

BURNABY ART GALLERY

For Immediate Release
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New Burnaby Art Gallery Offsite Exhibitions

BURNABY, BC – The Burnaby Art Gallery is pleased to present two offsite exhibitions at Burnaby’s public libraries until March 6 and 7, 2016: *Gordon Friesen: Beyond Kingsway* and *Diana Kemble: Selections from the Birdsong Series*.

Diana Kemble: Selections from the Birdsong Series

December 8 - March 7, 2016
McGill Library | 4595 Albert Street



Birdsongs have been part of mankind’s history since the beginning of recorded time. In fact, it is thought that birdsong preceded the human invention of language by several millennia. In the wild, birds are often identified by their calls and songs long before they are actually sighted by bird watchers.

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Songs that are extended and more complex are associated with courtship and mating, while shorter calls tend to serve as alarms or as a way of keeping members of a flock in contact. In this series of prints, artist Diana Kemble has sought to recreate birdsong in pictorial form.

Diana's prints depict spectrograms, also known as sonograms, images that depict birdsong as it was represented in the 1970's when these prints were produced. In this series, the birdsongs depicted act as metaphors for human relationships. The resultant mark-making is also a splendid exploration of lithography. Digital recording has altered the way birdsong is now reproduced. Many websites feature the recorded sounds of birds that can be downloaded for bird identification.

Diana Kemble (1935- 2008) was an award winning printmaker and instructor who is well known for her political engagement in the Strathcona neighborhood of Vancouver. Many of her masterful lithographs comment on human relations. All of the prints shown here are drawn from the Malaspina Printshop Archives of the City of Burnaby Permanent Collection- a gift of Milton and Fei Wong.

Gordon Friesen: Beyond Kingsway

December 7, 2015 - March 6, 2016

Bob Prittie Library | 6100 Willingdon Avenue

The work of Gordon Friesen first came to the attention of the Burnaby Art Gallery in the summer of 2014 when he had a solo exhibition at the Havana Restaurant and Gallery on Commercial Drive. At that time, no fewer than three people got in touch with the Burnaby Art Gallery to recommend that we see the show. Impressed by his work, we immediately offered Friesen an exhibition at Bob Prittie Library for 2015.

Now a resident of Victoria, Friesen grew up in Vancouver and Surrey. *Beyond Kingsway* depicts nostalgic scenes of Vancouver and its environs, contemporary portraits and commentary on the current state of the environment in the guise of disfigured landscapes. For this exhibition, Friesen has written brief passages to accompany each piece.

Gordon Friesen has worked in many media throughout his career. His work continues to focus on line drawing, many of which eventually get reproduced as linocuts. For more information on the artist, or to see more of his work, please visit his website at www.studio1240.com.

The Burnaby Art Gallery's Offsite Exhibition Series showcases artwork from local, emerging artists as well as nationally-known, established artists in the spaces of Burnaby's Public Libraries.

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MEDIA CONTACT

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The Burnaby Art Gallery (BAG) is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting a contemporary and historical visual art program by local, national and internationally recognized artists. The BAG acts as a leader in the collection, preservation and exhibition of artists who choose to work on paper – we are the only art museum in British Columbia dedicated to works of art on paper. Through our collection and exhibition practices the BAG endeavours to represent the best and most promising artists within the Canadian print culture community. The BAG cares for and manages over 5,000 works of art in the City of Burnaby's Permanent Art Collection.

For more information about the gallery's exhibitions, programs, and tours, call 604-297-4422 or visit 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; suggested donation \$5. 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.



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