
July 10	December 6
August 21	

Coffee Hours 2020

January 22
February 26

Black Coffee 2019, 2020

The Black Student Support Office & MSVU Art Gallery presented Black Coffee: monthly discussions on race-related topics, open to everyone on Mount campus

November 6, 2019
February 26, 2020

PUBLICATIONS

First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust 2019

32 pps, illustrated. Edited by Laura Ritchie. Co-publication with Cape Breton University Art Gallery and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. Introductions by Arthur J. LeBlanc, Honorary Chair, Nova Scotia Talent Trust and Erin Sparks, Chair, Nova Scotia Talent Trust; *The Making of the exhibition*, essay by Greg Davies, David Diviney and Ingrid Jenkner.

Carrie Allison: clearing 2020

20 pps, illustrated. Introduction by Claire Dykhuis, Interview with artist.

Prospect 19: Megan Kyak-Monteith—Whale Hunt: I Think Everyone is Here 2020

4 panels, illustrated. Introduction by Laura Ritchie.

ACQUISITIONS

Christiane Poulin

Echo 3: Access 2018

Pearl cotton panel woven in loom-controlled leno lace, draped on a suspended wooden structure composed of two staircase stringers with dowels

117 x 71 cm (panel) / 142 x 76 x 183 cm (staircase)

Cotton -linen panel woven in loom-controlled leno lace, suspended from the ceiling, with upper edge defined by a wooden gable shape

97 x 95 cm (panel) / 35 x 95 cm (gable)

Wooden structure designed and made by David C. Elliott

Acc No. 2019.1

Gift of the artist, 2019

Echo 4: Growth 2018

Linen warp and welt of recycled fabrics and fibers woven alternatively in rag rug (catalogne) and loom-controlled leno lace

335 x 112 cm

Acc No. 2019.2

Purchased, 2019



Christiane Poulin, *Echo 4: Growth* 2018 (detail)

ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elizabeth Church, Vice-President (Academic)
Myra Freeman, Board of Governors Member
Marnina Gonick, Canadian Research Chair,
Education and Gender

Bruce MacNeil, Director, Facilities Management
Laura Ritchie, Director, Art Gallery
Virginia Stephen, Community Member
Brook Taylor, Dean, Arts and Science

MEDIA RESPONSE

Academic

O'Neil, Kelly. (June 1, 2019). "Reimagined Story: Submission to Survivals, Ruptures, Resiliences: Perspectives from Disability Scholarship, Activism, and Art". *Canadian Journal of Disability Studies* 8(4).
<https://cjds.uwaterloo.ca/index.php/cjds/article/view/541/815>

General

Thomson, Aly. "Halifax Sculptor Wins Appeal of CRA Demotion to 'Hobby Artist'." *CBC News* (May 17, 2019).
<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/halifax-sculptor-wins-appeal-of-cra-demotion-to-hobby-artist-1.5141020>

Unknown Author. "Halifax Sculpture Wins Appeal against CRA, Artist Residency Launches at Eccentric Calgary Castle, and More." *Canadian Art* (May 23, 2019).
<https://canadianart.ca/news/news-roundup-halifax-sculptor-wins-appeal-against-cra-label-as-hobby-artist-an-eccentric-calgary-castle-launches-artist-residency-and-more/>

Unknown Author. "New MSVU Art Gallery Director on Opening Doors to Art, Education and Community." *MSVU Media Centre News* (November 22, 2019).
<https://www.msvu.ca/en/home/aboutus/news/LauraRitchie.aspx>

Jenn E Norton: Slipstream

Wolchyn-Raab, Sally. "The Hidden & Recovered Figures of Jen E. Norton's *Slipstream*." *Visual Arts News* (Summer 2019).

Evering, Danica. "Jenn E Norton: Slipstream at Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery." *Off Centre* (September 9, 2019).
<https://weareoffcentre.com/Jenn-E-Norton-Slipstream-at-Kitchener-Waterloo-Art-Gallery>

James R Shirley: Landscapes from the Soul

Mullins, Morgan. "Have the mother of all weekends with these Sure Things." *The Coast* (May 9, 2019).
<https://www.thecoast.ca/TheScene/archives/2019/05/09/have-the-mother-of-all-weekends-with-these-sure-things>

Mullins, Morgan. "Have a Memorable Memorial Cup Kick Off Weekend With The Sure Things." *The Coast* (May 16, 2019).
<https://www.thecoast.ca/TheScene/archives/2019/05/16/have-a-memorable-memorial-cup-kickoff-weekend-with-these-sure-things>

First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust

Unknown Author. "Young Artists Show Off their Stuff in Special Exhibit at MSVU Art Gallery." *The Chronicle Herald* (May 17, 2019).

<https://www.thechronicleherald.ca/living/young-artists-show-off-their-stuff-in-special-exhibit-at-msvu-art-gallery-312942/>

Connors, Sara. "Vox Lux." *The Coast* (May 23, 2019).

<https://www.thecoast.ca/halifax/vox-lux/Content?oid=21712523>

Cronin, Ray. "First You Dream: 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust: A Touring Exhibit Featuring Many Local Artists." *Halifax Mag* (June 6, 2019).

<http://halifaxmag.com/blog/first-you-dream-75-years-of-the-nova-scotia-talent-trust/?fbclid=IwAR0eCxwmQjmt7IVrf9y7WNz7WycKJwRRO7ApC3jh2dWK7GVasDsajJclZws>

McMillan, Julia. "Review First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust." *Billie Mag* (August 6, 2019).

<https://billiemag.ca/first-you-dream/>

Unknown Author. "Greg Davies: Talent Trust art at CBU." *The Cape Breton Post* (August 17, 2019).

<https://www.capebretonpost.com/lifestyles/local-lifestyles/greg-davies-talent-trust-art-at-cbu-341774/>

Carrie Allison: clearing

Mullin, Morgan. "Stay Cool with these 13 Summer Art Exhibits." *The Coast* (June 20, 2019).

<https://www.thecoast.ca/halifax/stay-cool-with-these-13-summer-art-exhibits/Content?oid=21911712>

Mullin, Morgan. "Artist Carrie Allison is *clearing* Space to Think." *The Coast* (August 1, 2019).

<https://www.thecoast.ca/halifax/artist-carrie-allison-is-clearing-space-to-think/Content?oid=22205823>

Africville: A Spirit That Lives On, A Reflection Project

Mullin, Morgan. "Pour yourself a hot cup of weekend with these Sure Things." *The Coast* (August 15, 2019). <https://www.thecoast.ca/TheScene/archives/2019/08/15/pour-yourself-a-hot-cup-of-weekend-with-these-sure-things>

"MSVU Celebrates Africville: A Spirit That Lives On" *CTV News Atlantic* (September 28, 2019).

<https://atlantic.ctvnews.ca/video?clipId=1792076>

Covey, Julian. "Remembering Africville." *Visual Arts News* (Spring, 2020).

Letitia Fraser

Cronin, Ray. "Fall Art Preview: Part One. This Up-coming Season is Packed with Art Options." *Halifax Mag*. (September 10, 2019). <http://halifaxmag.com/blog/fall-art-preview-part-one/>

Cronin, Ray. "Northern Star: Recent Work by Letitia Fraser. Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery Focuses on Local Artist." *Halifax Mag.* (October 24, 2019). <http://halifaxmag.com/blog/northern-star-recent-work-by-letitia-fraser/>

Annand, Trina. "At the Galleries, Last Chance: Letitia Fraser." *NEWSFLASH!* (October 31, 2019). https://mailchi.mp/5f2b1103b306/newsflash-oct-31st-2019-vol-858?e=%5BUNIQID&fbclid=IwAR0ff6RwX7DKsBqWF845ygTP27osax1lYwfYS6fvUkPURnxJNM_I9-0ix1c

Covey, Julian. "Remembering Africville." *Visual Arts News* (Spring, 2020).

Ekwuyasi, Francesca. "Preserving Artifacts / Recovering Memory." *Billie* (December 17, 2019). <https://billiemag.ca/preserving-artifacts-recovering-memory/>

Sunetra Ekanayake: Botanical Watercolours

Webb-Campbell, Shannon. "Fall Exhibition Preview." *Visual Arts News* (Fall, 2019).

Heather Hart: Northern Oracle

Staff. "Editor's Pick." *Canadian Art* (January 18, 2020). <https://canadianart.ca/agenda/heather-hart-northern-oracle/>

Unknown. "Global Morning News". Global TV. (January, 2020).

Webb-Campbell, Shannon. "Spring Exhibition Preview." *Visual Arts News* (Spring, 2020).

Megan Kyak-Monteith – Whale Hunt: I think Everyone is Here

Mulligan, Preston and Kyak-Monteith, Megan. "Mainstreet NS". *CBC Radio* (January 31, 2020).

Henderson, Emily. "What Hunt: An Interview with Megan Kyak-Monteith." *Inuit Art Quarterly* (April 17, 2020). <https://www.inuitartfoundation.org/iaq-online/whale-hunt-an-interview-with-megan-kyak-monteith-1>

Wiebe, Jessica. "Megan Kyak-Monteith's Community Labour." *Visual Arts News* (Summer, 2020).

ART GALLERY PERSONNEL

Full-Time

Director	Laura Ritchie (BA, Mount Allison University; MA, Western University)
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Part-Time

Administrative Assistant	Traci Steylen (BOAD, MSVU)
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Education & Outreach Coordinator	Claire Dykhuis (BAH, Dalhousie University; BA, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University; MA, York University)
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Gallery Technician	David Dahms (BFA, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University; BA, Mount Allison University)
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Curatorial Assistant (Young Canada Works Internship)	Darcie Bernhardt
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Gallery Assistant	Kelsey McLaughlin (BA, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design University)
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Community Liaisons Canada Summer Jobs	Lisa Bouraly, Ashely Preston
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Gallery Attendant Student Works	Faiza Abdulle, Michael Fong
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Gallery Attendants	Elayna Foran, Robyn MacKinnon
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Installation Assistants	Radek Aubrecht, Frankie Macaulay
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Gallery Volunteers	Lori Mombourquette, Connor MacKinnon
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STAFF ACTIVITIES

Laura Ritchie spent 2019-2020 getting acquainted with the Mount and reacquainted with her colleagues across Atlantic Canada. She attended UCAGAC and CAMDO meetings in Ottawa in June and APAGA meetings in St. John's that same month. In August, Laura was accepted on scholarship to participate in the Banff International Curatorial Institute Symposium: Living Agreement with Carmen Papalia at Banff Centre in Alberta.

2019 saw **David Dahms** join the Executive of NSGEU Local 81 in the capacity of Vice-President. David also continued in his NSGEU work on the Labour -Management Committee, being a NSGEU Steward, and assisting with changing language in the collective agreement to gender neutral terminology.

David also sat on the Selection Committee for Africville: A Spirit that Lives On – A Reflection Project and found this to be a challenging and rewarding opportunity.

David also continued in his roles as Board member for High Hopes Housing Co-op, and became an official judge for The Elements League, a battle rap league founded in Halifax in the mid 2000's.

David's artistic practice shifted gears in 2019 seeing David produce video art pieces, a step away but with his background in drawing and printing.

Claire Dykhuis curated the exhibition *Carrie Allison: clearing* and attended the Atlantic Provinces Art Gallery Association symposium in St. John's Newfoundland in 2019. Claire was on a personal leave of absence for the first part of 2020.

Kelsey McLaughlin has been working with the MSVU Art Gallery in varying roles since 2016. She began her journey with the team as an intern under the supervision of Claire Dykhuis, and now works as the Gallery Assistant. She also works in the Visitor Services Department at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.



Opening Reception of *First You Dream: Celebrating 75 Years of the Nova Scotia Talent Trust*, May 25, 2019

GRANTS AND REVENUE

FEDERAL

Canada Council for the Arts

Annual Assistance to Museums and Public Galleries	\$90,000
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Young Canada Works	10,000
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PROVINCIAL

Arts Nova Scotia

Production and presentation for <i>Heather Hart: Northern Oracle</i>	16,360
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Commission Grant for <i>Archaeological Critique of MSVU Art Gallery</i>	5,940
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MUNICIPAL

HRM

Project Assistance <i>Oh-Oh Canada*</i>	800
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Operating Assistance	6,000
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Sponsorship

Nova Scotia Talent Trust

Assistance with production of the NSTT exhibition	17,600
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Africville Museum

Assistance with the production of <i>Heather Hart: Northern Oracle</i>	5,000
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Canada Summer Jobs (In-Kind)

Ashley Preston and Lisa Bourlay	5,252
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Student Works

Faiza Abdulle, Michael Fong	11,000
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TOTAL	\$167,952
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*deferred from last fiscal year

msvu art gallery

Statement of Purpose

MSVU Art Gallery respectfully acknowledges that the Gallery and Mount Saint Vincent University are situated on Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral, unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

Through its exhibitions and programs, the Gallery functions as a visual arts resource for Mount Saint Vincent University, communities served by the University, Metro Halifax residents and art publics everywhere. Admission is always free of charge.

MSVU Art Gallery reflects the University's educational aims by devoting a significant part of its activities to the representation of women as cultural subjects and producers. This program focus is balanced with exhibitions on themes in visual culture which are relevant to university academic programs and/or constituencies served by MSVU Art Gallery. Artists and artisans from the Atlantic region are represented, often in the early stages of their careers. The Gallery is committed to normalizing accessible presentation practices throughout its public programs. These programs are funded in part by the Canada Council for the Arts, and by provincial and municipal agencies.

Since many contemporary artists treat art making as a form of inquiry, the university galleries are uniquely positioned to promote access to their work. MSVU Art Gallery aims to foster informed, critical responses to works of contemporary and historical art, in keeping with its academic setting. Gallery publications, lectures and talks by visiting artists and scholars are announced in the semi-annual Newsletter.

The Gallery encourages interdisciplinary approaches to knowledge, and its exhibitions are used by students and faculty in their course work. In addition, the gallery supports the MSVU Cultural Studies curriculum.

On behalf of the University, MSVU Art Gallery manages a collection of art that reflects priorities set by the exhibition program and the University's mission. Many works can be viewed in the E. Margaret Fulton Communications Centre. The special collection of wares by Nova Scotia ceramicist and Mount alumna Alice Hagen is also displayed on campus.

