

MACAULAY & CO. FINE ART

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AUDIE MURRAY, JUDY CHARTRAND, JENEEN FREI NJOOTLI

Bad Stitch

May 19 – June 30th

Opening Reception Saturday May 19, 2–5pm

as I create, the intention is not about how the labor will look.

the intention is to be open,
to receive lessons,
to listen.

every stitch is a message
every bead is a mentor.

if you can learn to truly accept
you can find answers in dreams,
you can hear it from the earth.

your hand will be guided.

Macaulay & Co is thrilled to present Judy Chartrand, Audie Murray, and Jeneen Frei Njootli in Bad Stitch. Pushing indigenous beadwork beyond its traditional use, the works presented are political and provocative, the common theme being representations of the decolonial Indigenous female body.

Audie Murray

Audie Murray is a multi-disciplinary Métis artist originally from Saskatchewan and currently learning and creating on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish peoples. She has completed a visual arts diploma at Camosun College in 2016 and her Bachelor of Fine Arts at the University of Regina in 2017. That same year she had the opportunity to study traditional tattoo practices with the Earth Line Tattoo Collective. Audie has won various awards throughout her studies including the provincial BMO 1st Art Award. Working with themes of contemporary Indigenous culture, and ideas of connectivity and duality, she believes that the concept and energy of her artworks informs their materiality and form. Audie has shown her works at various events and spaces on turtle island including the Mackenzie Art Gallery, the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery and the Clay and Glass Gallery.

About her works she writes:

“I am an artist because I learn best from a way of knowing that is separate from the institutional constructs that are set in place. Creating artwork is the way in which I process, learn, and go about embodying a presence in the world. For me creating work is a way of decolonizing myself and a way to foster understanding under my own epistemology. In my practice I explore themes of identity through culture and connection both internally and externally. I work on a personal level which flows into the world at large.”

Judy Chartrand

Judy Chartrand is Manitoba Cree and was born in Kamloops, BC. She grew up with her thirteen siblings in Vancouver's downtown eastside. Her interest in art began at an early age, as she spent a lot of her time viewing art at the Vancouver Museum. In 1989 she began painting store bought ceramics and was planning to sell her work at a local Native Arts & Craft Fair in Vancouver. She did not have the funds to continue to purchase the ceramics, so she decided to make her own.

Chartrand has an MFA from the University of Regina, 2003, a BFA degree from Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, 1998, Exchange Program at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santé Fe, 1996 and diploma in the Fine Arts Program at Langara College, 1992-1994. She has

received numerous awards such as: BC Arts Council and the Red Cloud Indian Art Show and has exhibited her work at institutes such as: Harbour Front, Toronto, ON, Glenbow Museum, Calgary, AB, Tucson Museum of Art, Tucson, AZ, Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians, Indianapolis, IN, The Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, BC, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Museum of Art & Design, NY, New York, and Mackenzie Art Gallery, Regina, SK.

Jeneen Frei Njootli

Jeneen Frei Njootli is a Vuntut Gwich'in artist and a founding member of the ReMatriate Collective. In her interdisciplinary practice she uses media such as performance, sound and textiles. Much of her work deconstructs the history of the materials she uses. She investigates their relationship to trade, cultural regalia, and the politics of First Nations art.

Her work as a contemporary Indigenous artist has been recognized throughout Canada. In 2017, Njootli was longlisted as a nominee for the national Sobey Art Award and winner of the Contemporary Art Society Vancouver Artist Prize. In 2016 she won the William and Meredith Saunderson Prize for Emerging Artists. She has completed multiple residencies at the Banff Centre for the Arts, Banff, Alberta. For her recent Media Arts Residency at the Western Front, Vancouver, British Columbia, she hosted a free workshop teaching participants how to create and update Wikipedia pages for Indigenous women artists. In 2017, Jeneen Frei Njootli earned her MFA from University of British Columbia as an uninvited guest on unceded Musqueam, Squamish, Sto:lo and Tsleil-Waututh territories. In 2018, Jeneen Frei Njootli will mark the first showcase of a contemporary Canadian emergent artist at Fierman gallery in NYC and will exhibit solo work at the Contemporary Art Gallery in Vancouver, BC. She has been recently nominated for the prestigious Sobey Award from the National Gallery of Canada.