

CANVAsS

Volume XI, No. 6 September October 2008
<http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/programs/gallery/>
hours: Mon. – Fri., 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM; Sat., noon – 5 PM
an institution of Mennonite Church Canada
located on the campus of Canadian Mennonite University

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS: The MHC Gallery's budget is met primarily through private, tax deductible donations. Please, help keep the gallery alive and growing. Make cheques payable to: MHC Gallery. Mail to: MHC Gallery, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 0M4. Credit card donations, contact Connie Wiebe at cwiebe@mennonitechurch.ca.

(204) 888 6781; Ray Dirks, curator, rdirks@mennonitechurch.ca

Gallery statement

On a cold, dark night near the beginning of my time at the gallery I wandered into Sturgeon Creek United Church. I was told I needed to go there to see what a fibre artist had created in the church. That was my introduction to Judy Morningstar's extraordinary work. I immediately felt this was someone I needed to talk to about exhibiting at the gallery. In 2004 we hosted a juried group show from the Fibre Art Network (FAN). Judy was prominently featured. I recall the judges being amazed at both her artistry and her technical talent.

Bonny Voice and Pam Godderis were a part of the FAN exhibition. Their work stood out, as well. So, when Judy approached me about scheduling an exhibition featuring the three of them we were happy to accept their proposal.

Opening, Friday, September 19, 7:30PM. Judy and Pam will be at the opening. Our hope and prayer is that Bonny can join them. The opening will include an overview of the work given by the artists. They are not only highly regarded for their art, they are also fine communicators.

CONNECTIONS

Fibre Art by:

Pam Godderis Dangerfield, Bonny Voice and Judy Morningstar
September 19 – November 1

OPENING: Friday, September 19, 7:30PM

Statement from the artists

Creating art is an individual's means of visually communicating how he or she experiences the world around them. As they create, these artists have become aware of consistent and sensitive connections between themselves and their surroundings. Choosing fibre and stitch as their media, and employing a variety of materials and techniques, these three artists give visual interpretation to a myriad of connections important to them.

They first connected with each other through their participation in two significant Canadian organizations — Canadian Quilters' Association and Fibre Art Network. Their friendship was fuelled by their common interest in fibre art, and their appreciation for each others' talents.

Pam's work explores her connections with nature, man-made objects, and human relationships. She combines a wide range of techniques from traditional and contemporary embroidery, quilting, and beading. Pam incorporates unusual materials such as Tyvek, foil, and metal leaf in her work.

Bonny is fascinated by abstract designs which appear when traditional piecing is disconnected, then reconnected in different ways with new neighbours. Beading is often used to connect elements of designs within the framework of her pieces. Bonny's preference for garment construction leads her to express much of her art in wearable form.

As well as natural connections, Judy explores links between people and communities. Global connections are made through her incorporation of fabric art and textiles created in other parts of the world.

The artists

Pam Dangerfield, B Ed., was born in Texas and immigrated to Calgary when she was ten. After spending many years as an art educator in schools, she focused on teaching quilters to use unique materials in artistic ways. Pam teaches workshops in creativity, colour, and design all across North America, and through the Worldwide Web. Pam lives and works from her home studio in Vancouver BC. She is part owner of FibreEssence Gallery.

Bonny Voice, BSHEC, moved from Ottawa to Saskatchewan when she was in elementary school. With her Home Economics degree, she taught high school in the Saskatoon area. She creates art from her farm studio at Bradwell, SK. Bonny has taught at three Quilt Canada conferences. In workshops, which she has taught across Western Canada, she encourages her students to cut up, reconnect and play.

Judy Morningstar, BHEC, grew up on a farm at Wilcox SK. Following a brief career with Manitoba Agriculture Extension, she connected with her husband, and moved to their farm at Goodlands, in SW Manitoba. She has taught quilting workshops in every province of Canada, and was awarded "Canadian Quilt Teacher of the Year" in 2006 by Canadian Quilters' Association. Judy loves to challenge her students to break the rules while they learn to express their own creative voice.

Canvas — a piece of strong cloth on which to paint a picture



Proposals?

Artists, please, submit your proposals to us! The gallery hosts exhibits in approximate two month blocks throughout the year.

Mailing list

To receive **CANVAsS**, invitations to all exhibitions and other gallery updates contact Connie Wiebe, cwiebe@mennonitechurch.ca.

Contact

Ray Dirks, MHC Gallery, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB Canada R3P 0M4. Ph: (204) 888-6781. E-mail: rdirks@mennonitechurch.ca

Thanks

Bill and Margaret Fast, Herb and Erna Buller, Frank and Agnes DeFehr, The Winnipeg Foundation, Friesens, Herb Peters and Donna Peters-Small, Ted and Mary Paetkau, other donors

examine carefully, discuss — **Canvas**

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Monday, October 6, 7:30PM

If you appreciate the gallery, if you wish to see the gallery continue on its unique and vital path, you can do one of two important things.

One. Plan to attend our annual fundraiser. Enjoy the music, the fine desserts, learn about exciting things going on inside and outside the gallery, enjoy the art. **Give.**

Two. Can't make it to the fundraiser. **Give.**

We'd like you to come to the fundraiser and find out what has happened, is happening and will happen. But we realize many people who do support the work of the gallery won't be able to make it. Whether you can make it or not, you can still donate. So, please, consider stopping by on October 6. But, if you cannot, please, still consider a donation.

Why the hard sell? The gallery budget is driven by donations. Without donations it dies. I push for donations as seldom as possible — not wanting to seem to be pestering people, not wanting to become annoying. But, once or twice a year I must.

The wonderful things happening here, the exhibits, the work in schools, all the rest, depend on your donations in order to continue.

The unique role the gallery plays in Manitoba has led to my receiving three awards this year, including the Above and Beyond Award for the Arts from the Manitoba Foundation for the Arts, the top award handed out every second year by the foundation, and the TEAL Manitoba Community Award from the Manitoba association representing English as an Additional Language educators. These awards are evidence that what is happening through the gallery is making a difference and reaching far beyond its walls.

Our annual budget — including salaries, exhibition and



other programming costs, nuts and bolts, etc... — is about \$60,000, pretty much unchanged from most of my 10 years here. Not much considering all the gallery does and the extent of its reach. Not much to confirm, to shout, art can make a positive difference.

Our belief is that God gave artists a gift, a talent to use, to be celebrated, to provoke where provoking is needed, to enrich, to reach across, around and through boundaries. That belief is what led me to walking cold into the Mennonite Heritage Centre's office in early 1998 asking if I could try to make a fulltime gallery a reality.

The gallery has made it to 2008. How about 2018? **Give.**

If you wish to join us at the fundraiser, contact Connie Wiebe at 888 6781 or cwiebe@mennonitechurch.ca to confirm your attendance. We need to know numbers, so, please confirm. All donations are tax deductible. They can be made by cash, cheque made out to the MHC Gallery or credit card. For a credit card donation, see Connie Wiebe in the gallery or give her a call at 204 888 6781. Cheques can be dropped off at the gallery or mailed to MHC Gallery, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 0M4.

PS The formal part of the evening will not go longer than one hour. Beyond that, you are welcome to stay as long as you wish to visit, take a look at the art, enjoy the refreshments...

Next

Two exhibitions. A victims of violence exhibition from Victim's Voice, plus, artist Edith Krause's exhibition inspired by Mennonite refugee journeys. Opening November 7.

Finally finished

After literally years, the Anabaptist display at the entrance to the Mennonite Heritage Centre is finished. For a quick stroll through Mennonite/Anabaptist history from European beginnings to a global community, stop by for a look the next time you're in the gallery.

Art Elsewhere

Christian Worthington and Patrick Neufeld

September 19 – October 30 at the Cre8ery, 125 Adelaide St., Winnipeg
Christian and Patrick are interested in leading church groups through their exhibit, letting them know why contemporary art

CANVASs

needs a Christian public. Contact Christian at christianworthington@hotmail.com for information and to arrange a tour. Regular

hours are Tuesday to Saturday: 12-5 and Monday and Thursday: 6-10 p.m.

Please, consider a donation

I'd like to support the MHC Gallery (PLEASE PRINT)

name _____

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Make your cheque payable to the MHC Gallery

Mail to: MHC Gallery, 600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 0M4

contact Connie Wiebe at (204) 888 6781 or cwiebe@mennonitechurch.ca to donate by credit card

DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE



Judy Morningstar
 (left) *Give Peace a Chance*, (above)
Kensington Market, (right) *Party Hearty!*



Bonny Voice
 (left) *Meandering*, (below)
Asian Mask, (right) *Night
 Life on the Prairies*



Pam Dangerfield
 (left) *Who Passes Here?*,
 (above) *Mountain Meadow*,
 (right) *The Angels Know*

