

Arts Commons
Presents



WINDOW GALLERIES

Lynn Cameron & Shawn Belanger

Changemakers – A SPARK Festival
Solo Artist Series

September 9 — December 8, 2019

ARTIST RECEPTION: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019 — ARTS COMMONS, 5:30–8:30 PM

LYNN CAMERON

Artist Biography

Lynn is a Calgary artist and stroke survivor with limited feeling on her right side, including her right (dominant) hand. She also lives with aphasia - an impaired ability to understand or produce speech. Following her stroke, Lynn rediscovered a love for art at the Indefinite Arts Centre (2015 to present), where she has trained herself to paint using her non-dominant hand. With the support of IAC, Lynn has exhibited her work in several group exhibitions including “Albertan Perspectives” (2018) - a traveling exhibit which toured Hong Kong and South Korea. Her artwork has also been auctioned off to support several charitable organizations in Calgary. Lynn’s subject matter is inspired by her early (pre-stroke) interest in folk painting. An enthusiastic gardener, she now focuses primarily on painting landscapes, forests and floral arrangements. Using a vibrant, saturated palette, Lynn enjoys working with both acrylic and oil (brushes and palette knife) to capture micro and macro perspectives. Her landscapes are invested with emotional content; feelings of solitude, serenity and quiet pervade each image. For Lynn, time spent in the studio is a reflective, meditative, and visual appreciation of nature.

SHAWN BELANGER

Artist Statement (written by Shawn's family)

Shawn Belanger is a visual artist from Calgary who specializes in artist inks. Shawn lives with autism and is a self-taught artist with no formal training. Though he has very limited speech, his art speaks volumes about the way in which he sees the world. His use of organic, free-flowing lines show a strong connection to the natural world, his energetic and vivacious choice of colour brings his work to life and reflects all of the detail and beauty Shawn perceives in the world around him. “The one thing I am quite sure of is that Shawn has shown us how he sees the world. The detail that he puts in his work leads us to believe that he does not see the big picture; he sees each and every detail.” -Nancy Belanger, Shawn’s mom

Artist Biography

After being diagnosed with Autism at the age of five, Shawn was told he would never have the functional use of a pencil. It wasn’t until senior high that he first attended an art class. His art teacher showed him books of famous artists, and Shawn began to draw and colour independently. Following high school Shawn attended an adult day program for people with disabilities where he connected with an artist on staff. This mentor introduced Shawn to artist inks, and his passion took off. Shawn’s work has since been featured in many exhibitions (both locally and internationally), he has created logos and commissioned artworks, and he has been published in several Autism-specific publications.

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