

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



New Beginnings

Happy summer everyone! TREX wishes you all a wonderful summer wherever these warmer days find you!

With schools now closed for the summer, it's a sure sign that the 2022-2023 TREX season will soon be over. Regarding this, TREX thanks all venues who supported the TREX program over this past season. I hope you found your exhibition experiences valuable and please know that your support is always deeply appreciated. Though this past season is almost over, however, a new one 'looms on the horizon'. TREX Region 2 thanks all who booked with us for the 2023-2024 season and in this edition of *sightlines*, it is our pleasure to take a peek at what is coming your way this September!

As expressed in a previous edition of *sightlines*, the wonder of a piece of art often lies in where it can take and what it can teach the viewer. For me personally, the 'magic' of art is that it allows me to encounter worlds, ideas and situations which have the potential to expand my personal universes and enable me to become more than what I may be. This function of art - to take the viewer on a journey and experience the world from perspectives other than one's own - is behind the art work included in the upcoming exhibition **Cradle**.

Canada is a young country but many who settle here come from regions which lay claim to being sites of the oldest civilizations on earth: regions known as 'cradles of civilization' which, throughout their long and tumultuous histories, provided many of the building blocks upon which contemporary societies rest.

The Travelling Exhibition **Cradle** presents the work of three artists, currently residing in Edmonton, who originally come from regions associated with cradles of civilization in the Middle East and South-East Asia. Arriving in Canada as economic immigrants or refugees from war and conflict, each of these artists is a story teller, sharing in their artworks ancient and rich cultural histories and legacies. While concerned with specific places and people in their works, however, these artists also strive to address more universal concerns to demonstrate that, regardless of where people come from, we are all one people with similar dreams and desires.



About Salman
Civilization of Yemen, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
Collection of About Salman

The aims expressed above are seen in the artwork of About Salman. Originally from Syria, Salman's complex artworks are composed of symbolic references to the culture and history of his homeland and to his newfound home in Alberta. This is seen in the painting *Civilization of Yemen* which has, as a unifying theme, the idea of home and construction. As expressed by the artist, this painting represents the civilization of Yemen, the cradle of civilization in the Arabian Peninsula, and various aspects of civilizations in Canada/ North America. Within the Arabic window frame the viewer can discern a tower on a mountain. This references the fact that in ancient Yemen buildings were built on tops of mountains. Around this tower are also various symbols from Yemen, such as the Yemeni Jambiya (a kind of traditional knife) as well as representations of Yemeni folk dances. Salman also makes a comparison between Yemeni and Canadian construction, drawing a Canadian house built of wood near the bottom of the composition and, above this house, representations of teepees used by Indigenous peoples. Inside the house there are many details that symbolize things loved by the artist and his family. In the eastern window he wrote the names of his wife and children in Yemeni cuneiform as well as the names of the places he loves such as his

hometown, Al Mayadin; his home country, Syria; as well as the Canadian welcoming phrase, 'Canada welcomes you',

A second exhibition set to start travelling in September is the exhibition **Women Gone Wild!** Since the dawn of human history animal imagery has been an aspect of humankind's cultural repertoire. While animals have long been a viable subject for visual artists, however, in the annals of Euro-North American art history any exploration of wild animals that has been undertaken has almost exclusively been the domain of male artists. Beginning in the 20th century this began to change as the roles of women in society broadened.

The TREX Exhibition **Women Gone Wild!** explores the subject of wild creatures as they are expressed in the work of three contemporary women artists from Edmonton. Featuring works by Cynthia Fuhrer, Jenny Keith and Samantha Walrod, the depictions of wild creatures presented range from realistic representations to more abstract and surrealistic impressions. These artists also demonstrate diverse reasons for choosing their subjects. Whatever their artistic approach and intentions, however, all three artists reveal a love and respect for nature in their works and through them invite viewers to 'go wild' as well.

'Going wild' is definitely an aim expressed by artist Jenny Keith in her works in the exhibition **Women Gone Wild!**

For the exhibition **Women Gone Wild!** Keith, who works in series in her art practice, explores both the subject of animals and the title of the exhibition itself. As she indicates, she likes painting human figures so it makes sense with the title to paint women. There is, however, a deeper message behind this. As eloquently expressed by this artist:



Jenny Keith
Spinster, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
Courtesy of the Artist

The title "Women Gone Wild" at first glance might raise some eyebrows, but it's a pretty perfect name for an exhibition of work by women artists who are inspired by wilderness. While the title may be a little cheeky, I love it because it allows us to reframe what it means to be a "wild woman" and take it back in a feminist context. Understandably, your first thought upon hearing the title may jump to a certain series of adult films, but in this series of artwork, we suggest that women should be free to "go wild" in any way we choose, and if perhaps you scowl or blush at the notion - that's on you. Until relatively recently the art world has been dominated by men and women (if permitted to paint at all) were expected to create pretty domestic works, perhaps of flowers or still lifes, likely with the most fearsome beast in the artwork being a poorly tempered house pet. We are now free to choose any subject that tickles our fancy, and we have chosen the wild natural world.

All the women/girls in Keith's works for the exhibition are women she knows and there is thus a 'backstory' to each work. Keith is also painting women with animals/insects that are considered phobias or creepy and placing both in situations where the presence of the 'animal' is not minded or, at the least, tolerated. For the artist, such a 'pairing' gives the women even more strength and power than is often considered. As stated by Keith:

In this series, I have created images portraying women with animals that are common phobias or at least typically considered creepy and undesirable. The arguably 'unladylike' women in my paintings have embraced these creatures in the hopes that perhaps the viewer may look upon them in a slightly kinder context.

Exhibition Schedule June to November 2023

Exhibition	June 29 - July 26	August 3 - August 30	September 7 - October 4	October 12 - November 8
<p>40 is the new 20! This exhibition celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA) art collection and the recent 40th anniversary of the AFA's TREX program by re-visiting TREX exhibitions produced by the Art Gallery of Alberta (AGA) over the past twenty years. The works presented express the vitality of the visual arts in Alberta and the roles of the AFA and AGA in supporting the arts in the province. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>Morinville Museum 10010-101 Street Morinville Contact: Donna Garrett Phone: 80-939-3925</p>	<p>Beaumont Public Library 5700-49 Street Beaumont Contact: Andrea Ciochetti Phone: 780-929-2665</p>	<p>Goes to Alberta Society of Artists Calgary TREX Region 3</p>	
<p>Figure It Out For over 40,000 years the human figure has been a vital subject in humanity's artistic endeavors. While the paintings in the exhibition Figure It Out focus on human figures, this exhibition is also about story telling. Rather than creating narratives that have a precise meaning, these artists engage viewers by pulling them into the works to try and figure out what the figures presented are doing while inviting viewers to create their own tales based on the scene. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>Slave Lake Library 50 Main Street SW Slave Lake Contact: Kendra McRee Phone: 780-849-5250</p>	<p>Alice Melnyk Library 5009 Diefenbaker Ave., Two Hills Contact: Betty Lou Kobe Phone: 780-657-3553</p>	<p>Goes to Alberta Society of Artists Calgary TREX Region 3</p>	
<p>Come What May For thousands of years artists have either reflected on current situations in their work or created 'alternate worlds' which comment on the present or hint at how the future will unfold. The TREX exhibition Come What May features the work of three artists who, through a focus on 'fantasy' and imagination in their creative endeavors, reflect on the world as they find it or create new worlds which envision a different course for the human race. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>St. Albert Public Library St. Albert Place, 5 St. Anne St. Albert Contact: Alison Watson Phone: 780-459-1687</p>	<p>Fox Creek Library 103-2a Ave., Fox Creek Contact: Mandy Miskelly Phone: 780-622-2343</p>	<p>Goes to Alberta Society of Artists Calgary TREX Region 3</p>	
<p>The Rush and Roar! The 1920s were a pivotal decade in human history, ushering in political, economic, social and cultural changes which continue to impact contemporary society. This exhibition presents art works from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts which reflect these changes and provide context for the tumult of this present time. Curated by Shane Golby, Art Gallery of Alberta</p>	<p>Bigstone Health Commission 28 Duran Trail Wabasca Contact: Linda Amoah Phone: 780-891-3777</p>	<p>Slave Lake Library 50 Main St. SW Slave Lake Contact: Kendra McRee Phone: 780-849-5250</p>	<p>Retires with the Art Gallery of Alberta Edmonton TREX Region 2</p>	
<p>Ahkameyimo - Never Give Up The travelling exhibition Ahkameyimo - Never Give Up features the work of three Indigenous artists whose works, while respecting traditional culture and visual imagery, also engage with the urban environment in which they reside. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>Leduc Public Library #2 Alexandra Park Leduc Contact: Linda McLean Phone: 780-986-2637</p>	<p>Chuck MacLean Arts Centre 4809-52 Street Camrose Contact: Tanya Pattullo Phone: 780-672-9949</p>	<p>Archbishop MacDonald H.S. 14219-109 Ave., Edmonton Contact: Jonathan Eschak Phone: 780-451-1470</p>	<p>Eastglen High School 11430-68 Street Edmonton Contact: Christina Hamer Phone: 780-908-0617</p>
<p>Turtle Island The Woodland School of Art, developed by Indigenous artist Norval Morrisseau, has influenced Indigenous artists throughout Canada since the 1960s. The exhibition Turtle Island bears witness to this as this style is expressed in the drawings and paintings of three contemporary Indigenous artists from central Alberta. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>Calmar Public Library 4705-50 Ave., Calmar Contact: Susan Parkinson Phone: 780-985-3472</p>	<p>Viking Library 4920-53 Ave., Viking Contact: Kelly Harray Phone: 780-336-4992</p>	<p>Minchau School 3615 Mill Woods Road Edmonton Contact: Lori Janssen Phone: 780-461-0616</p>	<p>Norwood Elementary School 9520-111 Ave., NW Edmonton Contact: Maureen Matthews Phone: 780-886-4430</p>
<p>Cradle Canada is a young country but many who settle here come from regions which are the sites of the oldest civilizations on earth: regions known as 'cradles of civilization'. This exhibition presents the work of three artists who originally come from cradles of civilization in the Middle East and South-East Asia. Each artist is a story teller, sharing ancient and rich cultural histories and legacies in their work and demonstrating that we are all one people. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>In Development Art Gallery of Alberta Edmonton TREX Region 2</p>		<p>Laurier Heights School 8210-142 Street Edmonton Contact: Sarah Radom Phone: 780-483-5352</p>	<p>H.W. Pickup School 3505-58 Ave., Drayton Valley Contact: Scott Kupsch Phone: 780-542-4495</p>
<p>...no end to our looking Still-life' describes works of art that show inanimate objects that are natural or man-made. This exhibition features works from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts which explore the enduring legacy of the still-life as this subject has been expressed by artists in Alberta over the past forty years. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>In Development Art Gallery of Alberta Edmonton TREX Region 2</p>		<p>Lakedell School RR#1, Westeros Contact: Stacey Fiveland Phone: 780-586-2415</p>	<p>High Park School 40 Highridge Way Stony Plain Contact: Amy Collett Phone: 780-963-2222</p>
<p>Women Gone Wild! Animal imagery has been an aspect of humankind's cultural repertoire. Long the domain of male artists, in the 20th century female artists also began to explore the wild kingdom. This exhibition explores the subject of wild creatures as they are expressed in the work of three contemporary women artists from Edmonton. Curated by Shane Golby, TREX Region 2</p>	<p>In Development Art Gallery of Alberta Edmonton TREX Region 2</p>		<p>Devon Public Library 101-17 Athabasca Ave., Devon Contact: Leigha Rind Phone: 780-987-3720</p>	<p>Concordia University of Edmonton 7128 Ada Blvd., Contact: JoAnne Iddings Phone: 780-479-9334</p>
<p>Fantastic Worlds With works from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, this exhibition investigates a wide variety of topics - from the relationship of humans to the natural environment to the whimsical lives of household objects. Curated by Robin Lynch, TREX Region 1</p>	<p>Drayton Valley Library 5120-52 Street Drayton Valley Contact: Verna Wicks Phone: 780-514-2722</p>	<p>Barrhead Public Library 5130-53 Ave., Barrhead Contact: Janice Robinson Phone: 780-674-8519</p>	<p>Goes to Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre Medicine Hat TREX Region 4</p>	
<p>Urban Soul The exhibition Urban Soul invites viewers to contemplate the living creativity that pumps vibrancy and culture into the veins of a city, a park, or anywhere that humans share space. Six artists contribute their voices and make their mark in this exhibition. Curated by Ashley Slemming, TREX Region 3</p>	<p>Spruce Grove Library 35-5 Ave., Spruce Grove Contact: Courtney Entner Phone: 780-962-4423</p>	<p>Jeanne and Peter Lougheed Performing Arts Centre 4501-50 Street Camrose Contact: Jane Cherry-Lemire Phone:</p>	<p>Retires Alberta Society of Artists Calgary TREX Region 3</p>	
<p>Never Ending Poetry The exhibition Never Ending Poetry features the work of six Alberta based artists whose practices engage abstraction as a form of coded language. Instead of words, the artists use colours, textures, compositions and materials with embedded meanings. Curated by Genevieve Farrell, TREX Region 4</p>	<p>Cold Lake Public Library 5513B-48 Ave., Cold Lake Contact: Leslie Price Phone: 780-594-7425</p>	<p>Onoway Public Library 4708 Lac Ste. Anne Trail North Onoway Contact: Kelly Huxley Phone: 780-967-2445</p>	<p>Retires to Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre Medicine Hat TREX Region 4</p>	

Exhibition Schedule July to November 2023

Exhibition	June 29 - July 26	August 3 - August 30	September 7 - October 4	October 12 - November 8
<p>Companion Species This exhibition, featuring works from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, features works depicting some of Alberta's favourite friends; cats, dogs, and horses too. Through their works the featured artists tell a nuanced story of the entwined and celebrated relationship between humans and animals. Curated by Genevieve Farrell, TREX Region 4.</p>	<p>MacDonald Island 1 C.A. Knight Way Fort McMurray Contact: Gina Sprinkhuysen Phone: 780-713-6826</p>	<p>Drayton Valley Library 5120-52 Street Drayton Valley Contact: Verna Wicks Phone: 780-514-2722</p>	<p>Goes to Art Gallery of Grande Prairie Grande Prairie TREX Region 1</p>	
<p>Party On! The group exhibition Party On! Celebrating 50 years of the AFA Collection presents a lively grouping of work by fourteen Albertan artists. Each artwork depicts a single moment of shared revelry and interconnectedness; scenes of musical performances, dancing, carnivals, community gatherings and shared food and drink help mark this special occasion. Curated by Genevieve Farrell, TREX Region 4</p>	<p>Travelling TREX Region 4 Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre Medicine Hat</p>		<p>H.E. Bourgoin Middle School 4313-39 Street Bonnyville Contact: Melanie Eide Phone: 780-826-3323</p>	<p>Rich Valley School RR#1, Gunn Contact: Wendy Gerhardt Phone: 780-967-5754</p>
<p>Strange and Known Places This exhibition is a collaborative curatorial project featuring the work of ten artists based in or with strong ties to Medicine Hat. The exhibition's title reflects on the familiar geography that ties these artists together (Known Places) and the overarching use of personal mythology or an exploration of lesser-understood aspects of the human experience (Strange Places). Curated by Genevieve Farrell, TREX Region 4</p>	<p>Travelling TREX Region 4 Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre Medicine Hat</p>		<p>Warburg School 5412-50 Street Warburg Contact: Janet Sarvas Phone: 780-848-2822</p>	<p>St. Joseph High School 10830-109 Street Edmonton Contact: Olga Trpin Phone: 780-426-2010</p>
<p>Touching the Sky Balancing between abstract marking and painterly realism, Touching the Sky features three Peace Region artists whose work is rooted in exploring phenomena that extend beyond the visual senses like smell, touch, emotion, spirituality, sound, and time and our ability to represent them through art. Curated by Robin Lynch, TREX Region 1</p>	<p>Travelling TREX Region 1 Art Gallery of Grande Prairie Grande Prairie</p>		<p>Thorsby Municipal Library 4908-48 Street Thorsby Contact: Gayle Sacuta Phone: 780-789-3808</p>	<p>Ardmore School 4801-48 Avenue Ardmore Contact: Evelyn Bourbeau Phone: 780-826-5144</p>

Views of exhibitions travelling TREX Region 2 in 2023-2024 September 2023 to February 2024



Marcia Perkins
Untitled, 1988
Oil on board
Collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts
TREX Region 2 exhibition: **...no end to our looking**



Samantha Walrod
Elk Road, 2023
Mixed media and acrylic on panel
Courtesy of the Artist
TREX Region 2 exhibition: **Women Gone Wild!**



Riaz Mehmood
All we are left with is the damage, 2021
Screen print
Collection of the artist
TREX Region 2 exhibition: **Cradle**



Radford Blackrider
Fancy Dancer, 1991
Acrylic on illustration board
Collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts
TREX exhibition: **Party On!**
Developed by the Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre, TREX Region 4



Curtis Windover
Fiction and Curse, 2021
Film
Collection of the artist
TREX exhibition: **Strange & Known Places**
Developed by the Esplanade Arts and Heritage Centre, TREX Region 4



Elizabeth Hutchinson
Nostalgia III, 2022
Mixed media on paper
Collection of the artist
TREX exhibition: **Touching the Sky**
Developed by the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie
TREX Region 1

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, Curator/Manager, by telephone 780.428.3830 or email: shane.golby@youraga.ca
Also please visit TREX at <https://www.youraga.ca/exhibitions/afa-travelling-exhibitions-trex> and on Instagram @trex_region2