



VISION

uLethbridge Art Gallery serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas. Through the art works we present and collect, we spark dialogue, support interdisciplinary discussion, and invite contemplation. We are a meeting point for people from on and off campus. Located at a university, we are able to conduct and support research and investigate complex and difficult ideas in-depth.

MISSION STATEMENT

uLethbridge 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 artworks 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.

PROFILE

At 99,700 people, Lethbridge is a small but dynamic city located on the traditional territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy in Southern Alberta. uLethbridge Art Gallery is a crucial part of the city's renowned art community and houses one of the most significant art collections in Canada with over 14,000 objects. We partner with art galleries in Alberta and across Canada on exhibitions and events; assist smaller organizations in the region by providing expertise and technical support; and we foster in-depth exploration of our programs by partnering with groups on campus, in the city, and across the country. uLethbridge Gallery also reaches audiences outside Lethbridge through touring exhibitions and partnerships and our website, social media, and publications.



Cover: *Fish in the Sky: Kite Flying Event*, August 31, 2017, Galt Museum.

Image: *Fish in the Sky: Kite Flying Event*, September 3, 2017, uLethbridge Community Stadium..

FAST FACTS

uLethbridge Art Gallery presented back-to-back immersive exhibitions by Toronto-based artist Ed Pien followed by Dutch artist Karin Van Dam as the culmination of the *You Are Here* series. Both projects were the result of the gallery's research partnership with Lichen Lab, funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). These innovative exhibitions incorporated workshops and other public engagement as part of the development of each artist's ideas.

Our research into how to improve public engagement paid off with the tremendous success of *Up in the Air*, a series of public-site events resulting from Ed Pien's workshops and research. He worked with various community groups in Lethbridge and on the Kainai reserve to create images of fresh water fish in relation to thinking about the effects of climate change. uLethbridge Art Gallery had 30 different kites produced with reproductions of the drawings and the public and the groups who created the images came together to fly the kites.

The Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris, presented *The Sleeping Green: No man's land 100 years later*. This exhibition of photographs by Dianne Bos was presented in Paris April 3 - September 8, 2017 and was accompanied by a fully bilingual book.

The national tour of the *Midnight Sun Camera Obscura Project* kicked off at the Yukon Arts Centre in Whitehorse, June 8 - August 26, 2017.



In the past year, the Art Gallery hosted 4 Museum Studies interns: Angeline Simon assisted Maria Madacky and Grace Wirzba with public programming; Eric AlMBERG worked with Registrar Juliet Graham on collection management projects; Stephanie Wilson worked with Assistant Curator/Preparator David Smith on a curatorial project from the collection; and Kylie Fineday worked with David Smith and Josephine Mills on a curatorial project involving the collection and students in the Native American Studio course taught by Jackson 2bears.

EXHIBITIONS

In 2017/18, uLethbridge Art Gallery undertook two major international projects. To Dwell in Pitch Black Pearls, Karin Van Dam's exhibition, was the first time uLethbridge Art Gallery presented new work by an International artist. Commissioned for Lethbridge, Van Dam responded to the coal deposits and history of mining in the region. As well, we toured our first contemporary exhibition to Europe with The Sleeping Green: No man's land 100 years later at the Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris.

LIQUID BEING (YOU ARE HERE SERIES)

Artist: Ed Pien
Curator: Josephine Mills
Sep 14 - Oct 26, 2017

UP IN THE AIR (YOU ARE HERE SERIES)

Artists: Ed Pien and images from workshops
Curator: Josephine Mills
Sep 14 - Oct, 20, 2017

Public performances:

Thurs Aug 31, 1 - 4 pm, Galt Museum
Sunday Sept 3, 11 - 5, uLethbridge Stadium

REHEARSALS IN CO-SUFFICIENCY (YOU ARE HERE SERIES)

Artist: Lisa Hirmer with DodoLab
Curator: Josephine Mills
Public site engagement project
Sep 30 - Oct 6, 2017

STORIES IN FORMLINE DESIGN

Works from the collection
Curator: David Smith
Oct 27 - Dec 22, 2017



TO DWELL IN PITCH BLACK PEARLS (YOU ARE HERE SERIES)

Artist: Karin Van Dam
Curator: Josephine Mills
Nov 9, 2017 - Jan 4, 2018
Reception Nov 9, 3 - 6 pm

MERYL MCMASTER: CONFLUENCE

Curator: Heather Anderson
Produced by Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa
Jan 18 - Mar 15, 2018

YOU ARE HERE (ART + PEOPLE = X)

Curators: Maria Madacky, Kirsten Meiszing, Josephine Mills,
Jan 5, 2018 - Feb 23, 2018

SEISMIC CHOREOGRAPHY (YOU ARE HERE SERIES)

Artist: Gunnhildur Hauksdóttir
Curator: Josephine Mills
Performance: Mar 15, 2018

HERE AND THERE (YOU ARE HERE SERIES)

Works from the collection
Curator: Stephanie Wilson
Mar 2 - Jun 1, 2018

ANIMATING THE ARCHIVE/ STORIES FOR THE COLLECTION

Works by students in the Indigenous Studio course and from the collection
Curator: Kylie Fineday with David Smith and Josephine Mills
Mar 29 - Jun 4, 2018

TOURING EXHIBITIONS:

The Sleeping Green: No man's land 100 years later. The Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris, April 3 - September 8, 2017. Accompanied by a fully bi-lingual book.

Midnight Sun Camera Obscura Project. Yukon Arts Centre in Whitehorse, June 8 - August 26, 2017.

Image: *Midnight Sun Camera Obscura Project.* Yukon Arts Centre in Whitehorse, June 8 - August 26, 2017.



PUBLIC PROGRAMS

uLethbridge Art Gallery continued our strong array of public programs. We made an adjustment and moved “coffee’s on” to the same day as our opening reception: the new time, running at 3 pm with the regular reception starting at 4 pm, proved successful and generated significant attendance. We added one new suite of programs as we piloted programs with various groups working with new immigrants to Canada. Connected with research by PhD student Maria Madacky, this new set of events built the foundation to expand these programs in the future.

In 2017/18, the Art Gallery presented a total of 89 public programming events.

APRIL 2017
Culture Vulture
Knit ‘n’ Knatter

Main Atrium
Main Gallery

MAY 2017
Right to Play

Sik-Ooh-Kotoki
Friendship Centre
Main Atrium
Main Gallery
Coutts Centre for
Western Heritage

Culture Vulture
Knit ‘n’ Knatter
En Plein Air

JUNE 2017
Culture Vulture
Coffee’s On
Knit ‘n’ Knatter
En Plein Air

Main Atrium
Main Gallery
Main Gallery
Coutts Centre for
Western Heritage

JULY 2017
Summer Art Camp
Right to Play

Centre for the Arts
Sik-Ooh-Kotoki
Friendship Centre



En Plein Air

Coutts Centre for
Western Heritage

AUGUST 2017
Summer Art Camp
Right to Play

Centre for the Arts
Sik-Ooh-Kotoki
Friendship Centre
Coutts Centre for
Western Heritage
Galt Museum

En Plein Air

Fish in the Sky: Kite Flying

SEPTEMBER 2017
Fish in the Sky: Kite Flying

Community Sports
Stadium
Main Gallery
Chinook High School
Main Gallery
Main Atrium
Lethbridge Public
Library

Coffee’s On
Fish in the Sky: Kite Flying
The Drawing Bar
Culture Vulture
Word on the Street

OCTOBER 2017
Knit ‘n’ Knatter
Drawing Bar
Right to Play

Main Gallery
Main Gallery
Sik-Ooh-Kotoki
Friendship Centre
Main Gallery

Knit ‘n’ Knatter

NOVEMBER 2017
Coffee’s On
The Drawing Bar
Culture Vulture
Knit ‘n’ Knatter

Main Gallery
Main Gallery
Main Atrium
Main Gallery

DECEMBER 2017
Knit ‘n’ Knatter
The Drawing Bar
Fish in the Sky: Kite Flying

Main Gallery
Main Gallery
Chinook High School

PUBLIC PROGRAMS CONT'D

JANUARY 2018

Coffee's On
The Drawing Bar
Culture Vulture
Knit 'n' Knatter

Main Gallery
Main Gallery
Main Atrium
Main Gallery

FEBRUARY 2018

The Drawing Bar
Family PlayDay
Knit 'n' Knatter

Main Gallery
Centre for Sport & Wellness
Main Gallery

MARCH 2018

Knit 'n' Knatter
The Drawing Bar
Culture Vulture
Coffee's On

Main Gallery
Main Gallery
Main Atrium
Main Gallery

Public Programming Partnerships & Art Education

Word-on-the Street
Lethbridge Public Library
ULethbridge Art Gallery hands-on art activity for all ages, in conjunction with this popular annual multi-agency family event sponsored by the city library. Promotes literacy among the community.

Sept 23, 2017

En Plein Air Reception
Penny Building Gallery
Partnership with the Faculty of Fine Arts to offer an off-campus art reception. Featuring works by local artists.

Dec 1, 2017

Family PlayDay
Centre for Sports & Wellness
Partnership with uLethbridge - campus-wide art, science and sport activities, free to the general public, in conjunction with Family Day.

Feb 19, 2018



Social Justice Symposium
Markin Hall
Participated in School of Liberal Education's event to connect people on and off campus with activist ideas and actions in Lethbridge.

September 21, 2018

Private Tours
Additionally, art gallery staff provided special tours for community groups, classes, and VIP guests. This year we hosted such people as the U of L Board of Governors, the Sik-ooh-koyoki Youth Group, International U of L students, and Her Imperial Highness Princess Ayako of Takamado.

Image: Artist easels at En Plein Air at the Coutt's Centre in Nanton, AB, June 2018.

COLLECTIONS

The art gallery staff was incredibly busy behind the scenes as we prepared to take in a major bequest of art work, but were not able to be public about the acquisition. With renovations complete in the Atrium of University Hall, we were able to return Michael Snow's working model of *The Audience* to public display.

LOANS

Venue: SAAG

Exhibition: *The Last Art College: Nova Scotia College of Art and Design 1968 - 1978*

Curator: David Diviney

Feb 18 - Apr 16, 2017

1 work by Albertan Canadian Artist

Venue: Art Gallery of Windsor

Exhibition: *BAXTER&FOOD*

Jaclyn Meloche

May 27 - Oct 1, 2017

2 works by Canadian Artist

Venue: Audain Art Museum

Exhibition: *Stone and Sky*

Darrin Martens

Nov 11, 2017 - Feb 26, 2018

10 works by 9 Canadian artists; 2 Albertan artists

Venue: Dalhousie University Art Gallery

Exhibition: *The Footsteps of Art: Arthur Lismer and the Halifax Explosion*

Oct 13 - Dec 17, 2017

1 work by Canadian artist Arthur Lismer



ACQUISITIONS JAN - DEC 2017

TOTAL OBJECTS ACQUIRED

127

CREATED BY CANADIAN ARTISTS

98

CREATED BY ALBERTAN ARTISTS

33

CREATED BY INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS

29

Image: Jon Oxley, David Smith, Juliet Graham, and contractors reinstall Michael Snow maquettes in U of L Main Atrium, November 2017.

ADMINISTRATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

There were major changes for the art gallery's grant funding at both the provincial and federal level. We had our first successful grant under the new program at the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA): we received \$24,180 for *The Everyday Future*, an exhibition and public-site project with José Luis Torres. Our operating funding with the Canada Council for the Arts held steady and we continued at \$50,000 for the next 3 years for a total of \$150,000. We also received a STEP (Summer Temporary Employment Program) grant to hire Grace Wirzba as a Gallery Assistant from June 1 until August 25, 2017.

Her duties included the following:

- o Assisted with setting up Art Camp
- o Assisted with cleaning and repairing, sizing, planning Michael Snow installation
- o Commenced Papokan Sculpture Park condition assessment
- o Operated some Gallery public programs, and planned for Culture Vulture
- o Attended En Plein Air and Coutts Fest events
- o Assisted with preparations for Ed Pien's exhibitions & events for August and September
- o Art Camp clean-up

The contract position of Curatorial Assistant was made permanent and we were delighted to hire Andrea Kremenik as an on-going member of the gallery team.

Total Main Gallery attendance: 16,964
Total touring exhibitions attendance: 6,982
Total Art Gallery programs participation: 4,051
Total exhibitions and events attendance: 39,032



Image: Her Imperial Highness Princess Ayako of Takamado, Japan tours the Main Gallery, 2018.

STAFF

Permanent and contract staff:

Director/Curator: Josephine Mills
Administrative Manager: Jon Oxley
Registrar: Juliet Graham
Fine Arts Technician: Chad Patterson
Preparator/Assistant Curator: David Smith
Curatorial Assistant: Andrea Kremenik
Public Programmer: Maria Madacky
Gallery Assistant: Kirsten Meiszing

Public Program Assistants: Michelle Sylvestre,
Deserae Yellow Horn, Grace Wirzba, and Angeline
Simon

The Career Focus program enabled the contract extension of Gallery Assistant, Kirsten Meiszing for May 1 – Nov 21, 2017. The program provides wage reimbursement, mentoring and support to recent graduates to help gain experience and improve their professional portfolio. Career Focus is funded in part by the Government of Canada.

Professional Activities:

.....

Juliet Graham is a member of the Canadian Association for the Conservation of Cultural Property (or CAC) and she presented a paper at their 43rd annual conference in Regina from June 8 – 10, 2017. Her paper addressed work on the Papokan sculpture park on the U of L campus which includes 12 outdoor sculptures; some have been installed for more than 25 years. This paper was about the development of a maintenance plan for these works that will be easily implemented on an annual basis. Case studies examined some of the challenges of working with large scale and



outdoor works. The project provided a learning opportunity for museum studies students to learn more about collection surveys, condition reporting, photography of site specific sculpture and project planning.

Josephine Mills is a member of the Canadian Art Museums Directors Organization.

Graduate Student: Maria Madacky is a Ph.D. student who provides public programs as part of her Graduate Assistantship funding. As well, she develops programs with New Canadians as part of her planned Ph.D. research.

Members of the Art Gallery Advisory Committee:
Standing members
Chris Horbachewski, Vice-President Advancement
(Chair of the committee)
Ed Jurkowski, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts
Term members
Bruce McKay
Ted Stilson

Image: Public Program Assistants Grace Wirzba and Michelle Sylvestre on *You Are Here* nature walk, October, 2017.

ULAG.CA



@ULETHARTGALLERY



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada



Canadian
Heritage

Patrimoi
canadier

Canada

Canada

the CAMERA
OBSCURA project



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada



THOMPSON
RIVERS
UNIVERSITY

University of
Lethbridge

