Summer ‘Look Club’ at CUAG

Tuesdays in June; 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Carleton University Art Gallery (St. Patrick’s Building)

Moderators: Fiona Wright (Student and Public Programs Coordinator) and the summer Art Education Assistant

Format: We will be spending each session focused on a particular theme as a conversation catalyst to look at and discuss two or three works of art from our permanent collection and our current exhibition In Dialogue. Supported by questions and activities offered by the moderators, participants are encouraged to think critically about art works, offering their observations and thoughts. We are here to come together and talk about art, share our opinions and ideas and to have fun! Coffee and tea provided.

Questions? You can always reach me by email: fiona.wright@carleton.ca.

Discover great art at the Carleton University Art Gallery this summer with our unique 'Look Club'! Join Fiona Wright, the gallery's educator, for weekly coffee and conversation sessions about art works in our summer exhibition "In Dialogue", a group exhibition of Indigenous contemporary art, and our permanent collection of 20th-century Indigenous art.
Together we'll explore how artists reflect on the connections and contradictions that constitute contemporary Indigenous identities, and the history of Indigenous art in Canada. Focused and open discussion will lead to new discoveries about artists and art-making, and help you discover the joy of looking at and loving art.

**Summer Exhibition at CUAG: In Dialogue**

**In Dialogue**
Organized by John G. Hampton
14 May – 26 August 2018
Raymond Boisjoly, Raven Davis, David Garneau, Carola Grahn, Nicole Kelly Westman, Tanya Lukin Linklater, Amy Malbeuf, Nadia Myre, Peter Morin, Native Art Department International (Maria Hupfield and Jason Lujan), Krista Belle Stewart

In Dialogue is an exhibition structured as a conversation. It invites viewers into intimate discussions that work through new ways of understanding, and being Indigenous in contemporary contexts. Moving from spaces of contemplation and reception, to moments of excitement and animation, the artists blur borders drawn with invented notions of authenticity and guide us through negotiations between the specificity of personhood and its abstraction into larger groups of belonging. This gathering of work embraces the wildly individualistic tumble of connections and contradictions that constitute contemporary Indigenous identities, in open dialogue—between artists, audiences and the interconnected mesh-works woven between all our relations.

**About the CUAG collection of Indigenous Art:**

CUAG has exhibited and collected the work of Canadian Aboriginal artists since its founding in 1992; in fact its inaugural exhibition of contemporary art was KANATA: Robert Houle’s Histories. The collection has grown largely by donation. In 1999, for example, the Métis artist Rita Letendre donated 49 of her own works, including 38 prints documenting four decades of her printmaking activity. Two years later, Saulteaux artist Robert Houle donated from his personal collection 39 works by Aboriginal and Inuit artists such as Arthur Renwick, Bonnie Devine, Alex Janvier, and Bob Boyer.

The collection features large bodies of works on paper by contemporary artists such as Carl Beam, Shirley Bear, Ann Beam, and Lance Belanger, as well as a group of drawings and paintings by Norval Morrisseau and artists he influenced who work in the Woodlands style, including Brian Marion, Goyce Kakegamic and Doug Kakegamic.

Several prominent collectors of Aboriginal art have also enriched our holdings. Victoria Henry, who owned and operated the Ufundi Gallery in Ottawa from 1975-1992, has donated work made by artists she represented there. Henry’s gift includes some major works on paper by Carl Beam including Portrait as John Wayne, Probably (1991), Gerald McMaster’s drawing Warrior (1989), and several beautiful quillwork baskets by Delia Bebonang and Josephine Bondi. In 2007, Dr. Andrew and Carolle Anne Armour donated a large collection of mainly Inuit art that also
included several historical Aboriginal objects, the most notable of which are two museum-quality argillite panel pipes carved by anonymous nineteenth-century Haida artists.

The most significant donation of Aboriginal art came in 1999 from Dr. George and Joanne MacDonald. Dr. MacDonald, an authority on Haida art and former director of the Canadian Museum of Civilization, and his wife, Joanne, were avid collectors of prints made by Aboriginal artists of the Northwest Coast of British Columbia. Their donation featured nearly 600 prints by acclaimed artists like Bill Reid, Susan Point, Tony Hunt, Robert Davidson, Freda Diesing, and Ron Hamilton. The George and Joanne MacDonald Collection of Northwest Coast Graphic Art is a virtual catalogue raisonné of the achievements of coastal Aboriginal artists from the 1960s through the 1980s.

**Weekly Discussion Topics and (Voluntary) Readings**

Please note: selected works from the permanent collection may change in response to ongoing conversations throughout the course.

**Week One, June 6: PERFORMANCE / THE BODY**

*Includes introductions to the course, format, students, the Art Gallery and theme of “conversation” that will link our sessions

*In Dialogue* works by: Tanya Lukin Linklater (Alutiiq), Peter Morin (Tahltan) and Raven Davis (Anishinaabek/Ojibwa).

CUAG Collection works by: David Neel (Kwakwaka'wakw), Shelly Niro (Mohawk) and Greg Staats (Mohawk).

Readings:
- Isaac Kaplan, “How Long Do You Need to Look at a Work of Art to Get It?”
  https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-long-work-art-it
- Jane Norman, “How to Look at Art” The Metropolitan Museum of Art Bulletin

**Week Two, June 13: ACTIVISM**

*In Dialogue* works by: Amy Malbeuf (Métis) and David Garneau (Métis).

CUAG Collection works by: Bev Koski (Anishinaabek), Jeff Thomas (Onondaga) and Arthur Renwick (Haisla).

Readings:

**Week Three, June 20: LABOUR / COMMUNITY**

*In Dialogue* works by: Carola Grahn (Sami), Nicole Kelly Westman (Métis/Icelandic), Krista Belle Stewart (Okanagan)

CUAG Collection works by: Susan Point (Musqueam Coast Salish), Delia Bebonang (Odawa), Shirley Bear (Tobique) and Zacharias Kunuk (Inuk).

Readings:

**Week Four, June 27: IDENTITY / STEREOTYPES**

*In Dialogue* works by: Nadia Myre (Anishinaabek), Native Art Department International (Maria Hupfield (Anishinaabek) and Jason Lujan (Chiricahua Apache)) and Raymond Boisjoly (Haida/Québécois)

CUAG Collection works by Michael Belmore (Anishinaabek), Robert Houle (Saulteaux), Carl Beam (Anishinaabek) and Kent Monkman (Cree).

Readings: