



FOR RELEASE

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Permanent Art Collection exhibition features diverse new works

WHITEHORSE—Eight new acquisitions to the Yukon Permanent Art Collection were unveiled today at an exhibition in the Yukon Arts Centre Community Gallery.

"The new acquisitions reflect the diverse visual art community in Yukon, from traditional First Nation beadwork to contemporary sculpture," Minister of Tourism and Culture Mike Nixon said. "Other pieces show how the North influences artists who are visitors from outside the territory. Every piece selected for the collection is an important part of the territory's rich visual art history."

A sculpture called *Oceanscape* is Ken Anderson's sixth work chosen for the collection. The piece was featured in Anderson's solo exhibition *Reflections on Form* which was held at the Yukon Arts Centre in the fall of 2013. The contemporary mixed media work demonstrates Anderson's evolution as an artist since his first piece was acquired in 2000.

"This piece is about the essential line and the positive and negative space, and is meant to make the viewer contemplate the relationship between the known and the unknown," Anderson said. "It is an honour to have my work in the permanent art collection, which I consider to be of a very high quality and visionary in its long-term goals."

Jeneen Frei Njootli, an emerging artist based in Old Crow and Banff, explores the perception of Indigenous people and the complex cultural dynamics created since contact with Western culture. Njootli's print entitled *Quake* is her first work acquired for the permanent art collection.

"*Quake* shows a figure hovering in space with a halo of ric rac," Njootli said. "The wood grain on her clothing calls to mind thoughts of home, especially homescapes in northern communities, as she is clad in wood wall paneling. Resilience, tradition and vulnerability are represented by the broken hand holding onto a muskrat trap form. Ratting has been, and continues to be, a strong part of Vuntut Gwitchin culture."

The new acquisitions were selected by the Friends of the Yukon Permanent Art Collection society calls for submission in the winter of 2013.

"We would like to thank all the artists who submitted work for consideration and congratulate those whose work was selected," society chair Scott Price said. "We are impressed by the number of talented artists in Yukon and encourage them to continue to participate in the future."

Learn more: [Yukon Permanent Art Collection](http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/14-177.html)

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See backgrounder below.

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Backgrounder

Title of Work	Artist	Media
<i>Oceanscape</i>	Ken Anderson	sculpture
<i>Howl with the Wolves</i>	Sarah Burwash	painting
<i>Dubois Residence</i>	Sarah Fuller	photograph
<i>Raven Wife</i>	Shelley Hakonson	sculpture
<i>Drawn In 2, Ivvavik</i>	Jane Isakson	painting
<i>Quake</i>	Jeneen Frei Njootli	print
<i>Moosehide Gun Case</i>	Pearl Keenan	beadwork
<i>Beaver Mitts</i>	Pearl Keenan	beadwork

The Yukon government provides \$25,000 annually to the Friends of the Yukon Permanent Art Collection to acquire new works for the collection.

There are currently 362 works by 201 artists in the collection.

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