



2020 Art Gallery of Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art

Call for Submissions

The Art Gallery of Alberta is seeking submissions for its Biennial of Contemporary Art exhibition, that will be presented in the Fall of 2020.

History of the Biennial

Since its inception in 1996, the Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art has presented new and exciting works by 211 Alberta contemporary artists. The Alberta Biennial has served to promote Alberta artists across the country and brings national attention to Alberta's art scene.

Historically, the Art Gallery of Alberta has partnered with organizations to curate, produce and present the Biennial across the province. Previous partners include Glenbow, Art Gallery of Calgary, Ilingworth Kerr Gallery, Nickle Galleries, Walter Phillips Gallery at Banff Centre.

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2020 Biennial of Contemporary Art

For 2020, the Art Gallery of Alberta will be expanding the concept of its Alberta Biennial of Contemporary Art beyond provincial borders. This call is open to artists physically or otherwise within, from, or in proximity to the borders of Alberta, Treaty 4, Treaty 6, Treaty 7, Treaty 8 and Treaty 10.

Artists are encouraged to use the following information as a guideline for their submission:

A border can draw a distinction; define an area; define a practice; define a state of mind. A border is a separation between two realms but it's also the point where they meet. Borders can be metaphysical, geopolitical, geographical, arbitrary, fluid and calcified.

What does it mean to cross a border? What does it mean to have a border cross you? How are some borders prioritized over others? What are the borders we cross every day without even realizing? What is it to cross the border between conscious and unconscious life? What is it to cross provincial borders; territorial borders? How are these experiences personalized or universal?

Artists are encouraged to think of borders in the largest possible sense.



Submission Process

As with all past Biennial exhibitions, the curatorial selection process will commence with a public Call for Submissions. This year the call is open to artists physically or otherwise within, from, or in proximity to the borders of Alberta, Treaty 4, Treaty 6, Treaty 7, Treaty 8 and Treaty 10.

Submission Guidelines & Rules

Submissions should include the following:

- Artist's Statement (250 words or less, saved as artist last name AS; example: smithAS)
- Artist's Biography (100 words or less, saved as artist last name AB; example: smithAB)
- Curriculum Vitae (saved as artist last name CV; example: smithCV)
- Concept of an artwork, either already existing or unrealized (250 words or less, saved as artist last name CA; example: smithCA)
- Visual support material: max 10 samples of your artistic work with a corresponding file list.

Please include description of work, title, date created, mediums, and size.

- Image files: up to 5 MB each, jpg files only. Maximum 10 images, numbered 1-10.
- Video files: up to 60MB each, no longer than 5 minutes in length. You may also link to media via YouTube, Vimeo and SoundCloud. Maximum 3 video files.
- Audio files: up to 30MB each, no longer than 5 minutes in length. Maximum 3 files.

Acceptable submission file formats:

We will accept files in doc, .rtf, .jpg or .pdf formats. Video files must be Windows and Mac compatible, viewable with QuickTime, Windows Media Player or VLC.

We will accept submissions via mail, email, or in the form of a link to DropBox (file-hosting website). We will not accept any submission hosted on a website that requires the AGA become a member, and we will not download materials from a personal website. Mailed submissions must include the appropriate documents on a digital format (CD, DVD, USB flash drive), as well as hard copies of the written materials.

A self-addressed envelope with appropriate postage can be included for return delivery if desired

If you have any questions or wish to send your application support materials in hard copy form please contact lauren.ball@youraga.ca

Submission Deadline: 11:59 pm, April 15, 2019

The gallery closes at 5pm April 15, 2019, for hard copy submissions

For on-line information please visit www.youraga.ca

E-mail inquiries may be addressed to lauren.ball@youraga.ca