

# BURNABY ART GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2013

## OFF-SITE EXHIBITIONS

November 2013 to February 2014



### *Haydn Thomas: ESC CTRL*

Bob Prittie Library (Metrotown)

6100 Willingdon Ave

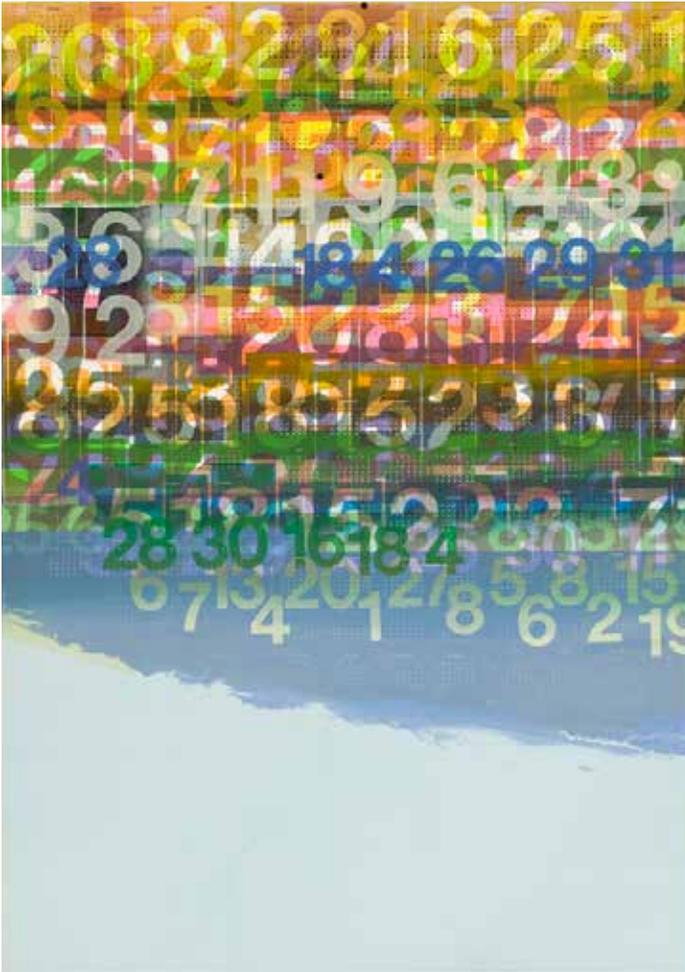
November 4, 2013 - February 2, 2014

Haydn Thomas, *Untitled*, 2013, pen and pencil crayon on paper, 42.3 x 30.5cm., photo courtesy Harry Booth.

**BURNABY, BC** – The Burnaby Art Gallery is pleased to present three off-site exhibitions at Burnaby’s public libraries: *Haydn Thomas: ESC CTRL*, *The Natural Numeral: Works from the Burnaby Art Gallery Permanent Collection* and *Rare Books from the Burnaby Art Gallery Library and Resource Collection*.

**Haydn Thomas’** series of pencil crayon drawings *ESC CTRL* combines forms and motifs drawn from nature. Patterns emerge from these forms through a wandering, unplanned drawing process, with the artist seeking to allow the drawings themselves to unfold and bloom. Through patterning inspired by diverse sources such as Ukrainian Easter eggs; Indian and Tibetan mandalas and Moroccan rug designs; and Polish and Eastern European lace-work, Thomas notes the embedded effects of patterning on young consciousness—through the wallpapers, linoleum designs, carpets and decorative objects that surrounded him as a child. These patterns have served an important role in the shaping of his aesthetic sensibilities and resound throughout his practice.

Haydn Thomas is a self-taught artist living and working in Vancouver, BC. He has shown work at the Fifty Fifty Gallery (Victoria, BC), the Surrey Art Gallery and the Arnica Artist Run Centre (Kamloops, BC). This is his first solo exhibition. Thomas will present an “artist walk” Sunday November 17, meeting in the main library atrium at 2 pm. He will discuss his ideas on drawing and his recent experimentation with patterning from various mushroom and fungus spores, leading a walk to look at and collect natural pattern pieces in Burnaby’s Central Park. This is a free event and all are welcome.



## *The Natural Numeral*

Burnaby Art Gallery Permanent Collection

McGill Library  
4595 Albert St  
November 5, 2013 - February 3, 2014

Kay Murray-Webber, *Numbered Days*, 1976, serigraph on paper, 102.6 x 74.3 cm., 4/14, Burnaby Art Gallery Permanent Collection.

**THE NATURAL NUMERAL** draws upon the Permanent Collection of the Burnaby Art Gallery to examine the use of numbers in printmaking. The so-called “Natural Numeral,” the number as used for counting and ordering, has been investigated by various artists through distinct media. The works presented here reference the Gregorian calendar and seafaring charts, draw upon scoring systems and the ordering of objects, precise measurement and cures for insomnia. What can also be noted when viewing these works is the graphic presence of the numeral—in other words, the number as form or shape.

### **Works Shown:**

M.P. Lane, *Count to Sleep*, 1983, serigraph on paper, 29.0 x 39.8 cm., Ed. 7/8

Janis Lee, *Trees Look Younger in their Youth*, 1982, 31.9 x 41.0 cm., Ed. 1/15

Regan Morris, *Untitled (Pair)*, 1995, photo-etching and screenprint on paper, 40.5 x 42.5 cm. and 52.0 x 42.5 cm., Ed. 4/14, Purchased with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisition Assistance program/Oeuvre achetée avec l'aide du programme d'aide aux acquisitions du Conseil des Arts du Canada

Kay Murray-Webber, *Numbered Days*, 1976, serigraph on paper, 104.7 x 75.5 cm., Ed. 4/14

Irene Smith, *Cast My Soul over the Ocean*, 1976, etching on paper, 52.1 x 29.5 cm., Ed. 6/10

Neil Wedman, *1991*, 1991, lithograph on paper, 25.4 x 46.0 cm., S/P, From the Furlan Collection of Contemporary Canadian Prints, gift of R. and L. Furlan

Irene Whittome, *Germination Pathétique*, 1969, etching on paper, 45.0 x 82.0 cm., Ed. 1/10



## Rare Books

Burnaby Art Gallery Library and Resource Collection

Tommy Douglas Library

7311 Kingsway

November 4, 2013 - February 2, 2014

**RARE BOOKS** is a special exhibition of eight rare books from the Burnaby Art Gallery Library and Resource Collection. These editions include illustrations by well known artists such as Clare Leighton, Ernest Lumsden and Charles H. Scott, all of whom are represented by works held in the Burnaby Art Gallery's Permanent Collection. To view works held in the collection and learn more about these artists, visit [collections.burnabyartgallery.ca](http://collections.burnabyartgallery.ca)

This is the final offsite exhibition that focuses on a series of artist books related to maps and topography.

Clare Leighton (1898-1989) was a British/American artist. Leighton is widely known for her books and her wood engraving illustrations, which were not yet seen as a legitimate form of artistic expression. She persevered nonetheless, with depictions of the natural environment and the reality of hard labour and its virtues being core themes in her work.

Charles H. Scott (1886-1964) graduated from the Glasgow School of Art in 1909 and emigrated to Canada in 1912, finally settling in Vancouver in 1914. Scott's belief in the importance of cultural consciousness for a city and its citizens inspired him to be a founding member of the B.C. Arts League in 1919. This group lobbied for the establishment of an art school and an art gallery for the city of Vancouver at a time when neither existed. Due to the efforts of the B.C. Arts League, the Vancouver School of Decorative and Applied Art opened its doors in 1935. Scott served as the school's principal from 1926 to 1952 and was instrumental in establishing the school as one of the most vital in the country, attracting teachers such as Jock Macdonald and Fred Varley. In 1931, the Vancouver Art Gallery opened to the public. Away from the demands on his time as an administrator and teacher, Scott used what little leisure time he had to paint and much of his work depicts the B.C. landscape.

Ernest S. Lumsden (1883-1948) was a distinguished painter and an authority on etching. When an illness prevented him from continuing his post as a naval cadet in the mid-1890s, he enrolled at the Reading Art School in London where he studied drawing and painting. His first exhibition of etchings was in 1906 at the International Society of Sculptors, Painters and Gravers Black and White exhibition, and he subsequently went on to exhibit across Europe before accepting a position as an instructor at the newly created Edinburgh College of Art in 1908. Lumsden travelled extensively, spending time in British Columbia and India, amongst others. Thanks to a generous donation by David Lemon, the Burnaby Art Gallery holds an extraordinary collection of over 600 Ernest Lumsden prints.

### Books on display:

Clare Leighton, *The Farmer's Year: A Calendar of English Husbandry*, (London: Collins), 1933, 49. This edition, written and engraved by Clare Leighton, chronicles the activities of the farmer throughout the year - January: Lambing, February: Lopping, March: Threshing, April: Sowing, May: Sheep Shearing, June: Hay-Making, July: Cottage Gardens, August: Harvesting, September: Apple-Picking, October: Cider-Making, November: Ploughing, and December: The Fat Stock Market.

Emily Brontë, *Wuthering Heights*, (New York: Random House), 1931, 162. This book is a first edition signed by the artist Clare Leighton. It includes twelve wood engravings illustrating Brontë's classic tale. Leighton's finely detailed engraving shows the character Heathcliff after learning of Catherine's death.

Clare Leighton, *Wood-Engravings and Woodcuts*, (London: The Studio Ltd.), 1932, 92. This first edition instructional book in the "How to Do It" series details the method and materials of various wood engraving techniques. Using examples of many artworks, including her own, Leighton offers an image of her work Cutting, a wood engraving from 1931, properly inked and printed.

Clare Leighton, *Wood-Engravings and Woodcuts*, (London: The Studio Ltd.), 1932, cover.

William P. Weston, *A Teachers' Manual of Drawing*, (Toronto: Thomas Nelson and Sons, Ltd.), c. 1933, 164-165.

Charles H. Scott, Ed., *Drawing and Design: A Teacher's Manual*, (Toronto: Thomas Nelson and Sons, Ltd.), c. 1924, 160-161. These manuals were first distributed by the Textbook Branch, BC Department of Education, in a run of 3500 copies. The manual includes methods, instruction, and design guidance for teachers of elementary and high schools, and includes text and illustration by Charles H. Scott, W.P. Weston, and S. P. Judge.

E.S. Lumsden, *The Art of Etching*, (London: Seeley, Service and Co., Ltd.), 1925. Described as "a complete and fully illustrated description of etching, drypoint, soft-ground etching, aquatint and their allied arts, together with technical notes upon their own work by many of the leading etchers of the present time."

Malcolm C. Salaman, *Modern Masters of Etching: E. S. Lumsden*, (London: The Studio Ltd.), 1928. Each plate in this book is accompanied by a guard sheet and descriptive letterpress. Plate V: Feeding the Birds, 1921, (original 22.0 x 36.9 cm., etching on paper)

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*The Burnaby Art Gallery's Off-site Exhibition Series showcases artwork from local, emerging artists, as well as nationally-known, established artists in the spaces of Burnaby's Public Libraries. For additional artist's talks and events in this series visit: [www.burnabyartgallery.ca](http://www.burnabyartgallery.ca)*

#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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The Burnaby Art Gallery is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting a contemporary and historical visual art program by local, national and internationally recognized artists. As the stewards of the third largest public art museum collection within the Province of British Columbia, the Burnaby Art Gallery cares for and manages over 4,000 works of art. The Burnaby Art Gallery is a nationally recognized leader in print culture dedicated to showcasing original hand-pulled prints and ephemera related to printmaking in Canada.

For more information about the gallery's exhibitions, programs, and tours, call 604-297-4422 or visit [www.burnabyartgallery.ca](http://www.burnabyartgallery.ca). Located in the beautiful surroundings of Deer Lake Park, the Burnaby Art Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday, 10:00am to 4:30pm and on Saturday and Sunday, 12noon to 5:00pm. Admission is by donation; parking is free.

The Burnaby Art Gallery acknowledges the generous support provided by: the City of Burnaby; the British Columbia Arts Council; the Province of British Columbia, its patrons and visitors.

