

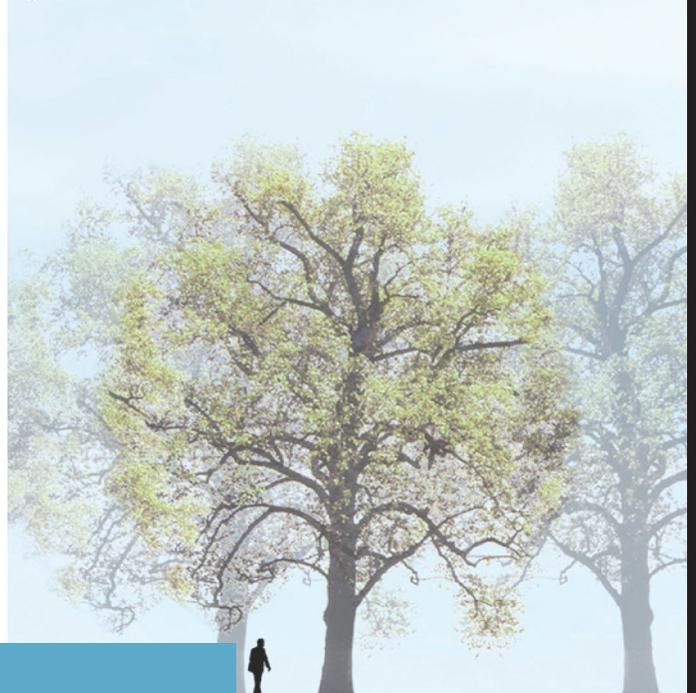
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letter



Director's Message

We can all be very excited and proud of the exceptional progress the School has made so far in 2010. Undergraduate admissions applications are up this year. Beginning this fall we will have our MFA program up and running, the Foundation curriculum will offer a slate of new courses, and construction for the new School of Art building will be well underway. In addition, our Faculty Council has approved revisions to our bylaws and a new committee structure that will improve future faculty and student participation and engagement. These are strong signals that the School of Art is advancing on its ambitious agenda. — Paul Hess, Director



Jane Heinrichs Magic

Last October I met Jane Heinrichs for lunch in Degrees restaurant a few days after she had presented a lecture to an audience at the School of Art. She had come back to Canada from England to visit her family in Steinbach and to promote her recently published children's book, *Magic at the Museum*, which she had both written and illustrated. The book had been short-listed for the 2009 Manitoba Book Awards in the Best Illustrated Book of the Year category and had also made McNally Robinson Booksellers bestseller list.

If a certain amount of magic accompanied the debut of the book, the journey to that point contained no magic, and itself is a story that illustrates Jane's perseverance and determination. The production and publication of the book drew on her professional and scholastic experiences to that point, and introduced some new dimensions. Not only was she the artist, researcher author and designer, but she became a founder and partner in a publishing company.

Magic at the Museum is a fairy tale of the sort where a little girl falls asleep only to find herself in a world transformed. In this case, she's in a museum gallery, and the characters inhabiting the surrounding paintings come alive, and with them she has a nocturnal adventure on the skating rink just outside the museum. Neither the paintings, the gallery nor the skating rink in Jane's story were haphazardly selected. This gallery and its environs were a part of Jane Heinrichs' daily life while she was studying for her masters degree in art history at the Courtauld Institute. The paintings and their subjects were part of an exhibition in the Courtauld Gallery in London, renowned for its collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings.

Jane's life itself reads a bit like a story. She was born in Mbabane, Swaziland, grew up in Steinbach, Manitoba, and enrolled in the studio program at the School of Art. Finding the studio courses a poor fit for her particular interests and impulses, she gravitated towards art history and the classics, which she found more compelling. She became a research assistant for Dr. Lea Stirling, now the Canada Research Chair in Roman Archeology at the University of Manitoba. Her tasks came to include creating illustrations of objects found in North African Roman archeological sites. She learned to observe objects closely and to use her imagination to make accurate depictions

for publication in scholarly journals and books. Pursuing her interest in art history, she moved to London, England to work on a masters degree at the Courtauld Institute of Art, a part of London University. Living in London, her daily life brought her into contact with the architecture and art that had been part of her undergraduate studies. If the streets of London gave her an historical architectural environment, the Institute put art history into her daily life as she passed through the galleries on her way to class.

Her prairie life and London life came together one

day when she saw children skating on a frozen pond outside the museum, and she was inspired to create the story about the museum and children that became *Magic at the Museum*. She was in the midst of negotiating a publishing deal in England when her father died and the book was put on hold. When she was able to return to the book, she and her mother, Marilyn Heinrichs founded a new

publishing company, Wide Horizons Ink of Manitoba. The book found an audience through McNally Robinson Booksellers and Jane was in Winnipeg in September to promote the book through the store and through visiting schools.

Jane has recently completed two masters degrees at London University: art history at the Courtauld Institute of Art and illustration at Camberwell College. She takes a very entrepreneurial approach to building her business, having developed a strong online presence to reach potential clients through her blog and website. She is a regular contributor to the Canada Post news, and contributes a biweekly how-to column to the CanArtisan blog. She is a constant blogger, and incorporates her business, illustration and design, into her blogs.

Visit Jane's website: www.janeheinrichs.com

- Donna Jones





ART LAB

Our morning bus stops on the west side Taché Hall residence, the hub of Project Domino, the University's plan that includes the new facilities for the School of Art. A construction crew has arrived to dig the foundation for the new residence that will replace the dorms in Taché Hall.

On the east side of Taché, the building site for the new School of Art building, ART Lab, has been cleared and great construction machines are labouring to set the buildings foundations.

In the meantime, with the same sense of anticipation invoked by the arrival of the Eaton's catalogue (in any season) we have images of elevations and floor plans to pore over. And in that spirit we share them with you on these pages.

The ART Lab images and floor plans are viewable on the School of Art website.
www.umanitoba.ca/schools/art/

ART Lab architects are LM Architectural Group and Patkau Architects Inc. They partnered on the expansion of the Millennium Library, for which they won a 2008 Governor General's medal. John Patkau and Patricia Patkau, founders of Patkau Architects, are graduates of University of Manitoba.

In Memoriam

Alfred (Al) Hammer (1925 - 2009)

We were saddened to learn of the death of former School of Art Director Alfred Emil Hammer. Al died at the age of 84 on October 14 in Hartford, Connecticut. He was the Director of the School from 1974 to 1981. Prior to his move to Winnipeg, he was Dean of Students at Rhode Island School of Design until 1969 and Dean of Faculty at Cleveland Institute of Art until 1974. Following his time at the University of Manitoba, he returned to the United States to assume the post of Director the Portland Art School, and then Dean of Art Students at Hartford Art School, University of Hartford.



Alfred Emil Hammer. *untitled (waterscape with boats)*, 1968, water-colour, 43.0 x 65.2 cm. Collection of Gallery One One One, School of Art, University of Manitoba. Acc. no.: 91.043

Brenda Eyre (1935 - 2009)

We extend sympathy to the family and friends of Brenda Eyre who died on October 7, 2009. Born Brenda Yvonne Fenske, she was a student at the School of Art in the 1950s, graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1961. It was there that she met Ivan Eyre, who she married in 1957 and with whom she raised two children, Tyrone and Kevin.

Brenda was very involved in the arts. In addition to painting, drawing and writing, she studied singing and film-making, and acted with the Tara Players. For many years she owned and operated the Graphite Gallery on Pembina Highway. In addition, she devoted herself to many other aspects of community life as a volunteer and employee.



Brenda Eyre. *Garage at St. Agathe*, BW etching, 1956 (30.3x35.3 cm). School of Art Printmaking Archive.

Bruce Head, RCA (1931 - 2009)

On December 30, 2009 Bruce Head, RCA, died of complications from diabetes and heart failure. He graduated from the School of Art in 1953, and was one of the "Four Musketeers" * a sobriquet for a small group of Winnipeg artists that included Tony Tascona, Winston Leathers and Frank Mikuska. His work can be seen in many public collections: in the underground passage at Portage and Main, in the foyer of the Woodsworth building on Broadway. In 2009 the Winnipeg Art Gallery presented a significant retrospective exhibition of his work, curated by Amy Karlinsky, that revealed the breadth of his work and results of his 56-year artistic career.



Bruce Head, *Lobster*, BW engraving, 1951 (27.7x35.7 cm). School of Art Printmaking Archive.

* Botar, Dr. Oliver. introduction to The Frank Mikuska Donation. March, 2010

News Bites

Wanda Koop (1973), **Alison Norlen** (1987) and **Simon Hughes** (1996), three School of Art Alumni, are represented in upcoming National Gallery of Canada exhibitions. The National Gallery of Canada's continually develops curated exhibitions from its own and other institutions collections and projects to circulate throughout appropriate Canadian galleries and museums. *On the Edge of Experience, a Survey of Work* by **Wanda Koop**, curated by Winnipeg Art Gallery's Mary Reid, is set to tour until 2011 and then will open at the NGC. Meanwhile, *Wanda Koop: Face to Face*, guest curated by Deborah Koenker, Emily Carr University of Art and Design Associate Professor, ran at the Richmond Art Gallery in Richmond, BC November 20 to January 2010.

The NGC group exhibition, *Contemporary Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada*, features drawings by **Alison Norlen** and **Simon Hughes** (1996). NGC acquired Hughes' drawing, *Northern Landscape* (2007) in 2008, while Norlen's work, *Edifice* (2006), was purchased in 2007. Curated by Assistant Curator Heather Anderson and Curatorial Assistant Rhiannon Vogl, the exhibition will begin touring in 2011.

To bring you up to date, **Alison Norlen** is currently Associate Professor in the Art and Art History Department, University of Saskatchewan. Her recent exhibitions include *Roller Coaster*, shown the Simon Fraser University Gallery this fall, and *Glimmer* shown at College Galleries, University of Saskatchewan. **Simon Hughes** is completing his MFA at the University of California at Irvine, California.

Work by **Liz Garlicki** (2000) was included in the group exhibition curated by Corinna Ghaznavi for Museum London which was presented at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art in Toronto this past summer. Also this past year, The Art Gallery of Sudbury included work by **Racheal Tycoles** (1991) in a group show on mining, *Substantial Resources*.

Congratulations to other recent Manitoba Arts Council and Winnipeg Arts Council award recipients. Winners of WAC grants included **Ted Barker** (2007), **Matthieu Bohemier** (2007), **Larry Glawson** (1982), **Katelynd Johnston** (2007), **Paul Robles** (1996) and **David Wityk** (2003). Grants from MAC went to **Sarah Ann Johnson** (2002), **Jackie Traverse** (2009), **Dominique Rey** (1999), **Elvira Finnigan** (1977), **Steve Gouthro** (1975), **Jackie Traverse**

(2009), **Adam Brooks** (2002), **Nicole Shimonek** (2000), **Heather Komus** (2009), **Randy Warren** (1993), **Victoria Prince** (2003), **Claire Marchand** (1997), **Erika Lincoln** (1998), **Kelli Rey** (1996), **Terry Hildebrand** (2007), and **Odia Reimer** (2005). Professor **Cliff Eyland** also received an award from Manitoba Arts Council.

More recently, **Reva Stone** (1985) and **Richard Hines** (2004) each received Major Arts Grants. **David Wityk** (2003) and **Michael Dudeck** each received Departures grants which are intended to support artists experimentation and encourage new directions in artistic practice. Successful applicants to the 2010 Deep Bay Residency are **Sarah Crawley** (1994) and **Elaine Stocki** (2007).

Former School of Art instructor **William Eakin** won the Manitoba Arts Council Award of Distinction for 2010. This \$30,000 award is presented annually to recognize the highest level of artistic excellence and distinguished career achievements by a professional Manitoba artist.

In June 2009 Mayor's Luncheon for The Arts, **Diana Thorneycroft** was the winning nominee for the Making a Mark award. The Winnipeg Art Gallery nominated her for this award that applauds an established professional artist who is receiving critical recognition for excellence in their art practice in Winnipeg and beyond. In June 2010 the Gallery will present the solo exhibition *Diana Thorneycroft: Canada, Myth, and History, Group of Seven Awkward Moments Series*. The exhibition was curated by Sharona Adamowicz-Clements for the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

Michael Klein (1982) has opened MKG127, a storefront gallery on Ossington Avenue in Toronto. This past August, he acknowledged the influence on his artistic development by a group of his School of Art instructors, bringing them together for the exhibition, *School of Art*. The artists to whom he paid tribute were: **Robert Achtemichuk** (1970) - "His advanced drawing classes were liberating and he encouraged experimen-



Photo courtesy of Michael Klein.

tation."; **Sheila Butler** - "She brought her first hand knowledge and collection of art and artifacts from the north for her course in Inuit art."; **Jeff Funnell** (1967): "Jeff displayed his generosity towards

his students when they complained about a lack of space to hang out in. For his exhibition in the faculty gallery, he took the doors off and had furniture delivered from Goodwill turning the gallery into a temporary student lounge.” **Rita McKeough**: “Rita’s printmaking classes were like no other, full of laughter and punk rock.” and **David McMillan**: “In his History of Photography class, his passion for the medium was infectious and in his photography studio courses, his encouragement, humour and scholarship were instrumental. The exhibition dates were August 8 – September 5, 2009.

Shortly after *School of Art*, MKG127 presented *this way/that way*, an exhibition of new work by Winnipeg-based artist **Michael Dumontier** (1996). Michael was a co-founder Royal Art Lodge collective which disbanded in 2008.

Bettino Assa (2009) was chosen as the Manitoba entrant for the BMO Financial Group 1st Art! Invitational Student Art Competition which recognizes the artistic accomplishments of Canadian art students. His print, *Stealing Ugwuf*, was shown at Toronto’s Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art in October, along with works by 12 other artists representing all the Canadian provinces and territories. Manitoba’s 2008 winner was photography thesis student **Maria Baker** (2008) who now lives in Ottawa.

Canada Council for the Arts appointed former School of Art student **Doug Sigurdson** to the position of Head of the Visual Arts Section in May 2009. This appointment caps a twenty-year career in the Visual Arts Section. Doug was a founding Director of Plug In Gallery in 1972, working there with Suzanne Gillies until 1979.

Jon Tupper (1977) assumed the post of Director/CEO of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria in March, 2009. Many will remember Jon as Director of Plug In Gallery, but since he left there in 1986 his career has taken him from one end of the country to the other. Prior to moving to Victoria, Jon was the Director of the Confederation Centre Art Gallery in Charlottetown P.E.I. Jon was elected this year as President of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Museums Association.

Onofrio Gallery of the Rochester Art Centre, New York, boasted the largest ever exhibition of portraits by **Karel Funk** (1997), May 8 – August 30, 2009. Curator Kris Douglas visited Karel’s Winnipeg studio to select the paintings for the exhibition.

In May 2009, aceartinc. programmed *Stitched and Drawn*, an exhibition of recent fibre works by **Richard Boulet** (1987) curated by Wayne Baerwaldt for the Illingworth Kerr Gallery at the Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary. Richard has lived and worked in Edmonton for the past twelve years.

The Art Gallery of Ontario opened **Sarah Ann Johnson’s** (2002) solo exhibition *House on Fire* on July 4. The exhibition followed on her winning of the 2008 Grange Prize and showcased her photographic and sculptural work about the drug experiments perpetuated by the CIA on her grandmother that left her psychiatrically devastated. Johnson continues this line of investigation with a performance and installation work, *Dancing with the Doctor*, that opened in February 2010 at aceartinc.

St. Boniface’s la Maison des artistes visuels francophones established a sculpture garden in 2008 for permanent and temporary artworks. **Marcel Gosselin** (1971) was commissioned to create a new work. La Maison received funds from Arthur Mauro Foundation to for his sculpture, *Volte*.



The unveiling of *Volte* in the sculpture garden at la Maison des artistes visuels francophones. Photo courtesy of Denis Prieur.

More recently, **Colette Balcaen** (2005) has installed a temporary work, *Tons de rouge*, a knitted sidewalk that may be viewed in the garden until the end of July 2010.

Dagmara Genda (2005) is recent MFA graduate of the University of Western Ontario and now living in Saskatoon. She is a contributor to *BlackFlash* magazine and is in the PhD Program of the London Consortium,

Birkbeck College, London. Her exhibition *Birds* is currently showing at Forest City Gallery in London, Ontario.

Evan Tapper's (1994) exhibition *Swoon* opened at Gallery 1C03 in January 2010. His installation drew inspiration from *Leda (and Swan)* by Arthur Adamson. Now based in Toronto, Evan returned to Winnipeg for the installation and an artist talk.

The James Gray Gallery of Santa Monica, California, presented a solo exhibition of paintings by **Beatrice Findlay** (1962) September 12 – October 10, 2009. Beatrice maintains studios in New York and Los Angeles and her abstract paintings draw inspiration from those cities. She has completed numerous large commissions during the past 15 years, including a project for the Shanghai International Convention Center that comprised four paintings, each depicting a different season.
www.beatricefindlay.com

The McMichael Gallery of Kleinberg, Ontario, has just announced that it has received Federal and Provincial Infrastructure Stimulus funds to build an **Ivan Eyre** (1957) sculpture garden. This revelation follows on the November 2009 news that Eyre had donated nine large sculptures to a Toronto-area institution. Winnipeg's Loch Gallery has been displaying two of the sculptures beside its gallery on St. Mary's Road since last fall. Ivan retired from teaching at the School of Art in 1993 and in 2008 received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Manitoba. He is currently serving as Honorary Co-chair of the Taché Arts Complex Campaign.

Gallery One One One has paid tribute to donors who recently contributed collections of artworks to its permanent collection by exhibiting selections from each donation. **The Grand Western Canadian Screen Shop Collection: Bill Lobchuk** (1966) donation included works printed since 1968 at the print shop by recognized artists such as Daphne Odjig, Jackson Beardy, **Joe Fafard** (1967), David Thauberger and **General Idea**, as well as many others.

Following the screen shop exhibition, items from **Frank Mikuska's** (1951) donation were shown in the gallery. His paintings and prints were augmented by early prints by **Bruce Head** (1953), **Winston Leathers** (1956), **Don E. Strange** (1952) and **Marion Nicoll** and professors **Richard Bowman** and **Robert Gadbois**. A rare early canvas by Tony Tascona completed the show.

A third donor exhibition showcased items acquired from the collection of Anna and Lyle Silverman, a collection featuring numerous works on paper, including some produced at the Grand Western Canadian Screenshop. In addition to local artists such as **Ivan Eyre**, **Don Proch** (1964), **Tony Tascona** (1953) and Andrew Valko, Gallery One One One exhibited works on paper by Jack Bush, Alfred Pellán, Christopher Pratt and Joyce Weiland.

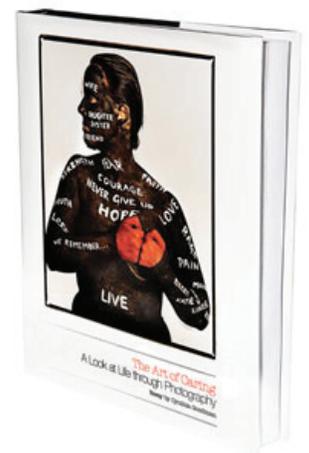
Merit Motion Pictures of Winnipeg has been a producer of a number of recent documentary films/productions by **Elise Swerhone** (1975). *TuTu Much*, a dance documentary about 9 young girls preparing to audition for admission to a professional ballet school was released across Canada by Cineplex Odeon theatres. A sort of companion piece, *Ballet High*, tells the story of a Royal Winnipeg Ballet graduating class of dancers. Swerhone has been directing, producing and writing award winning documentary and dramatic films that have been screened in theatres and broadcast on television since her graduation from the School of Art.

Marcel Dzama's (1997) solo exhibition at the Musée d'art contemporain, Montreal has just closed. *Visitors to Of Many Turns / Aux mille toures*, which opened February 4, 2010, were able to view about 60 works, including some produced especially for the exhibition. He has lived in New York since 2004.

In January the Canada Council Art Bank announced its recent acquisitions which included *The Books I've Read* by the **Royal Art Lodge** and *Group of Seven Awkward Moments (Avro Arrow at Sombre Hill)* by **Diana Thorneycroft**.

Daniel Barrow is one of 5 nominees from the Prairies and the North who are in the running for the 2010 Sobey Art Award. The prize is \$50,000 and 25 Canadian artists are on the long list. The short list of 5 contenders will be announced on June 15, and the winner will be announced on November 18, 2010 at a gala event at the Musée d'art contemporain, Montreal.

Photographs by **David McMillan** are part of large exhibition touring through the USA. This group exhibition, *The Art of Caring: A Look at Life through Photography*, guest curated by Cynthia Goodman for the New Orleans Museum of Art, opened in May 2009 and is travelling through the USA to the Art



Museum of Fort Lauderdale, Fort Lauderdale, FL, Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi, TX, Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, OH.

The exhibition includes works by many renowned artists such as Diane Arbus, Annie Liebowitz, Sally Mann, Alfred Eisenstadt as well as two other Canadian artists, Susan McEachern and Donigan Cumming.

The New Orleans Museum of Art produced a 287-page, fully illustrated, hardcover book with the same name as the exhibition.

Daniel Barrow has just launched his full-colour, hard-cover publication entitled *No One Helped Me*. In addition to essays by Jon Davies and Steven Matijcio, the book contains drawings, a 7" record containing a READ & LISTEN story voiced by Daniel with music by Amy Linton of the Aislars Set. It is available through Art Metropole.

Sonia Lanctot-Blanchard (1993) is a leader of an innovative francophone video project that encourages to students at several French and French immersion junior/high schools in Manitoba to develop their skills as "videastes." In day-long workshops students work alongside professionals in camera work, sound recording, and scriptwriting. Lanctot-Blanchard has set up a virtual classroom that provides students with access to software and tutorials to assist with the creation of their works. This restricted website also enables students from participating schools to introduce themselves to each other via personal web pages as well as to assist with collaborations between students.

The program culminates in the *Festival des videastes du Manitoba* where students showcase their productions. The 2009 Festival also showcased videos from Alberta, New Brunswick, the Yukon and Nunavut, all working with the theme "le jeu excessif." Some Manitoba entries were also screened as part of the Rimouski International film festival for children as well as Cinémental, Cinémagine (Alberta) and Adolecran de Freeze Frame.

Learn more about this program at www.fvmvideo.com/



Image: Students collaborate to create a video for the Festival des videastes du Manitoba. (Photo courtesy of Sonia Lanctot-Blanchard.)

The documentary, *Takao Tanabe: A Work of Art* was aired in January as part of Bravo's series *Great Canadian Bios*. **Takao Tanabe** was born in Seal Cove, British Columbia, and was interned during second World War as a Japanese alien. He studied at the School of Art from 1946 to 1951 with Joseph Plaskett, before going to the Brooklyn Museum Art School to study under Hans Hoffman and Rueben Tam. His education continued at the Banff School of Arts and Tokyo University of the Arts. He won the Governor General's Award in Visual Arts in 2003 and in 2006 Vancouver Art Gallery and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria presented his first retrospective. Now an octogenarian, he continues an active studio practice.

Takao Tanabe: A Work of Art was produced, written and directed by Catharine Chesterman of Prometheus Productions, Vancouver.



Feedback

we hope that you have enjoyed hearing from the School of Art.

please share eletter with other alumni and friends. we welcome hearing from you! if you would like to contribute news about your activities to eletter, we welcome hearing from you!

here is how to get in touch—

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www.umanitoba.ca/schools/art/



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