



2017 PROGRAMMING ARCHIVE

With heartfelt appreciation to the photographers / videographers:
Alun Macanulty, Ed Brooks, Kirk Schwartz, Lukas Roy, Jessie Zelko,
Krista McAllister, Cassidy Gehmlich, Denise Lawson.

CVAG gratefully acknowledges the support of Canada Council for the Arts, BC Arts Council, Government of Canada, Province of BC, City of Courtenay, Town of Comox, Comox Valley Regional District, BC Gaming, Old House Hotel and Spa, NIC School of Fine Art and Design, Sure Copy, SD71 Printshop, ABC Printing & Signs, and Hitec Printing. CVAG especially thank all of our volunteers, donors, and members.

CVAG would like to acknowledge that we are located on unceded traditional territory of the K'ómoks First Nation.



EXTRACTING NARRATIVES

Jeroen Witvliet and Neil McClelland

exhibition / January 21–February 25

community make art workshop / January 21 11–1pm

art opening + artist talk / January 21 2pm

North Island College School of Art artist talk / February 7 12pm

Extracting Narratives is an artistic program that brings together new work by contemporary painters Jeroen Witvliet (*All Tomorrow's Parties*) and Neil McClelland (*The Perfect Nowhere*) in an exhibition that draws attention to shifting relations found in daily life and varied stories told through the painted image.

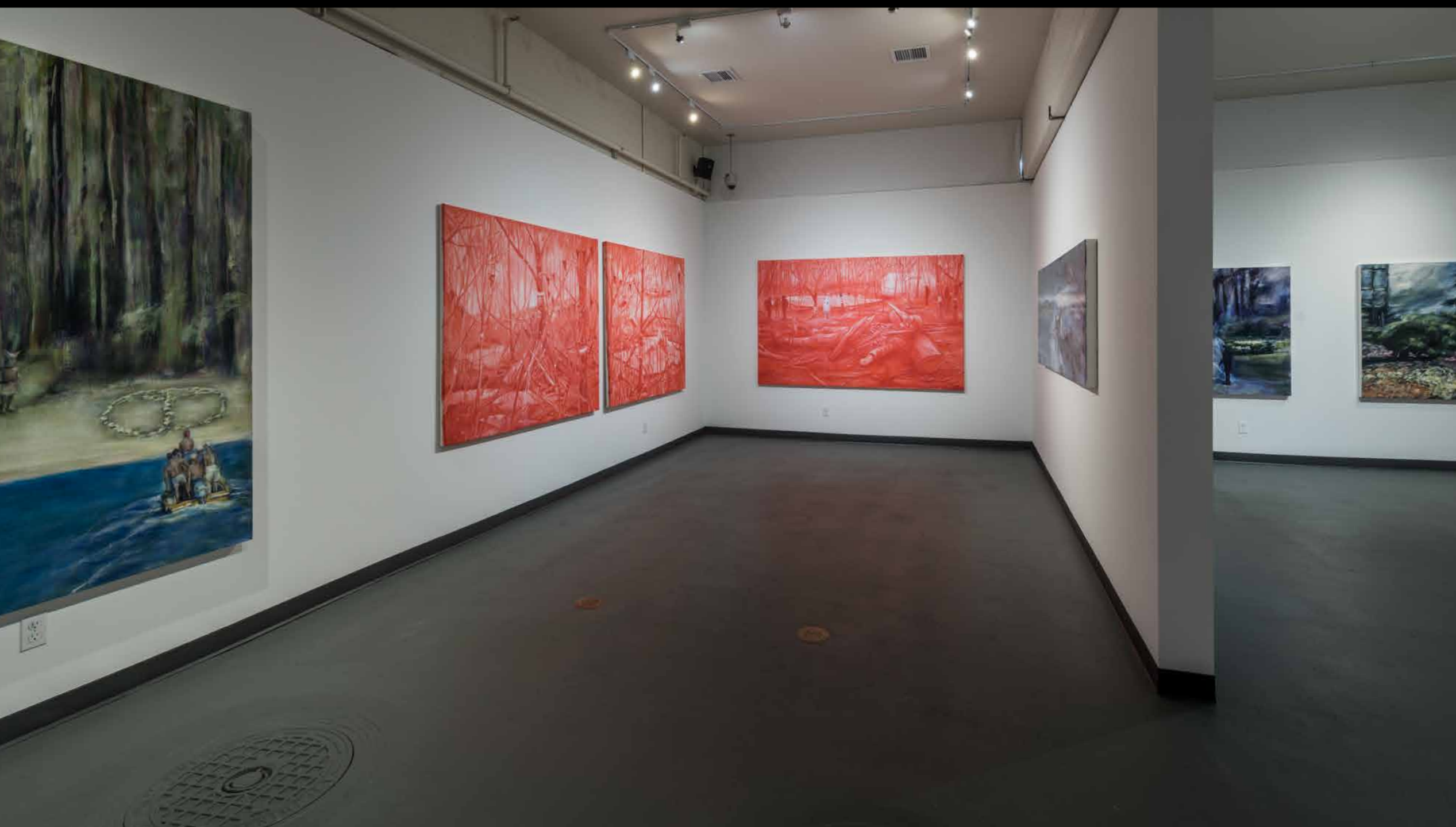
extracting NARRATIVES





EXTRACTING NARRATIVES
Jeroen Witvliet and Neil McClland

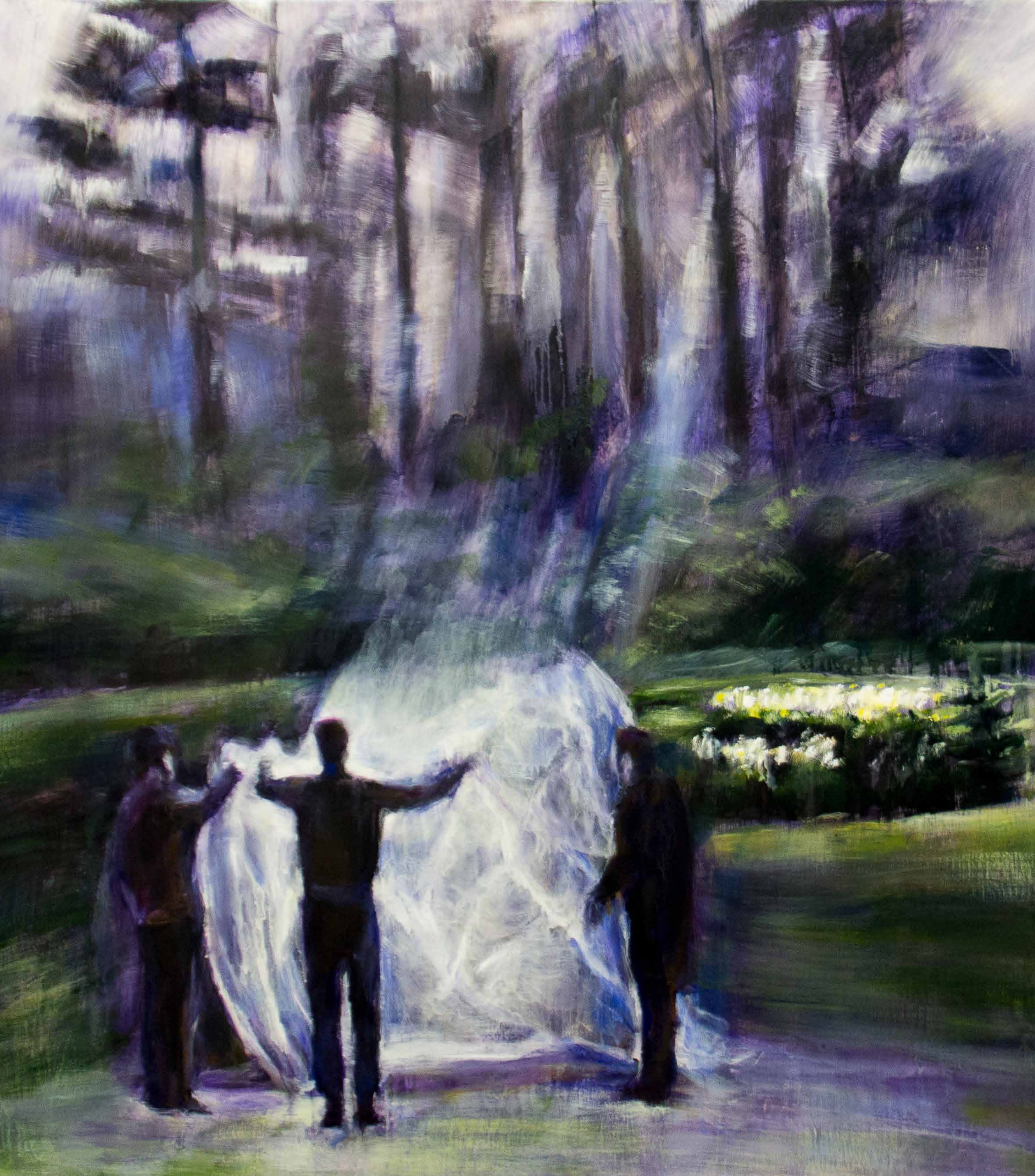
exhibition (installation details) / January 21–February 25





EXTRACTING NARRATIVES
Jeroen Witvliet

All Tomorrow's Parties — Bleachers / oil on canvas / 2016

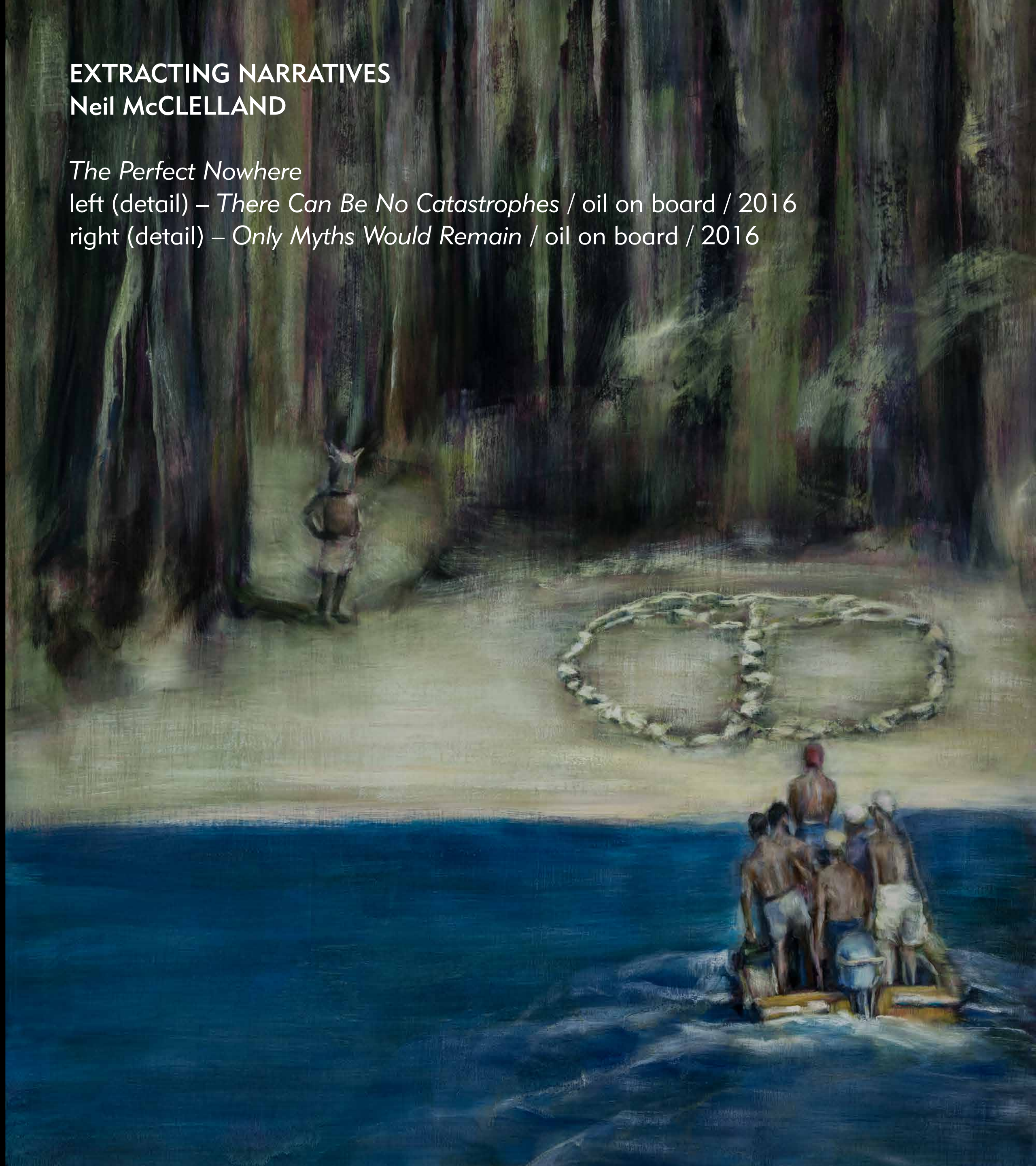


EXTRACTING NARRATIVES
Neil McCLELLAND

The Perfect Nowhere

left (detail) – *There Can Be No Catastrophes* / oil on board / 2016

right (detail) – *Only Myths Would Remain* / oil on board / 2016

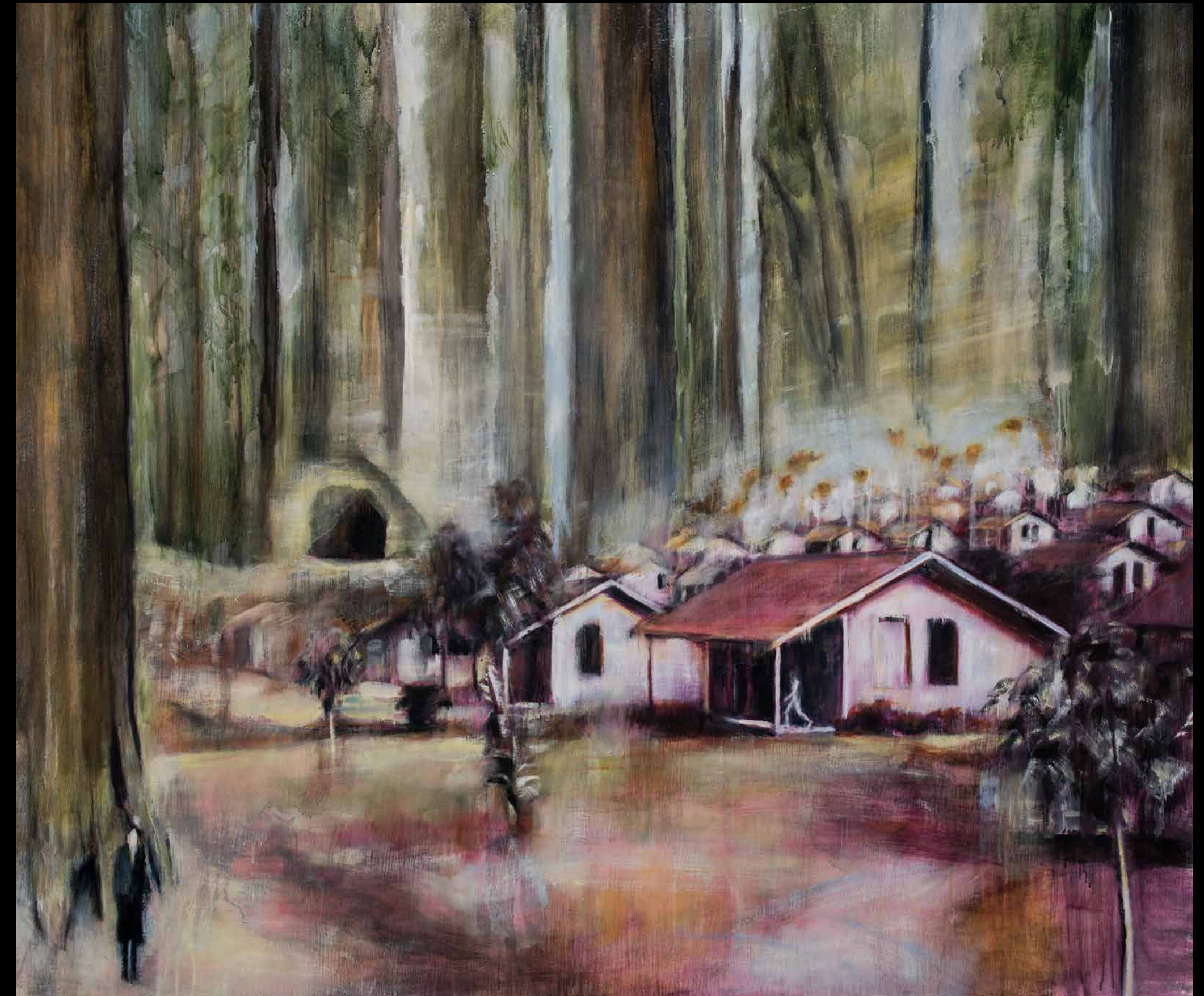




EXTRACTING NARRATIVES
Jeroen Witvliet

All Tomorrow's Parties — Mother / oil on canvas / 2017

EXTRACTING NARRATIVES
Neil McCLELLAND



The Perfect Nowhere
left (detail) – *Now Inside the Mirror* / oil on board / 2016
right (detail) – *In Marvelous Captivity* / oil on board / 2016



EXTRACTING NARRATIVES
Jeroen Witvliet and Neil McClland

art opening + artist talk / January 21 2pm



EXTRACTING NARRATIVES
Jeroen Witvliet

All Tomorrow's Parties — *Untitled* — site responsive painting (CVAG Window Gallery) / oil on canvas / 2017
(top) installation view, (bottom) on-site documentation

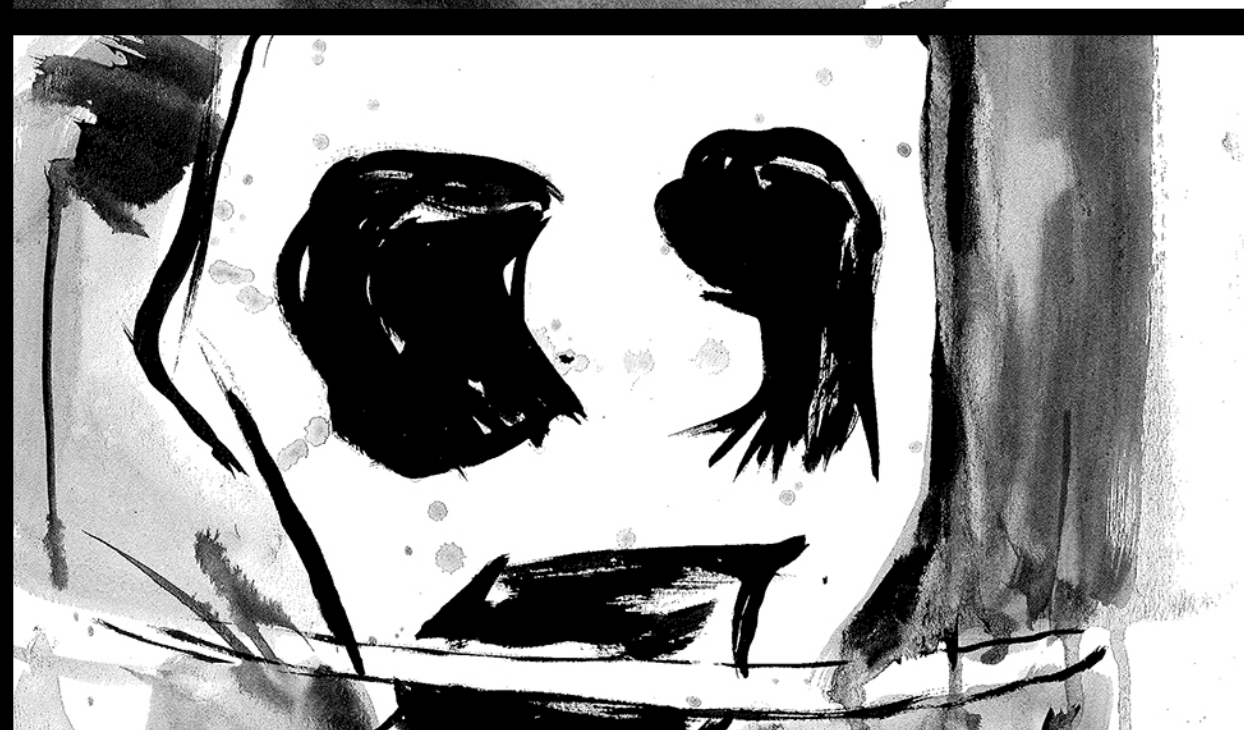




EXTRACTING NARRATIVES

community make art workshop / January 21 11–1pm / Project Room
facilitated by Jeroen Witvliet and Neil McClland

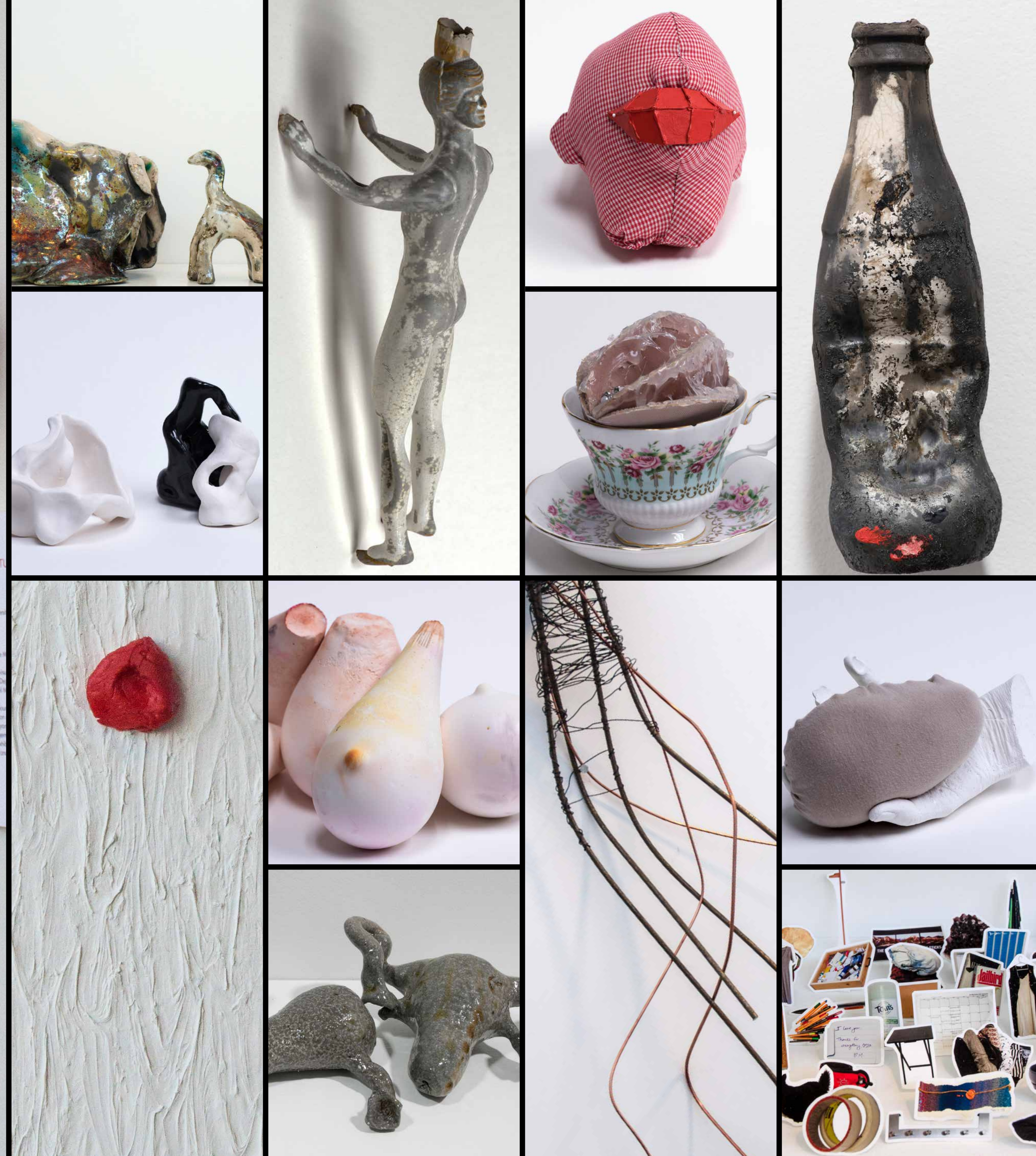




SOURCE MATERIAL I + II

exhibitions / January 21–February 2 / March 10–April 13

As part of the *Extracting Narratives* and *Carried Away* thematic programs, CVAG presented an exhibition of photo-based and sculptural work by students, instructors and alumni from Emily Carr, University of Victoria, Alberta College of Art and Design and North Island College Fine Arts Dept.





**EMILY CARR UNIVERSITY OF ART AND DESIGN AT
NIC + NIC FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS, INSTRUCTORS, ALUMNI:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Sarah Bergeron | Theo Papanikolaou |
| Jeff Brett | Chale Roddick |
| Deanna Burnett | Jennifer Spooner |
| Brigitte Cattell | Brandon St-Laurent |
| Heather Clark | Chelsea Tomczyk |
| Cassidy Gehmlich | Megan Watts |
| Emma Heitzmann | Samantha White |
| Ariel Katherine Read | Ann Yin |
| Lori A. Kenney | Jessie Zelko |
| Jennifer Margetish | Zijin Zhang |
| Monique McKean | Medwyn McConachy |
| Damyn Nelson | |

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS:

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Candi Chen | Gina Luke |
| Laura Gildner | Libby Oliver |

ALBERTA COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN STUDENTS:

- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Collin Brown | Bredan O’Callaghan |
| Haley Craw | Ryan Owen |



GRATEFUL CAKE PARTY

to our volunteers – you make it happen:

exhibition preparation and installation,
special events, reception, craft fairs +
markets, shop assistance, docent,
technical support, hospitality, construction,
fabrication, design, photography,
videography, publications, production,
professional advising, mentoring,
cultural carrying and sharing, workshops,
administration assistance, board of directors,
committees, special projects, touring,
education and community outreach

CARRIED AWAY

Vida Simon and Jack Stanley

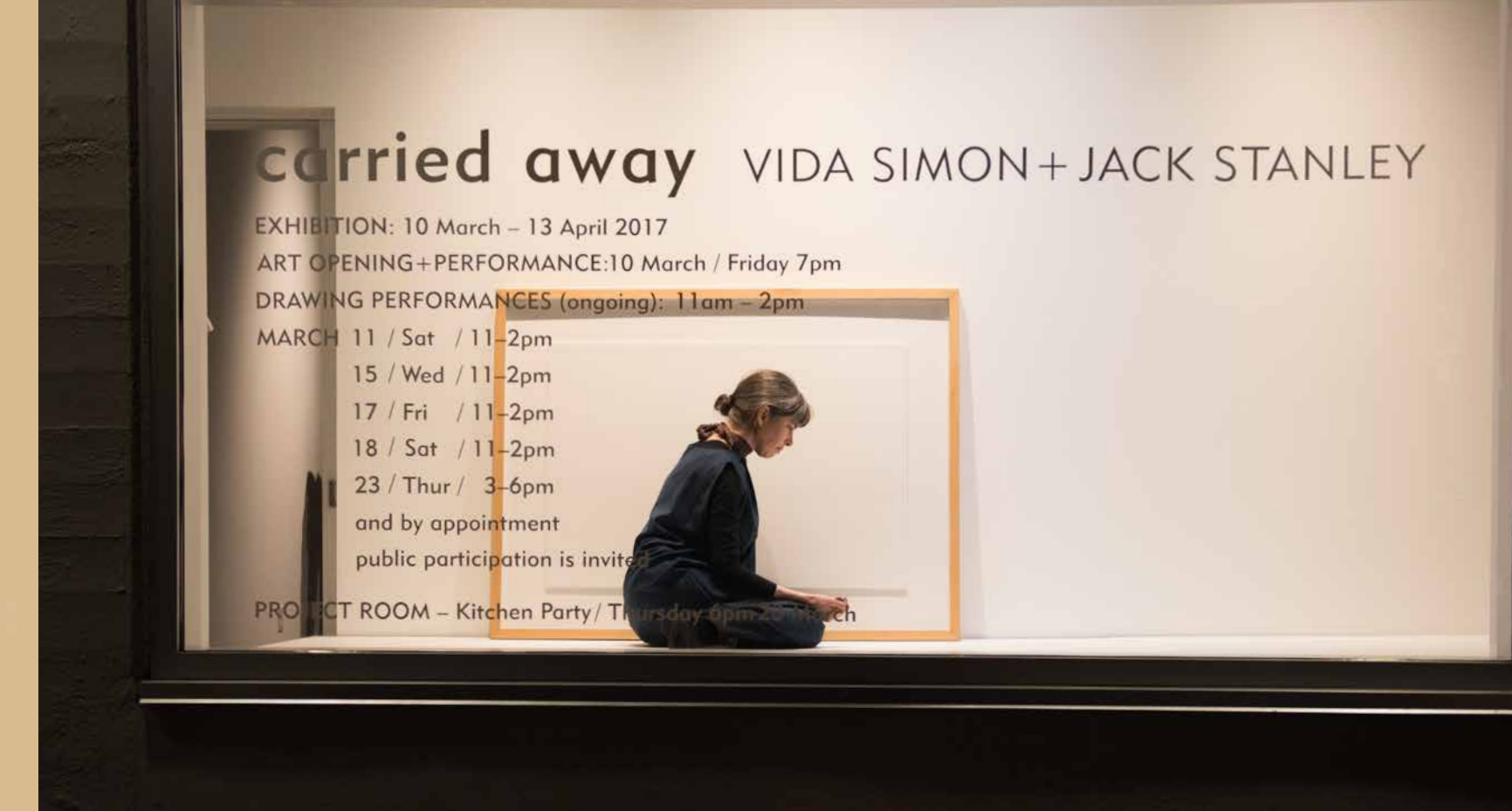
exhibition / March 10–April 13
community make art workshop / March 04 11–1pm
art opening + performance / March 10 7pm
artist talk / March 14 12pm at NIC
project room studio: kitchen party event / a collaboration between Jack + Vida and BIRCH
performances / March 11, 15, 17, 18, 23
creative residency / March 1 - 25



*There are two figures in a large empty space:
she is the continuous drawer, and he is the decision-maker.*

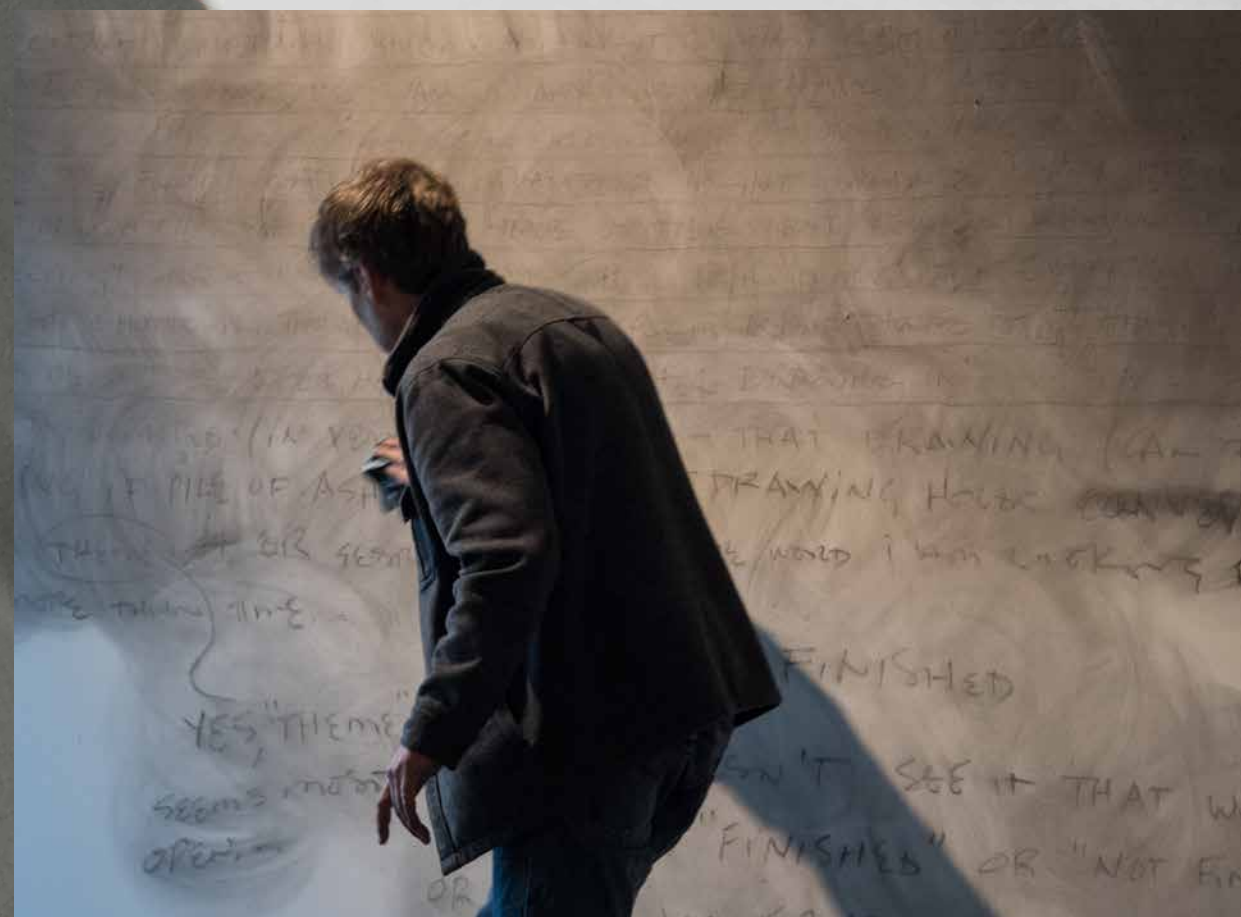
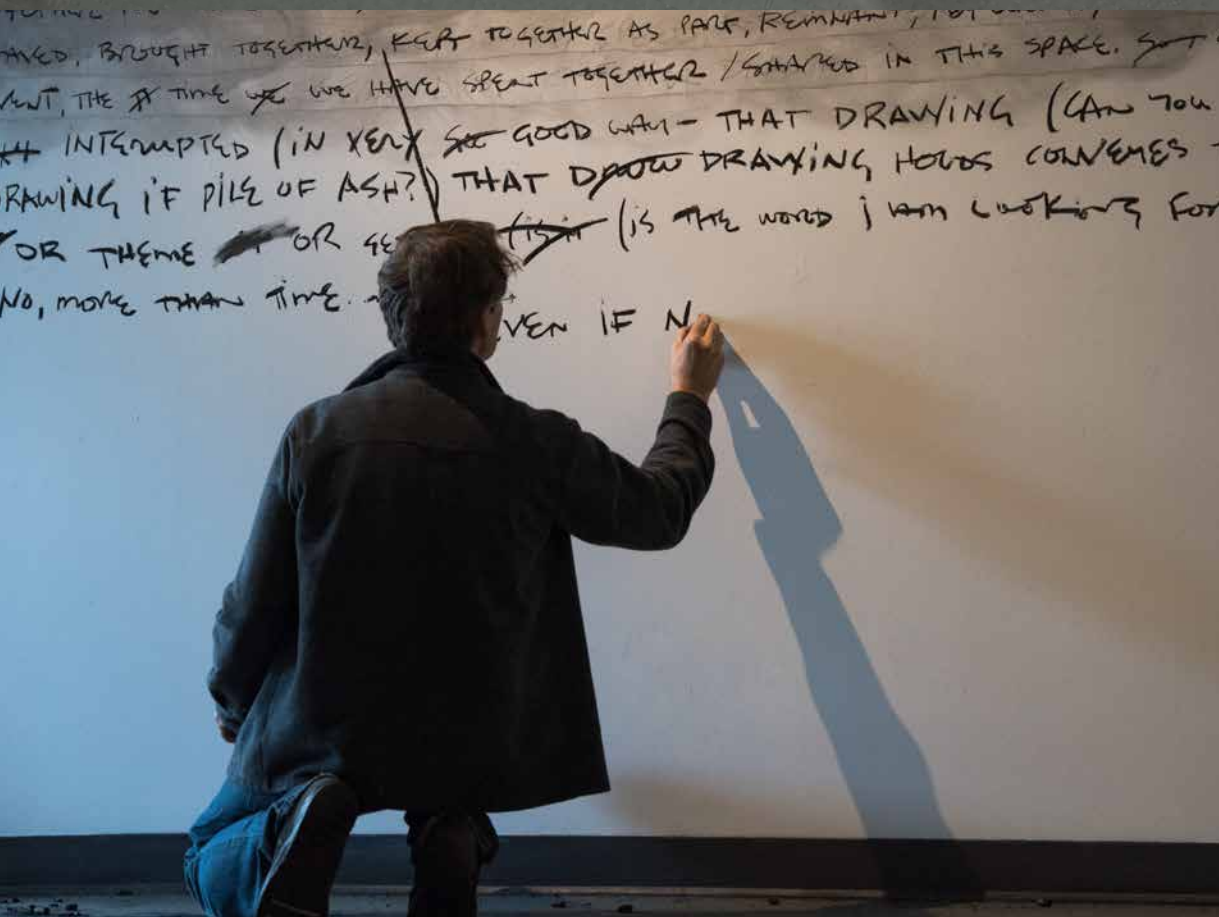
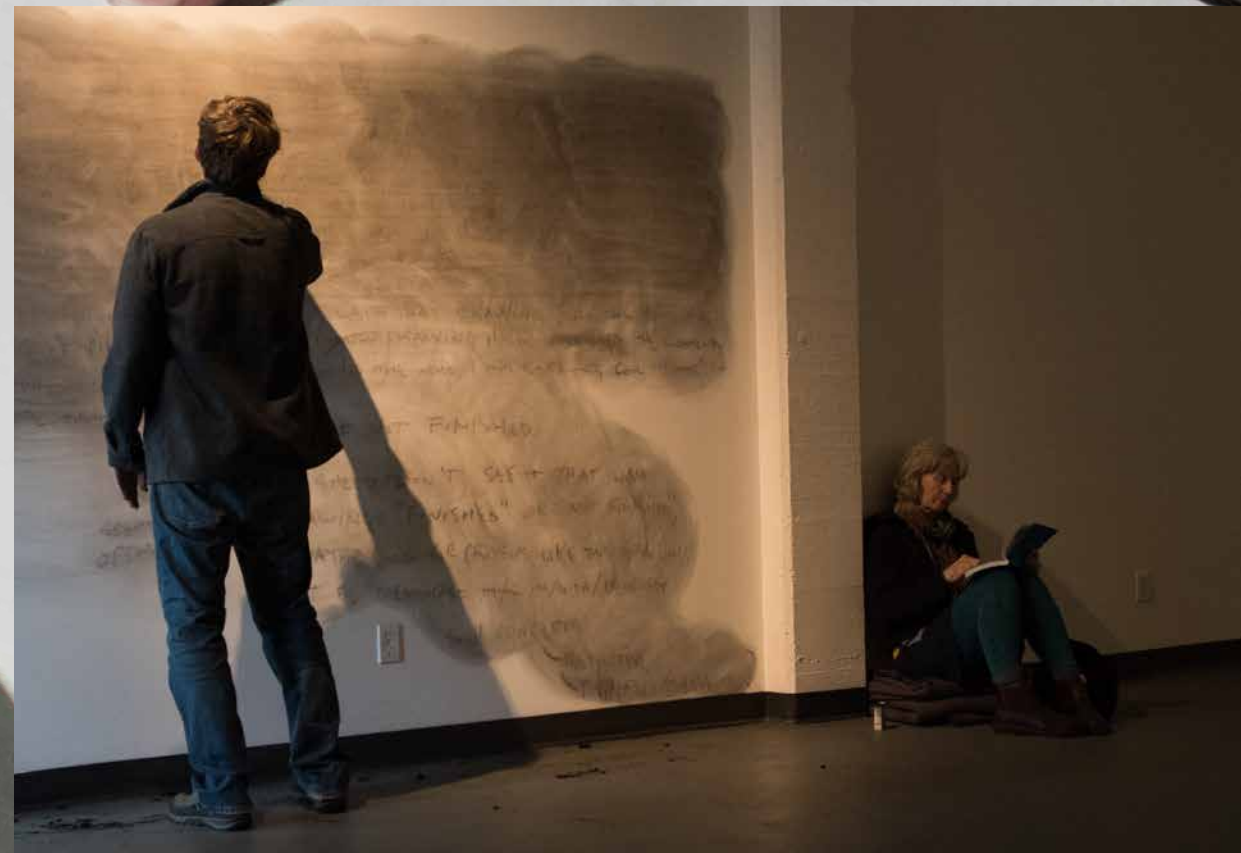
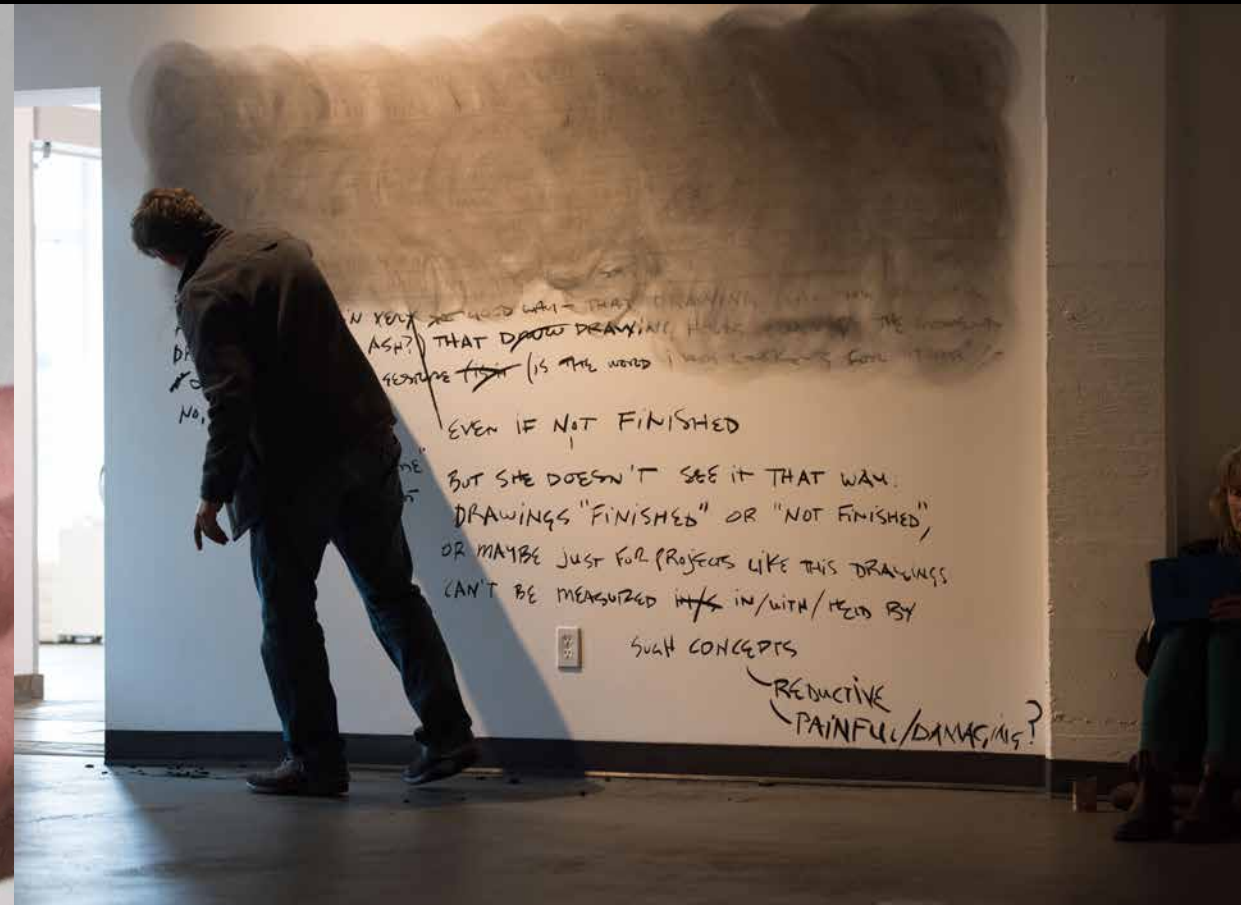
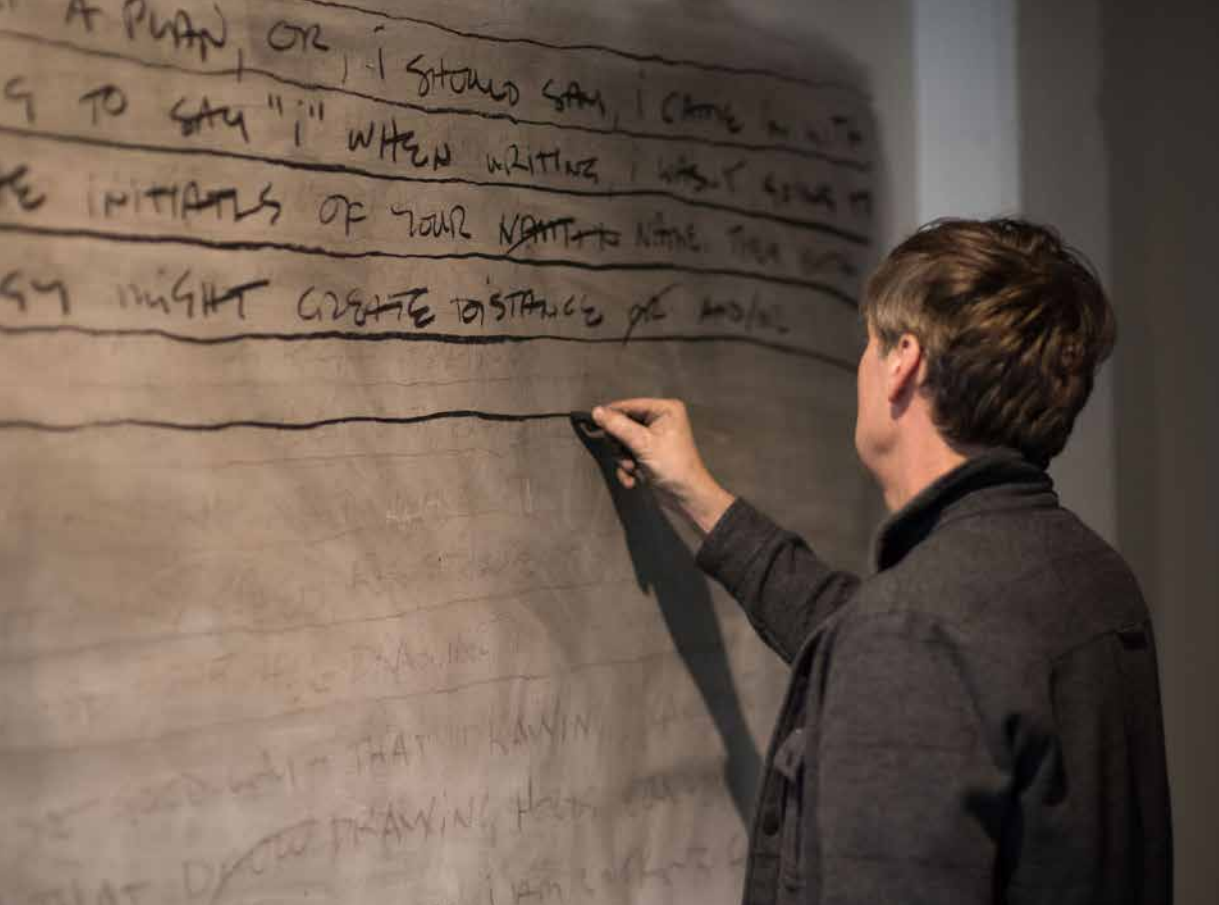
Carried Away is a creative program made up of a collaborative creative residency, community MAKE ART workshops, a site-responsive exhibition and endurance performance, instigated by Montreal-based artists Vida Simon and Jack Stanley. Throughout the exhibition, the artists staged several ongoing, participatory drawing performances.

*One person physically removes the other when
he/she thinks a drawing is finished.*











CARRIED AWAY

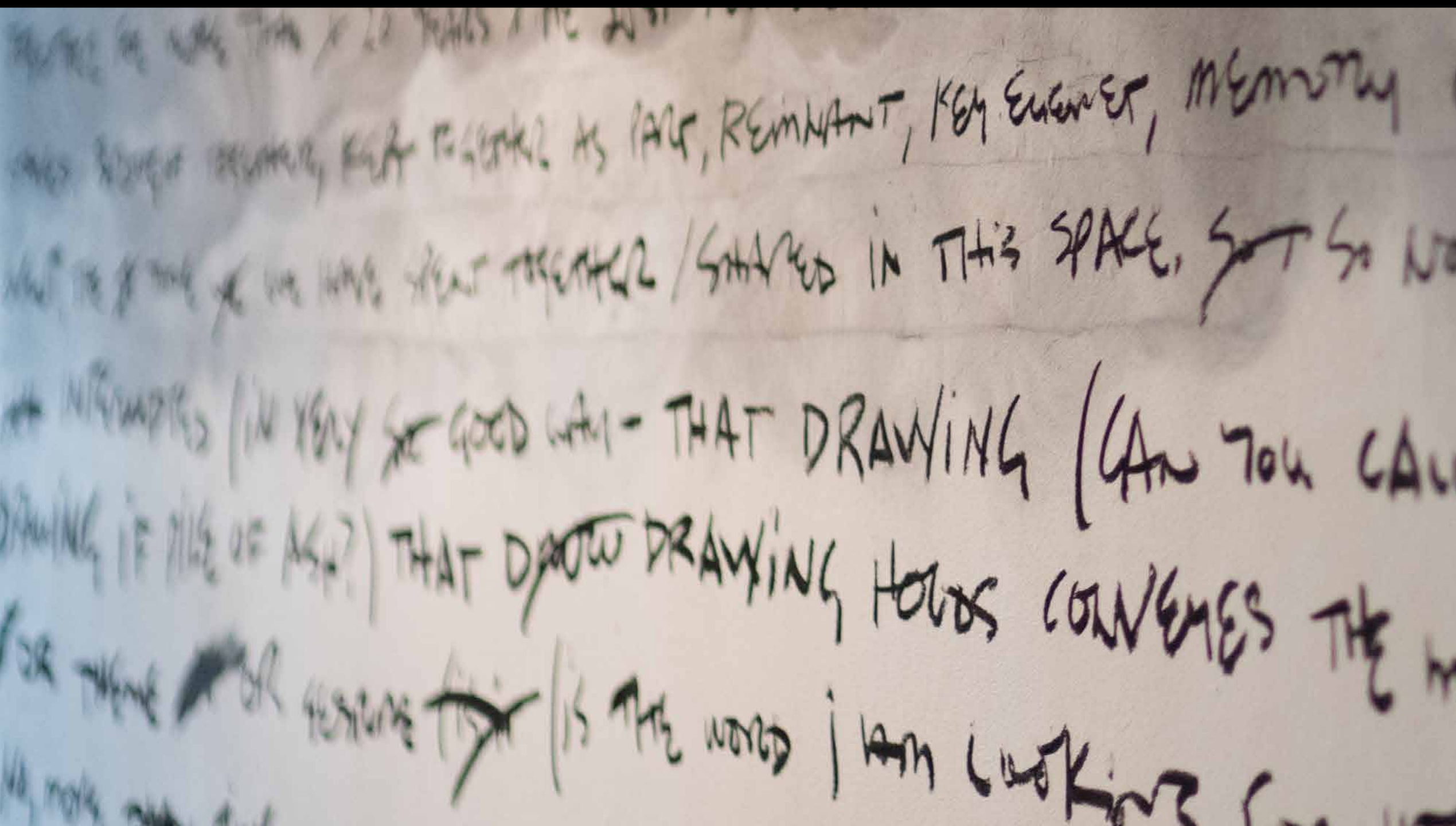
community make art workshop / March 04 11-2pm / Project Room
facilitated by Vida Simon and Jack Stanley





CARRIED AWAY
Vida Simon and Jack Stanley
installation (details)

single channel video 20 min. (looped)
workshop participant contributions / ongoing make art project station



GATHER: a drawing together; to assemble from various places, sources, or people; to serve as a center; to enfold.

The exhibition Gather features the work of senior and graduating visual arts students from the Emily Carr Degree program offered at North Island College. The work enfolded into Gather serves as points of convergence as the students transition their art practices into the community and wider world.

GATHER

exhibition / April 28–May 19 ECUAD Graduates: Sarah Bergeron, Tonja Bjermeland, Brigitte Cattell, Heather Clark, Karissa Comer, Roberta Denton, Tara Lee Houston, Tesla Mayenburg, Lukas Roy, Mariya Vancheva, Jenna Walker, Jessie Zelko

welcoming / art opening / April 28 7pm

Interactive Media Showcase Industry Night (Project Room Studio) April 28 6pm

GATHER AT NIC / FUSE art opening April 28 1–5pm / exhibition May 1–19

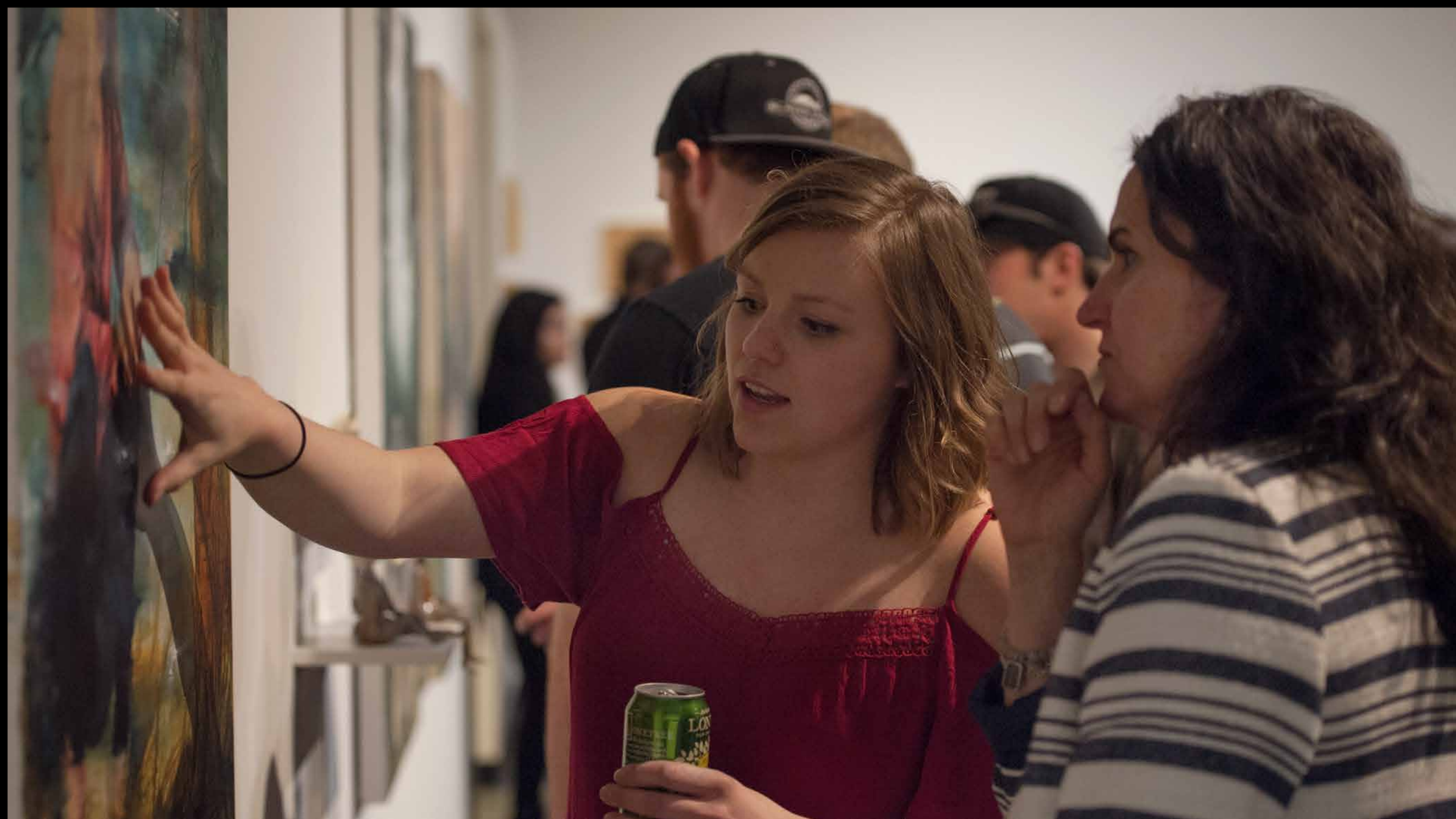
MAKE ART EVENT: GATHERING / May 6 11–1pm

Chief Rob Everson / Curator Angela Somerset with Sandra Semchuk, ECUAD program advisor / NIC Dean Diane Naugler with ECUAD graduates / CVAG ED Sharon Karsten



Tonja Bjermeland
detail (CVAG Window Gallery) Installation project





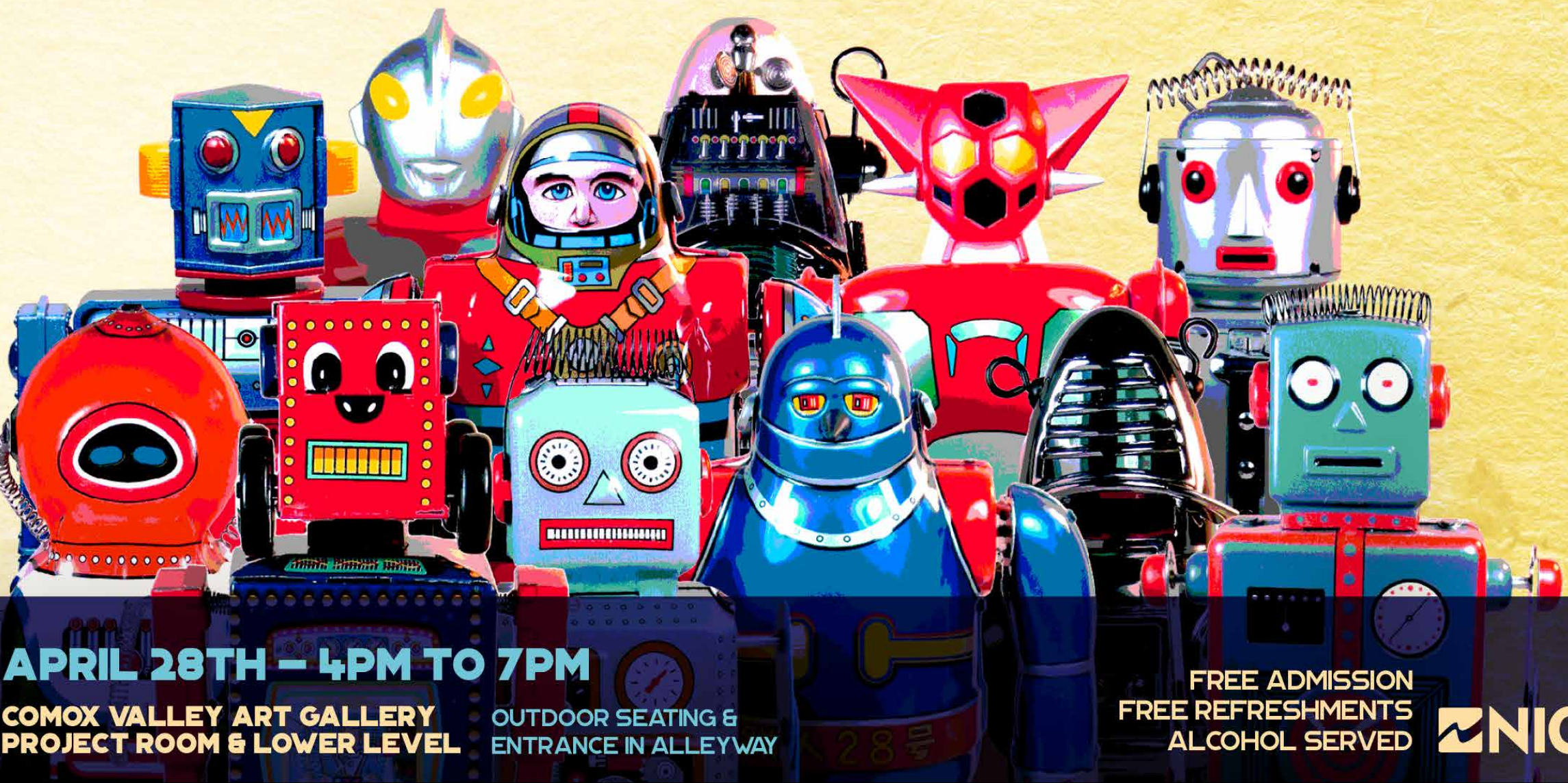
GATHERING

community make art workshop / May 06 11–2pm / Project Room
facilitated by Cassidy Gehmlich



INTERACTIVE MEDIA SHOWCASE

CELEBRATING NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE
INTERACTIVE MEDIA GRADUATES



APRIL 28TH – 4PM TO 7PM

COMOX VALLEY ART GALLERY
PROJECT ROOM & LOWER LEVEL

OUTDOOR SEATING &
ENTRANCE IN ALLEYWAY

FREE ADMISSION
FREE REFRESHMENTS
ALCOHOL SERVED







COMOX VALLEY ART GALLERY'S
YOUTH MEDIA PROJECT

Reelization

FEATURING A COLLECTION OF
SHORT FILMS BY YOUNG FILM
MAKERS IN THE COMOX VALLEY

DECEMBER 15TH, 2017

FLORENCE FILBERG ROTARY HALL
DOORS OPEN 6:30 PM
SCREENING AT 7:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION
FREE SNACKS





IMAGE TO TEXT TO IMAGE

exhibition / June 2–June 30

art opening / performances / June 2

THE BOOK OF CHANGES: NOTES AND GESTURES

Ted Goodden Cornelia Hoogland

Goodden and Hoogland situate their work as a contribution to a contemporary commentary to the I Ching.

IMAGE TO TEXT TO IMAGE: Community Exhibition

CVAG and CVA invited submissions for IMAGE TO TEXT TO IMAGE, exploring the relationships between words and visuals.

FINDING FORM IN THE REPEATED ABSURDITY OF DADA ART

NIC FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT STAFF
community engagement + installation

IMAGE TO TEXT TO IMAGE



IMAGE TO TEXT TO IMAGE

art opening / performances / June 2

THE BOOK OF CHANGES: NOTES AND GESTURES

Ted Goodden and Cornelia Hoogland
artist talk / poetry reading



THE BOOK OF CHANGES: NOTES AND GESTURES

Ted Goodden and Cornelia Hoogland
exhibition details



17. *Sui, Following*

Sun, the invisible good host, pauses here and there,
offers a plate of amuse-bouche, glass of champagne.
Frolics in the shrubbery, undulates the stalks of flag iris
at the pond, teases sunflower who twists round
with a practiced, queenly wave. Sun checks to see
we too follow in its orbit, in all weathers.

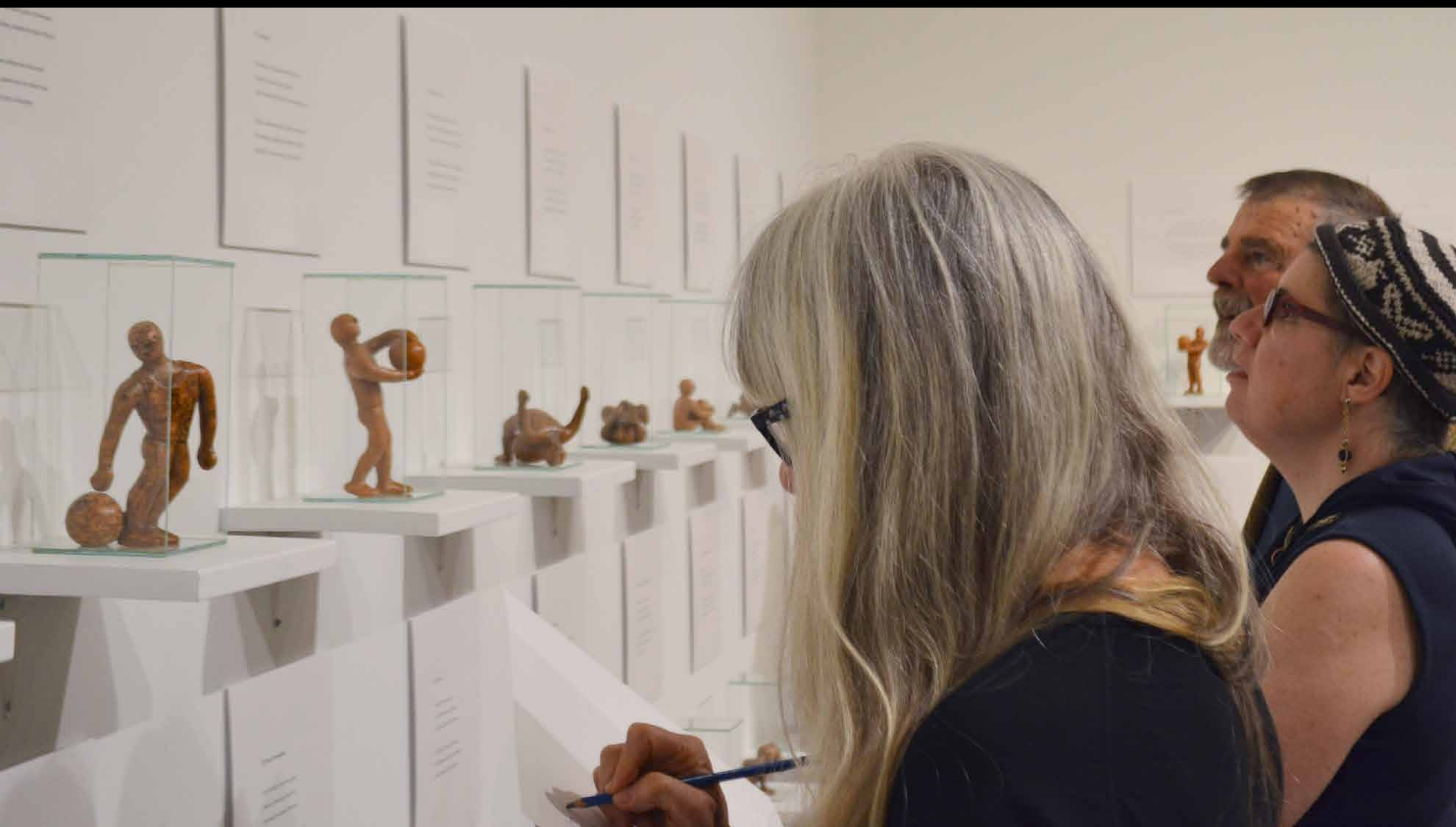


TED GOODDEN + CORNELIA HOOGLAND
BOOK OF CHANGES: NOTES



WORD TALKS BACK TO IMAGE / 06-03-2017
COMMUNITY MAKE ART WORKSHOP
facilitated by Tedd Godden + Cornelia Hoogland

Based on their collaborative exhibition "The Book of Changes: Notes and Gestures," Ted and Cornelia invited participants to create words, images and clay objects, based on their interactive explorations of the 64 elements comprising the show.





A-LURED / June 02 + 03
COMMUNITY MAKE ART WORKSHOP
 facilitated by Anne J. Steves

invitation to participate in a performative
 community making installation of A-Luring things

TUNNEL VISIONS / June 09
COMMUNITY MAKE ART WORKSHOP
 facilitated by Nathalie Nickerson

autobiographical/experiential collage and
 guided poetic writing workshop

THE TRAIN / June 20
COMMUNITY MAKE ART WORKSHOP
 facilitated by Glenn Lawson + Neil Crouch

thematic visual and written collaborative narrative
 with public discussion





VEINS / LISTEN / CUL-DE-SAC

Rita McKeough

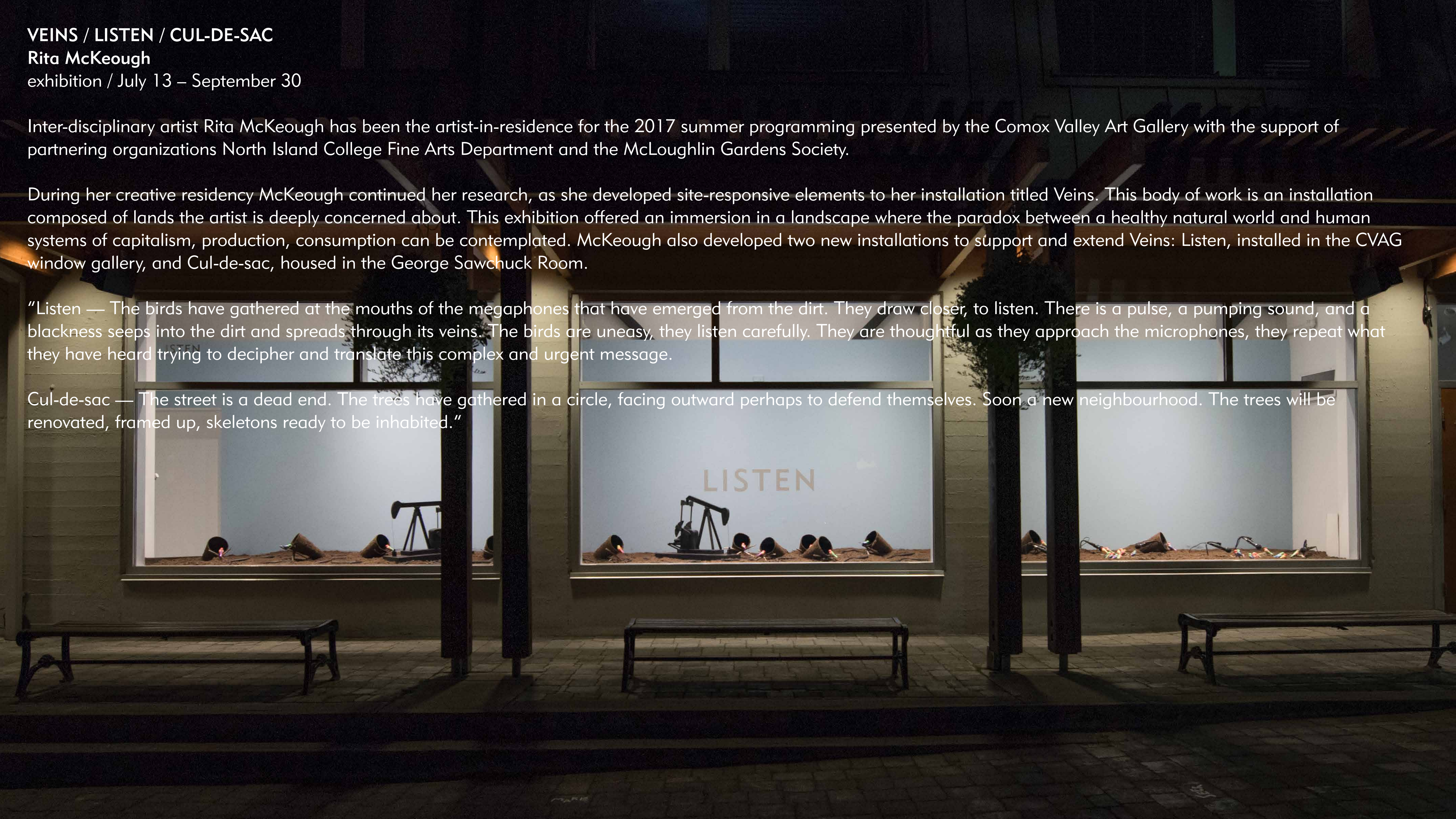
exhibition / July 13 – September 30

Inter-disciplinary artist Rita McKeough has been the artist-in-residence for the 2017 summer programming presented by the Comox Valley Art Gallery with the support of partnering organizations North Island College Fine Arts Department and the McLoughlin Gardens Society.

During her creative residency McKeough continued her research, as she developed site-responsive elements to her installation titled Veins. This body of work is an installation composed of lands the artist is deeply concerned about. This exhibition offered an immersion in a landscape where the paradox between a healthy natural world and human systems of capitalism, production, consumption can be contemplated. McKeough also developed two new installations to support and extend Veins: Listen, installed in the CVAG window gallery, and Cul-de-sac, housed in the George Sawchuck Room.

"Listen — The birds have gathered at the mouths of the megaphones that have emerged from the dirt. They draw closer, to listen. There is a pulse, a pumping sound, and a blackness seeps into the dirt and spreads through its veins. The birds are uneasy, they listen carefully. They are thoughtful as they approach the microphones, they repeat what they have heard trying to decipher and translate this complex and urgent message.

Cul-de-sac — The street is a dead end. The trees have gathered in a circle, facing outward perhaps to defend themselves. Soon a new neighbourhood. The trees will be renovated, framed up, skeletons ready to be inhabited."



LISTEN















OFFRANDES

France Trepanier

October 13 – November 18

installation, community collaboration

OFFERINGS / OFFRANDES collaborators:

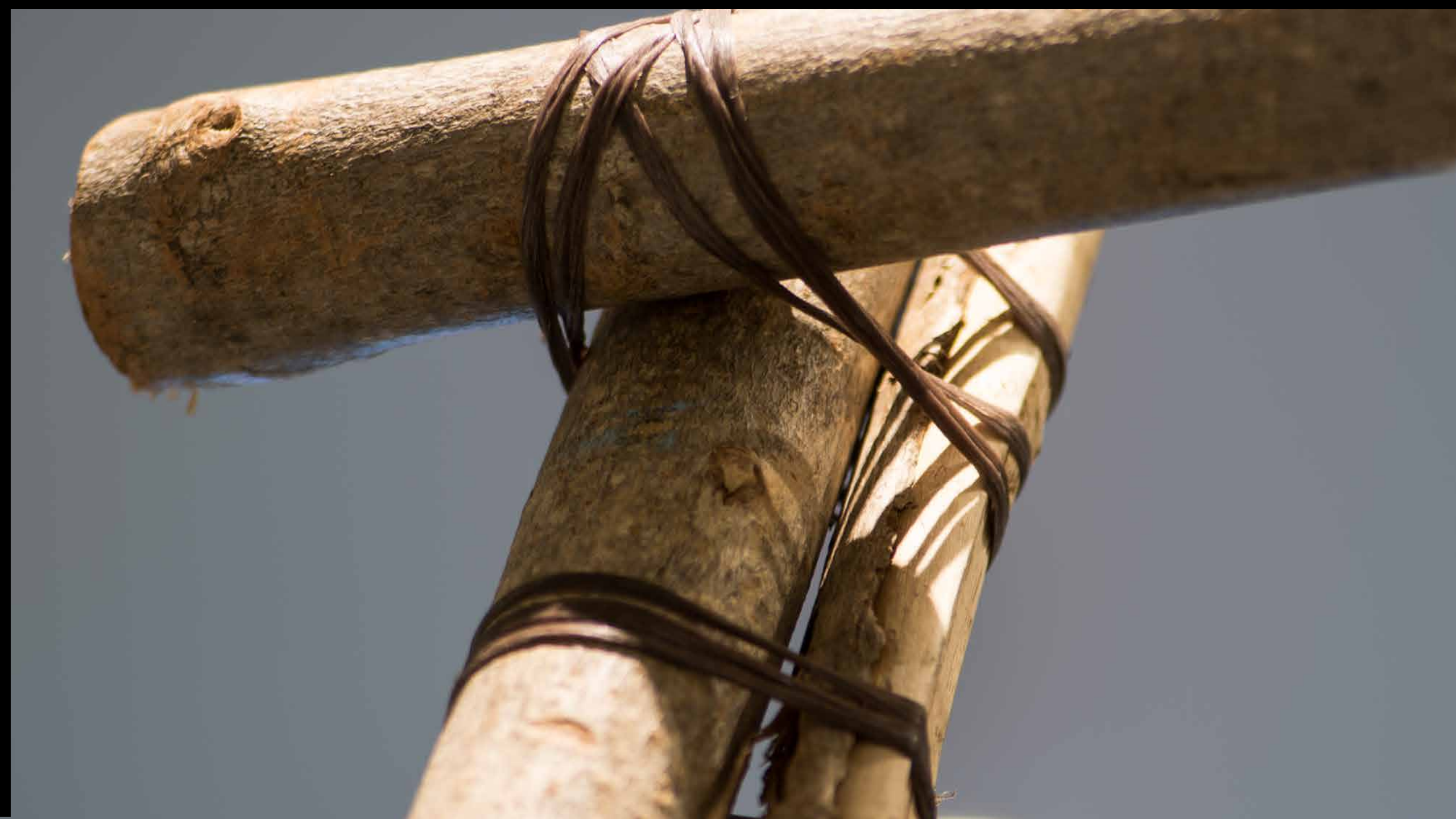
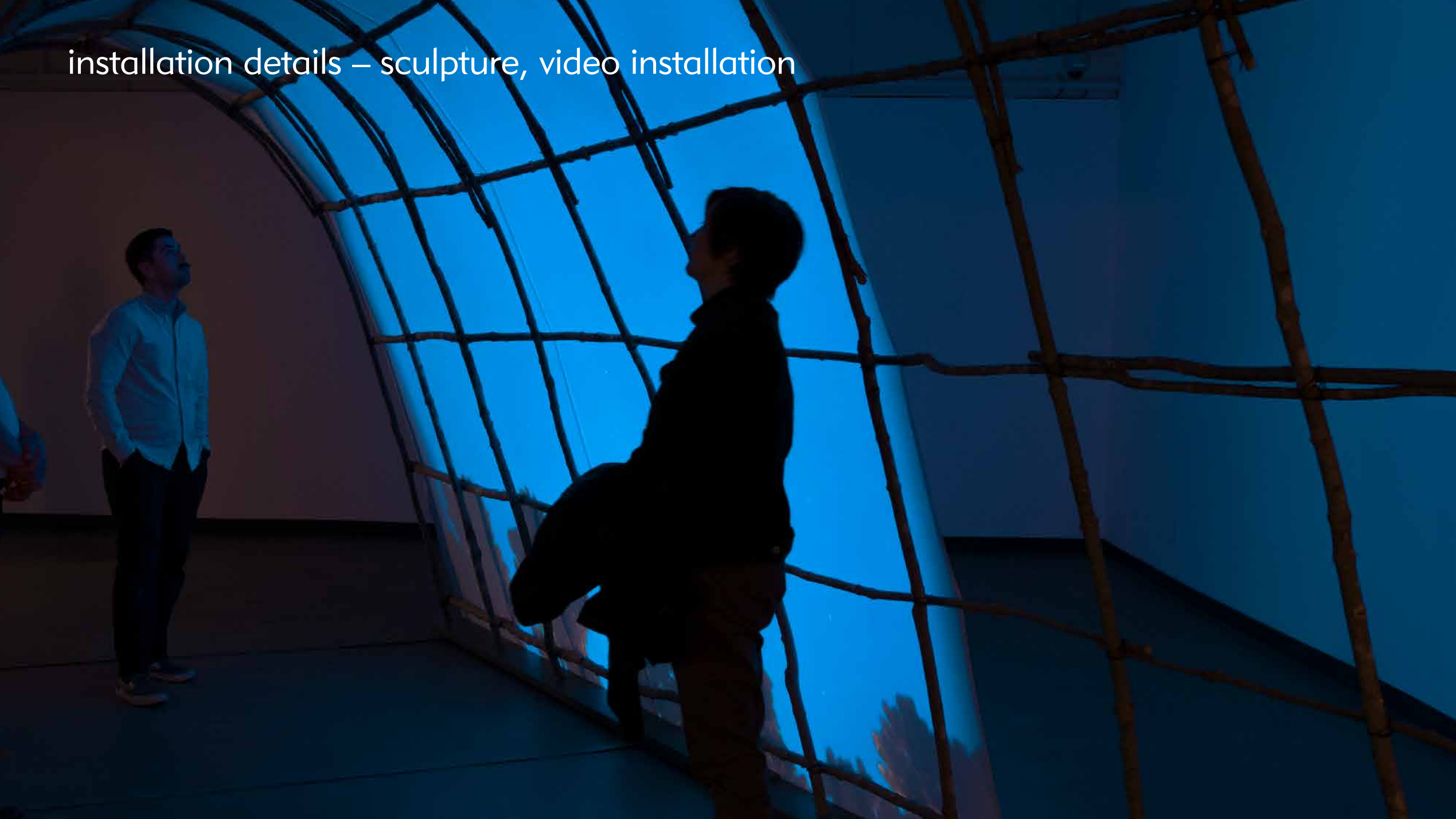
Matt Everson / K'umugwe Cultural Society / Anita Lawrence / Monica McKean / Medwyn McConachy

This collaborative project integrates contemporary and traditional elements.

installation detail – sculpture, video installation



installation details – sculpture, video installation





(left to right) collaborative participants: K'umugwe Cultural Society / Matt Everson / / Anita Lawrence / Monica McKean / Medwyn McConachy





video stills of offrande contributions
(left to right) collaborative participants: K'umugwe Cultural Society / Matt Everson / Anita Lawrence / Monica McKean / Medwyn McConachy





ARTISTS / PARTICIPANTS

K'umugwe Cultural Society – Dance and Song
K'ómoks First Nation – Consultation
Alun Macanulty – Photographer
Calvin Hunt, Karver Everson, Randy Frank – Carvers

DESIGN / PRODUCTION

Comox Valley Art Gallery's Creative Team:
Glen Sanford, Sharon Karsten, Angela Somerset, Denise Lawson,
Krista McAllister, Lukas Roy, Alun Macanulty

WITH GRATITUDE

Ernst Vegt, Coast Imaging Arts – Production Support
ABC Printing & Signs – Community Production Collaborators

NORTH ISLAND COLLAGE HOSPITAL ART PROJECT

The CVAG creative team took on the project of conceptualizing, designing and producing artwork for the new North Island Hospital in the Comox Valley. CVAG's Community Space features a design project for art at the new North Island Hospital in Courtenay. We worked closely with the North Island Hospital, K'ómoks First Nation, Elder Barb Whyte, local artists, plus students, parents, and educators from Queneesh Elementary School.



IN THIS PLACE

Three large panels offer a reflection of the local landscape and cultural history that is embedded within it. The imagery offers a welcoming invitation through scenes that embrace the forest and sea, comprising the Comox Valley. The series of photographs communicates a sense of comfort and safety for individuals visiting the hospital.



1 TŁALKWALA OR 'LADIES DANCE' – detail, K'umugwe Cultural Society performance

2 RECLAMATION POLE (Pelxwikw / Goose Spit) K'ómoks First Nation Unceded Territory

Artists: Karver Everson, Randy Frank, & Master Carver/Mentor Calvin Hunt

With arms outstretched and our songs clinging to the wind, the K'ómoks First Nation welcomes visitors into our uncaded traditional territory. Since time immemorial, the ancestors of the K'ómoks people have been the caretakers of this land — living off the wealth and abundance that this region has to offer. From the cool rivers teeming with salmon to the mountains and forests that surround us, the environment has always looked after our people. We welcome you to share in the abundance that this region has to offer... with the expectation that you give back as much as you take. – **Andy Everson**

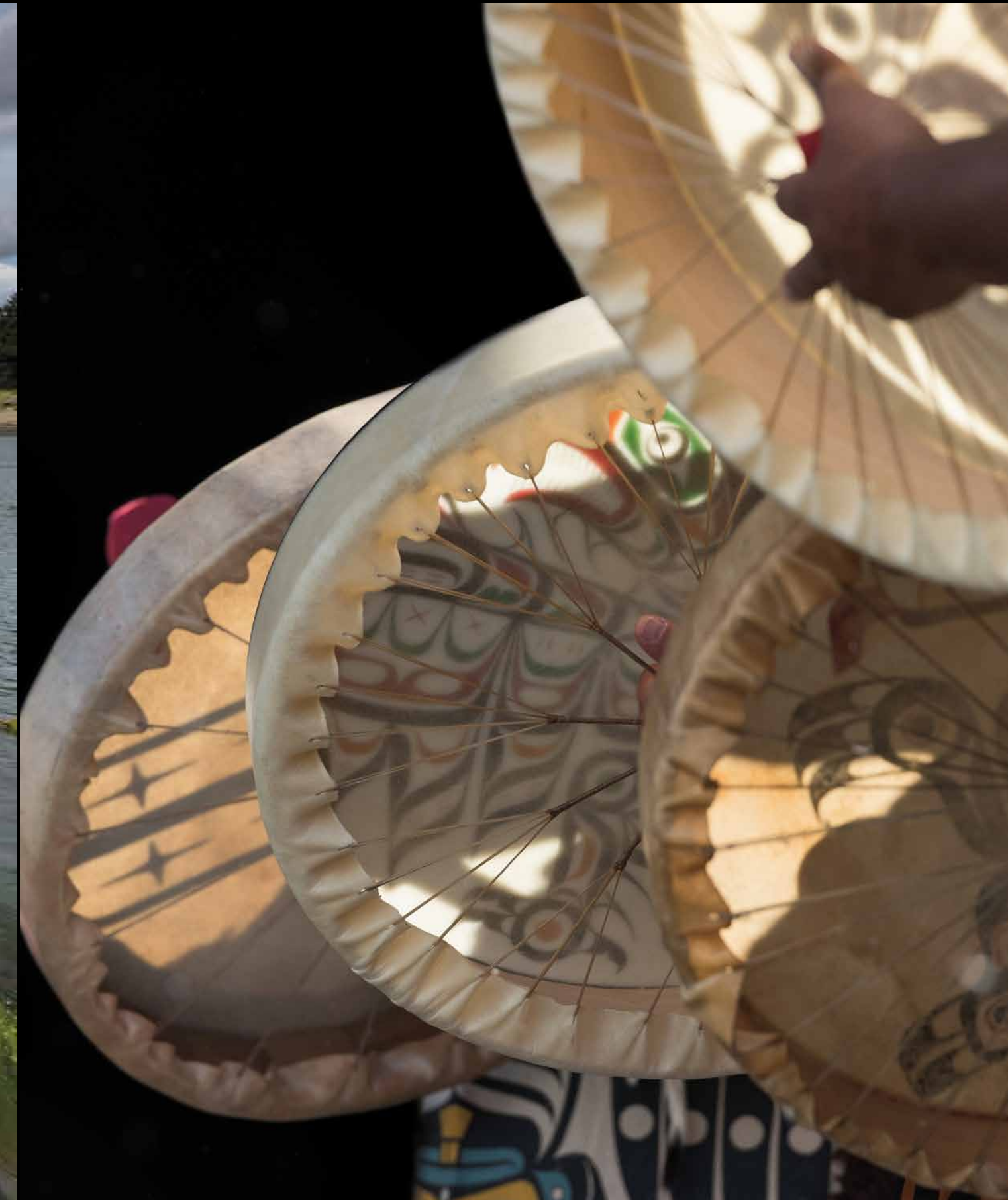
3 PUNTLEGE RIVER SALMON RUN – K'ómoks First Nation Unceded Territory

4 EAGLE AND NEST – K'ómoks First Nation Unceded Territory



5 TRADITIONAL FISH TRAPS (K'ómoks Reserve shoreline) – K'ómoks First Nation Unceded Territory

6 TŁALKWAŁA OR 'LADIES DANCE' – detail, K'umugwe Cultural Society performance





I give thanks to the Creator,
Creator of our planets and our
stars. I honor Mother Earth for all that
she gives us, the oceans, rivers,
mountains, and plains. I give thanks
to the trees and the plants for
supporting the physical, emotional,
and spiritual wellbeing of our elders,
mothers and fathers, and our
children that walk upon her with
respect for ourselves and respect for
Mother Earth and all of my relations.

– Barb Whyte

ARTISTS / PARTICIPANTS

Elder Barb Whyte, born Barbara Billy – Consultation and
Knowledge Sharing
Alun Macanulty – Photographer

DESIGN / PRODUCTION

Comox Valley Art Gallery's Creative Team:
Glen Sanford, Sharon Karsten, Angela Somerset, Denise
Lawson, Krista McAllister, Lukas Roy, Alun Macanulty

WITH GRATITUDE

Ernst Vegt, Coast Imaging Arts – Production Support
ABC Printing & Signs – Production Collaborators

WELCOME WALL – main entrance

The artwork created for the Welcome Wall honours the traditional territory, medicine plants and cultural healing practices of the K'ómoks First Nation people, both Coast Salish and Kwakwaka'wakw. The work invites contemplation and rooting to the land in which we live and receive health care.



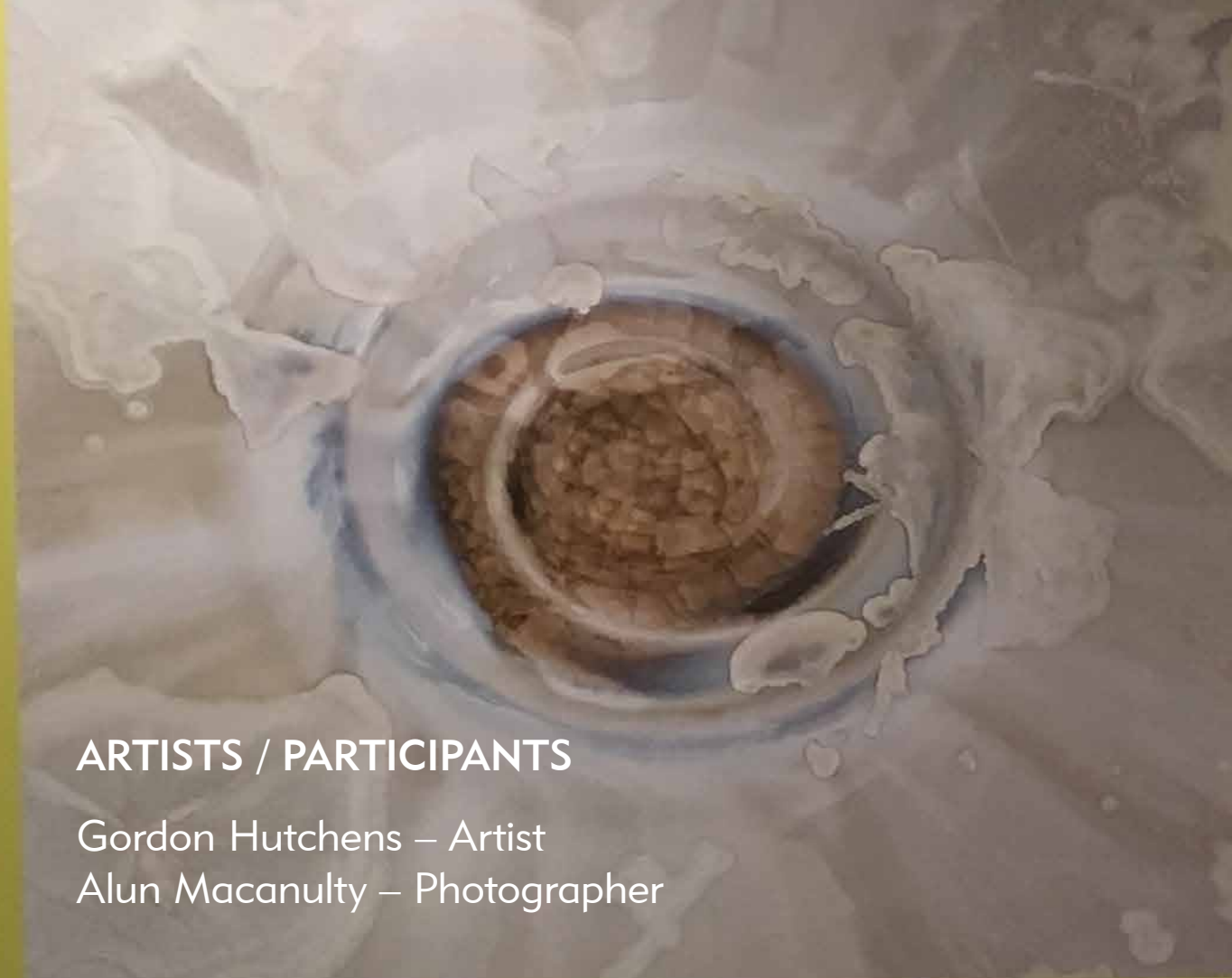




TRANSFORMATION: AQUAMARINE / ALBASTER CRYSTAL WORK

GORDON HUTCHENS

MAIN FLOOR WAITING ROOM –(details) crystalline glazed porcelain vessels, 2017–18



ARTISTS / PARTICIPANTS

Gordon Hutchens – Artist
Alun Macanulty – Photographer

DESIGN / PRODUCTION

Comox Valley Art Gallery's Creative Team:

Glen Sanford, Sharon Karsten, Angela Somerset, Denise Lawson,
Krista McAllister, Lukas Roy, Alun Macanulty

With gratitude:

Ernst Vegt, Coast Imaging Arts – Production Support
ABC Printing – Community Production Collaborators



Emulating the crystal growth of minerals slow cooling deep within the earth, Gordon has spent many years developing a personal pallet of ceramic glazes that can grow spontaneous macro crystals if cooled very slowly. First discovered in Europe in the late 1800s, this style of glaze is fired in the kiln to 1300 degrees celsius and during the cooling cycle is held at around 1120 degrees for up to five hours. Like all glass, this glaze is based on powdered quartz, with the addition of a high percentage of zinc oxide. With slow cooling, at a critical temperature, natural zinc ortho-silicate crystals can grow within it. Inspired by alabaster, the crystalline form of calcium, this glaze gets its white mother of pearl effect from the addition of titanium. The aquamarine coloured glaze is achieved by blending titanium, copper and cobalt metals.

ARTISTS / PARTICIPANTS

Students of Queneesh Elementary School

DESIGN / PRODUCTION

Comox Valley Art Gallery's Creative Team:

Glen Sanford, Sharon Karsten, Angela Somerset, Denise Lawson,
Krista McAllister, Lukas Roy, Alun Macanulty

With gratitude:

Ernst Vegt, Coast Imaging Arts – Production Support

ABC Printing – Community Production Collaborators

Trish McPhail – Community Facilitator

QUENEESH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
(Kindergarten through Grade 7)

BECOMING
PEDIATRICS –digital prints / watercolour + mixed media original, 2017–18

Inspired by their relationships to place – where they live and learn – the children of Queneesh Elementary School came together in a series of art-making sessions facilitated by Denise Lawson and Angela Somerset (Comox Valley Art Gallery Curatorial Staff). The children were invited to respond to the theme of transformation and change. This resulted in the creation of one hundred and eighty artworks for the new hospital, which borders their school yard. Circles of sharing allowed the children an opportunity to offer personal experiences related to hospitalization. Working from a place of deep empathy, the children explored the transformative potential of unexpected change using wet-on-wet watercolour painting techniques combined with drawing and collage to create lush, expressive images. Krista McAllister, with the assistance of Lukas Roy (CVAG Design/Production Staff) wove the beautiful visual narrative together that comprises the final installation, offering hope and encouragement to all those in the hospital environment.



DREAMING TOGETHER
NICOLE CROUCH + ED ODGAARD + KRISTA MCALLISTER

ink drawings on paper by Nicole / digital photography by
Ed / additional photos and digital weaves by Krista, 2017–18

Artists are dreamers are birds dream-speaking together.

Birds can do anything. They are dream walker speakers.

Inspired by birds and light refraction, this translucent mural mediates the spaces and experiences between inside and outside, calling in and calling out the imagination in the space between. The prism, like the bird, is a carrier of imagination, holding the space of possibilities.

The collaborative practice between Ed, Nicole and Krista was a knowledge exchange and exploration of the universal beauty of a place and the natural workings that comprise this place. In changing relationship configurations, in trust, there is sweetness between individuals, the colour canopy and the birds.

The prism effect of sunlight through crystals in a matrix of images is wrapped around the atrium windows to offer a sense of comfort and delight to those using the space.

Language comes last.



ARTISTS / PARTICIPANTS

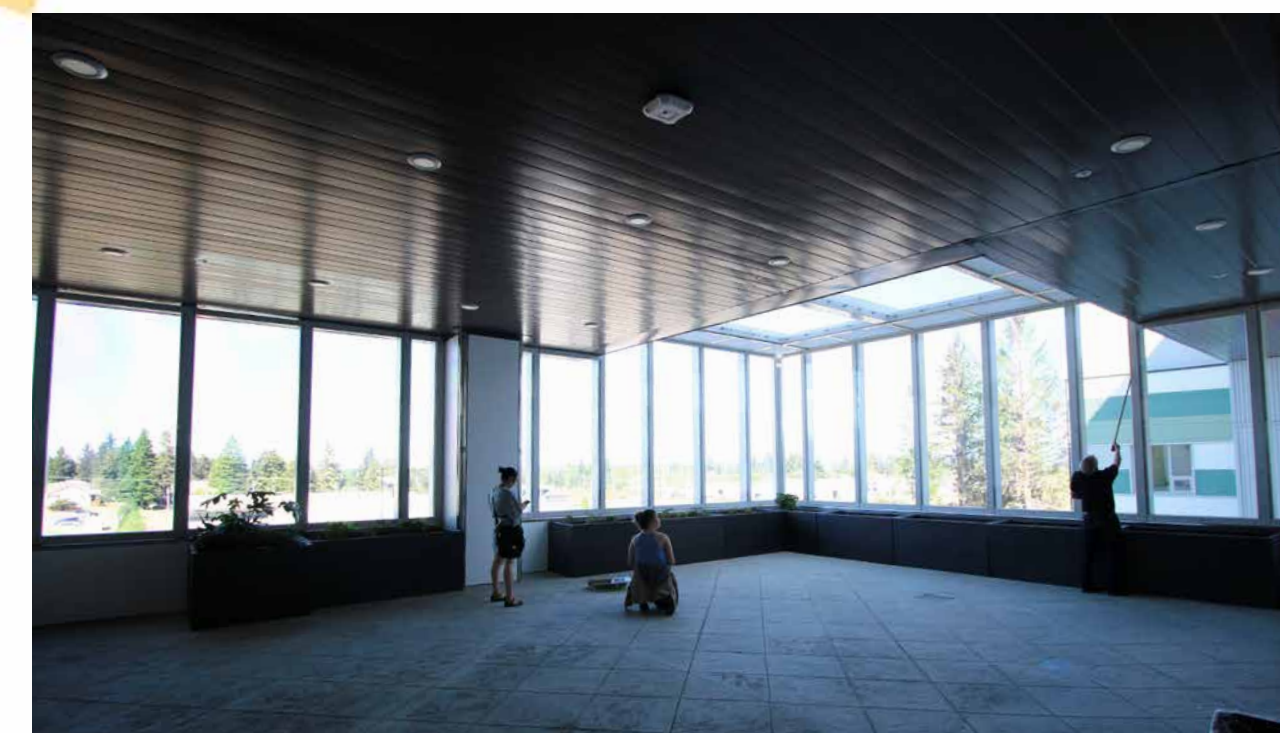
Ed Odgaard – Photographer, Creative Collaborator
Nicole Crouch – Consultant, Creative Collaborator
Krista McAllister – Photographer, Creative Collaborator

DESIGN / PRODUCTION

Comox Valley Art Gallery's Creative Team:
Glen Sanford, Sharon Karsten, Angela Somerset, Denise
Lawson, Krista McAllister, Lukas Roy, Alun Macanulty

With gratitude:

Ernst Vegt, Coast Imaging Arts – Production Support
ABC Printing – Community Production Collaborators



WINTER PROGRAM

opening events / December 1 5 – 8pm

art opening / winter market launch / artist talk / volunteer appreciation 7pm

December 1st marked the opening of CVAG's Winter Program. The evening included the launch of the 43rd Annual Christmas Craft Fair and the art opening of *look over look*, an exhibition of new work by Denman Island artist Cynthia Minden.



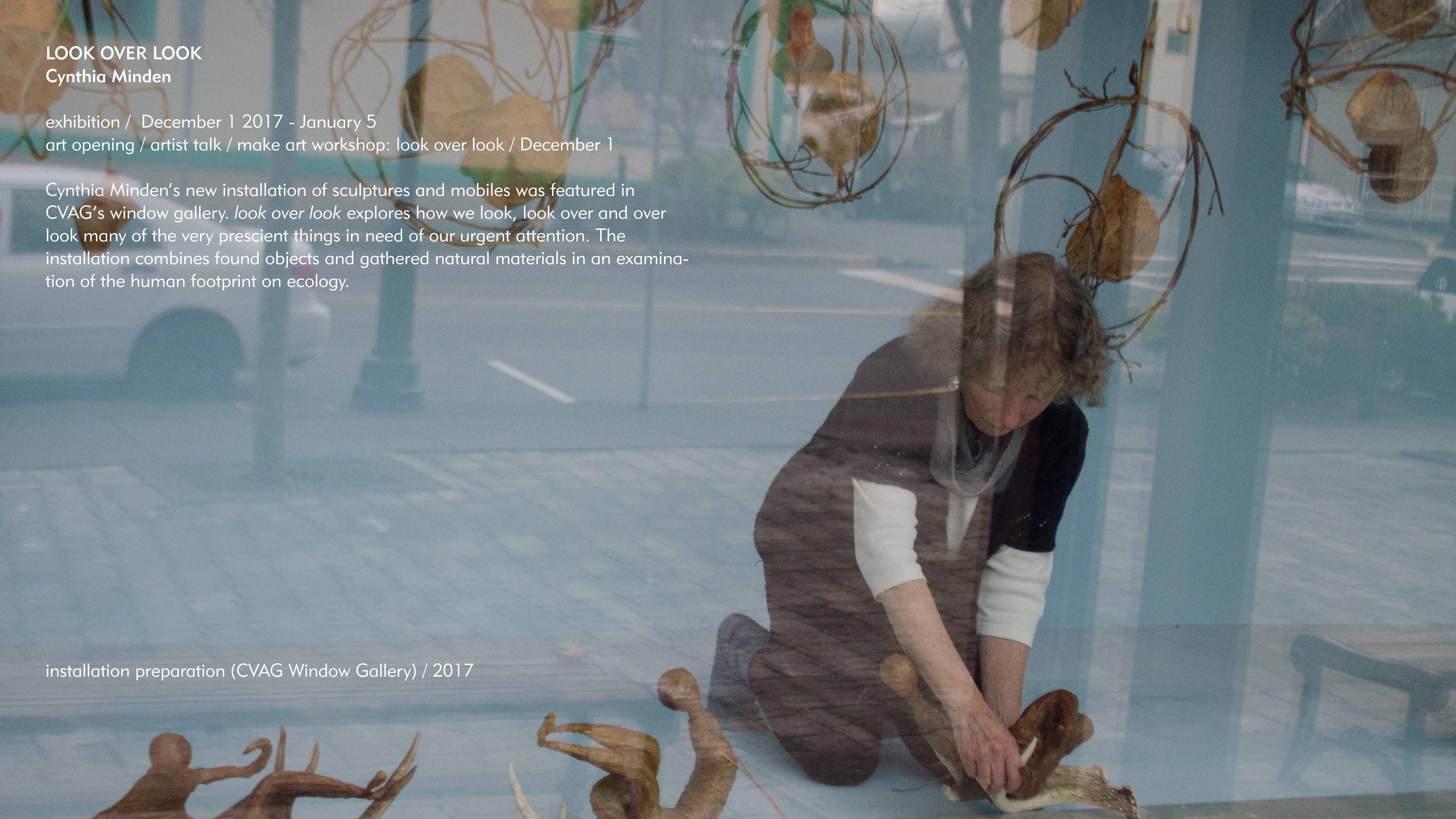
LOOK OVER LOOK
Cynthia Minden

exhibition / December 1 2017 - January 5

art opening / artist talk / make art workshop: look over look / December 1

Cynthia Minden's new installation of sculptures and mobiles was featured in CVAG's window gallery. *look over look* explores how we look, look over and over look many of the very prescient things in need of our urgent attention. The installation combines found objects and gathered natural materials in an examination of the human footprint on ecology.

installation preparation (CVAG Window Gallery) / 2017

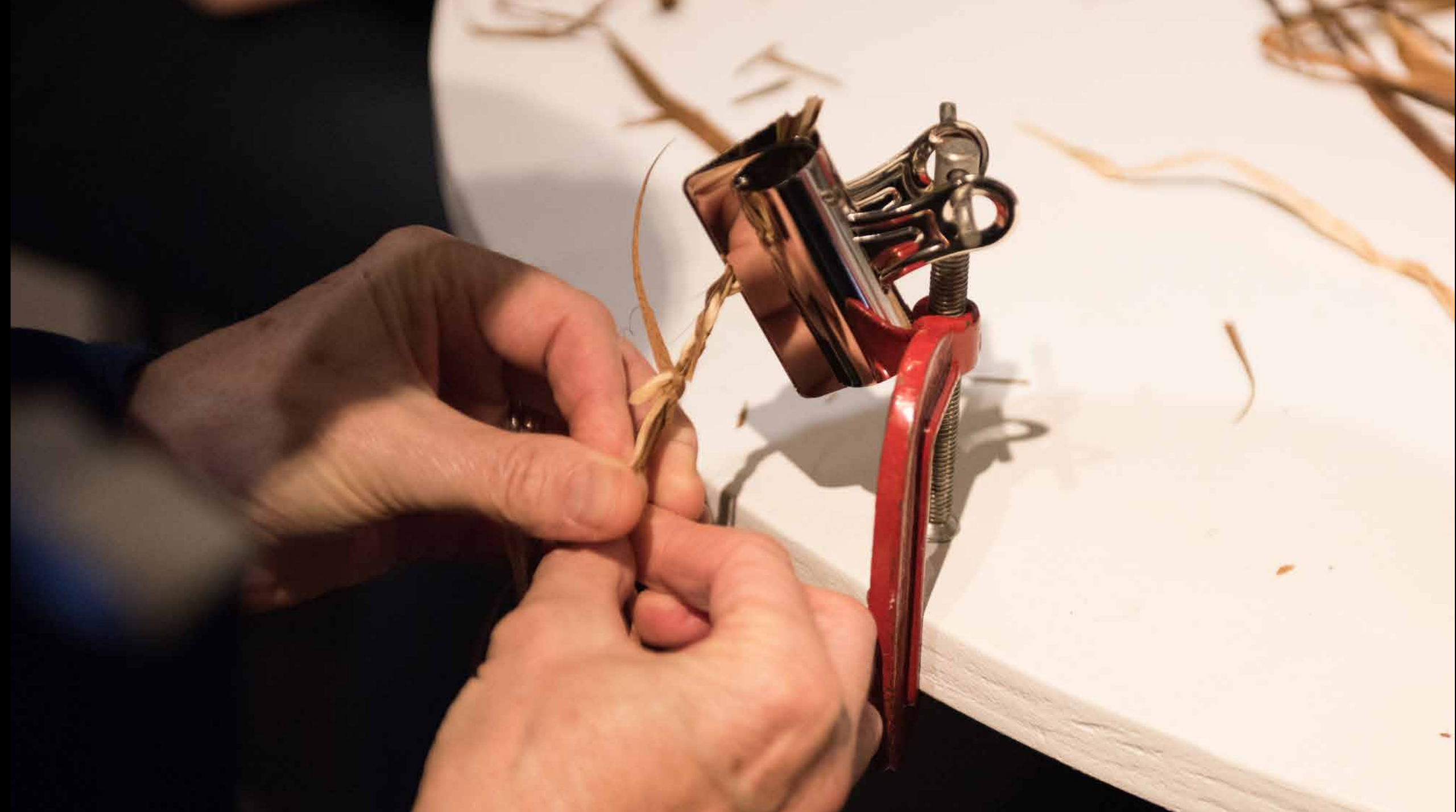


LOOK OVER LOOK
Cynthia Minden
mixed media / 2017

(below) installation preparation
(r - top to bottom) installation details



LOOK OVER LOOK / December 1, 2
COMMUNITY MAKE ART WORKSHOP
facilitated by Cynthia Minden





WINTER MARKET: CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR
opening events / December 1 5 – 8pm

CVAG's winter program offered a winter art market featuring hand made work by over 90 local and regional makers.



CREATIVE RESIDENCIES

CVAG's Creative Residency Program was started out of a desire to provide extended research and site-specific production opportunities for artists, collaborators and curators. Residencies focus on deep and sustained artistic practice, meaningful relationships between artists and the local community, and relevant forms of community-engaged research, exhibition and presentation. The residency program engaged a range of community partnerships – including technical and artistic production support with the Department of Fine Arts and Design at North Island College and housing partnerships with the McLoughlin Gardens Society and Creekside Commons Cohousing Community residents.

During the Comox Valley Art Gallery's 2017 programming, three creative residencies were undertaken.



May 23 – July 31
Rita McKeough / Inter-disciplinary artist, educator
– research + production of new work, exhibition



March 1 – 25
Vida Simon and Jack Stanley, creative collaborators
– research + production of exhibition, publication



October 4 – 13
France Trépanier / artist, curator and educator
– community collaboration + production of exhibition



PROJECT ROOM STUDIO PROGRAM
PARTICIPANTS:

NICOLE CROUCH / Building Up The Body / February 10 – 24 (left)
SCOTT BERTRAM / BIRCH / PULL / March 23 – April 7 (right)
CLEA MINAKER / Perception / July 17 – 31 (below)
RENEE SILLS / Means of Exchange / August 9 – 13
JENNIFER MARGETISH / Making Art from 'Un-Making' Electronics / July 10- 12

A portion of the gallery's lower level studio was renovated to expand possibilities for creative exploration, exhibitions and community engagement. The Project Room Studio Program is available for artists and communities engaged in arts-based research and activation.

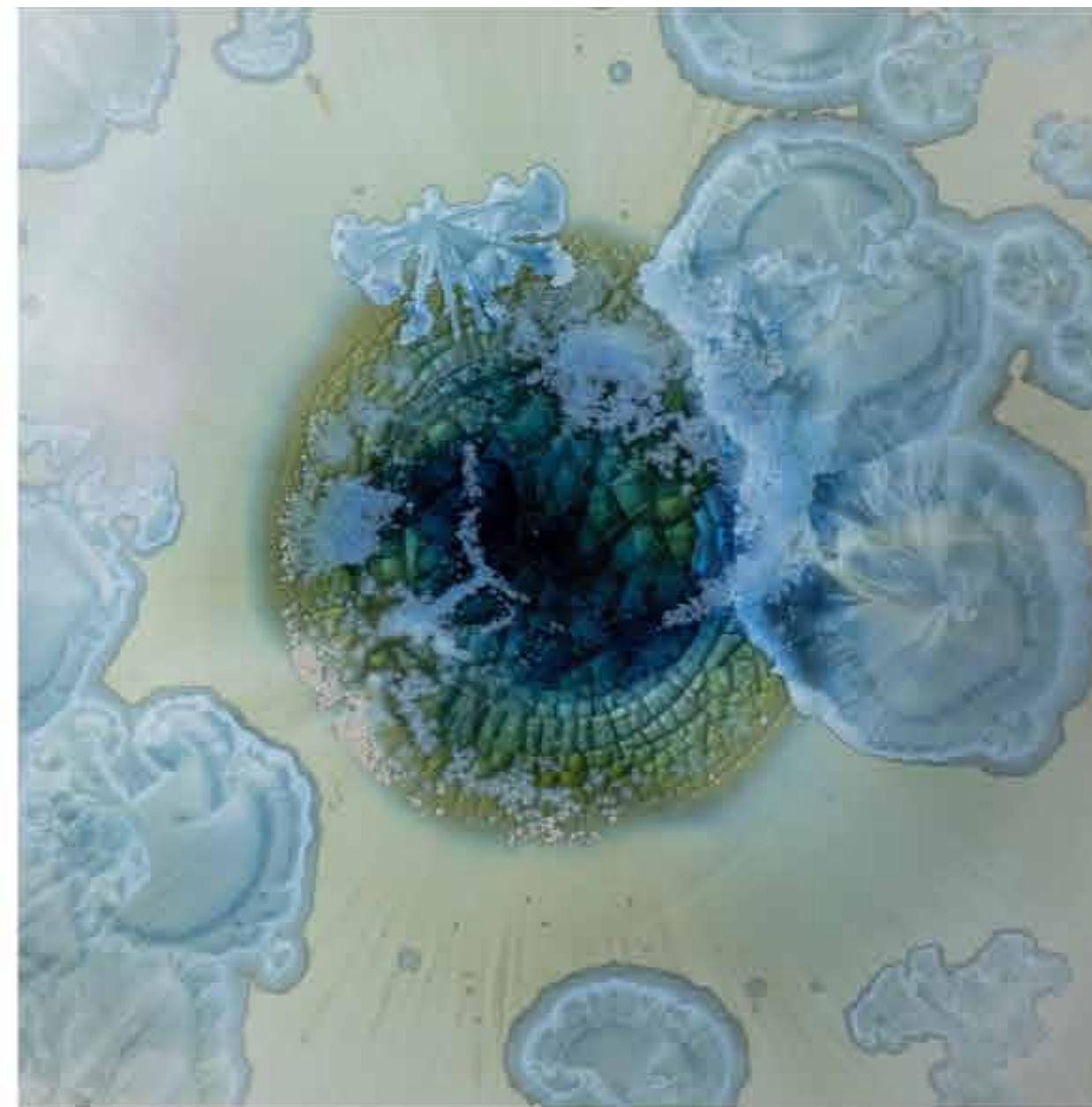
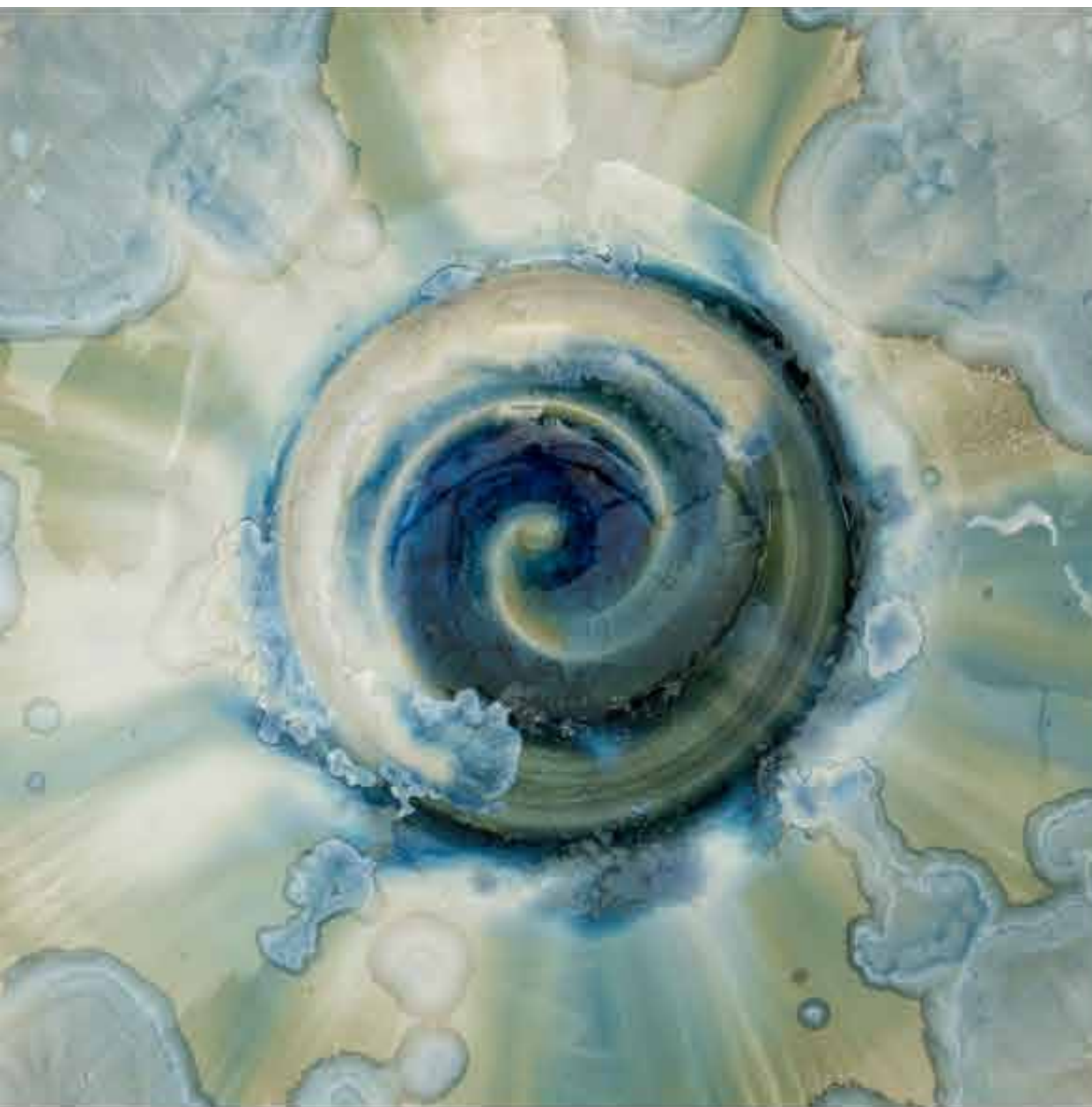






To the artists, creatives, participants, audiences, community partners, collaborators, supporters, volunteers, members, staff teams, interns, mentors, elders, advisors, funders and donors –

Thank you for your commitment and dedication.



GORDON HUTCHENS ceramics (details)
photographed by Alun Macanulty