

FOR RELEASE  
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## **New art exhibition explores themes of belonging, identity and sense of place**

*On Our Way Home*, an exhibition of new works that have joined the Yukon Permanent Art Collection, is now on display at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre.

The exhibition explores themes of belonging, identity and sense of place with pieces by established artists such as Meshell Melvin, Mark Preston and Mary Caesar, as well as emerging artists including Violet Gatensby and Cole Pauls.

*On Our Way Home* features traditional First Nations dog blankets worn by the ceremonial opening team at the 2017 Yukon Quest and 16 other works in a variety of media – including paintings, fibre art, photography, carving and glass work.

The exhibition will be available until March 4, 2018.

### **Quotes**

"The Yukon Permanent Art Collection offers an invaluable cultural legacy that captures the history of our territory's visual arts. Each of these wonderful new art works is a unique and integral part of that fascinating and evolving story—and I encourage Yukoners and visitors alike to explore and experience the *On Our Way Home* exhibition."

*—Minister of Tourism and Culture Jeanie Dendys*

"The Yukon First Nation Dog Blanket Project was first proposed by Shirlee Frost, who suggested that traditional dog blankets be made in order to be showcased at the 2017 Yukon Quest. Inspired by this, I put a call out on Facebook to recruit First Nations artists to make this project a reality. These nine amazing women answered my call and made this collaborative project a huge success."

*—Artist Florence Moses*

"The painting *Obscured Provenance* was part of IBC: Death Prophecy, my second solo exhibition at the Diaz Contemporary Gallery in Toronto. In the exhibition I continued my use of Indian Brand Corporation, or IBC, a fictional company that produces complex narratives that combine conflicting Indigenous and non-indigenous world views. *Obscured Provenance* brings symbols from art history together with imagery of land extraction to question notions of authority, title and usage."

*—Artist Joseph Tisiga*

### **Quick facts**

- The new acquisitions were selected by the Friends of Yukon Permanent Art Collection through an arms-length adjudication process. Artists submit their work for consideration through a call for submissions.
- Five of the new acquisitions were donated to the collection or purchased privately, outside the call for submissions.
- Works from the collection are displayed in public areas of Yukon government buildings in Whitehorse, Dawson, Faro, Haines Junction and Mayo. Artwork from the collection is also periodically displayed in special curated exhibitions produced by the Department of Tourism and Culture's Arts Section or through loans to other institutions.
- There are currently over 430 art works by 235 artists in the collection.

Learn more: Yukon Permanent Art Collection

Watch livestream: Opening Night

See backgrounder: 2016/17 Yukon Permanent Art Collection Acquisitions

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### **Backgrounder**

#### **2016/17 Yukon Permanent Art Collection Acquisitions**

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<b>Title of Work</b>	<b>Artist</b>	<b>Media</b>
<i>Water Like Ink</i>	Christian Bucher	Photography
<i>Words and Names They Called Me</i>	Mary Caesar	Painting
<i>Dempster K160</i>	Halin de Repentigny	Painting
<i>Berry Pouch</i>	Lyn Fabio	Fibre Art
<i>Fog Woman Bentwood Box Design</i>	Violet Gatensby	Painting
<i>Second Avenue, Dawson City, January 2017</i>	Jeffrey Langille	Photography
<i>Spring Break-Up</i>	Lumel Hot Glass	Glass
<i>Kitchen Corner</i>	Meshell Melvin	Fibre Art
<i>Moon</i>	Cole Pauls	Painting
<i>Abstract Portrait Mask</i>	Mark Preston	Carving
<i>Obscured Provenance</i>	Joseph Tisiga	Painting
<i>Arrival of the Dog Team</i>	Traditional First Nation Dog Blanket Project: Shirley Adamson, Deb Enoch, Nyla Klugie-Migwans, Karen Lepine, Pauline Livingstone, Elizabeth Moses, Florence Moses, Diane Olsen, Velma Olsen	Beadwork/Fine Craft

#### **Works Acquired Outside Call for Submissions**

<b>Title of Work</b>	<b>Artist</b>	<b>Media</b>
<i>New Beginnings</i>	Lynn Blaikie	Fibre Art
<i>The Colourful Five Percent, Portrait of Jim Robb</i>	Halin de Repentigny	Painting
<i>Watchmens</i>	Alex Dickson	Carving
<i>Wigwam Harry</i>	Jim Robb	Painting
<i>Men's Mitts</i>	Gertie Tom	Beadwork/Fine Craft

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