



UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE ART GALLERY

ANNUAL REPORT 2010-11

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MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Lethbridge Art Gallery has a dual responsibility to serve the general public and the campus community. The Art Gallery is a key component of the university's public face and reaches audiences from Lethbridge, within Alberta, and across the country while also playing a central role for learning and community engagement at the university. By making art works and the activities of the Art Gallery highly visible, we attract members of the public to campus, giving them access to contemporary and historical exhibitions, to professional visual arts programming, and to research produced at the Art Gallery.

VISION

The University of Lethbridge Art Gallery is a forum for the exchange of ideas:

- a site that supports and invites interdisciplinary discussion
- a place for contemplation
- a meeting point for students, faculty and staff
- a connection point between people on and off campus
- a partner in or producer of interdisciplinary projects

The ideas and issues addressed in the art works we display, manage, reproduce, and interpret are a source for this kind of exchange and build on existing interdisciplinary discussions.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The Art Gallery supports the University's strategic direction to "build internal community and enhance relationships with external communities" through our exhibitions, events, public programs, publications and web site. These activities also "enhance the student experience" as do the projects aimed specifically at supporting the professional development of students in the Faculty of Fine Arts.

**SERVE
THE GENERAL
PUBLIC
AND THE CAMPUS
COMMUNITY
SUPPORTS
INTERDISCIPLINARY
DISCUSSION**



**A MEETING
POINT FOR
CONTEMPLATION
AND
CONNECTION
ENHANCING THE
STUDENT
EXPERIENCE**

FAST FACTS

At 28.5%, the Art Gallery received the largest percentage increase in operating funds for all public galleries in the country from the Canada Council for the Arts.

James Coutts' generous donation of 194 works from his personal collection, and 28 works from the Nanton Series by renowned photographer Geoffrey James, added a strong local focus to the excellent holding of landscape works in the U of L Art Collection.

The Art Gallery completed a multi-year survey of all the drawings, prints, photographs and other works on paper in the U of L Collection. The project was supported with a grant for \$40,027 from the highly competitive Museum Assistance Program of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

The Art Gallery launched the latest version of our innovative online database for the entire U of L Art Collection. We continue to lead the nation in providing in-depth access to images and information about the 14,000 art works in our care.

Building on the success of our recent expansion of public programs, the Art Gallery launched a new online education program that supports teaching about the issues connected to art as well as developing creative skills.

Following an assessment of the Art Gallery's governance and role within the university, a new Art Gallery Advisory Committee was formed. The committee's first task was to assist with examining the perception of the Art Gallery on campus.

With its embossed, hot pink cover, the Snap, Crackle, Pop publication was much coveted and continued the Art Gallery's strong publication program and support of research by artists.



COUTTS
COLLECTION
194
NEW WORKS
NEW
ONLINE DATABASE

28.5%
INCREASE
IN OPERATING FUNDS FROM
CANADA COUNCIL
FOR THE ARTS

ULAG PUBLICATION
SNAP
CRACKLE POP



EXHIBITIONS

In 2010/11, the Art Gallery presented a range of exhibitions that included a survey of Jamelie Hassan's powerful exploration of the exchange between cultures, a set of interactive instruments by emerging Vancouver sculptor Alison MacTaggart, an experimental project from local artist Emily Luce, and the public debut of paintings and other works from the Coutts gift. Assistant Curator Jane Edmundson produced a thought-provoking dialogue between work in the Collection that plays with the nature of language related to stereotypes of Aboriginal people and work produced by First Nations artists. Undergraduate art students got an exceptional boost to their professional development when guest curator Emily Falvey selected works for the Annual Curated Student Exhibition and Museum Studies students had the opportunity to work with the Collection for projects around campus, including an exhibition on the 1950s.

MAIN GALLERY

In the Stillness

Curator: Jane Edmundson

Jamelie Hassan: At the Far Edge of Words

Curator: Melanie Townsend, circulated by Museum London

Alison MacTaggart: Promising Objects

Curator: Josephine Mills

A Little History on the Prairies

Curator: Josephine Mills

Out of the Ordinary: Annual Curated Student Exhibition

Guest Curator: Emily Falvey

HELEN CHRISTOU GALLERY

The 1940s

Curators: Jarrett Duncan and Kasia Sosnowski (Museum Studies Interns)

Collage aux folles

Curator: Jane Edmundson

Shifting Myths

Curator: Jane Edmundson

Parallel Park [Lab Space]

Artist: Emily Luce

A Little History on the Prairies

Curator: Josephine Mills

He Reigns for Now: Billy McCarroll

Curator: Jane Edmundson

3 VISITING
CONTEMPORARY
ARTISTS

TWELVE
ON CAMPUS
EXHIBITIONS

3 MUSEUM
STUDIES
INTERNS



TEN BFA
STUDENTS EXHIBITED

103
WORKS
FROM THE COLLECTION
EXHIBITED

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

A total of 372 people participated in the nine **Culture Vulture Saturdays** in projects that ranged from creating a Lethbridge Mandala to making ink from natural materials and producing prints.

In its fourth year, Culture Vulture Saturday (CVS) is designed to offer public programming experiences to the university community and the public at large. All activities carry a theme based on the Art Gallery's exhibitions or events happening on campus. While the majority of our participants are children, the activities are for all ages and designed to be multi-levelled, as they can be made as simple or as challenging as needed. CVS also allows the general public the opportunity to come to the gallery on a Saturday, which is beneficial for those who do not work on campus and those who are not able to go to the gallery during regular weekday hours.

The Art Gallery launched a new **Online Education Program** in February 2011 with a presentation to the South Western Alberta Teachers' Convention. Having tested several pilot options for education programs, the Art Gallery determined that an online program would be the most valuable for teachers and primary or secondary students, as well as a feasible option to add to the Art Gallery's programming. The new section of our website started with two programs: the art making project "Prairie Ink" for all ages and a Grade 7 Social Studies unit on the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the developments of tourism after confederation. The first program includes a how-to video based on one of the Culture Vulture Saturday activities, and the second is an online gallery of 19th century artworks from the U of L Art Collection with informative text panels and a lecture-style video about the publication Picturesque Canada.



GALLERY OPEN
1871
HOURS TO THE
PUBLIC
ONLINE
EDUCATION PROGRAM
LAUNCHED

2486
PUBLIC
PROGRAM
PARTICIPANTS
@48
EVENTS



ACQUISITIONS

With the assistance of a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Art Gallery bought five works by Calgary artist Lisa Brawn from her delightfully clever “Quien es mas macho? Canadiana” series. Bubbles, David Suzuki, Stompin’ Tom, Johnny LaRue and Peter Mansbridge were favourites amongst visitors to last year’s Snap, Crackle, Pop exhibition. Brawn also donated a further three works from the series and Christopher Moore donated Passive Passive Pink (Formation), which was also prominently featured in the exhibition. Moore’s campy flocked toy fighter jets and Brawn’s playful approach to icons of Canadian culture build on our excellent holding of Pop art by Canadian and International artists. All acquisition and loan numbers are for the calendar year 2010.

In 2010, acquired 225 works in total (180 contemporary works).

CONSERVATION

The works-on-paper project undertaken over the past year involved unframing, moving, upgrading overall storage, condition reporting, photographing and inventory of 4400 works on paper stored in the Art Vault. Related to this activity, we were able to maximize the space of our vault and improve the use of data generated from detailed condition reports. As well, the larger goal of completing a detailed assessment of the 9000+ works on paper in the U of L Art Collection was met – with this recent project building on previous attention to other sections of the Collection. The Art Gallery held a successful public frame sale of hundreds of frames removed from artworks during the project, with the proceeds going to student scholarships.

Beyond the major conservation project, gallery staff also conducted conservation treatment work on 56 works on paper in the Collection.

**FOURTEEN
THOUSAND
WORKS ASSESSED**
180
**CONTEMPORARY
WORKS
ACQUIRED**



2 CANADIAN
CONTEMPORARY
ARTISTS
DONATED
WORKS
**ONE HUNDRED
EIGHTY-SIX
HOURS OF
SPECIALIZED
CONSERVATION**

GRANTS & FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Canada Council for the Arts,
Assistance to Art Museums and Public Galleries
\$45,000/ year for April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2013

The U of L Art Gallery did exceptionally well with this peer-reviewed grant. We had the highest percentage increase to our grant of all the applicants in Canada (28.5%) and we tied for second for the largest increase (\$10,000). There were 79 grants awarded: 3 were new additions, 17 had increases, 53 remained constant, and 6 had decreases.

Alberta Foundation for the Arts,
Post Secondary Program
\$25,000 for June 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011

The Art Gallery received the same amount as our grant for the prior year. Given that the AFA had significant budget cuts, remaining constant was a good result.

Museums Assistance Program,
Department of Canadian Heritage
\$40,027 for the “Improve Preservation and Increase Access”
project April 1, 2010 – March 31, 2011

This grant is peer-reviewed. The program is open to all types of museums in Canada and thus there is a large pool of applicants. For this project, the Art Gallery conducted a punctual intervention to improve the preservation of and access to framed works on paper in the Art Collection. Related to this activity, we maximized the use of our Art Vault and improved the use of data generated from detailed conservation assessments.

Canada Council for the Arts, Acquisition Assistance for Art
Museums and Public Galleries
\$2,150 towards the purchase of 5 works by Lisa Brawn



CANADA COUNCIL
FOR THE ARTS
\$45,000/YR
2010-2013
ALBERTA
FOUNDATION FOR
THE ARTS
\$25,000

MUSEUMS ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF
CANADIAN HERITAGE
\$45,027

CANADA COUNCIL
FOR THE ARTS
ACQUISITION ASSISTANCE
\$2,150



STAFF

In January 2011, long-time employee Lucie Linhart retired as the Art Gallery Registrar and we welcomed Juliet Graham as her replacement. Graham is a paper conservator who had been working on contract for the Art Gallery on conservation projects and thus brings considerable skills to her position.

Permanent:

Josephine Mills, Director/Curator
Fred Greene, Administrative Manager
Lucie Linhart /Juliet Graham, Registrar
Jane Edmundson, Preparator/Assistant Curator
Daniel Wong, Technician/Designer

Temporary:

Roz Jeffery and Shannon Fulton Education Assistants
Miranda Grol, Conservation Assistant
Chad Patterson and Evan Van Reekum, Student Gallery Assistants

ART GALLERY
EMPLOYEE
LUCIE
LINHART
RETIRED
AFTER 28 YEARS



GOVERNANCE

In September 2010, the new Art Gallery Advisory Committee met for the first time. The committee's role is to provide leadership and promote the advancement of the Art Gallery and to promote and advocate for the Art Gallery's best interests within the University and in the local, regional, and national communities as appropriate. Over the past year, the committee focused on assisting with the assessment of perceptions of the Art Gallery on campus.

Members of the Art Gallery Advisory Committee:

Standing members:

Chris Horbachewski, Vice-President Advancement
(Chair of the committee)
Desmond Rochfort, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts

Term members:

James Coutts
Bruce McKay
Ted Stilson



ART GALLERY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ESTABLISHED
RESEARCHED
PERCEPTIONS OF
ART
GALLERY
ON CAMPUS

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & OUTREACH

While on contract for the conservation project, Juliet Graham was called in as an emergency consultant for the Lethbridge Time capsule in spring 2010 when its contents were discovered to be wet and gave a workshop on how to care for these contents for the owners of the documents. Graham also presented a museum cataloguing workshop to the Prairie Tractor and Engine Society Museum to assist them in gaining Museums Alberta accreditation. Based on her conservation work for the Art Gallery, Graham presented a paper at the Canadian Association for Conservation of Cultural Property 2010 annual conference and is currently the regional rep for CAC.

Josephine Mills gave a public lecture at the Southern Alberta Art Gallery, "Deaccessioning: The Root of All Scandal," and a public lecture at the Sir Alexander Galt Museum & Archives, "The looming crisis for public collections."

In 2011, the Art Gallery provided photographs of over 50 artworks from the U of L Art Collection for reproduction in numerous Canadian and international publications, including 'Haute Culture: General Idea' (Le Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville de Paris), 'Painters Eleven: The Wild Ones of Canadian Art' (D&M Publishers, Vancouver), and 'Billy J. McCarroll: How to Play a Winning Game Your Natural Way' (Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge). Jane Edmundson served as the primary photographer for the SAAG's McCarroll retrospective publication, which included work from the U of L Art Collection, the Glenbow Museum and numerous private collections.



LETHBRIDGE TIME CAPSULE
CONSERVATION WORKSHOP
CONDUCTED BY
GALLERY CONSERVATOR
JULIET GRAHAM

GALLERY DIRECTOR/CURATOR
JOSEPHINE MILLS
LECTURED AT
SAAG &
SIR ALEXANDER
GALT MUSEUM

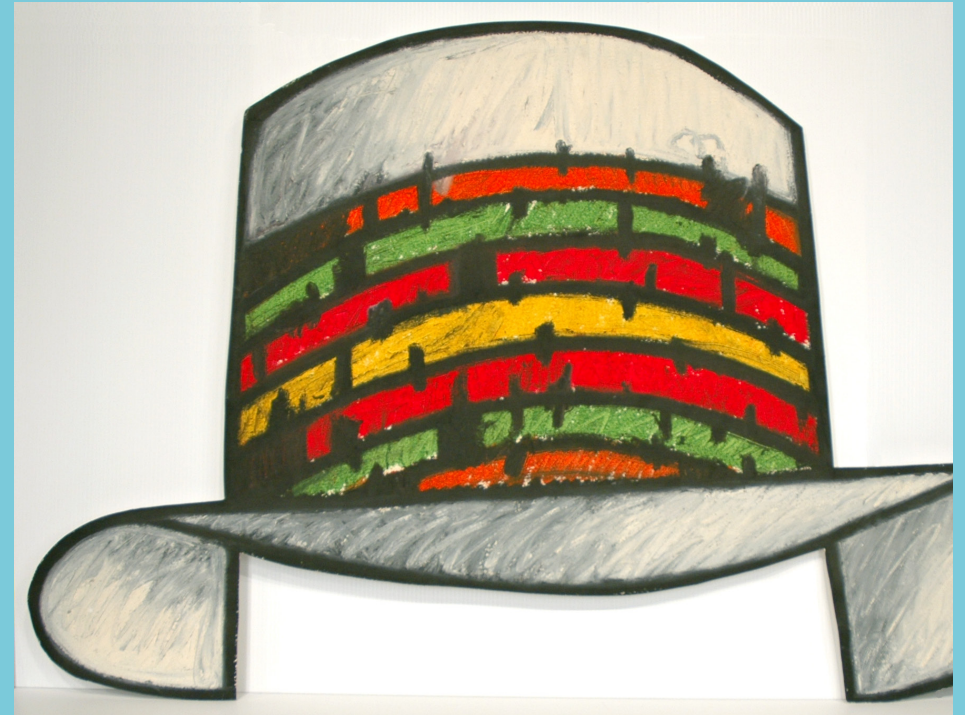
GALLERY PROVIDED
PHOTOGRAPHS OF

50+

COLLECTED WORKS FOR
PUBLICATION

JANE EDMUNDSON
PRIMARY PHOTOGRAPHER FOR

McCARROLL
PUBLICATION



LOANS

Museum London, London, ON

I don't know whether to laugh or cry

1 Installation by Iain Baxter&: *Landscape*, 1990

Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC

Surreal. Real. Ideal: The Art of Joice M. Hall

16-panel Installation by Joice Hall: *Floating*, 1985-87

Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC

Still Life

1 Sculpture by Ron Moppett: *Match*, 1986

Sackler Center for Feminist Art,
Brooklyn Museum, NY

Subversive Seduction: Women Pop Artists 1958-1968
(circulated by Rosenwald-Wolf Gallery,
University of the Arts, Philadelphia, USA)

1 Sculpture by Joyce Wieland: *Young Woman's Blues*, 1964

Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, AB

On Your Marks

1 Sculpture by Ron Moppett: *Match*, 1986

J.M. Barnicke Gallery, University of Toronto, ON

Traffic: Conceptual Art in Canada 1965-1980

1 Work by Eric Cameron: *Red, Yellow & Blue on
White-Vertical (type IIK 1/2 tape)*, 1968
2 Works by Tim Zuck: *Elevator*, 1970; *Halifax*, 1970

Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris, France

Iain Baxter&: Canadian Perspective

28 Works by Iain Baxter&: *Paris Beauty Spots*, 1980, (series);
Reflected Paris Beauty Spots, 1980, (series)

TOURED EXHIBITION

Okotoks Art Gallery, Okotoks, AB

*Celebrity Icons: Pop Art from the
University of Lethbridge Art Collection*

21 Various Pop Art Works

**72 ART OBJECTS
LOANED FROM THE
UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE
ART GALLERY COLLECTION**

ACQUISITIONS

ACQUIRED BY GIFT:

Jim Coutts Collection
Geoffrey James
Lisa Brawn
Lisa Brawn
Lisa Brawn
Neal McCloud
Christopher Moore
Christopher Moore
Christopher Moore
Christopher Moore
Christopher Moore
Christopher Moore

Consisted of 194 artworks
The Nanton Project, 2006 (consisted of 28 artworks, gifted by Jim Coutts)
Eugene Levy, 2009
Bob McKenzie (Rick Moranis), 2009
Doug McKenzie (Dave Thomas), 2009
Battle of Old Man River, 2009
Passive Passive Pink (Formation), 2009
Cuddle Commandos Enlistment Performance, 2010
Cuddle Commandos Enlistment Questionnaire, 2010
Cuddle Commandos Enlistment Questionnaire: Accept, 2010
Cuddle Commandos Enlistment Questionnaire: Reject, 2010
Cuddle Commandos Membership Card, 2010

ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE:

Lisa Brawn
Lisa Brawn
Lisa Brawn
Lisa Brawn
Lisa Brawn

David Suzuki, 2009
Peter Mansbridge, 2009
Bubbles, 2009
Stompin' Tom, 2009
Johnny LaRue (John Candy), 2009

CREDITS

Page 2: Horace Champagne, *Western Sunrise near Cochrane, 1982 (detail)*
Page 5: Christopher Moore, *Passive Passive Pink (Formation), 2009 (detail)*; Lisa Brawn, *Bob McKenzie (Rick Moranis), 2009 (detail)*
Page 6: Lisa Brawn, *Bubbles, 2009 (detail)*; Lisa Brawn, *Stompin' Tom, 2009 (detail)*
Page 8: Billy McCarroll, *Clome Series (9 square format), 1974 (detail)*; Billy McCarroll, *Golf Fedora I, 1985 (detail)*