FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

| Exhibition: Artist: | <i>SKATE WORLD</i> Lexi Pendzich |
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| Date: | May 7 to August 3 |
| Location: | Feature exhibition – Staircase Art Gallery of St. Albert 19 Perron Street, St. Albert, AB T8N 1E5 <u>https://www.artsandheritage.ca/products/skate-world</u> |
| Events: | In person tour: May 24 at noon Virtual tour: June 5 at noon on <u>Facebook Live</u> Reception: June 13 from 6-9 pm |
| Contact: | Emily Baker/Curator 780-460-4310 <u>exhibitions@artsandheritage.ca</u> |

Edmonton based artist, Lexi Pendzich's latest body of work, SKATE WORLD opens in the Staircase feature exhibition space at the Art Gallery of St. Albert on May 7. This bold exhibition documents the skateboarding community in Edmonton and St. Albert, capturing the stories, styles and skills of many of the women and LGBTQ+ riders making waves today. With her own skateboard and a Bronica film camera, Lexi connected with skaters of all levels, from first-time riders to lifelong enthusiasts. Through a blend of portraits and action shots, SKATE WORLD captures the individuality of each rider, documenting their identities through skate.

"Skate culture is an empowering space defined by people exploring the potential of the urban domain through their sport, through a sense of togetherness and elevating each other", Lexi Pendzich says.

Pendzich has been fascinated by skateboarding since she was a teen. Everything about the culture held her attention - the design, shape and function of the different boards, the tricks, fashions, style, athletics and the individual artistry. Every skater crafts their own unique skate identity, based on how they engage with the sport.

This exhibition is a celebration of that self-expression as well as camaraderie. In SKATE WORLD, everyone can find their sense of belonging.

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Art Gallery of St. Albert 19 Perron Street, St. Albert, AB T8N 1E5 | 780-460-4310 arts and heritage st ALBERT ahfgallery@artsandheritage.ca | artgalleryofstalbert.ca Hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 10 am-5 pm, Thursday: 10 am-8 pm Art Gallery of St. Albert is part of the Arts and Heritage Foundation of St. Albert

