

For Immediate Release: January 5, 2023

Have You Heard the Buzz about the Art Gallery of Regina's Exhibition of Artworks Co-Created by Artists and Honeybees?

The exhibition *Between Us* at the Art Gallery of Regina invites you to discover the learning, understanding and creativity between honeybees and artists and appreciate the creativity and consciousness each being brings to their artwork.



image: sculpture created by artist Kelly Litzenberger in collaboration with honeybees. photo provided by Kelly Litzenberger.

Regina, SK:

The Art Gallery of Regina shares the results of a two-summer-long collaboration between 12 artists from across Saskatchewan and honeybees in a new exhibition entitled *Between Us* from January 18-March 5.

Filling the air with the earthy scent of honey, *Between Us* packs the Art Gallery of Regina with drawings, sculptures and sound art resulting from inter-species collaboration between artists and honeybees.

Working with gallery contacts in Prince Albert, Swift Current, Estevan and Yorkton, Art Gallery of Regina curator Sandee Moore invited twelve artists and collectives from across the province to learn from Aganetha Dyck in a Canada Council for the Arts-funded mentorship. These artists include Dyck's first art instructor, Prince Albert-based artist George Glenn, alongside the other artists who created artworks in collaboration with honeybees: Nicole Charlebois-Rinas, Denise Flaman, Last Birds, Kelly Litzenberger, Judy McNaughton, Jeff Meldrum, Tim Moore, Melanie Monique Rose, Chantel Schultz, Sylvia Thompson, and Hanna Yokozawa Farquharson.

The artists worked with professional beekeepers and their honeybees over two bee seasons with guidance from Dyck. "There are no secrets," claims Dyck, who has co-created artworks with honeybees for over two decades, "there are only surprises." The exhibition *Between Us* is a collection of such surprises arising from interspecies and interdisciplinary collaboration.

While the artists' methods of producing work for *Between Us* were, for the most part, the same — placing objects within a beehive for honeybees to transform with the addition of their comb — the resulting work is as varied as the artists

themselves. In beehives spread across Saskatchewan, apian logic danced with artistic inspiration as artists offered their ideas, materials and objects to bees; bees responded by embellishing sculptures with beeswax frills, mending gaps with golden wax, mimicking vessel walls with their own constructions and packing available space with their delicate geometric comb. Through their processes and excretions, honeybees augment the artists' narratives with records of settlement, family, agriculture, spirituality, the ecology of recycling, the interconnectedness of all species and dependence upon weather and the land.

"*Between Us*" refers to the distances and differences between us and what we, as humans and insects, have in common.

Visit the exhibition, sponsored by Harvey Linnen Associates, *Between Us* at the Art Gallery of Regina (2420 Elphinstone Street) to discover surprising honeycomb creations that, just as bees fill gaps, bridge gaps in our understanding of ourselves, other people, histories, land and other species.

Admission to the gallery is always free. The exhibition's opening reception, on January 18 from 7-9 PM, is open to the public; *Between Us* continues until March 5.

Media contact:

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Contact Moore for images and other promotional materials. Please note that this email contains a link to a GoogleDrive folder of images that may be reproduced.

Exhibition curator Sandee Moore is available for English-language interviews in person or by electronic means. Interviews with artists in English can be arranged upon request.

Links:

[reproducible images](#)

[artists' bios](#)

[exhibition webpage](#)

For Calendar Listings

Exhibition title: *Between Us*

Artists: Nicole Charlebois-Rinas, Denise Flaman, George Glenn, Last Birds, Kelly Litzenberger, Judy McNaughton, Jeff Meldrum, Tim Moore, Melanie Monique Rose, Chantel Schultz, Sylvia Thompson, Hanna Yokozawa Farquharson

Curator: Sandee Moore

Dates: January 18 – March 5, 2023

Opening reception: Wednesday, January 18, from 7-9 PM

Cost: FREE

Short description: *Between Us* is an exhibition of artworks – drawings, sculptures and sound art – resulting from inter-species collaboration between artists and honeybees. "Between Us" refers to the distances and differences between us and what we, as humans and insects, have in common. Just as bees bridge gaps with honeycomb, this outcomes of this multi-year project joins artists, beekeepers, honeybees and audiences in a shared process of learning and wonder.

Thank You:

The Art Gallery of Regina acknowledges the support of the Canada Council for the Arts. We are grateful to the local bees and beekeepers, who were essential to the *Between Us* project:

- Andrew Hamilton, Hamilton Apiaries
 - Louise Yates, Living Sky Honey
- Jake Dingman, Wendell Estate Honey
 - Joe Kletchko, St. Joseph's Honey
- Kevin & Brenda Epp, Prairie Field Honey
- Nicole Charlebois-Rinas, Sandhills Honey
 - Sasha Howland, Howland's Honey
 - Stan and Tricia Reed, Reeds Bees
 - Sarah Simison, Charlee Honey

Our deepest gratitude is extended to Aganetha Dyck for her visionary notion to mentor artists in interspecies collaboration. We recognize the advice and support of Amber Anderson of the Estevan Art Gallery and Museum, Heather Benning of the Art Gallery of Swift Current, Marcus Miller of the Mann Art Gallery and Jeffrey Morton of the Godfrey Dean Art Gallery.







images (top to bottom): artist Chantel Schultz removing her sculpture from a beehive; ceramic and beeswax sculpture by Denise Flaman; Denise Flaman's sculptures sitting on a stack of beehive boxes; sculptures by Hanna Yokozawa Farquharson inside a beehive super; sculpture by Hanna Yokozawa Farquharson and honeybee collaborators; artist Kelly Litzenberger's LEGO self-portrait with beehive sitting on a beehive; beehive lids serve as canvas for artists Judy McNaughton and Nicole Charlebois Rinas.

AGR

Engaging.
Contemporary.
Art.

Located on Treaty 4, the traditional territory of the Cree, Saulteaux, Nakota, Lakota and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Métis people, the Art Gallery of Regina (AGR) promotes the development and appreciation of contemporary art, with an emphasis on Saskatchewan artists. Our programming focuses on the voices and experiences of Saskatchewan artists and visitors. AGR programming encompasses exhibitions (featuring established, emerging and recreational artists), education, publishing, workshops and artists talks. Through free public exhibitions and dedicated

support for artists and innovation, the AGR has over 45 years as a supportive and creative cultural hub connecting artists and our communities.

The Art Gallery of Regina is an autonomous, independent public art gallery with non-profit and charitable status. We are a tenant in the Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre located within the vibrant Cathedral Village neighbourhood in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

About Canada Council for the Arts

The Canada Council for the Arts contributes to the vibrancy of a creative and diverse arts and literary scene and supports its presence across Canada and around the world. The Council is Canada's public arts funder, with a mandate to "foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in, the arts." The Council's grants, services, initiatives, prizes, and payments support Canadian artists, authors, and arts groups and organizations. This support allows them to pursue artistic expression, create works of art, and promote and disseminate the arts and literature. Through its arts funding, communications, research, and promotion activities, the Council fosters ever-growing engagement of Canadians and international audiences in the arts. The Council's Public Lending Right (PLR) program makes annual payments to creators whose works are held in Canadian public libraries. The Council's Art Bank operates art rental programs and helps further public engagement with contemporary arts through exhibition and outreach activities. The Council is responsible for the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, which promotes the values and programs of UNESCO to contribute to a future of peace, reconciliation, equity, and sustainable development.





We are grateful to our exhibition sponsor HJ Linnen Associates for their support as official exhibition sponsor.



The Art Gallery of Regina gratefully acknowledges the support of its core funders, project funders, partners and sponsors:

