Holly Friesen

BIOGRAPHY

I am a nationally represented visual artist based in Kenora, Ontario and have built an art practice on paintings that capture the essence of the Canadian landscape. My work involves taking the familiar and creating something new in abstraction. The goal is to create an emotional connection to the original subject by focusing on the negative space in my initial concept. I want the viewer to discover the subject matter with a unique perspective. Before turning to the arts, I was a research scientist in genetics and plant breeding.

EDUCATION

2020 - Ongoing MLA candidate Faculty of Landscape Architecture University of Manitoba

1994-1997 M.Sc. Faculty of Agriculture University of Manitoba

1990-1994 B.Sc. (with distinction) Faculty of Agriculture University of Manitoba

EXPERIENCE

2014 - Current Owner & Artist at HAF | Studio + Gallery, Kenora ON 2009 - Current Independent Research Consultant, Kenora, ON

GALLERY REPRESENTATION (Current)

Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton ON

Au P'tit Bonheur, La Malbaie QC

Dervilia Designs, Saskatoon SK

Butter Gallery, Collingwood ON

Chase Art Gallery, Beaconsfield, QC

Eclipse Art Gallery, Huntsville ON

Elevation Gallery, Canmore AB

Galerie 806, Mont Tremblant QC

Koyman Galleries, Ottawa ON

Soul Gallery, Winnipeg MB

The Benz Gallery, London ON

The Curated Home, Calgary, AB

SOLO EXHIBITIONS (Select)

2023 TBA. Elevation Fernie, Fernie BC

2022 Making Place + Time. Butter Gallery, Collingwood ON

2022 Getting Lost. Elevation Gallery, Canmore AB

2022 The Stories They Tell. Koyman Galleries, Ottawa ON

GROUP EXHIBITIONS (Select)

- 2023 Aspect. Benz Gallery, London ON
- 2020 Up North, Butter Gallery, Collingwood ON
- 2020 Annual Juried exhibition. Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton ON
- 2019 Annual Juried exhibition. Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton ON
- 2019 Muse. The Douglas Art Centre, Kenora ON
- 2016 National Juried Exhibition. Society of Canadian Artists, Toronto ON
- 2014 The North Now. Thunder Bay Art Gallery, Thunder Bay ON

ARTS FUNDING / ARTIST RESIDENCIES AWARDED

- 2023 Gushel Studio Residency, Faculty of Fine Arts, Univ of Lethbridge AB
- 2018 Bridge & Falls Creative Residency, Sioux Narrows and Nestor Falls ON
- 2017 Quetico Award Program, The Quetico Foundation, Quetico Prov Park ON
- 2017 Gushel Studio Residency, Faculty of Fine Arts, Univ of Lethbridge AB
- 2016 Rural Artist Urban Retreat, MAWA, Winnipeg MB

OTHER ART EXPERIENCE + AWARDS

2016-2019	Artist Instructor (at risk youth), KCDSD, Kenora ON
2019-2019	AIR(E), Ontario Arts Council, KCDSD, Kenora ON

2011 Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant