

FALL 2023

Surrey Art Gallery



ENGAGING
CONTEMPORARY
ART

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REGULAR HOURS

Tuesday–Thursday: 9am–9pm
Friday: 9am–5pm
Saturday: 10am–5pm
Sunday: Noon–5pm
Closed Mondays and holidays

FREE ADMISSION

FREE PARKING




 **WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE**

Surrey Art Gallery is situated on the unceded traditional lands of the Salish Peoples, including the ḡíçəḡ (Katzie), ḡʷa:ḡłəḡ (Kwantlen), and Semiahma (Semiahmoo) nations.

CONTACT

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surrey.ca/artgallery
artgallery@surrey.ca**

On the cover: Engaging in Keerat Kaur's **Panjabi Garden** at the Gallery. Photo by Pardeep Singh.

-  Surrey Art Gallery
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-  surreyartgallery

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS



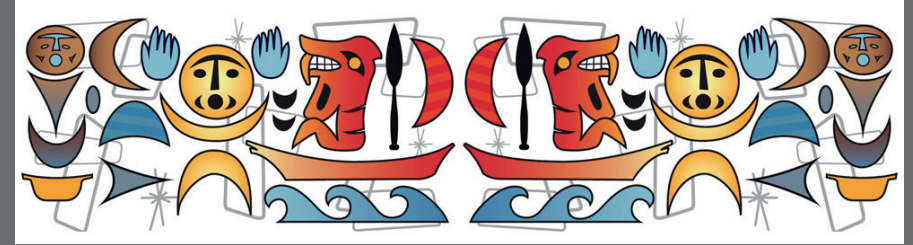
Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada



Canadian
Heritage

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canadien



Nəqəḡł Drew Atkins, *Retro-Perspective* rendering.

As the weather cools, light and leaves change colour, and the salmon begin to run in Bear Creek, join us inside the Gallery to consider relative arrivals, local and dislocated species, and embedded colonial histories.

Through a range of media, including textiles, drawings, immersive video, painting, photography, murals, and more, artworks by extraordinary local and national artists deepen our understandings of lived realities.

While here, we encourage you to look up as you enter through Nash'mene'ta'naht Atheana Picha's *Echoes* and move to the heart of the building toward Nəqəḡł Drew Atkins' *Retro-Perspective*. The repeated figure in Atkins' work welcomes you with raised hands while also inspiring reflections on relational time and responsibilities. Design references in Picha's work connect us to situated and extractive histories, the land, and each other.

As the Gallery nears its 50th anniversary in the Surrey Arts Centre—and plans for a relocation at three times its current size at 60,000 plus square feet in a new Surrey City Centre

facility—we invite you to participate in our talks, tours, and artmaking activities this fall. Add your voice, share your creativity, and inform what's possible for future generations.

Over a dozen practicing artists and art educators will propel your ideas and skills in our studio spaces. Through drawing, painting, sculpting, and ceramics offerings, for the youngest of artists to the young at heart, there are so many ways to tactilely express yourself. Those eager to experiment can try out our new one-off sessions in felting, embroidery, calligraphy, silk-dying, mixed media, and ceramics. And if there's another medium you'd like to be introduced to in upcoming seasons, let us know!

We look forward to sharing all that is ahead this season together with you.

Alison Rajah
Director

DIRECTOR'S
MESSAGE

Swapnaa Tamhane: No Surface is Neutral
September 23–November 26



PHOTOS: PAUL EEKHOFF, ROM

Swapnaa Tamhane’s work challenges the colonial hierarchical separation between art, craft, and design in India. Her artworks include sweeping textile installations where space is transformed by fabric, colour, and light, and works on handmade paper.

They harness different moments in India’s artisanal histories related to decolonization and freedom as a way to reflect on the presence and relevance of these themes today.

Textiles in India carry the weight of imperial, colonial, and nationalist histories in their fibres. Cotton has shaped India’s ancient trade, provided the impetus for India’s colonization, and was a powerful political symbol leading to liberation from colonial rule. In this exhibition, artist Swapnaa Tamhane explores the material and conceptual resonances of cotton through the manipulation and treatment of surfaces. Through this process, she pushes against colonial ideas and their contemporary manifestations.

The exhibition features two bodies of work displayed side by side. The first include textile works made in collaboration with artists in western India from the Kutch region. They are arranged in sweeping architectural forms that reference the Mughal and Ottoman shamiana (imperial tent), industrial textile production, and the shimmering mirrored walls of mud homes,

layered with motifs from mid-century modern architecture by Le Corbusier in Ahmedabad, India. The second body of work includes drawings on paper handmade by Tamhane from khadi (hand-spun cotton cloth) that has been deconstructed to its base fibres and reconstituted. In these works, drawing can take any form of mark-making—from pencil or ink on paper to folding, crumpling, and mixing paper pulps even before the paper has dried.

Textile work is like drawing for Tamhane, a layering of gestures that can connect through time and space to many hands including her own: a community/collective, an intervention, and a form of resistance. By engaging in Gujarat and Kutch regional histories, Tamhane brings them into dialogue with imperial and global textile histories in the twentieth century. The artworks ask: how can pattern address pivotal moments in history, and how can ornament represent a decolonial condition?

Swapnaa Tamhane: No Surface is Neutral is guest curated by Deepali Dewan, the Dan Mishra Curator of Global South Asia at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM).

FACING PAGE LEFT TO RIGHT Swapnaa Tamhane with Salemamad Khatri and Mukesh, Pragnesh, and Avdhesh Prajapati and Bhavesh Rajnikant, with assistance from Sine Kundargi-Girard, *Mobile Palace* (detail of installation view), 2019–2021, natural dyes and appliqué on cotton. Photo: Paul Eekhoff, ROM.

Swapnaa Tamhane with Salemamad Khatri and Mukesh, Pragnesh, and Avdhesh Prajapati and Bhavesh Rajnikant, with assistance from Sine Kundargi-Girard, *Mobile Palace* (detail), 2019–2021, natural dyes and appliqué on cotton. Photo: Paul Eekhoff, ROM.

Swapnaa Tamhane, *Untitled (Phulkari)*, 2017, water-soluble graphite on handmade khadi paper mounted on cotton. Photo: Paul Eekhoff, ROM.



PHOTO: PAUL EEKHOFF, ROM



Alana Bartol & Bryce Krynski, still from *all roses sleep (inviolata light)*, 2022, ultraviolet video.

AUG 19–DEC 4

all roses sleep (inviolata light)

Following the perspective of a solitary bee on a journey through the prairies in search of a wild rose, this immersive video by Alana Bartol and Bryce Krynski blends how bees and humans experience the land around us. The accompanying scratch and sniff card expands on the pleasant and pungent experience of pumpjacks, grazing cattle, prairie grasses, and wildflowers. Through multiple senses, the viewer steps into the world of a bee. With this new perspective, **all roses sleep (inviolata light)** invites us to dream about our shared future with the living beings around us.

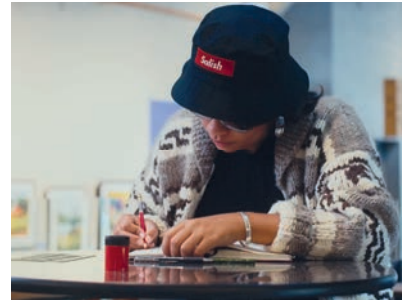
AUG 26–JAN 28

Kampala to Canada

In 2022, Ugandan-Asian Canadians commemorated the 50th anniversary of their forced exile from Uganda. Having to flee their home, many Ugandan Asians migrated to Canada—at the time, they were the largest group of non-Europeans permitted to resettle in postwar Canada. Curated by Taslim Samji, this exhibition acknowledges both the hardships and achievements of Ugandan-Asian Canadians, highlighting the stories of their struggles, successes, and new lives through biographic texts as well as curated artworks in a range of media including painting and photography.



Taslim Samji, *Kampala to Canada*, 2022, acrylic on canvas.



Atheana Picha sketching.

ONGOING

Atheana Picha: Echoes

A window mural at the entrance to Surrey Arts Centre celebrates the cultural importance of Coast Salish mountain goat horn bracelets and the significance the animal has to the people from this territory. Designed with thought and care, these bracelets have been hidden away in museums all over the world and now Picha has symbolically brought one out and adorned the Arts Centre. **Echoes** reminds all those who enter the building of our connection to the environment and to this land, as well as the ways we are connected to one another. Watch a video about Picha and her practice on the Gallery's YouTube page this summer.

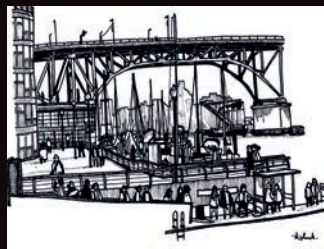
ONGOING

Sandeep Johal: It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see

Inspired by Indian folk art, Johal combines black and white line work with colourful shapes and patterns to tell stories and lessons through the eyes of animals such as birds, tigers, and monkeys. Like the title (a quote from philosopher Henry David Thoreau), this mural encourages visitors to slow down and observe what they see around them. The artwork invites imaginations to run wild and for visitors to think without boundaries, create without judgement, and play without rules. This artwork can be seen on the outside of the lower windows of the Gallery classrooms.



Sandeep Johal, *It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see* (detail), 2022.



Nishant Jain, *Sea wall at False Creek*, 2023, ink on paper.



Opening night at the Gallery. Image courtesy Four Eyes Portraits.



Crystal Noir, *The Answer*, 2023, oil on canvas.



Swapnaa Tamhane *Mobile Palace* (detail), 2019-2021, natural dyes and appliqué on cotton. Photo: Paul Eekhoff, ROM.



Families engage in clay art activity at a previous Family Sunday. Photo by Pardeep Singh.

THU, SEP 7 | 7:30–9PM
**Thursday Artist Talk:
 Nishant Jain, "Sketchbook
 as Travel Companion"**

Nishant Jain carries a sketchbook everywhere he goes. In this talk organized by Surrey Art Gallery Association, Jain will share his travel sketchbooks from the past six years. He will expand on how sketchbooks can be a mindfulness exercise for deep attention amidst the stimulation of modern life.

SAT, SEP 23 | 6:30–9PM
**Fall Opening and Artist
 Talk with Swapnaa
 Tamhane**

Celebrate our fall exhibitions, including **Swapnaa Tamhane: No Surface Is Neutral, Kampala to Canada, and all roses sleep (inviolat light)**. Join us for welcome remarks, a talk with exhibiting artist Swapnaa Tamhane, moderated by Gallery Curator of Exhibitions and Collections Jordan Strom. Reception will follow.

THU, OCT 5 | 7:30–9PM
**Thursday Artist Talk,
 Crystal Noir, "Objectivism
 of My Origin Story"**

The Afro-Surrealism movement is not only a form of artistic expression—it is politically engaged and a means of self-assertion. In this talk organized by Surrey Art Gallery Association, Crystal Noir will discuss how she uses Afro-Surrealist symbols to draw the viewer into a world of hidden double meanings, layers, and dualities.

THU, OCT 12 | 4:30–8:30PM
**Tour and Talk with Deepali
 Dewan and T'ai Smith**

Deepali Dewan, curator of **No Surface is Neutral**, will tour the exhibition showcasing Swapnaa Tamhane and her collaborators' practices. T'ai Smith, Associate Professor, Department of Art History, Visual Art, and Theory at the University of British Columbia, will join Dewan to discuss India's colonial textile histories and decolonizing artistic processes.

SAT, OCT 14 | 11–3PM
Family Art Party

Drop in to learn about and make art with friends and family! Artist-educators and volunteers will inspire you with art activities that explore how we experience the in-between spaces. Immerse yourself in the textile installations of naturally dyed fabrics, woodblock printed patterns, embroidery, and beading by exhibiting artist, Swapnaa Tamhane.



Alana Bartol and Bryce Krynski, *all roses sleep (inviolat light)*, 2022, ultraviolet video (14 minutes 02 seconds).



Francisco Berlanga, *The Sun has done its part*, 2022, glass beads, fabric, embroidery thread, paper, and sunlight.



Photo courtesy of Figure 1 Publishing.



Photo by Scarlet Black.

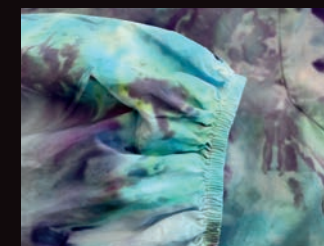


Photo courtesy of artist.

THU, OCT 19 | 7–8:30PM

Online Talk with Artists Alana Bartol, Bryce Krynski, and Lori Weidenhammer

Learn about the importance of local bee species. A screening of *all roses sleep (inviolat light)* will be followed by artists Alana Bartol and Bryce Krynski sharing their research and filming processes. Local artist and educator, Lori Weidenhammer from Native Bee Society of British Columbia will join to share more about Surrey bee species.

THU, NOV 2 | 7:30–9PM

Thursday Artist Talk: Francisco Berlanga, “Material Miracle of Craft”

The Miracle is a religious narrative in Mexico, related to the story of Guadalupe whose roses transform a textile, staining it with the icon of Mary. Textiles can take on miraculous characteristics, and in this talk organized by Surrey Art Gallery Association, Berlanga will discuss how the process of craft-making can be transformative, becoming miraculous.

SAT, NOV 4 | 2–3:30 PM

Rajesh Vora Book Launch and Panel Discussion

Join artist Keerat Kaur, curator Keith Wallace, and scholars Satwinder Bains and Sukhwant Hundal, as they discuss the newly published catalogue **Rajesh Vora: Everyday Monuments** and related exhibition presented at the Gallery in 2022. Co-presented with the South Asian Studies Institute at University of the Fraser Valley.

SAT, NOV 25 | 12–4PM

SUN, NOV 26 | 12–4PM

Heart to Home Holiday Market

Save the date for Surrey Art Gallery Association’s annual holiday market featuring local artists. Find one-of-a-kind gifts ranging from paintings and photographs to jewellery, ceramic mugs, silk scarves, fused glass, and much more. There’s something for everyone!

THU, DEC 7 | 7:30–9PM

Thursday Artist Talk: Lyn Verra-Lay, “Green Art Practices”

Lyn Verra-Lay believes artists can use green practices that are kind for the environment while creating art. In this talk organized by Surrey Art Gallery Association, Verra-Lay will share how to upcycle clothing. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity to participate in an upcycled fibre art piece to take home.



Gelombang Longitudinal, 2016, film still by Ali Satri Efendi.

SAT, NOV 18 | 12–4:30 PM

Disrupting the Everyday: Media Arts Symposium

This year's symposium will focus on short-form media by women artists, in conjunction with South Asian Visual Arts Centre's (SAVAC) 15th anniversary of its **MONITOR** experimental film and video program. Various forms, structures, and intergenerational narratives bring attention to power inequalities, violences against women's bodies, and environmental crises.

The afternoon begins with **MONITOR 15** screenings curated by Faraz Anoushapour, followed by panels with filmmakers, video artists, and SAVAC director Abedar Kamgari. Art critic and curator Nancy Adajania will be the keynote speaker.

Presented in partnership with Toronto-based SAVAC and the Critical Image Forum at University of British Columbia's Department of Art History, Visual Art, and Theory.

MONITOR 15 Program

Mani Mazinani (*Saw Bells*, meditative improvisation of time, sound, motion)

Ali Satri Efendi (*Gelombang Longitudinal*, visual poem about shifting landscapes, dreams, solitude)

Abeer Khan (*Child Lock*, contemplation on collapsing domestic space with visions of unreachable desires)

Nimisha Srivastava (*Chadariya*, inter-generational narratives, spoken through multiple voices to create an interwoven sense-scape addressing abortion, sex selection/female infanticide, and rape)

Nada El-Omari (*From Where to Where*, series of conversations on power imbalances within languages through dislocated and lost voices)

Paribartana Mohanty (*Rice, Hunger, Sorrow*, highlighting the effects of the natural world and climate change on human lives)



Building sculptures in a Hand-Built Habitats workshop with artist-educator Claire Moore.

The Gallery offers a range of ongoing programs, from K–12 school programs to group tours and workshops, Art Takeout courses, seniors programming, and so much more. Here are some highlights below.

Welcome Tour and Workshop

This free tour and workshop welcome groups new to Canada and introduces them to the Gallery as a place of learning. The program begins with a tour of the current exhibitions and is followed by hands-on artmaking. New offerings include youth and intergenerational engagements. This program is open to organizations, schools, and other groups. For more information, contact Chris Dawson-Murphy, Curator of Education at artgallery@surrey.ca.

Post-Secondary Tours

Want to use the Gallery as your classroom? Bring your post-secondary class! We'll work with you to plan and book a learning opportunity through a tour with curators and educators and activities that connect with your course content. Contact Sameena Siddiqui, Associate Curator of Adult Programs at artgallery@surrey.ca.

School Programs

The Gallery's School Programs cultivate understanding and excitement about contemporary art for K–12 students and teachers through tours and workshops at the Gallery and online resources. To learn more, visit surrey.ca/galleryeducation and contact Jinsil Haveliwalla, School and Family Programmer at gallerieschools@surrey.ca.

This fall's *No Surface is Neutral* exhibition is guest curated by Deepali Dewan. It features textile-based installations and works on paper by artist Swapnaa Tamhanne that reflect and explore new ways of making marks, seeing patterns, and resisting colonial hierarchies. Sameena Siddiqui, Associate Curator of Adult Programs, chats with Deepali about this process.

Tell us about your interest in Swapnaa Tamhane's body of work.

Swapnaa references moments in South Asia's history through visual forms that carry the baggage of that history. And yet her work brings these different moments together in a way that feels completely contemporary, new, and relevant to our times. All the works in this exhibition are connected in some way to India's history of cotton—either being made of cotton or associated with the techniques of embellishing cotton like block-printing and embroidery.

I am also interested because of its collaborative nature. For many of the pieces, Tamhane created them with several artists in India, specifically the woodblock carver Mukesh Prajapati and his family, the hand block printer and dyer Salamamad Khatri, and the women's embroidery collective called Qasab.

Any curatorial challenges you faced while developing this exhibition? Or rewarding situations?

When I curated a version of this exhibition at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, we made an effort to move away from colonial ideas about the hierarchy of artistic practice, where the Western urban painter and sculptor is considered an "artist" while the maker located in a formerly-colonized space (usually in the Global South) and working in a traditional mode is considered an "artisan" or "craftsman." We didn't want the artwork to be a theoretical exercise in decolonization but rather one that infused the exhibition at all levels.



PHOTO: PAUL ECKHOFF, ROM

Deepali Dewan

Indian textiles, block printing traditions, and dyes processes were known for high quality and expertise until the eighteenth century. How did colonialism shift the narrative, and how did the technical craftsmanship of Indian artisans come under criticism?

Cotton is what brought Europeans to India's shores, first as traders and then as rulers with imperial ambitions. As British imperialism turned into colonial rule from the 18th to 19th centuries, the British took over the cotton trade and then cotton production, moving cotton manufacturing to textile mills in England and selling the cloth back to India at cheaper prices that decimated the millennia-old cotton industry in India.

Ironically, when colonial art schools opened in the mid-19th century, they criticized Indian textile artists for the decline of Indian textile production and for trying to produce commercially viable designs for a contemporary consumer rather than what colonial authorities had deemed "traditional" design.

No Surface is Neutral pushes against this complicated colonial history of cotton, exposes colonial ideas around art and artmaking that linger with us today, and imagines a different way forward.

Kickstart your fall by creating, experimenting, and surprising yourself with an old or new medium through of our many art classes!

CHILDREN

Art Express (7–10yrs)

Sun, Oct 15, 2:30pm [6]
320320 \$89.70
Instructor: Brigid Muldoon

Drawing Fundamentals (5–7yrs)

Wed, Oct 4, 5:30pm [8]
320497 \$79.60
Sun, Oct 15, 12:30pm [6]
320501 \$59.70
Instructor: Puneet Datewas

Drawing Techniques (7–10yrs)

Wed, Oct 4, 5pm [8]
320517 \$108.40
Sun, Oct 15, 12:30pm [6]
322921 \$81.30
Instructor: Brigid Muldoon

Drawing Techniques (10–12yrs)

Sat, Oct 21, 12pm [7]
322920 \$94.85
Instructor: Erin Mulcahy

Draw, Paint, Create! (5–7yrs)

Thu, Oct 5, 4pm [8]
320322 \$119.60
Instructor: Brigid Muldoon

Kid Architects (7–11yrs)

Tue, Oct 3, 4pm [8]
320331 \$119.60
Instructor: Yan Song

Paint, Draw and Sculpt (7–10yrs)

Sat, Oct 21, 10am [7]
320323 \$104.65
Instructor: Erin Mulcahy

Paint at the Play (6–12yrs)

Sat, Oct 14, 3:30pm [1]
320326 \$24.70
Instructor: Christina Farrant



INFORMATION & REGISTRATION
604.501.5100
surrey.ca/register

HOW TO READ CLASSES

CLASS NAME | DATE & TIME
Art Explosion | Sat, Sep 26 | 3:30pm
[8] 4416372 | COURSE ID
OF SESSIONS

CHILDREN CLAY

Afterschool Clay (6–8yrs)

Wed, Oct 4, 4pm [8]
320260 \$91.60
Instructor:
Puneet Datewas

Clay Sculpture and Pottery (7–10yrs)

Thu, Oct 5, 6pm [8]
320270 \$137.60
Instructor: Brigid Muldoon
Sat, Oct 21, 10am [7]
320311 \$120.40
Instructor: Santina Fung

Clay Sculpture and Pottery (9–12yrs)

Tue, Oct 3, 4:15pm [8]
320262 \$137.60
Instructor: Teresa Takeuchi



PHOTO: PARDEEP SINGH

YOUTH

Focus on Drawing (12–17yrs)

Thu, Oct 5, 5pm [8]
320502 \$95.60
Instructor:
Alexandra Thomson

Youth Pottery (11–17yrs)

Sat, Oct 14, 2:30pm [8]
320155 \$209.20
Instructor: Murray Sanders

SCHOOL'S OUT CAMP

Monster Mash Art MashUp (6–10yrs)

Fri, Oct 20, 9am–3pm [1]
322933 \$51.80
Instructors:
Lyn Lay & Orsy Szabo

Storybook Adventures Art MashUp (6–10yrs)

Fri, Nov 10, 9am–3pm [1]
322945 \$51.80
Instructors:
Lyn Lay & Orsy Szabo



FEATURED CLASS

Ceramic Skill Builders

Need to work on developing a specific skill? Now we have a class for that! Welcome to the Gallery's Skill Builder series—short sessions to learn or practice a specific technique. This fall, we have four ceramic offerings: handles, spouts, image transfer, and slip casting. Join us to enhance your ceramic art practice!



INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

Puneet Datewas is an oil painter, visual arts instructor, and a nature enthusiast. She pursued her love for art with training in traditional techniques of oil painting and drawing. Art is where her love for nature and passion for painting collide; the stillness and sounds of nature draw her into plein air painting. She loves to experiment and continues to push the boundaries and mediums she works in, including embroidery and film photography. Datewas loves teaching to foster a creative community and connect with diverse audiences where visual language transcends cultural or linguistic barriers.

ADULT

Acrylic Painting for Beginners

Wed, Oct 4, 7pm [8]
320334 \$106.40
Instructor: Brigid Muldoon

Drawing for Beginners

Wed, Oct 5, 7pm [8]
320495 \$106.40
Instructor:
Alexandra Thomson

Guided Life Drawing

Sat, Oct 21, 1:45pm [1]
327487 \$28.65
Sat, Nov 18, 1:45pm [1]
327491 \$28.65
Instructor: Claire Cilliers

Oil Painting for Beginners

Wed, Oct 4, 7pm [8]
320510 \$106.40
Instructor: Puneet Datewas

Self-Directed Art Studio

Tue, Oct 3, 7pm [4]
322893 \$53.20
Instructor: Christina Farrant

Watercolour Painting for Beginners

Tue, Oct 3, 6pm [8]
320508 \$106.40
Instructor: Yan Song

Try It: Creative Felting and Embroidery

Sat, Oct 21, 2:30pm [2]
327479 \$26.60
Instructor:
Alexandra Thomson

Try It: Calligraphy

Tue, Nov 7, 7pm [4]
320506 \$53.20
Instructor: Violet Smythe

Try It: Silk Dyeing

Sat, Sep 16, 2:30pm [1]
328451 \$13.30
Instructor: Lyn Lay

Dry Media Drop In

Sat/Sun, Dec 16/17,
12:30-4:30pm
Wed, Dec 13/20, 5-9pm
\$10 per session

ADULT POTTERY

Pottery For Beginners

Tue, Oct 3, 6:45pm [10]
320136 \$269
Instructor: Teresa Takeuchi
Wed, Oct 4, 11am [10]
320139 \$269
Instructor: Noelle Horrocks
Wed, Oct 4, 3:15pm [10]
320141 \$269
Instructor: Murray Sanders
Wed, Oct 4, 6:45pm [10]
320143 \$269
Instructor: Murray Sanders
Thu, Oct 5, 3:15pm [10]
320145 \$269
Instructor: Teresa Takeuchi

Continuing Pottery

Thu, Oct 5, 6:45pm [10]
320148 \$269
Instructor: Teresa Takeuchi

Registered Open Pottery Studio Plus

Sat, Oct 14, 10am [8]
320152 \$302.40
Instructor: Murray Sanders

Drop In Pottery Studio

Tue/Fri/Sun, 12:30-4:30pm
Select dates during pottery session \$10 per session

ADULT WORKSHOPS

Kiln Operations Workshop

Sat, Sep 23, 11am [1]
322895 \$43.05
Instructor: Murray Sanders

Skill Builder: Ceramic Spouts

Sun, Oct 29, 12pm [1]
328448 \$49
Instructor: Murray Sanders

Skill Builder: Ceramic Handles

Sun, Oct 29, 2:30pm [1]
328441 \$49
Instructor: Murray Sanders

ONLINE CLASSES

Art Takeout: Handbuilding with Clay (3+yrs)

329465 \$35
Instructor: Amelia Butcher

Art Takeout: Drawing in the Field (13+yrs)

329464 \$15
Instructor: Alexandra Thomson

Adult classes usually have a supply list—please make sure you get yours upon registration.

Skill Builder: Ceramic Image Transfer

Sun, Nov 26, 12pm [1]
328443 \$49
Instructor: Teresa Takeuchi

Skill Builder: Ceramic Slip Casting

Sun, Nov 26, 2:30pm [1]
328445 \$49
Instructor: Teresa Takeuchi

Try It: Pottery Wheel Throwing

Sat, Sep 16, 2:30pm, 322899
Wed, Sep 20, 7-9pm, 327497
Wed, Sep 27, 7-9pm, 327499
Sat, Dec 16, 2:30pm, 327500
4 student maximum
\$49 per session



Do you find art inspiring? Try volunteering at the Gallery this Fall! It is a fantastic way to meet new friends, learn about contemporary art, and make meaningful contributions.

Here are some ways you can get involved:

Docents (Tour Guides)

Engage children in an exciting program of art education with a supportive team of dedicated volunteer educators! Gallery Docents lead creative, inquiry-based tours of contemporary art for K-7 school groups from September to June. Each tour is unique, offering insights into the exhibitions on display. New docents participate in ongoing comprehensive training with curators, art educators, and artists, while enjoying special art experiences.

Gallery Event Volunteers

Connect visitors to the Gallery with contemporary art and ideas. Work alongside Gallery staff and art educators to host exhibition openings, artist talks, art parties, family programs, and more.

Children's Art Program Assistants (CAPA)

Create an unforgettable summer camp experience for eager young artists! Support art educators in leading classes and camps for children aged five to twelve. Learn to guide young artists, be in a leadership role, and help to organize art studios for hands-on programs. This is a wonderful way to discover a variety of art mediums and techniques to fuel your own creativity too!

Youth Docent Program

Learn about contemporary art and art education methodologies, hone your presentation skills, and collaborate to develop education programs for families. As a Youth Docent, you will engage Gallery visitors with fun, educational, and interactive activities to help them be inspired by art to discover something new.

Applications are being accepted now for upcoming programs.

Get in touch with Volunteer Programmer, Johanna Lasner at artsvolunteer@surrey.ca.

Haruko Okano

Hands of the Compassionate One is an interactive acrylic painting in the form of a scroll painting. It features four flaps that invite viewers to lift and see the layers of imagery beneath. The central figure depicts Guanyin, the Bodhisattva of Compassion and Mercy in East Asian Buddhism.

The phoenix, a symbol of self-sacrifice and resurrection, interacts with the Buddhist imagery, conveying a plea for cultural and religious tolerance and recognizing shared humanity. The animals and plants depicted further emphasize our connection to and responsibility for the environment. Haruko Okano's journey as an artist and poet, rising from the ashes of her traumatic childhood, resonates with the phoenix metaphor. The artwork serves as a powerful representation of her personal transformation, spiritual beliefs, and political views.

Born during the Second World War, Okano was raised in a succession of foster homes. The removal from her community and culture, along with the hostile political environment towards Japanese-Canadians at the time, made the artist aware of her identity at an early age. Through art, she aims to reclaim what it means to be a Nikkei (a Japanese emigrant or descendent) by expressing her cultural identity, balancing between Japanese and Western heritages.

Hands of the Compassionate One's complex themes and symbolisms can be seen as a culmination of the artist's spiritual and political beliefs. Through its interactivity, the work invites the viewers to contemplate identity, spirituality, and our relationship with the world around us.

Zoe Yang

Curatorial Assistant

Haruko Okano, *Hands of the Compassionate One*, 1993, acrylic on canvas with ornaments. Collection of Surrey Art Gallery SAG1999.01.01.



Johanna Lasner is a curator and art educator. She joined the Gallery education team this past spring as the Volunteer Programmer, working with volunteers in our school programs, events, and summer camps. Curator of Educator Chris Dawson-Murphy chats with Lasner on her interests in art and community.

When did you become interested in contemporary art?

My passion for art became obvious when I was a child, but it was only when I moved to London, England, that I connected to my own immigration experience through contemporary art, by learning and sharing with other stories of migration and identity. Contemporary art has always given me opportunities to reflect on social, cultural, ecological, and political challenges in the world around us. What I love about contemporary art is its ability to question the nature of art itself, in ways that involve a variety of practices, innovation, and experimentation. I am interested in the active role that we all play in the process of constructing meaning about works of art.

How did you become connected to the Gallery?

I became a regular visitor to the Gallery many years ago. I enjoyed the events and exhibitions (I still do). I also admired their work serving communities where they are situated. I wanted to be a part of this, so I decided to apply to the Volunteer Program. I was a Volunteer Docent for four years before joining the staff team this spring. During my time as a Docent, I developed strong connections and gained experience touring for school groups, which have been one of the most valuable, rewarding, and fun things I have ever done.

Why do you feel that volunteering is important?

I have always volunteered. I believe that volunteering work is critical to individual and community growth, progress, and well-being. Volunteerism is a lot more than connecting and giving back to the community; it is also about empowerment, generosity, and accomplishments, all of which contribute significantly to a collective quality of life.



Johanna leading a tour for secondary school students.

Johanna in the Gallery's courtyard.



PHOTOS: GALLERY STAFF

“As the new Volunteer Programmer, I would like to invite you to participate in our Volunteer Program, where you will find support, a sense of belonging and incredible learning opportunities.”

—Johanna Lasner

Heart to Home Holiday Market

Nov 25 & Nov 26 | Noon–4pm



Save the date! It's that time of year again to come and browse one-of-a-kind creations by local artists in a festive atmosphere with live music by Lisa Rae Simons and Ranj Singh.

The Heart to Home Holiday Market takes place in the Studio Theatre at Surrey Arts Centre every November. The market features amazing pieces from artists in Surrey and the Lower Mainland, as well as from further afield such as the Gulf Islands. Shoppers will find ceramics, jams, jellies and cookies, skincare, apparel, jewellery, paintings, prints, photography, art cards, stickers, and more!

Surrey Art Gallery Association (SAGA) President Nalini Bhui says, "Supporting local artists by sharing their work with local communities—through talks and workshops, as well as in our Art Rental and Sales program, gift shop, and this annual market—is at the heart of what we do for coming up to 40 years. Give the gift of art to those you love this season, while also investing in the practices of local artists."

SAGA members receive 15% off, and if you're not a member already, you can become one onsite or online. For those who would rather shop from home, SAGA's gift shop is also available at sagabc.com. From November 25 through to December 22, use the code H2H@H at checkout for 15% off.

If you'd like to be a participating artist, contact Gift Shop Manager Anna Hall at giftshop@sagabc.com.

We look forward to connecting with you this coming fall and in November at the Market!

Anna Hall

SAGA Gift Shop Manager

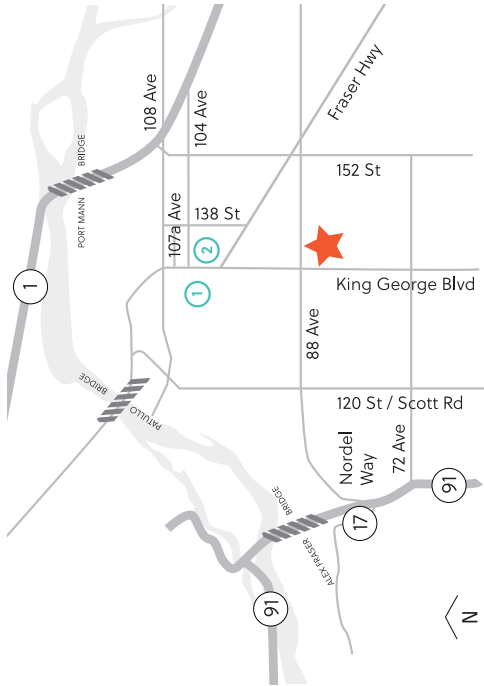


Visitors browse the Heart to Home Holiday Market.



surrey
art gallery
engaging
contemporary art

13750 88 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3W 3L1



**SURREY ART GALLERY /
SURREY ARTS CENTRE**
13750 88 AVE IN BEAR CREEK PARK

SKYTRAIN STATIONS

- 1 SURREY CENTRAL (FOR CITY HALL, LIBRARY, & R1 NEWTON EXCHANGE OR 321 BUS TO SURREY ARTS CENTRE)
- 2 KING GEORGE (TO CATCH R1 NEWTON EXCHANGE OR 321 BUS TO SURREY ARTS CENTRE)

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While you're there, sign up for News & Updates!