

# DEANNA BOWEN BLACK DRONES IN THE HIVE



Left: Deanna Bowen, installation view of *Portrait of Two Will Wests* in *Black Drones in the Hive*, 2020, inkjet prints on archival paper. Right: Deanna Bowen, 1911 Anti Creek-Negro Petition (detail) in *Black Drones in the Hive*, 2020, inkjet prints on archival paper. Images courtesy of the artist and Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery. Photo: Toni Hafkensheid.

## DEANNA BOWEN

Deanna Bowen is the descendant of two Black pioneer families who moved from Alabama and Kentucky to settle in Amber Valley and Campsie on the Alberta prairie. Born in 1969 in Oakland, California, the artist currently divides her time between Toronto and Montreal.

Through a repertoire of artistic gestures, Bowen's work defines the Black body, tracing its presence and movement in time and place. Since the early 1990s, the core of her auto-ethnographic interdisciplinary practice has been her family history. In recent years, she has focused on a close examination of her family's migration and their connections to Vancouver's Hogan's Alley and Black Strathcona, the "All-Black" towns of Oklahoma, the Exoduster migration and the Ku Klux Klan.



Photo: Courtesy of the Artist

repertoire of artistic gestures: this means that Deanna uses many different techniques and materials.

**auto-ethnographic:** ethnography is the study of people and their customs. Auto-ethnography is where the research connects their own personal history and experiences to broader cultural, political, and social meanings and understandings.

interdisciplinary practice: an artistic practice that brings in other ways of knowing or areas of study, such as history or ethnography.



Deanna Bowen's work traces her familial history within a broader narrative of Black survival in Canada and the United States.

This exhibition unfolds like chapters in a book, each area filled with artefacts, photographs, articles, and ephemera drawn from local, national and international archives. Deanna refers to these chapters as "constellations," which can encourage us to see them as interconnected webs across space and time.

These constellations explore broad themes such as eugenics, slavery, abolition, war, land use, and labour. Throughout, Deanna invites us to ask questions about how archives are made: who and what gets remembered, and in whose voice?

Please note that some of the archival documents contain offensive language and imagery. These descriptors have been maintained to acknowledge the ways in which Black life has been insufficiently — and at times, violently — framed within Canadian and American archives.



Left: Deanna Bowen, installation view of *Double Consciousness* in *Black Drones in the Hive*, 2020, inkjet prints on archival paper. Courtesy of the artist and Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery. Photo: Toni Hafkensheid. Right: Deanna Bowen, installation view of *Black Drones in the Hive* at the Kamloops Art Gallery, 2023. Photo: Teresa Donck-Matlock.

IN THE GALLERY, students will explore the Eugenics, Berlin, Haldimand, and Black Drones constellations and engage in conversations that include topics of white supremacy, racism, and enslavement.

### IN THE STUDIO

What do we, as a community, decide to remember? Whose stories get told, and who tells them? In this workshop, students will explore ways to share their own stories through writing, drawing, and collage.

Each student will create their own eight-page book filled with images and words that convey a story from their community. With their permission, copies of each book will be made to create a library of local stories for you to take back to the classroom and contribute to the KAG Community Library.

### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

### Social Studies

Discrimination and prejudice in contemporary and historical Canadian society // understand attitudes, values, and worldviews at different times and places // make ethical judgements considering the time and place // personal and collective responsibility // assess the credibility of multiple sources and the adequacy of evidence used to justify conclusions // ensure the physical and emotional safety of self and others when engaging in the arts; being considerate of sensitive content, facilities, and materials

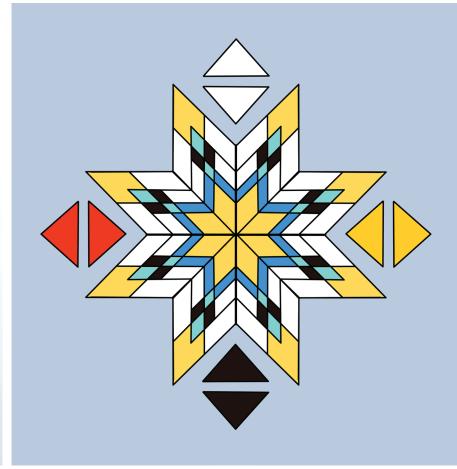
#### Arts

Explore identity, place, culture, and belonging; relationships among cultures, societies, and the arts // observe, listen, describe, inquire, and predict how artists use processes, materials, techniques, and environments to create and communicate // reflect on works of art and creative processes to understand artists' intentions



### PAULA DUCHARME TOB TOB KIN





Left: Paula Ducharme, Artist digital study of *Maka*, 2023, acrylic paint, floral sticks, hardboard, high-gloss varnish, turkey feathers. Right: Paula Ducharme, Artist digital study of *Inyan*, 2023, acrylic paint, cotton fabric, hardboard, high-gloss varnish, seed beads, wooden dowels.

# PAULA DUCHARME

A member of the Birdtail Sioux First Nation in Manitoba, Paula Ducharme lived in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia for most of her life before moving to the Interior of BC. She currently lives in West Kelowna.

Paula Ducharme received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Thompson Rivers University in 2023. Her art practice has focused on reconnecting with the lands and traditions of the Birdtail Sioux First Nation through mixed media sculpture, sound, and video.



Photo: Paula Ducharme with KAG Assistant Curator Craig Willms at the opening reception for *Tob Tob Kin*, 2023. Photo: Kim Anderson

In a new body of work called *Tob Tob Kin*, Paula Ducharme fuses traditional and contemporary materials and ideas to explore her Indigenous ancestry. This work emerges from Ducharme's reconnection to her mixed cultural heritage as a Birdtail Sioux First Nations and settler artist. Her research is immersed in Lakota oral traditions and the study of Lakota stellar theology, a world view that connects humans, animals, the land, and the cosmos. The exhibition title refers to the "4 times 4," a system that describes the Lakota hierarchy of the 4 groups of 4 cosmic forces of good. According to Lakota oral traditions, the interplay of these 16 forces come together to comprise the material world.

Ducharme's wall sculptures interpret the first group of superior powers, including Wi (Sun), Skan (Sky), Makan (Earth) and Inyan (Rock). From these 4 powers the hierarchy branches out to tell the story of creation and its ongoing evolution. Integrating natural materials including leather, feathers, and fur sourced in Lakota territory from her homelands in Manitoba with traditional beadwork techniques, Ducharme's work brings together tradition with contemporary practices. The resulting work honours cultural traditions and history while acknowledging the continuing evolution of a living culture.

### **CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS**

### Social Studies

Personal and family history and traditions // recognize First Peoples stories, songs, and art, as ways to share knowledge // share observations and ideas orally // express and reflect on personal experiences of place // explore classification systems of living and non-living

#### Arts

Interpret how symbols are used through the arts and apply to use of objects, words, or actions to represent abstract ideas // express feelings, ideas, stories, observations, and experiences through the arts // describe and respond to works of art // explore artistic expressions of themselves and community through creative processes // elements in the arts: line, shape, pattern, repetition // explore processes that transform ideas and experiences into visual images (e.g., elaboration, repetition, and simplification)



Paula Ducharme, installation view of *Tob Tob Kin*, 2023

Photo: Teresa Donck-Matlock.

IN THE CUBE GALLERY, students will discuss the importance of oral traditions and origin stories as ways of sharing knowledge. The Lakota story of Tob Tob Kin invites us to consider interconnectedness and the belief that all living and non-living things are one.

### IN THE STUDIO

What is the power of symbolism? How can shapes, colours, and materials tell a story? What types of stories get passed down from generation to generation? Students will be introduced to a brief history of quilting and how quilt block designs have been used across cultures to share meaning. Using geometry and the principles of design, students will create their own quilt block that shares a story of their own.



### **COLLECTION PROGRAMS**

The Kamloops Art Gallery Collection Programs highlight artists from our collection, offering students insight into the artist's life, their art practices, and their contributions to Canadian art. Significantly, these programs pull artwork from our vault, giving students the unique experience of seeing otherwise stored works up close in our studios.

The Collection Programs are designed to support cross-curricular learning and are available throughout the school year, offering additional opportunities beyond our exhibition-related School Programs for you and your students to learn and explore with us.

Each program is divided into two one-hour portions, offering students an opportunity to engage with the artist and their ideas, materials, and techniques through both conversation and hands-on making.

For more information on the current Collection Programs we have available, or to request something customized around specific work from our collection, please contact Kristen Gardner, our School and Youth Programs Coordinator.



# KENOJUAK ASHEVAK RELIEF PRINTS // ALL GRADES PRINTMAKING // INUK ARTIST // ANIMALS

Learn about Inuk artist Kenojuak Ashevak and her experiences and life as an artist living in Cape Dorset! Students will learn about her process and art practice through film, conversation, and engagement with prints drawn from our collection, and will create their own relief prints in response.



SALMON MONOPRINTS
MONO PRINTS // ALL GRADES
PRINTMAKING // CANADIAN ARTISTS // SALMON

Created in response to the Adams River salmon run, this program explores the work of three Canadian artists and how they approach salmon as the subject of their work. Students will then create their own salmon prints in a hands-on workshop.

### SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT THE KAMLOOPS ART GALLERY

Facilitated programs at art galleries have been shown to support the development of students' creative and critical thinking capacities and affect students in four measurable ways:

**QUESTIONING** // Students ask more complex questions

MULTIPLE INTERPRETATIONS // Students are more accepting of multiple interpretations
PHYSICALITY OF ART // Students are more likely to think about art in terms of its material properties
EMOTIVE RECALL // Students experience greater emotive recall of the program

A new tour and workshop program is developed for each exhibition, making it possible for your class to visit at least four times each school year. All our school programs incorporate core competencies and learning standards from the new BC Curriculum and are accompanied by a Teacher's Guide, which is also available online.

We are always happy to adapt our tours and workshops to suit your group's ongoing learning. If you have any concerns about what your students may encounter, please contact us to discuss the exhibitions further or to schedule a free preview tour. Customized tours and workshops are available and can be developed to explore topics and techniques that are particularly relevant to your group.

Homeschool and Alternative Learning Program rates are available for all school programs.



Photo: Frank Luca

#### INTERACTIVE TOUR // 60 MINUTES

Explore the exhibitions and engage with interactive activities in the Gallery. \$90 // \$36 for School members

### INTERACTIVE TOUR + STUDIO WORKSHOP // 120 MINUTES

Explore the exhibitions, engage with interactive activities in the Gallery, and create your own artwork inspired by the exhibitions in our studios. \$125 // \$50 for School members

### ANNUAL SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP \$150

School Members receive discounts of up to 60% on all school programs. Memberships are valid for 12 months, and benefit the entire school. Become a member today!



### **BOOK YOUR VISIT**



### **BOOKING INFORMATION**

- All tours and workshops can accommodate a maximum of one class (30 students)
- All cancellations must be made at least 2 weeks in advance
- $\bullet$  Supervisor-to-student ratio for preK-7 is 1:8, all other groups must have a minimum of two supervisors
- Payment is due upon arrival with Visa, MasterCard, cash or cheque (payable to Kamloops Art Gallery)

KRISTEN GARDNER
School and Youth Programs Coordinator
250.377.2405 // kgardner@kag.bc.ca

### SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT THE KAMLOOPS ART GALLERY

### WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU HERE!



Photo: Frank Luca



### **BOOK YOUR VISIT**

SCAN HERE OR REACH OUT TO KRISTEN TO BOOK YOUR VISIT TODAY

### **KRISTEN GARDNER**

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