

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 10, 2020

RE-OPENING THE ESPLANADE: COMING TOGETHER...CAREFULLY

Medicine Hat, AB – Come Together...Carefully at the Esplanade starting on Monday, June 15, 2020, as it reopens its galleries. Hours will be 12-5 Monday to Friday with appointment booking available at www.tixx.ca. Admission is Pay What You Will (PWYW), where the guest decides on their fee, and can be paid via contactless payment or cash deposited into a sealed acrylic box.

The Esplanade will look a little different in its reopening for the safety of its guest and staff. The designated entry and exit doors along with floor vinyl are the first indication that building operations have changed during the pandemic. Social distancing reminders on the floor and the acrylic barrier around guest services are only a few of the changes made to how the building operates. The Esplanade has followed the Alberta Health Services guidelines to ensure the safety of our guests, staff and volunteers. For a full list of these changes, please see the website at www.esplanade.ca. Parking is limited to street parking at this time. As Aaron Nelson, Manager of Community Connections & Support, Community Development Department/Public Services Division, exclaims, “We’re excited to have the public in their facility once again. It will be a slightly different, but still exceptional cultural experience”.

Come Together Carefully in the Galleries...

Snapshot: The History of Photography

Closing date to be determined

The first commercial cameras came on the market in the 1880s, about the same time that the first train crossed the South Saskatchewan River into a town of tents, Medicine Hat. Explore the technological, artistic, and social changes of photography as it developed alongside the story of this community through changing technology and the lens of photographers within the region. From daguerreotypes to digital, we have been recording the people, places, and activities of the world around us. Capture glimpses of the evolution of photography through a Medicine Hat lens in Snapshot: The History of Photography.

Mireille Perron - Anatomy of a Glass Menagerie: Alta-Glass

June 15 - August 15

The Anatomy of a Glass Menagerie: Altglass is a solo exhibition of works by Calgary based artist Mireille Perron. One hundred and thirteen delicately blown glass figurines juxtaposed against deep blue cyanotype monoprints create a body of work founded on the artist’s curiosity of craft practices and their histories. These works were inspired by Perron’s residency at Medalta’s International Artist in Residence Program, which provided an opportunity for Perron to explore and research the Altglass collection at Hycroft China Ltd. These objects became the foundation of this body of work, as each of the Altglass glass figurines became the subjects for her cyanotype prints; a monoprint generated by UV light exposure.

Mireille Perron is a professor emeritus at UA Arts and is the founder of The Laboratory of Feminist Pataphysics, a social experiment that masquerades as collaborative works of art/events.

Theresa Eisenbarth: Walking the Flats

June 15 – August 15

A sentimental journey, expertly expressed through soft brush strokes of vibrant colours creates a new body of work by local artist Theresa Eisenbarth. These vivid paintings are inspired by Eisenbarth’s memories of walking around the neighbourhood of her childhood home on Dominion Street. Familiar Medicine Hat landmarks such as Mackenzie Drug Store, Lion’s Park gates, and the Korner Convenience visually narrate a sense of place and nostalgic connection to “home”.

Theresa studied Visual Communications at Medicine Hat College and received a B.F.A. Fine Arts from the University of Calgary. After taking a break to focus on family life, she established her practice in 2012. Now, as a full time artist, she spends 40 hours a week in her studio and produces 50-60 pieces each year.

Archives Vignette: A Brewing Question

Western Canada has pondered the question of what we drink, how much and where, since the creation of the North West Mounted Police in 1873. Many enjoy a pint from our local breweries today. Experience a story that began with the Saskatchewan Brewery in 1884, a journey with as many twists and turns as the river for which it was named.

Archives Reference Services

Available by appointment only, with the aid of our professional staff, the public can utilize the holdings with the Archives to learn more about their own history and that of their community. The Archives receives requests from local, national and international researchers.

Visit the Archives Reading room by appointment. To book your appointment phone 403.502.8582 or email archives@medicinehat.ca. You can also browse our on-line database at www.archives.esplanade.ca. Requests can also be made by phone, email and mail.

Available to View in the Lobby: Box City

Box City is a community built box by box – where the whole is truly more than the sum of its parts. This collaborative project is orchestrated between the Community Development Department and students from River Heights (gr.3), Dr. Ken Sauer (gr. 2/3 & 3) and Crestwood (gr. 4) schools. Through the Box City building process, a myriad of skills and concepts are explored. Each child's contribution builds the success of the city which can be seen in the lobby of the Esplanade.

Come Together...Virtually

The successful virtual programming, developed in response to the Esplanade closure, will continue for easy access from home. Visit esplanade.ca/cometothervirtually/.

— 30 —

For further information, interviews or images please contact:

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