

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Program Region 2 - Northeast and North Central Alberta, Art Gallery of Alberta

sightlines is a newsletter from the Art Gallery of Alberta and is published to promote awareness for the Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Program. For information contact Shane Golby, Manager/Curator by telephone 780.428.3830 or e-mail shane.golby@youraga.ca

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To Uplift and Inspire

It's June and most of you will be heading off soon to enjoy a well-deserved summer vacation! Before you go, however, AGA TREX would like to wish you a wonderful summer and extend a hearty thank you for all the support you have given to the program over this and previous years.

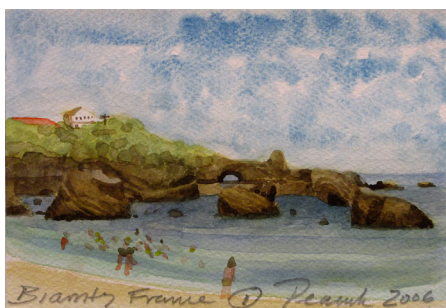
Also, to wet your art appetite so you return for September, in this edition of *sightlines* TREX Region 2 is pleased to celebrate the upcoming season of new exhibitions by highlighting the exhibition **Graham Peacock Collage** which explores the career of Graham Peacock, one of Alberta's most prolific and influential artists. I hope you enjoy the read and definitely look forward to working with you again in the fall.

Graham Peacock has been a significant figure on both the Edmonton and International art scene since he moved to Edmonton in 1969. Over the decades he has developed unique ways of drawing with paint; manipulated the forms of his canvases; formulated his own paint mediums; spear-headed the formation of important art groups and assisted in fostering a climate favorable to abstraction in Edmonton. Through his teaching at the University of Alberta he has also shaped the artistic visions of countless students.



Graham Peacock
Suite 111, #29, 2011
Painted canvas collage
On loan from the artist

In his art practice Graham Peacock has been generally categorized with Edmonton's abstract Formalist School of painters. For these artists, the emphasis in painting is placed on the physical qualities and surface activity of paint itself, applied in a relatively all-over manner. For many Formalist painters, a work's artistic value is entirely determined by its form - the way it is made, its purely visual aspects, and its medium. Formalism emphasizes compositional elements such as colour, line, shape and texture rather than realism, context and content and posits that everything necessary to comprehend a work of art is contained within the work itself rather than from 'outside' influences and narratives. In formalist theory, the focus is on the aesthetic experience gained from the piece.



Graham Peacock
Biarritz, France 1, 2006
Watercolour on paper
On loan from the artist

While the public face of Peacock's art career has focused on his work in abstraction, the exhibition **Graham Peacock Collage** also explores the artist's work in watercolour landscape painting. Peacock, following his mother's interests, began painting with watercolours while growing up in Great Britain. This interest dropped away while he was in art school but revived in the 1980s and is one he returns to from time to time. As expressed by the artist:

I have painted with watercolours since I was a child. The activity dropped away when I attended art school and did not return until the 1980's. On vacations with young children, wanting to create during stays at Grandma's house on Bazan Bay on Vancouver Island, I returned to watercolour seascapes. Since then I have periodically made groups of work while traveling....

I taught a class in Watercolour for the University of Alberta in 2006/07 and 2008 in Vico Equense, in Southern Italy and figurative work was always part of my instructional spectrum in the 42 years I taught painting and drawing as a professor at the U. of A. So in that way I have been continually involved

in looking at and considering representational work.

Watercolour painting for me remains a vocation which, when I embrace it from time to time, I do so with the same degree of involvement as I do in my 'abstract' paintings. Responding directly to a motif of nature before me, or from what I have experienced, as an inspirational source, both stimulate me to respond creatively.

People have asked me how it is that I can paint both abstractly and representationally. I started out, as most artists do, working 'realistically' from observation and my work gradually evolved into abstraction. Art, by its very nature, is an abstract phenomenon. A painting of a landscape is not 'real', but rather is an expression of how the artist sees and feels, and how well he is able to articulate his vision through the use of the medium.

Peacock describes himself as a 'naturalist', stimulated by the behaviour of 'matter' and whose aim is to create visual perceptions which should inspire and uplift the spirit. Believing that *...one can not separate abstraction from representation or representation from abstraction*, he can thus explore naturalistic watercolours, which hearken back to his earliest art experiences, while maintaining a more public practice focused on non-representational abstract works.

Graham Peacock's artistic career has been characterized by a sense of continual experimentation: a search for new ways to express his love of colour, form and the world around him. One modality he has been exploring since the 1980s is that of collage.



Graham Peacock
Kris Cross Miniature #10, 2014
Painted canvas collage
On loan from the artist

Around 1982 Peacock began to add collage elements to the surface of his abstract works. At first this involved adding cut painted canvas to the surface in order to create a shift and disruption in the patterning created by the layering of paint and so reveal the shape of the work and create compositional tension. By the 1990s he was also adding glass beads, glitter and other reflectors to the surface.

Collage served as an element in Peacock's paintings throughout the 1990s and the first decade of the twenty-first century. In 2011, however, he took this element and made it the primary subject of a new group of paintings. In this year he created a group of works entitled *Retrospective Painted Canvas Collage Miniatures*; a series of small collage paintings created by cutting up past canvases, some dating as far back as 1976, and attaching the cut strips to a new canvas backing. The colour, surface and drawing in the cut pieces suggest other colours which the artist painted alongside the collage strips to enhance the unity and spatial activity between the bands.

Peacock has continued such collage projects since 2011. As expressed by the artist, he will do a series of collages every so often as they are like studies: they are quick and a way for him to release creative energy and do something very immediate. They are also a means for him to explore colour palettes and serve as mementoes of experiences. As indicated by Peacock, his collage suites are often created after his travels to a place and the title and colours of the works are inspired by the colours and textures of the place he visited.

For Graham Peacock *...Art reveals our spirit and humanity* and in this quest he places no limitations on the types of artistic practices he pursues and only questions what *...the quality of the experience, as art, is*. As expressed by one art writer in speaking of Peacock's artistic efforts and as expressed in the exhibition **Graham Peacock Collage**, Peacock's art practice is

...a celebration of life, of creation, (and) an affirmation of the freedom and the boundless creativity of the human spirit.

Exhibition	June 21 to July 19	July 26 to August 23	August 31 to September 27	October 5 to November 1
<p>Wayfinders This Syncrude-sponsored exhibition features art works by First Nations artists George Littlechild, Amy Malbeuf and Paul Smith. Through their works these artists examine family histories, personal identities, and relationships to the man-made and natural environments. Curated by Aaron Pacquette</p> <p>Syncrude</p>	Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	Stuart Macpherson Library 8702-91 Ave., Lac La Biche Contact: Valerie Temperton Ph: 1-780-623-6385	Highlands School 11509-62 Street Edmonton Contact: Mary Ann Dobson Ph: 780-479-4206	Lacombe Memorial Centre 5214-50 Ave., Lacombe Contact: Maureen MacKenzie Ph: 1-403-782-1258
<p>The Ties that Bind The artworks presented in this exhibition articulate, through fibre and thread, connections between people; between people and the world around them; and between the past, the present and the future. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	Alice Melnyk Library 5009 Diefenbaker Ave., Two Hills Contact: Betty Lou Kobe Ph: 1-780-657-3553	Anzac Recreation Centre 237 Stony Mountain Road Anzac Contact: Ana Maria Mendez-Barks Ph: 1-780-713-6826	Moves to: Alberta Society of Artists TREX Region 3	
<p>Art & Design in the 21st Century This exhibition studies the disciplines of fine art and design as expressed by three Edmonton artists, investigating the principles which are shared by these disciplines and the considerations which separate these practices. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	Wildwood Public Library 5215-50 Street Wildwood Contact: Barb Lund Ph: 1-780-325-3882	Chuck MacLean Arts Centre 4809-52 Street Camrose Contact: Jane Cherry-Lemure Ph: 1-780-672-9949	Moves to: Alberta Society of Artists TREX Region 3	
<p>Cattle Call This exhibition focuses on the theme of cattle as expressed by Albertan artists and presents art works from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	Barrhead Public Library 1013-53 Ave., Barrhead Contact: Elaine Dickie Ph: 1-780-674-8519	St. Albert Public Library 5 St. Anne St. Albert Place St. Albert Contact: Michelle Steinhusen Ph: 780-459-1687	Moves to: Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre TREX Region 4	
<p>Breaking Barriers - The Artist Inside This exhibition was inspired by the many observations of creative pen, ink and pencil drawings that are done by offenders while in custody in a provincial correctional centre. Organized by Kathryn Wheaton, Wendy Vanderbleek and Shane Golby for the AGA TREX program. Sponsored by Syncrude Canada Ltd.</p> <p>Syncrude</p>	Devon Public Library 101-17 Athabasca Ave. Devon Contact: Kammi Rosentreter Ph: 780-987-3720	Spruce Grove Public Library 35-5 th Ave., Spruce Grove Contact: Tammy Svenningsen Ph: 780-962-4423	Dow Centennial Centre - Alberta Lottery Fund Gallery Dow Centennial Centre 8700-84 Street Fort Saskatchewan Contact: Terri Ponich Ph: 780-992-6406	Ardmore School 4801-48 Ave., Ardmore Contact: Evelyn Bourbeau Ph: 1-780-826-5144
<p>...out to Alberta This exhibition, featuring art works from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, examines the connections between the musical and visual arts of Alberta. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	Edson Public Library 4726-8 ave., Edson Contact: Helen Prosser Ph: 1-780-723-6691	Onoway Public Library 4708 Lac Ste. Anne Trail North Onoway Contact: Kelly Huxley Ph: 780-967-2445	Retires with Art Gallery of Alberta TREX Region 2	
<p>Graham Peacock Collage This exhibition celebrates the vibrant and diverse career of Edmonton artist Graham Peacock; a career characterized by his search for ways to express his love of colour, form and the world around him. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	In Development: Art Gallery of Alberta TREX Region 2		Belgravia Elementary School 11605-74 Ave., Edmonton Contact: Brent Irving Ph: 780-435-5560	Two Hills School 4806-51 Ave., Two Hills Contact: Mirela Olah Ph: 1-780-657-3383
<p>Beyond 'the patch' Stories from Wood Buffalo This exhibition examines the region of Wood Buffalo/Fort McMurray, investigating what the region has to offer and what it is like to call this area home as expressed in the work of five artists from the area. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	In Development: Art Gallery of Alberta TREX Region 2		Lacombe Memorial Centre 5214-50 Ave., Lacombe Contact: Maureen MacKenzie Ph: 1-403-782-1258	Ellerslie Campus North 521-66 Street Edmonton Contact: Elizabeth Mauger Ph: 780-988-5556
<p>In Dreams Awake This exhibition features art works drawn from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. Inspired by the triptych <i>The Garden of Earthly Delights</i> by the Renaissance artist Hieronymous Bosch, this eclectic exhibition examines the 'earthly garden' as investigated by artists in Alberta. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	Visual Arts Alberta-CARFAC 3rd Floor 10215-112 Street Edmonton Contact: Chris Carson Ph: 780-421-1731	Visual Arts Alberta-CARFAC 3rd Floor 10215-112 Street Edmonton Contact: Chris Carson Ph: 780-421-1731	H.W. Pickup School 3505-58 Avenue Drayton Valley Contact: Scott Kupsch Ph: 1-780-542-4495	Onoway Public Library 4708 Lac Ste. Anne Trail North Onoway Contact: Kelly Huxley Ph: 780-967-2445
<p>Margaret Shelton: Block Prints Margaret Shelton was a Calgary based artist with a deep passion for the Alberta landscape. This exhibition presents 24 block prints created by Shelton which illustrate the diversity and beauty of nature and portray how we interact within it. Curated by Todd Schaber, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie</p>	MacDonald Island 1 C.A. Knight Way Fort McMurray Contact: Ana Maria Mendez-Barks Ph: 1-780-713-6826	Mayerthorpe Public Library 4911-52 Stret Mayerthorpe Contact: Gloria Wilson Ph: 1-780-786-2404	Moves to: Alberta Society of Artists TREX Region 3	
<p>Emma Lake, Landscape, Abstracted Emma Lake Artists' Workshops date back to 1936. Many Alberta artists attended these workshops over the years and they have had a lasting influence on the visual arts in Alberta. Landscapes and abstraction were promoted at Emma Lake and are explored in this exhibition. Curated by Caroline Loewen, Alberta Society of Artists</p>	Stuart Macpherson Library 8702-91 Ave., Lac La Biche Contact: Valerie Temperton Ph: 1-780-623-6385	La Cite Francophone 8627 Rue Marie Ann Gaboury Edmonton Contact: Dawn Sauners Dahl/ Daniel Cournoyer 780-463-1144	Retires with: Alberta Society of Artists TREX Region 3	
<p>Rural Life This exhibition features a selection of paintings from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts' permanent collection celebrating the artistic career of Fort MacLeod artist Irene McCaugherty. Curated by Xanthe Isbister, Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>	La Cite Francophone 8627 Rue Marie Ann Gaboury Edmonton Contact: Dawn Sauners Dahl/ Daniel Cournoyer 780-463-1144	Leduc Public Library #2 Alexandra Park Leduc Contact: Linda McLean Ph: 780-986-2638	Goes to: Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	
<p>Ramen Love In this exhibition artist Sarah Gonzales celebrates the global food sensation ramen noodles and examines the introduction of "cup-a-soup" to North America and various types of noodles and broth. Curated by Xanthe Isbister, Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>	Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	G.H. Primeau School 811 Grandin Drive Morinville Contact: Leanne LaRocque Ph: 780-939-3593	Concordia University of Edmonton 7128 Ada Blvd., Edmonton Contact: Jan Mutch Ph: 780-479-9334
<p>When We Were Young This exhibition features the work of five female artists from Medicine Hat responding to the theme 'when we were young.' The works explore the innocence and joy of childhood, relationships with siblings, and the unexpected and sometimes traumatic experiences of youth. Curated by Xanthe Isbister, Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>	Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre TREX Region 4	Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre TREX Region 4	Robert Rundle School 50 A Grosvenor Blvd., St. Albert Contact: Suzanne Weir Ph: 780-459-4475	Afton School of the Arts 16604-91 Ave., Edmonton Contact: Jacqueline Richmond Ph: 780-484-3263
<p>Blair Brennan: White Nurse This exhibition presents a series of artworks that portray Brennan's battle and rehabilitation from addiction to prescription pain medication. This body of work is from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts collection. Curated by Todd Schaber, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie</p>	Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	University of Alberta- Augustana Campus 4901-46 Ave., Camrose Contact: Nancy Goebel Ph: 1-780-679-1189	Devon Public Library 101-17 Athabasca Ave. Devon Contact: Kammi Rosentreter Ph: 780-987-3720
<p>Kleskun Hills This exhibition will present paintings and drawings by three Grande Prairie artists who have spent a great deal of time in the Kleskun Hills near Grande Prairie. Curated by Todd Schaber, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie</p>	Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	Art Gallery of Grande Prairie TREX Region 1	Beaumont Library 5700-49 Street Beaumont Contact: Martin Walters Ph: 780-929-2665	Vermilion Elementary School 4837-44 Street Vermilion Contact: Sheila Doherty Ph: 1-780-853-5444