

## News Release

### New Art Gallery of St. Albert exhibition connects visitors to Jamaica's cultural identity

**March 13, 2024, St. Albert, Alberta** – The Art Gallery of St. Albert (part of the Arts and Heritage Foundation) is launching its newest exhibition in the beautiful main gallery space on **March 14**. ***Threading Through Time*** by **Raneece Buddan** is meant to connect visitors to Jamaica's cultural identity.

The small Caribbean Island is a melting pot of peoples brought from Africa, India and other parts of the world over hundreds of years through the Atlantic slave trade. The stories, practices and traditions from a multitude of ancestral lands have blended and morphed over time.

Traditional crafts, stories and practices merge and fracture in Buddan's work. A Jamaican visual artist who resides in amiswaciwâskahikan / Edmonton, her practice investigates her identity, history and ancestry through an ever-growing medley of media. Clay vessels, wood sculptures, textiles and mixed media wall pieces all blend traditional skills and stories into complex self-portraits.

She explores her personal ancestry, rooted in India and West Africa, through the crafts and stories of those regions. Each of her pieces is a hybrid of the past and present, the artist and her ancestors, celebrating an ever-expanding complexity.

*"Though I feel pride in being Jamaican there is a yearning to learn more about the original cultures that formed this new one; where they came from and how they expressed themselves creatively,"* says Raneece. *"This sense of loss has powered my visual art to create something tangible that I can view outside of myself,"* she adds.

***Threading Through Time*** welcomes viewers to walk along with Raneece, as she explores the roots of her Jamaican cultural identity.

**[Threading Through Time](#) runs from March 14 – April 25**

- **Opening reception:** March 21 from 6-8 pm
- **In-person tour:** March 27 at noon
- **Virtual tour:** April 3 at noon on Facebook Live
- **Artist led program:** April 6 from 2-5 pm

#### For more information contact:

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#### Art Gallery of St. Albert

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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

