



2021 Report to the Community



Raneece Buddan, *Entwined* (detail), 2019. From the exhibition *Black Every Day*. Courtesy of the Artist.



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Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to let you know how proud we are of the Art Gallery of Alberta team for making it through another year of this pandemic. Not only have we been able to keep the doors open, but we have also been able to allow Albertans to experience amazing exhibitions that represent our history, our province and issues of relevance as well as exhibitions that inspire us to examine our beliefs and the relevance of art in our lives.

It was also a year in which we created a new Strategic Plan for the AGA. While financial success and sustainability are important aspects of this plan, it also allows us to focus on our future and on what our Gallery will become, delivering new and meaningful experiences in our province and for our patrons. As we approach our 100th anniversary in 2024, it will be important that we honour our past and become even more relevant for the future.

We are thankful for Catherine and her team, who have continued to navigate incredibly challenging issues and deliver artistic excellence in the visual arts. Whether it is promoting education, curating exhibitions or making best use of our wonderful building and our new restaurant, May, the AGA provides a unique venue for inspirational programs and events. We have a talented team at the AGA, and they have certainly delivered.

Kapwani Kiwanga, *pink-blue*, 2017. Installation view of *ROYGBIV*, Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, 2021. Courtesy the Artist and Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, Johannesburg, London / Galerie Jérôme Poggi, Paris / Galerie Tanja Wagner, Berlin.

Our doors will stay open, and our exhibitions continue to challenge our understanding and appreciation of the artists that inspire us. Whether the art was created a century ago or in the last year, we have been fortunate to provide a place for our guests to experience these works and explore conversations about technique, creativity, and societal and cultural issues. We hope you find your way through our doors regularly, and with corporate and government support, we will continue to make attendance affordable, and in some cases, at no charge.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, we will continue to work hard to make the AGA relevant to all Albertans and develop exhibitions that can be experienced in the Gallery, in the province and even across Canada. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

Leon Zupan

Chair, Art Gallery of Alberta Board of Directors

Installation view of *Black Every Day*.





SENTINEL

PIONEER

FOREBELLER

FIGUREHEAD

VANGUARD

WARRIOR

CONSTELLATION

Message from the Executive Director

We began 2021 with the AGA doors still sealed to the public, in keeping with COVID-19 restrictions. This second period of public lockdown began on December 11, 2020 and extended to July 1, 2021. Despite the building being closed, the AGA was open for business. During this time, our team continued to develop and deliver a huge variety of new online, education and public programs, video exhibition tours, hands-on virtual workshops and events.

The AGA continued to produce AGALive, online events that featured artists in current exhibitions, from the AGA's communities and represented in our Art Rental and Sales program. We also launched the *Sidewalk Cinema*, a video screen mounted on the exterior façade of the building, offering free, daily screenings of artistic content by artists, filmmakers and students from across the province.

We continued to welcome school audiences to our reimagined, online school tours. AGA Education and Learning programs provided teachers and schools with online access to tools and content to continue to connect students to AGA exhibitions, local artists workshops and our trilingual arts programming.

For the six months from July to December 2021, we were able to welcome back AGA Members and visitors, with appropriate safety measures, including: online advanced ticket booking, capacity limits, physical distancing markers, protective plexiglass barriers, hand-sanitizing stations as well as enhanced cleaning protocols.

From an exhibition planning perspective, the six-month closure created many challenges. We installed the exhibition, *The Scene*, in January; *Black Every Day*

Greg Marshall, *bearing*, 2018. High definition video, 2 min 43 sec. Part of *Sidewalk Cinema*.







Informational panel with text and a small diagram.


Project description

The project was initiated in 1990 by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education. The main objective was to create a new cultural and educational center in the city of [city name]. The project was designed by the architect [architect name] and was approved by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education. The project was implemented by the [organization name] and was completed in 1995. The project was a success and it has become a landmark in the city of [city name].

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in March and *Cornelia Oberlander: Genius Loci* in April. These unseen exhibitions were extended for months and were finally able to open on July 1, with the lifting of provincially mandated restrictions. We are very grateful to all of the artists, each of whom agreed to extend the loans of their works indefinitely to keep the exhibitions intact for this extended time period. Many thanks are also owed to the Remai Modern, which graciously extended the loan of the Pablo Picasso works for the exhibition: *Bacchanale Music in Picasso's Linocut Prints*, which we were able to extend until October.

From September on, exhibition planning returned to a semblance of normalcy, with the opening of *ROYGBIV* and *Soak, Stripe Splatter*—celebrations of colour in contemporary art and found in the AGA collection. I would like to thank the Poole Centre of Design for their support of the *ROYGBIV* and *Cornelia Oberlander: Genius Loci* exhibitions. With their support, and funding from the Museums Assistance Program of Canadian Heritage, we have been able to tour the *Oberlander* exhibition to Winnipeg and Toronto in 2022 and produce a wonderful bilingual publication.

At the end of the year, we celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Edmonton Art Club in the exhibition *Making Art, Building Community* and honoured the memory of the thousands of Indigenous children who lost their lives in the Indian Residential School system in Canada. George Littlechild's profound exhibition, *Here I Am – Can You See Me*, curated by Adjunct Curator of Indigenous Art MJ Belcourt Moses, was a deeply moving tribute to the artist's family, the lost children and the generations of Indigenous Peoples who have survived this trauma. While the exhibition closed at the AGA in March 2022, it will tour to venues across Alberta in 2022 and 2023.

As a part of its work, the AGA Equity Committee conducted four community roundtables in 2021, reaching out to, engaging with and actively listening to BIPOC and 2SLGBTQ communities as part of our strategic planning process. In December, after many months of additional strategic planning conversations undertaken by the Board of Directors and staff, the Board approved a new three-year Strategic Plan for 2022-2024. The new Strategic Plan has community engagement at its core and incorporates the feedback we received from a wide range of individuals, organizations and communities. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to all of the people who

Installation view of *Cornelia Hahn Oberlander: Genius Loci*.



participated in the roundtable conversations. Your generous contributions of time, honesty and thoughtfulness are most sincerely appreciated.

2021 was another challenging year from a financial planning perspective. As with 2020, we focused on maximizing revenue opportunities through the federal wage subsidy, rent relief, emergency and new grant programs, as well as private and corporate fundraising. We were able to continue to reduce expenses by deferred programs and operational efficiencies, which helped compensate for lost revenues from admissions, memberships, special events, retail sales and event rentals. I would like to express sincere thanks to the sponsors that continued to support the AGA through our extended closure, especially our lead sponsor, Capital Power. The ongoing visionary support of Capital Power has sustained the AGA for over a decade and made our nationally renowned exhibition program a possibility. Many thanks are also due to Epcor, whose 2021 Heart and Soul fund enabled the AGA to connect with audiences online and on the street, with the *Sidewalk Cinema*.

I would also like to thank each and every donor who helps to build the future of the AGA through your financial contributions and with donations of art for the collection. I would like to express sincere gratitude to the many people, AGA Members, Curator's Circle and Director's Circle patrons, corporate sponsors and the various funding agencies that supported the AGA in 2021. All of you are at our heart and soul.

In closing, I would like to thank the AGA staff, whose flexibility, tenacity and sense of humour made the second year of the pandemic manageable. We have learned a lot over the last two years, about how to be innovative, solve problems and turn adversity into opportunity. Many thanks again to Pat St. Arnaud for managing the financial and human resource uncertainties and finding grant funds to improve things against all odds. The AGA Board of Directors, under the leadership of Leon Zupan, once again supported the AGA through unprecedented times. We now look forward to 2022 and the launch of our new strategic initiatives.

With thanks and best wishes to all,

Catherine Crowston

Executive Director / Chief Curator



Alex Colville, *March*, 1979. From the portfolio *A Book of Hours—Labours of the Months*. photolithograph. 43.2 x 38.1 cm. Gift of the Estate of Peggy M. Marko.



Gathie Falk, *Reclining Figure (after Henry Moore): Stella*, 1999. Papier-mâché, acrylic paint, varnish, 47.6 x 88.9 x 100.9 cm. Gift in memory of Karen Pedersen.

Collection Acquisitions

The AGA acquired the following works in 2021:

Alex Colville

April, 1974*

Acrylic on museum board

26 x 22 cm

Gift of the Estate of Peggy M. Marko

A Book of Hours—Labours of the Months, 1979*

Portfolio of one serigraph and 12

photolithographs, ed. 12/25

43.2 x 38.1 x 7 cm

Gift of the Estate of Peggy M. Marko

Chris Cran

Fans, 2014*

Acrylic on canvas and two oval panels

121.6 x 91 cm

Gift of Denise Clarke

Greg Curnoe

Sketch For Ben Bella, 1965*

Ink on paper

19.6 x 23.4 cm

Anonymous gift

Dean Drever

White Klan, 2011*

Paper

87" x 37" x 27"

Gift of the Durstling Family

Gathie Falk

Reclining Figure (after Henry Moore): Stella, 1999*

Papier-mâché, acrylic paint, varnish

47.6 x 88.9 x 100.9 cm

Gift in memory of Karen Pedersen

Larry Fink

The Boxing Portfolio, 1989-1996*

25 gelatin silver prints, ed. 10/25

50.5 x 40.6 cm

Gift of Deborah Fenwick

Jude Griebel

Barn Skull RR1, 2014*

Wood, resin, human hair, oil paint

38.5 x 36 x 4 cm

Gift of E. Ross Bradley

Lawren Harris

North Shore, Lake Superior, c. 1921-26*

Oil on board

29 x 36.3 cm

Gift of Buddy Victor and Al Osten



Mary Shannon Will, *Untitled*, 1978. Glazed white fired clay. 8.7 x 19 x 19.4 cm. Purchased with funds from the Dr. Stern Endowment.

Gladys M. Johnston

Untitled [Island with Framing Trees, Maligne Lake], 1982
Oil on Masonite
Gift of Chris Cran in memory of Gladys M. Johnston

Attila Richard Lukacs

Brandenburg Series (black cog and wreath glossy), 1989*
Oil and tar on paper
96.7 x 131.7 cm
Gift of Mr. F. Hawryliw

Graham Peacock

Space Junk, 2018*
Acrylic on canvas with collage
163 x 297 cm
Gift of Graham Peacock & Wendy Rollins

Tony Scherman

Blue Fan, 1981*
Encaustic on canvas
92 x 152.5 cm
Gift in memory of Jim and Peggy McBride

W.P. Weston

Indian Caves, Restmore Lodge, c. 1950-51*
Oil on board
40.5 x 45.5 cm
Gift in memory of Clara and William Wood

Mary Shannon Will

Mary's Shape, 1993*
Acrylic on three lithograph plates
66.4 x 188.7 cm
Purchased with funds from the Dr. Stern Endowment

Untitled, 1978*
Glazed white fired clay
8.7 x 19 x 19.4 cm
Purchased with funds from the Dr. Stern Endowment

Six of Chris's Colours, 1992*
Acrylic and lithography plate on canvas
40.8 x 40.5 cm
Purchased with funds from the Dr. Stern Endowment

David Ofori Zapparoli

Raptors Fever One, 2019*
Gelatin silver print, ed. 2/6
50.5 x 40.5 cm
Gift of the David Ofori Zapparoli

Raptors Fever Two, 2019*
Gelatin silver print, ed. 1/6
50.5 x 40.5 cm
Gift of David Ofori Zapparoli

Raptors Fever Three, 2019*
Gelatin silver print, ed. 1/5
50.5 x 40.5 cm
Gift of David Ofori Zapparoli

Value for acquired Works in 2021:

Donated: \$2,186,136

Purchased: \$31,050

**works recognized in the 2021 Audited Financial Statements*



Larry Fink, *Blue Horizon, Philadelphia, PA, October 1994* (detail), 1994. From *The Boxing Portfolio*, 1989-1996, 25 gelatin silver prints, 50.5 x 40.6 cm.
Gift of Deborah Fenwick.





Singhmar Centre For Art Education

Total number of programs: 159

Total number of participants: 5,879

Education and Learning at your AGA strives to connect students, community and ideas through art and creativity by offering dynamic learning opportunities with meaningful connections to education outcomes. These programs include school and teacher programs, family programs, art classes and camps, youth initiatives and community outreach. Our programs offer unique access points to current exhibitions and hands-on art making that empowers all members of our community to transform their lives with curiosity and play.

Education Goals:

- Provide a point of entry to the AGA and current exhibitions that is accessible and equitable for people of all ages, experiences and capacities
- Foster problem solving, critical thinking and collaboration through play, discussion, hands-on processes and reflection
- Create innovative and interactive experiences that build connections between ourselves, our students and our communities

Teacher and School Programs

AGA programs connect teachers and students to big ideas through various programming formats, including in-person and virtual exhibition visits, studio projects, professional development sessions and online resources.

What programs provide:

- Connections to Alberta Education's programs of study in the areas of social studies, language arts, science, French, Spanish and early childhood learning
- In-depth investigations of featured exhibitions and studio practices
- Heightened focus on inquiry-based learning and student-centred programming

Teacher Programs

Total number of programs: 2

Total number of participants: 35

School Programs

Total number of programs: 45

Total number of participants: 4,730

Family Programs

Family programs at the AGA provide opportunities for families to connect with exhibitions through exploratory programs focused on play, hands-on art making and exciting in-gallery experiences.

New: Stroller Tours are in-depth tours of a current exhibition offered once per month to parents with new babies. It is an opportunity for caregivers to learn about art in a safe space where babies can be babies and parents can interact with other parents.

Total number of programs: 3

Total number of participants: 29

Tours For Tots is a weekly art exploration for families with young children to discover exhibitions together. The theme changes from week to week and includes a Gallery visit, hands-on art experiments, storytelling and more.


Total number of programs: 51

Total number of participants: 478









Birthday Parties are fun-filled studio explorations for children ages four and up. Parties include a Gallery visit and an interactive studio project led by educators.

Total number of programs: 4

Total number of participants: 42

BMO All Day Sundays are once-a-month afternoons packed full of engaging art activities for the whole family. With exciting programs and projects that tie into current exhibitions, guests of all ages can join in and have fun.

Total number of programs: 3

Total number of participants: 79

Art Classes for Kids

Weekend Art Classes are offered throughout the year and feature a wealth of opportunities for kids to explore their creativity, including investigative Gallery visits and process-led art projects inspired by featured exhibitions. Classes are led by professional artists/educators and are focused on experimentation, risk taking and participation in a dynamic studio setting.

Total number of programs: 4

Total number of participants: 25

ArtBreak Camps are offered throughout the spring, summer and winter school breaks. Students take the lead in these exploratory programs to discover the world around them through art activities, exercises and projects related to specific themes. Focusing on student interactions and personal experiences, these camps create bridges between art, ideas and the community.

Total number of programs: 14

Total number of participants: 97

Art Club For Kids is a monthly subscription series providing children plenty of opportunities to be creative.

Total number of subscriptions: 21

Youth Programs and Initiatives

Youth Art Classes dive into the creative practices of artists featured in current exhibitions while providing opportunities for youth to take artistic risks in a safe and fun environment.

Total number of programs: 2

Total number of participants: 8

The Youth Council is a group of dedicated teen volunteers committed to developing teenage audiences at the Art Gallery of Alberta. There is exclusive youth access to the inner workings of the Gallery as well as unique opportunities to collaborate with local artists and creative professionals. They work alongside museum staff to design and develop programming initiatives for teens.

Total number of programs: 9

Total number of participants: 40

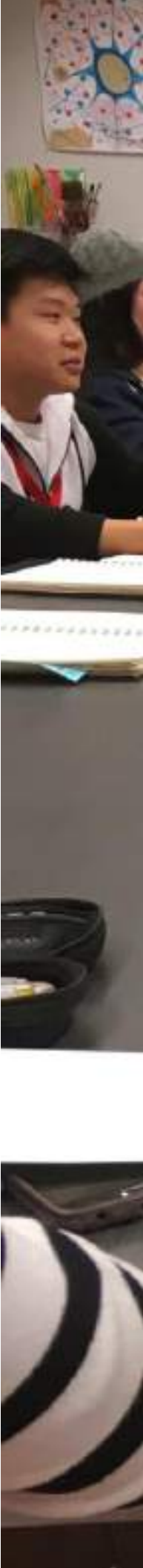


Community Outreach

New: Art Hive is a weekly community-based art-making initiative that is open to all and welcomes participants as artists. The AGA, in partnership with St. Stephen's College Art Therapy program, presents this safe and inclusive space for art making as a tool for collaboration, dialogue, skill-sharing and community engagement for people across different cultural, socio-economic backgrounds, ages and abilities. No art training or experience is required to participate.

Total number of programs: 22

Total number of participants: 295







(L-R) Lauren Crazybull, *Coty*, 2020; Yong Fei Guan, 塑胶狮 *Sujiao Shi*, 2018; Lauren Crazybull, *Kristen*, 2020. Courtesy of the Artists.
From the exhibition *The Scene*.



Exhibitions

The Scene

June 19 – August 8, 2021

Kasie Campbell, Lauren Crazybull, April Dean,
Yong Fei Guan, Taryn Kneteman, Dwayne Martineau,
Kim McCollum, Morgan Melenka, Gabriel Molina, Emmanuel
Osahor, Tamires Para Pedroso, Tiffany Shaw, Jill Stanton

The Scene brought together and amplified energetic and dynamic voices in Edmonton's visual arts.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Lindsey Sharman and Danielle Siemens.

Jude Griebel: Barn Skull

June 19, 2021 – February 27, 2022

Located in Manning Hall, Jude Griebel's piece *Barn Skull* presented a sympathetic, hybrid body that was merged with architectural elements. It presented a playful and self-deprecating humour that was used to confront contemporary anxieties surrounding altered environments and the ways of life. It employed vernacular motifs derived from Griebel's family history of farming on the rural prairies while shifting the focus between global and local behaviours in regards to human consumption and industry.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Lindsey Sharman.

Sponsored by Capital Power Corporation.



Anna Hawkins: Blue Light Blue

June 19 – September 26, 2021

Anna Hawkins' new film *Blue Light Blue* examined contemporary relationships to screens and devices.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Lindsey Sharman. The RBC New Works Gallery features new artworks by Alberta artists and continues the Art Gallery of Alberta's tradition of supporting and promoting Alberta artists.



Foundation

Black Every Day

June 19 – September 19, 2021

Shumba Ash, Raneece Buddan, Shoko César, Keon Courtney, Jay Dontae, Richard Lipscombe, AJA Loudon, Lisa Mayes, Hollee McKerchar, Trevor “Curly” Peters, Braxton Santiago-Garneau, Emily Schouten, Shaihiem Small, Fetsum Teclemariam

This exhibition marked the 15th anniversary of 5 Artists 1 Love, an organization that promotes the vibrancy of Edmonton’s African Canadian communities.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Darren W. Jordan. 5 Artists 1 Love would like to thank TD Bank Group, Edmonton Community Foundation and Autism Edmonton for their support.

Cornelia Hahn Oberlander: Genius Loci

June 19 – October 17, 2021

Cornelia Hahn Oberlander: Genius Loci explored the work of the Canadian landscape architect, who since the 1950s has revealed new means of understanding the human connection to the natural environment.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta and the West Vancouver Art Museum. Curated by Amery Cavelli and Hilary Letwin. Cornelia Hahn Oberlander fonds, Collection Centre Canadien d’Architecture / Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montréal; Don de Cornelia Hahn Oberlander / Gift of Cornelia Hahn Oberlander. Presented as part of the Poole Centre of Design.



ROYGBIV

September 4, 2021 – January 2, 2022

Kapwani Kiwanga, Shoplifter (Hrafnhildur Arnardóttir), Rodney LaTourelle and Louise Witthöft, Anri Sala

This exhibition was a maximalist tribute to colour. The artists featured in *ROYGBIV* are interested in colour’s ability to alter mood, change behaviour or simply transform space.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Catherine Crowston and Lindsey Sharman. Presented as part of the Poole Center of Design.



Soak, Stripe, Splatter: Collecting Colour at the AGA

October 9, 2021 – January 30, 2022

This exhibition featured works from the Art Gallery of Alberta Collection that focus on colour as the primary element.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Catherine Crowston.

Harley Morman: Let’s Do the Time Warp Again

October 9, 2021 – January 30, 2022

Harley Morman’s *Let’s Do the Time Warp Again* used lenticular prints to consider nostalgia, time and remaking oneself.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Lindsey Sharman. The RBC New Works Gallery features new artworks by Alberta artists and continues the Art Gallery of Alberta’s tradition of supporting and promoting Alberta artists.





Shoplifter / Hrafnhildur Arnardóttir, *Hyperlings* (detail), 2021. From the exhibition *ROYGBIV*.



Installation view of George Littlechild: *Here I am - can you see me?*

RBC
NEW
WORKS



Foundation

Making Art, Building Community: 100 Years of the Edmonton Art Club

November 6, 2021 – March 13, 2022

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Edmonton Art Club through the work of its past members.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by Danielle Siemens. Sponsored by ATB Financial.

ATB

George Littlechild: Here I am – Can you see me?

November 6, 2021 – March 14, 2022

George's exhibition gave remembrance, recognition, honour and validation to the thousands of innocent children that nobody is able to recognize as they stand amongst their fellow residential school students in the photographs these children were finally acknowledged, and work begins to recognize and remember these lost souls.

Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta. Curated by MJ Belcourt Moses. Presented by Capital Powered Art, an exhibition series sponsored by Capital Power Corporation.

Capital
Power

capital powered art

Community Gallery Exhibitions

The Art of Reflection

June 19 – September 5, 2021

The Art of Reflection, an exhibition emblematic of the times, was on display in the summer 2021. In our current global state, reflection is key to progress, as we cannot positively move forward without meaningfully addressing our past. This was the core philosophy of the exhibition.

This exhibition was curated by Africa Centre's YEGTheComeUp program, in partnership with the Art Gallery of Alberta.

Canadian Annual Mosaic Exhibition: Roots / Racines

September 11 – October 24, 2021

Canadian Annual Mosaic Exhibition was created in 2017 by a group of enthusiastic mosaic artists living in Canada. The purpose of this exhibition was to promote mosaic art in Canada and to expose fellow Canadians to this exciting medium.

This exhibition is presented in partnership between the Canadian Annual Mosaic Exhibition and the Art Gallery of Alberta.



Hang on until the morning comes.

Edmonton Art Club: A Century of Mark Making

October 30, 2021 – January 23, 2022

This exhibition was a celebration of current members of the Edmonton Art Club and was presented concurrently with the exhibition in the Poole gallery, *Making Art, Building Community: 100 Years of the Edmonton Art Club*.

This exhibition was presented in partnership between the Edmonton Art Club and the Art Gallery of Alberta.



CARFAC
ALBERTA



Alberta
Foundation
for the Arts



edmonton
arts
council

Sidewalk Cinema

The AGA *Sidewalk Cinema* was an initiative launched as part of the City of Edmonton's 2021 Downtown Spark project, a series of exhibits and experiences that are free, take place outdoors and are safe to enjoy as they allow for physical distancing and small groups. Mounted on the northwest corner of the AGA building, the AGA *Sidewalk Cinema* was a street-level digital screen with audio that was visible from outside of the building.

Presented by the EPCOR Heart + Soul Fund.



12 Days of Sidewalk Cinema

June 16 – June 27, 2021

The jury was very excited to select the inaugural program for the Art Gallery of Alberta's new Sidewalk Cinema. From over 100 submissions, the jury chose 12 works. Wanting to represent that diversity, the jury selected a range of artistic approaches, from animation to spoken word, from mini-documentaries to short narrative films. Many of the works selected were reflections of the artists' identities, which speak to both personal and collective experiences.

Scarred Land: Works from the AGA Collection

August 3 – September 16, 2021

These two videos looked at landscapes that have been shaped or scarred by human development. Alana Bartol's video examined two places in Calgary where former oil refineries have been turned into public parks. Isabelle Hayeur's piece focused on sprawling suburban neighbourhoods throughout North America.

The Terrestrial and the Universal

October 11, 2021 – January 2022

The Terrestrial and the Universal was a series of paired films selected for their complementary or contrasting visuals, subjects, production techniques or media. Many have abstract or non-linear narratives with hypnotic visuals and repeating rhythms that drew people in.

TREX

The Alberta Foundation for the Arts Travelling Exhibition Program. Organized by the Art Gallery of Alberta.

The Travelling Exhibition Program (Trex) was established in 1981 by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) with the vision that every Albertan would have the opportunity to experience visual art exhibitions in their own communities. The Trex program is a coordinated effort between

- the AFA and the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie (Trex Region 1)
- the Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton (Trex Region 2)
- the Alberta Society of Artists, Calgary (Trex Region 3) and
- the Esplanade Arts & Heritage Centre, Medicine Hat (Trex Region 4).

The Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA) has managed the Trex program for north-central and northern Alberta (Trex Region 2) for more than 20 years. In March 2018, the AFA awarded the AGA management of the Trex program another five years (2018-2023).

2021 Trex Exhibition Bookings: 96

(100% booking rate)

2021 Trex Exhibition Visitors: 47,609

*Please note that due to COVID 19, it was necessary for 12 venues in Trex Region 2 to cancel their bookings for the 2021 exhibition season. As a result, visitor statistics are much lower than what could be expected.



Elaine Alexie, *Ditsuu A'tan Ky'uu Gaonahtan - Grandmothers teachings through flowers signature necklace*, 2021. Private collection. From the exhibition ᑕᑭᑭᑦᑎᑦᑎᑦ wawisihcikan - adornment.







Black Every Day virtual community tour with Timiro Mohamend.

Programming

AGA programming provides opportunities for our patrons and the public to learn about art and artists in featured exhibitions in a range of presentation formats. In 2021, we continued to offer digital programs and expanded to offer both hybrid and in-person formats.

#AGALive

#AGALive consists of digital programs, including Artists in Conversation, Artist Talks, Curator's Tours, workshops and other experts for in-depth explorations of current exhibitions.

Total: 26 Programs; 1,364 Participants

#AGALive Governor General Artist Talk Series:

- Michael Fernandes, January 11, 2021
- Dana Claxton, January 18, 2021
- Anna Torma, January 25, 2021
- Ken Lum, February 1, 2021
- Jorge Lozano Lorza, February 8, 2021
- Ruth Cuthand, March 8, 2021

Talks:

- Treaty 6: Jo-Ann Saddleback in Conversation with David LaRivière, February 12, 2021
- 5 Artists 1 Love Celebrates 15 Years, February 27, 2021
Partner: 5 Artists 1 Love
- *Black Every Day* Artists in Conversation – AJA Loudon and Judy Robinson, April 24, 2021
Partner: 5 Artists 1 Love
- Asian Heritage Month with Roy Caussy, Gwenessa Lam and Marigold Santos, May 27, 2021
- Zainub Verjee - The Aga Khan Garden: A site of history and diplomacy, June 6, 2021
- Nature and Humanity as One - Panel discussion with the University of Alberta, June 10, 2021
Partner: University of Alberta
- Pride panel - NASRA, Harley Morman and Cedar T, June 24, 2021
Partner: Edmonton Pride Centre
- Art of Drag with BOA from Canada's Drag Race, June 29, 2021
- Mike Macdonald's Butterfly Gardens, July 22, 2021
Partner: Ociciwan
- Studio Visit with Emmanuel Osahor, August 7, 2021
- Cornelia's Chat: Three by Three - Jane Ferrabee and Bill Pechet, October 17, 2021
- Artist in Conversation - Harley Morman with Lindsey Sharman, October 28, 2021
- Artist Talk with Shoplifter, November 18, 2021
- Lecture on the Forbes Pigment Collection at Harvard University, December 14, 2021

Tours:

- Art of Reflection: Virtual Tour with Robyn Taylor
- March 31, 2021
Partner: YEGTheComeUp
- *The Scene* Curator's Tour with Lindsey Sharman and Danielle Siemens, May 1, 2021
- *Cornelia Hahn Oberlander: Genius Loci* Tour with Amery Calvelli, August 25, 2021



#AGALive Governor General Artist Talk Series with Ruth Cuthand and Jake Moore.

Screenings:

- Online screening and talk with Anna Hawkins and Lindsey Sharman, April 15, 2021
- City Dreamers Virtual Screening, May 6, 2021

Workshops:

- Call for Submissions Workshop with Carfac Alberta, November 9, 2021
Partner: CARFAC
- Weaving Language - Loom Weaving with Kim McCollum, July 8, 2021

Hybrid Programming (In-Person and Virtual)

Total: 2 Programs; 88 Participants

Talks:

- Artist Talk with George Littlechild, November 6, 2021

Tours:

- *Making Art, Building Community* Curator's Tour with Danielle Siemens, December 9, 2021

In-Person Programming

Total: 13 Programs; 794 Participants

Tours:

- Walking Tour with Tiffany Shaw, June 26, 2021

Screenings:

- Sidewalk Cinema - Student Showcase and Social, July 29, 2021 Partner: U of A and MacEwan

Performances:

- ESO at the AGA Concert Series, seven events in July and August
Partner: Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
- Program One Ballet, four events in October
Partner: Ballet Edmonton

Community Tours (Virtual and Hybrid)

Our Community Tour series invites a new speaker each month from outside the AGA to lead a tour of a current exhibition, giving our audience a unique perspective on the artwork on display.

Total: 7 Programs; 157 Participants

Virtual Tours:

- *The Scene* with Amber Paquette, May 20, 2021
- *Black Every Day* with Timiro Mohamed, June 17, 2021
- *Cornellia Hahn Oberlander: Genuis Loci* with Katharina Kafka, October 7, 2021
Partner: Alberta Association of Landscape Architects

Hybrid Tours:

- *Cornellia Hahn Oberlander: Genuis Loci* with Justine Jenkins, July 15, 2021
- *Black Every Day* with Anna Edwards, July 30, 2021
Partner: Cariwest
- *Black Every Day* with Arlo Maverick, September 9, 2021
- *George Littlechild: Here I am – can you see me?* with Amber Paquette, December 16, 2021

Art and Wine Virtual Program

This program featured monthly conversations about art and wine with AGA Executive Director Catherine Crowston and Juanita Roos and Kelsey Roos from Color de Vino. Conversations focused on selected works of art in current AGA exhibitions, with a special wine selected to complement the conversation.

Total: 3 Programs; 47 Participants

- October 6, 2021
- November 2, 2021
- December 1, 2021



Community Tour of *George Littlechild: Here I am – Can you see me?* with Amber Paquette.

Community Partnerships

In 2021, AGA Programming partnered with the following organizations:

- 5 Artists 1 Love
- Alberta Association of Landscape Architects
- Ballet Edmonton
- Carfac Alberta
- Cariwest Festival
- Color de Vino
- Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
- Edmonton International Film Festival
- MacEwan University
- Ociciwan Contemporary Art Centre
- Pride Centre of Edmonton
- University of Alberta
- YEGTheComeUp through the Africa Centre

Outreach Tours

In 2021, AGA Programming gave free tours to groups from the following organizations:

- The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts
- The Green Room
- U of A Fine Arts Students
- MacEwan Fine Arts Students
- Edmonton 2 Spirit Society
- Edmonton Art Club





Membership

In 2021, the AGA's membership community was made up of more than 2,380 patrons.

Memberships were once again extended to reflect the length of the December closure in 2020.

In November 2021, we were ecstatic to host our first exhibition opening event since 2020, featuring a special Members' reception for George Littlechild: *Here I am - Can you see me?* and *Making Art, Building Community: 100 Years of the Edmonton Art Club*.

The AGA continues to be part of North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Association and Reciprocal Organization of Associated Museums (ROAM). These programs allow our Explore, Enhance, Curator's Circle and Director's Circle Members to enjoy reciprocal admission at more than 1,000 museums and galleries across the United States, Canada, Bermuda, Colombia, El Salvador, Mexico and Panama.

The following Canadian galleries offer reciprocal admission to AGA Members:

- Art Gallery of Grande Prairie
- Art Gallery of Greater Victoria
- Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (Halifax)
- Art Gallery of Ontario (Toronto) - (Enhance, Curator's Circle and Director's Circle)
- Beaverbrook Art Gallery (Fredericton)
- Glenbow Museum (Calgary)
- Kamloops Art Gallery
- National Gallery of Canada (Ottawa)
- Nickle Galleries (Calgary)
- Southern Alberta Art Gallery (Lethbridge)
- The Power Plant (Toronto)
- Vancouver Art Gallery
- Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies (Banff)
- Winnipeg Art Gallery

All Memberships include:

- Free admission to the gallery
- Invitations to exhibition openings and special events
- 10% discount on programming and at shopAGA, including art rental and framing
- Member pricing and advance sales to our AGA parties in spring and fall
- Discounts on private tours
- Extra discounts and programming during Members' weeks
- Voting privileges at our Annual General Meeting
- Exclusive insider updates and news
- Extra discounts and programming during Members' weeks
- Voting privileges at our Annual General Meeting

Enterprise and Visitor Experience

Following a six-month closure due to Alberta Health Services (AHS) COVID-19 restrictions, Enterprise and Visitor Experience—which includes the Art Rental & Sales Gallery, shopAGA and Guest Services—navigated changes in both administration and direction. With a new manager and associate manager introduced, the last half of 2021 actively looked at Enterprise and Visitor Experience through a regenerative lens. While many strengths were acknowledged, areas of priority were identified to improve processes and management systems that could lead to increased intentional foot traffic and sales.

Art Rental & Sales

For 60 years, the Art Gallery of Alberta has offered the Art Rental & Sales program, enabling the public to enjoy art in their homes and offices at a reasonable cost. This unique program supports Alberta artists through remuneration for artwork sold and rented. It also provides a high-profile platform through which professional artists can promote their bodies of work both physically and virtually. For the visitor, the Art Rental & Sales Gallery creates an accessible avenue to encounter thousands of artworks in every medium, which, in turn, builds understanding of and greater appreciation for Alberta art and artists.

In 2021, 152 artists were represented with 1,364 artworks available for rent and purchase. To build on its strong foundation, potentials were identified to amplify areas primed for growth. Work began in areas such as:

- Storage systems to ensure safer storage and handling of the artwork inventory.
- Harnessing features of the newly adopted point of sales and inventory system (Counterpoint) to elevate inventory information retrieval, reports, tracking, historical record-keeping and year-end reconciliation.
- A complete inventory review.
- Outreach to consignment artists, to introduce the new AR&S team and discuss their artwork representation.

With the AGA open for business, Art Rental & Sales remains accessible to the public for in-person viewing by appointment. Walk-ins are also encouraged but restricted to one household per visit to meet COVID-19 health guidelines.

shopAGA

shopAGA is poised to be a destination that celebrates Canadian and local makers, designers and innovators. We are committed to becoming the place for well-crafted, interesting, original, culturally significant and locally made small-batch selections that amplify every visitor's art experience.

With our focus turning to “shop local” and “support original,” we started preparation in key areas to support this foundational philosophy:

- Outreach to local artists, craftspeople and independent studio producers has begun to allow professional opportunities for artists and product expansion.
- shopAGA storage areas, displays and packaging options were improved to better assist the client and reflect AGA branding.
- IT Management Systems: Anticipating new product lines, recategorization was initiated to support tracking, forecasting, reporting, historical record-keeping and year-end reconciliation.
- Although closure and COVID-19 health restrictions impacted visitation and sales, great strides were taken to prepare shopAGA to make positive changes and meet the expectations of our visitors, vendors and supporters.

Guest Services

As the first point of contact for most visitors to the AGA, the Guest Services desk plays an integral role in ensuring all visitors enjoy their time at the Gallery. Upon reopening after our six-month closure in 2021, we worked to enhance the level of customer service our associates were providing. The goal was not only to operate as an admissions counter but also to serve as a hub of information for visitors, associates and artists. Many of the already effective processes were fine tuned for relevancy, and improvements to the physical workspace ensured that optimal levels of service and professionalism were always provided.

To encourage Membership growth, we provided opportunities for cross-training between the Guest Services associates and our Membership Coordinator. This provided the front-line staff with a better understanding of our Members. As a result, those working at the desk now have an ability to provide instant responses to inquiries whether by phone, email or in-person.

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has also obligated our Guest Services team to move into a health and safety enforcement role, in addition to their regular duties. This included performing vaccination checks for all arriving visitors, monitoring capacity where required and ensuring all applicable government health restrictions are followed.



Donors and Patrons

The Art Gallery of Alberta is a not-for-profit organization that relies on the support of its Members, donors, sponsors and government. While 2021 was a challenging year for our organization, we truly appreciated the generous support of our many public and private donors and sponsors who empowered our exhibitions, programming and operations.

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Megan Rich
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Maggie Mitchell (Collections)
Krista Nelson-Marciano (Art on the Block)
Leslie Sharpe (Collections)

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Lauren Ball, Executive Administrator

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Mikayla Bradley, Curatorial Coordinator
Amery Calvelli, Adjunct Curator, Poole Centre of Design
Charles Cousins, Creative Director
Shane Golby, Manager/Curator, TREX Program
Sara McKarney, Exhibitions Manager
Lindsey Sharman, Curator
Danielle Siemens, Collections Manager/Curatorial Associate

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Clint Wilson, Senior Preparator
Mackenzey Albright, Preparator

Part-Time Preparators

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Roger Garcia
Olesya Komarnytska (to September 2021)
Heather Shepherd (to November 2021)
Josh Wade (from July 2021)
Elicia Weaver, TREX Preparator

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Dara Armsden, Head, Education and Learning
Michael Magnussen, Program and Outreach Coordinator (from February 2021)
Patricia Whitebone, Education and Learning Administrator (from April 2021)
Helen Zhang, Digital Programs Assistant (from April 2021)
Sanaa Humayan, Education Programs Coordinator (Summer Student from June to September 2021)
Avelina Rathbone, Summer Programs Coordinator (Summer Student from June to September 2021)

Gallery Educators and Instructors

Avelina Rathbone (from September 2021)
Terrena Boss (to June 2021)
Patrick Higgins
Gwladys Jousselme (to September 2021)
Krisna Raynor (to December 2021)
Kerri Strobl
Jevon Swanston
Helen Zhang

Finance and Administration

Pat St. Arnaud, Head of Finance and Administration
Mike Slywka, Head of Facility Operations
Gracie Cai, Accounting Manager
Brian Dimmick, Accounting Administrator
Yeside Talabi, Application and Business Analyst (from August 2021)

Enterprise and Visitor Experience

Janette Hubka, Head of Enterprise and Engagement (to July 2021)
Linda Frena, Manager, Enterprise and Visitor Experience (from August 2021)
Lonigan Gilbert, Visitor Experience Administrator (on leave)
Charlotte Kruszewski, Visitor Experience Administrator (from July 2021)
Shelby Johnson, Lead Guest Services Representative (to March 2021)

Graham Leggett, Associate Manager, Enterprise and Visitor Experience (from August 2021)
Emily Pole, Interim Visitor Experience Administrator (from March to July 2021)

Visitor Experience Associates

Joelsia Kaya Beri (from September 2021)
Danielle Dufour (from September 2021)
Elodie Flower (to July 2021)
Ashwini Gadtoula
Alaynee Goodwill-Littlechild
Sam Halupa (from September 2021)
Nicholas Hertz (from June 2021)
Rebecca John
Nicole Jones-Abad
Kaitlyn Konkin (from June to September 2021)
Isabelle Kuzio (to August 2021)
Breanne McLean (from October 2021)
Emily Nash
Steven Nixon
Emily Pole (to March 2021)
Andrew Ritchie (from June 2021)
Evan Robinson
Charlotte Schneider (to August 2021)
Emily Stordvold
Misty Totman
Cynthia Valencia-Hegedes
Patricia Whitebone (to April 2021)
Chelsea Wong

shopAGA

Talia Goa, Shop Associate
Andrew Wujkowski, Shop Associate

Art Rental and Sales

Terri Belley, Art on the Block Acquisition Assistant (to April 2021)
Sarah Huffman, Art Rental and Sales Associate (to July 2021)
Elodie Flower, Art Rental and Sales Associate (from July to December 2021)
Alexander Stout, Art Rental and Sales Associate (from July 2021)

Marketing, Communications and Development

Melanie Houley, Head of Marketing, Communications and Development (to September 2021)
Ashton Raeyr, Head of Development and Patron Engagement (from November 2021)
Michael Ameyaw, Social and Digital Media Coordinator (from July 2021)
Skye Barnes, Event Coordinator (from July 2021)
Alison Besecker, Membership and Volunteer Coordinator (to October 2021)
Joyce George, Interim Marketing and Publicity Coordinator (from April 2021)
Erin Hayes, Event Coordinator (to April 2021)
Nicole Jones-Abad, Interim Membership Coordinator (from October to December 2021)
Jordan LaRiviere, Social and Digital Media Coordinator (to April 2021)
Kerrie Sanderson, Marketing and Publicity Coordinator (to June 2021)
Alison Sicotte, Development Coordinator (to July 2021)
Harmonie Tower, Membership and Volunteer Coordinator (from December 2021)

Angela Martincevic, Endowment Campaign Manager (from May 2021)

Volunteers

Thank you to everyone who volunteered in 2020. Having fewer events, education classes and programming to comply with safety changes limited the number of volunteer opportunities available. We are grateful to the many volunteers who dedicated their time to help make our programming and events a positive and successful experience.

Over 910 hours of volunteer time was dedicated to the AGA.

Azadeh Abdolrazaghi
Celest Aldous
Hasra Ali
Meera Anand
Alyssa Antonio
Cheryl Armstrong
Maddie Beaulieu
Regina Beckett
Laurie Bisset
Hailey Bowhay
Mikayla Bradley
Stefanie Braz
An Bui
Cesia Cabezas
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Nhi Dam
Mercedes Gates
Garon Grey
Laurie Huffman
Kimberly Huynh
Alexandra Ligtermoet
Alexandra Stout
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Exhibition Ambassadors

Guy Milner
Marnie O'Brien
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Tony Wolfe

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LaZerte
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Zainab Chaudhary
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Patricia Lopez Palacios
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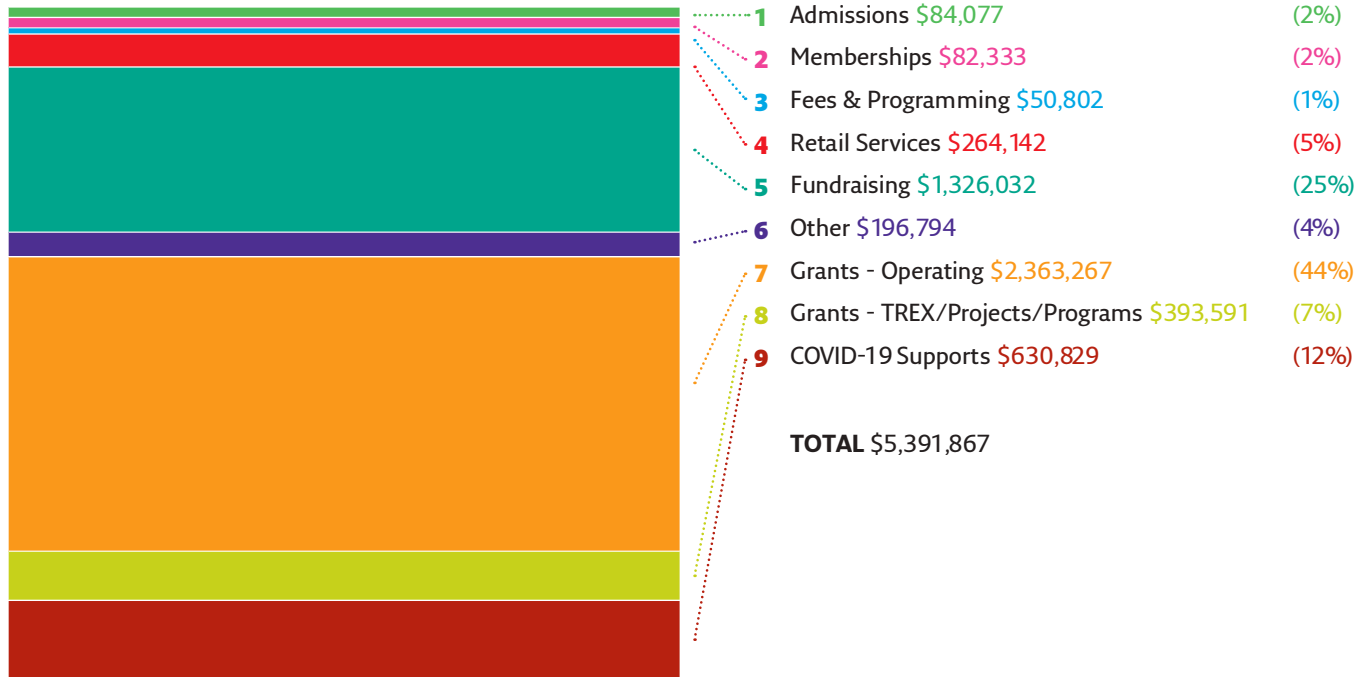
Trevor Peters, *Seek & Destroy*, 2021. Autographed paraphernalia. From the exhibition *Black Every Day*. Courtesy of the Artist.



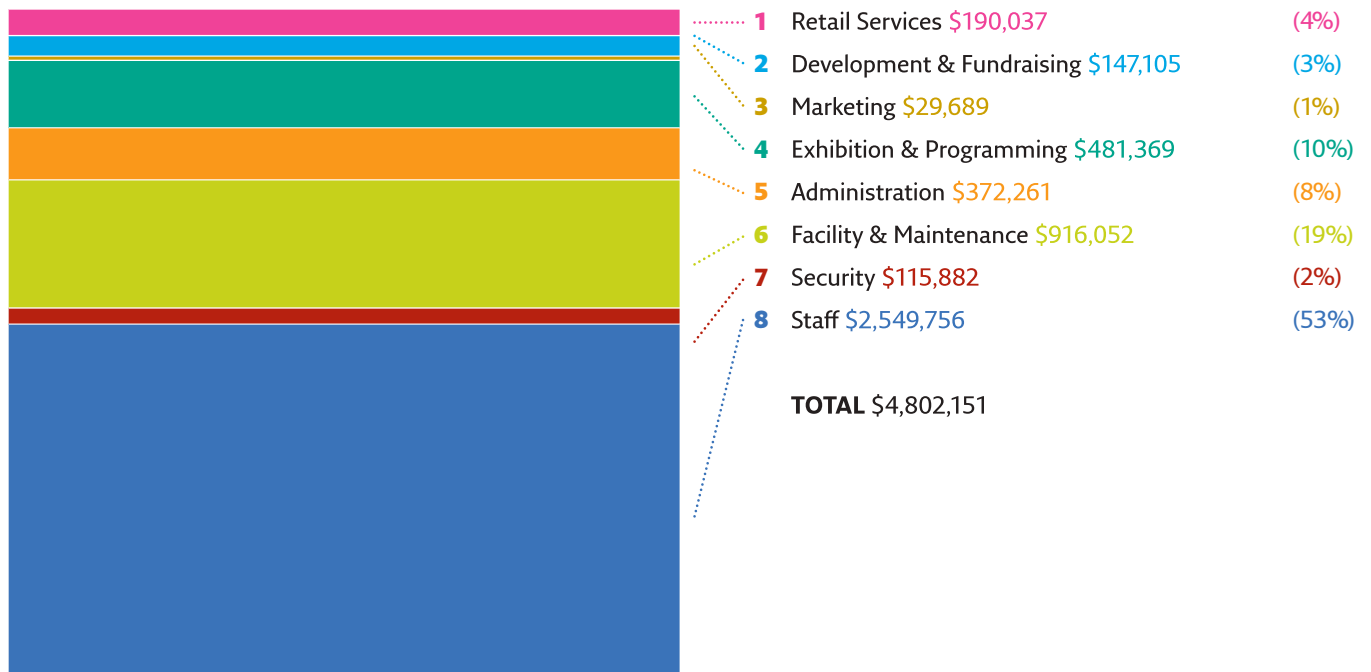
Harley Morman, *Mirage*, 2021. From the exhibition *Harley Morman: Let's Do the Time Warp Again*. Courtesy of the Artist.

Revenues & Expenses

2021 Operating Revenue **\$5,391,867**



2021 Operating Expenses **\$4,802,151**





aga
art gallery of alberta

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780.422.6223

Gershon Iskowitz, *Blues 2* (detail), 1973. From the exhibition *Soak, Stripe Splatter*. Art Gallery of Alberta Collection, gift of The Gershon Iskowitz Foundation.