



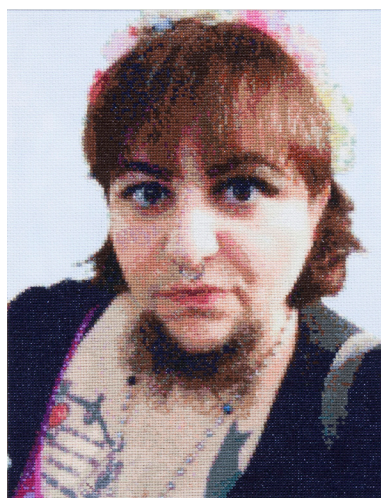
Viewpoints

The new 2019/2020 TREX exhibition season began this past September and AGA TREX was pleased to again present venues throughout north central and north-eastern Alberta (TREX Region 2) with exciting art exhibitions to supplement art programs and engage viewers of all ages. Two of the new AGA TREX exhibitions for this season feature the art works of seven contemporary artists from Alberta and in this edition of *sightlines* AGA TREX is pleased to introduce two of these artists.

One of the new exhibitions currently travelling TREX Region 2 is entitled **Real Women**. This exhibition, which creates space for women's stories to be told, features the work of four women artists from Alberta. One of these is Allison Tunis. Born and raised in Edmonton, Tunis graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from the University of Alberta in 2008. She then moved to Vancouver to study Art Therapy. Upon completion of her studies she returned to Edmonton and has been very active on the local arts scene since.

At University Tunis focused on painting and drawing. While in her final year of studies she began doing work on feminism and women's bodies and started incorporating stitching, which she took up in Jr. High Home Economics, into her drawing. As stated by Tunis:

I'm very interested in fine craft and non-traditional art practices. (At University) I recognized that the work I was doing required the same effort and skill as fine art and so wanted to explore why what I was doing wasn't considered fine art and wanted to push those boundaries: to foster the idea that what was traditionally seen as women's work is fine art.



Allison Tunis
Little Bear, 2017
Embroidery on cloth
Collection of the Alberta Foundation
for the Arts

Through her cross-stitch drawings, Tunis aims to challenge stereotypes and definitions and seeks to create conversation and social change. On a conceptual level, Tunis is very passionate about creating conversations and social change concerning ways of 'being' and through her work she hopes to get people to think about what they consider beautiful and why and whether these concepts can be expanded.

The second reason Tunis creates her works is more personal in nature. As expressed by the artist:

This work is for me. The process is healing: it's a meditative, healing process, and gives me an opportunity to work through my own history, traumas, programming around sexuality, gender, body images and bodies in general.

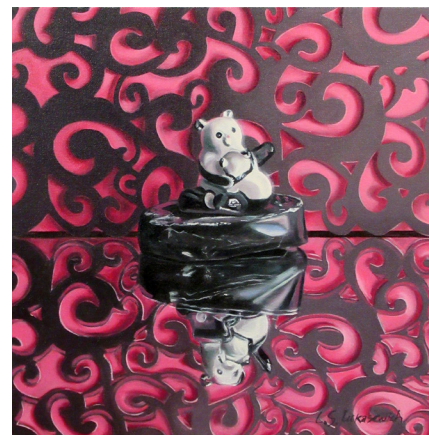
As concerns the exhibition **Real Women** specifically, Tunis' aim through her work is to have viewer's reflect on what it means to be a 'real woman' and she hopes viewers will come to the decision that they either don't know or realize that they don't get to decide what a real woman is: that the only person who can really define themselves is the person themselves and we should respect a person's definition of their identity. According to the artist:

All women are real women - there isn't one definition. Real women are trans women, fat women, women of colour, women in their everyday lives. There aren't requirements as to what that means and we need to re-learn what a real woman is and that there isn't one answer.

A second exhibition currently travelling TREX Region 2 is the exhibition **Lure**. Presenting the work of three artists, this exhibition explores the art style of Contemporary Realism. One of the artists featured in this exhibition is Lori Lukasewich from Calgary. Born and raised in Calgary, Lukasewich attended the Alberta College of Art and Design, majoring in textiles. While she did not complete her courses, she dove into painting on her own and in 1984 committed to art full time. She had her first exhibition in 1987 and has shown her work consistently since then.

Describing herself as a self-taught painter, Lukasewich's early works were very complex 'abstract' constructions. While successful with these, after about 15 years working in this style she 'hit a wall' and found that, in order to move forward, she had to develop a 'new' practice. As she describes this change in her art practice:

I didn't expect to be a realist but I got seduced by what happens when it takes a long time to look at something. The seduction of long-seeing is a akin to meditation, a very powerful thing for me.



Lori Lukasewich
Fancy Panda, 2016
Oil and Alkyd on canvas
Collection of the artist

Lukasewich has been pursuing a contemporary realist style for the last 20 years. At the beginning of this practice she approached her subject matter rather arbitrarily, painting flowers, fruit, dishes and such things just to see what she could do. Later, however, she developed a series of works based around 'kitschy' porcelain ornaments that her mother owned. When her mother passed away Lukasewich began painting these objects as a way to deal with her grief and found that these objects 'worked their whimsical magic' on her. Through this series Lukasewich explored human connections to these kinds of objects and strove for a synthesis of how to reconcile grief and materiality.

For Lukasewich it is important that, through her art, she provides something that is of value. As she states:

It is hugely important to me that the effect I have on people is opening them a little in a positive way. If a person is 'gently arrested' and open to some small intangible lightness, then I am successful. I want to give the viewer a brief respite from daily life and I believe these little things help us survive our lives.

Integral to this aim is the recognition of 'beauty'. As expressed by the artist:

Beauty is our real home; that is where we're most whole and comfortable. My life work is to continue to persist to allow people a moment away from daily turmoil and connect them to the wholeness that beauty brings us.

In her work Lukasewich dangles an object and the experience of the painting in front of the viewer in order to attract their attention and create a space for personal interaction. As she sees it, her 'job' is to affect people in that moment and space and provide something that is both meaningful and uplifting.

Exhibition Schedule November to February 2020

Exhibition	November 6 - December 4	December 11 - January 15	January 22 - February 19	February 26 - April 1
<p>Lure This exhibition features the art works of three artists who, through colour, detail, and playful imagery, tempt viewers into their works to confront desires and memories and participate in knowing, understanding and appreciating the world around them. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	<p>Afton School of the Arts 16604-91 Ave., Edmonton, AB., Contact: Murray Smith Ph: 780-484-3263</p>	<p>Fox Creek Library 501-8th Street Fox Creek, AB., Contact: Leslie Ann Sharkey Ph: 780-622-2343</p>	<p>Grasmere School 4201-46 Street Alberta Beach, AB., Contact: Amy Ouderkirk Ph: 780-924-3758</p>	<p>Mother Margaret Mary High School 2010 Leger Rd., Edmonton, AB., Contact: Nicole Thauvette Ph: 780-988-2279</p>
<p>Real Women This exhibition creates space for women's experiences and stories to be told and recognize the contributions women make to our communities. The art works question societal perceptions of women, art making itself, and express how the featured artists define what it means to be a woman and how they wish to be seen. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	<p>Mother Margaret Mary High School 2010 Leger Rd., Edmonton, AB., Contact: Nicole Thauvette Ph: 780-988-2279</p>	<p>Alice Melnyk Library 5009 Diefenbaker Ave., Two Hills, AB., Contact: Betty Lou Kobe Ph: 780-657-3553</p>	<p>Spruce Grove Public Library 35-5th Ave., Spruce Grove, AB., Contact: Tammy Svenningsen Ph: 780-962-4423</p>	<p>Dow Centennial Centre Gallery 8700-84 Street Fort Saskatchewan, AB., Contact: Talia Davies Ph: 780-992-6401</p>
<p>From Water into Sky This exhibition explores the use of watercolour painting in expressing the natural world. This exhibition gives voice to the marvels and moods of the natural world and the 'magic' that can be found both within and through water. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	<p>Caledonia Park School 3206 Coady Blvd., Leduc, AB., Contact: Bonnie Wurban Ph: 780-986-7888</p>	<p>Town of Ponoka #200, 5604-50 Street Ponoka, AB., Contact: Val Somerville Ph: 403-783-0130</p>	<p>Lynnwood School 15451-84 Ave., Edmonton, AB., Contact: Darvin Neupauer Ph: 780-489-4500</p>	<p>Ardmore School 4801-48 Ave., Ardmore, AB., Contact: Evelyn Bourbeau Ph: 780-826-5144</p>
<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 Hieronymus Bosch, this eclectic exhibition examines the 'earthly garden' as investigated by artists in Alberta. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	<p>Travelling TRES Region 3 Alberta Society of Artists</p>			<p>Warburg School 5412-50 Street Warburg, AB., Contact: Janet Sarvas Ph: 780-848-2822</p>
<p>Nitssakita'paispinnaan: We Are Still In Control This exhibition honours the well of life in the place the artists in the exhibition live: Siksikaissahkoyi (Blackfoot land/territory). This exhibition features work by three contemporary Blackfoot artists whose works are inspired by Blackfoot ways of life, places, and knowledge. Curated by Troy Patenaude and Kent Ayoungman for the Art Gallery of Alberta. Sycrude</p>	<p>In Development TRES Region 2 Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	<p>Eastglen High School 11430-68 Street Edmonton, AB., Contact: Christina Hamer Ph: 780-908-0617</p>	<p>Concordia University of Edmonton 7128 Ada Blvd., Edmonton, AB., Contact: JoAnne Iddings Ph: 780-479-9334</p>	<p>Ponoka Jubilee Library 5110-48 Ave., Ponoka, AB., Contact: Sara Driedger Ph: 403-783-3843</p>
<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. Supported by the Alberta Justice and Solicitor General, this exhibition offers a glimpse into the lives and journeys of the artists inside. Organized by Kathryn Wheaton, Wendy Vanderbleek and Shane Golby for the AGA TRES program. Sycrude</p>	<p>Belgravia Elementary School 11605-74 Avenue Edmonton, AB., Contact: Brent Irving Ph: 780-435-5560</p>	<p>Retires TRES Region f2 Art Gallery of Alberta</p>		
<p>Aakii isskska'takssin (Woman - thought) This photography series is designed to expand the interpretation of story within contemporary art practice of artists with Blackfoot heritage. The work of the featured artists aims to foster a deeper awareness of the complexities of Indigenous identity. Curated by Jennifer Bowen and organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Sycrude</p>	<p>Calmar Public Library 4705-50 Ave., Calmar, AB., Contact: Susan Parkinson Ph: 780-985-3472</p>	<p>Goes to TRES Region 3 Alberta Society of Artists</p>		
<p>On the Grid Grids surround us every day and they manifest themselves in the artworks selected for this exhibition. This collection of work is intended to remind us of the grid's tremendous influence on 20th century art and architectural discourse. Curated by Shannon Bingeman, Alberta Society of Artists</p>	<p>H.E. Bourgoin School 4313-39 Street Bonnyville, AB., Contact: Cheryl Edwards Ph: 780-826-3322</p>	<p>Archbishop MacDonald High School 14219-109 Ave., Edmonton, AB., Contact: Jonathan Eschak Ph: 780-451-1470</p>	<p>Vermilion Elementary School 4837-44 Street Vermilion, AB., Contact: Sheila Doherty Ph: 780-853-5444</p>	<p>Retires TRES Region 3 Alberta Society of Artists</p>
<p>Courage Journey The exhibition Courage Journey is comprised of 7 diptychs representing the inner and outer worlds of anonymous participants of puppet making workshops facilitated by WP Puppet Theatre of Calgary. Curated by Shannon Bingeman, Alberta Society of Artists</p>	<p>Onoway Elementary School 5108 Lac St. Anne Trail North Onoway, AB., Contact: Twyla Lesko Ph: 780-967-5209</p>	<p>Calmar Public Library 4705-50 Ave., Calmar, AB., Contact: Susan Parkinson Ph: 780-985-3472</p>	<p>Caledonia Park School 3206 Coady Blvd., Leduc, AB., Contact: Bonnie Wurban Ph: 780-986-7888</p>	<p>Goes to TRES Region 4 Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>
<p>Bystanders The exhibition Bystanders features the work of street photographers; artists who enter public spaces as 'bystanders' to the scenes that unfold before them. Curated by Shannon Bingeman, Alberta Society of Artists</p>	<p>Lacombe Memorial Centre 5214-50 Ave., Lacombe, AB., Contact: Maureen MacKenzie Ph: 403-782-1258</p>	<p>Ecole des Beaux Lacs 4312-34 Street Bonnyville, AB., Contact: Nicole Sabourin Ph: 780-826-1890</p>	<p>Multicultural Heritage Centre Art Gallery 5411-51 Street Stony Plain, AB., Contact: Twyla McGann Ph: 780-963-2777</p>	<p>Goes to TRES Region 4 Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>
<p>In the Moment This exhibition features the works of twelve Alberta photographers. Dating from 1977 to 2010, these silver gelatin black-and-white photographs capture a variety of captivating characters situated in intriguing environments from all over the world. Curated by Xanthe Isbister, Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>	<p>Travelling TRES Region 3 Alberta Society of Artists</p>			<p>Davidson Creek Elementary School 360 Davenport Drive Sherwood Park, AB., Contact: Kaye Schindeler Ph: 780-467-5557</p>
<p>Altered Realities Altered Realities features works by Canmore-based artist David Foxcroft and Calgary-based artist Kristine Zingeler, both of whom use complex processes to create layered photographic collages. Curated by Xanthe Isbister, Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>	<p>Travelling TRES Region 3 Alberta Society of Artists</p>			<p>Virginia Park Elementary School 7324-109 Ave., Edmonton, AB., Contact: Jana Haman Ph: 780-477-8152</p>
<p>Storylines: Comic Art Storylines features a collection of work by Comic Artists from Alberta who use illustration as a form of narrative and storytelling. Curated by Jihane Theocharides for the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie</p>	<p>High Park School 40 Highridge Way Stony Plain, AB., Contact: Amy Collett Ph: 780-963-2222</p>	<p>W.P. Wagner School 6310 Wagner Rd. NW Edmonton, AB., Contact: Karly Kulpa Ph: 780-469-1315</p>	<p>Beaumont Public Library 5700-49 Street Beaumont, AB., Contact: Martin Walters Ph: 780-929-2665</p>	<p>Goes to TRES Region 4 Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>
<p>Arthur Nishimura: Mystical Landscapes In this exhibition the artist captures the moods of landscapes and the everyday through the use of analog photographic techniques. Curated by Todd Schaber, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie</p>	<p>Grasmere School 4201-46 Street Alberta Beach, AB., Contact: Amy Ouderkirk Ph: 780-924-3758</p>	<p>Rideau Park School 10605-42 Ave., NW Edmonton, AB., Contact: Jane Zaiane Ph: 780-437-0010</p>	<p>Leduc Public Library #2 Alexandra Park Leduc, AB., Contact: Linda McLean Ph: 780-986-2638</p>	<p>Goes to TRES Region 3 Alberta Society of Artists</p>
<p>Heather Buchanan: Eating The exhibition Heather Buchanan: Eating features art works which use realistic and pop culture imagery as vehicles for human connection. Curated by Todd Schaber, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie</p>	<p>Travelling TRES Region 4 Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre</p>			<p>High Park School 40 Highridge Way Stony Plain, AB., Contact: Amy Collett Ph: 780-963-2222</p>