

MAMANAW PEKISKWEWINA: AMISKWACÎWÂSKAHIKAN

U < d III

GIFTS OF ART

[CARE]RATED BY

Cheyenne Rain LeGrande ᑭᑭᑭᑭ

*Inuk joy, love, and kindness, dancing in the northern lights
Singing with the Nehiyaw ancestors, Kisemanitow brings hope
Lands of Sikohkotoki, Honour Nitsiipowahsiin
Beads radiate Michif love and light, as long as the sun shines
Magic found in one another, translated into denesųtiné
Loss of language, transcendent Nahkawiwin
Ancestral Nakota knowledge and tradition,
honouring Two Spirit youth*

These seven ancestral languages are embedded across the downtown core in amiskwacîwâskahikan.

Visibility is powerful and to have the living languages which come from this land be seen in the midst of an urban environment speaks to the resilience and the survival of Indigenous people and languages.

[Care]rated: Caring for the artist, and the artworks and doing so humbly, in the Nehiyaw way. Someone who “cares for the artists and their gifts of art.”

[Gift of art]: Inspired by the phrase “works of art”. Each “work of art” in this show feels like a beautiful gift and each artist is extremely gifted. I look at these works as gifts of art that are to be shared with earth and the people of the earth. These gifts of art are to be honoured and cherished.

Edna Elias

ALEX DECOTEAU PARK,
10230 105 STREET

An impactful photograph of an Inuk handcrafted masterpiece. Such thought, love and kindness is shared through this work. A common word of the Inuvialuit people is embroidered on stroud surrounded by dancing northern lights. “Aarigaa” expresses amazement, excitement, joy, appreciation, beauty, happiness and sheer gratitude; a term of endearment. This work brings joy and holds the strength and love of Inuvialuit people. An Inuktitut word in syllabics of similar meanings is inlaid into sealskin. The seal, its skin and byproducts are very important to both the Inuvialuit and Inuit people.

Carol Powder & Cikwes

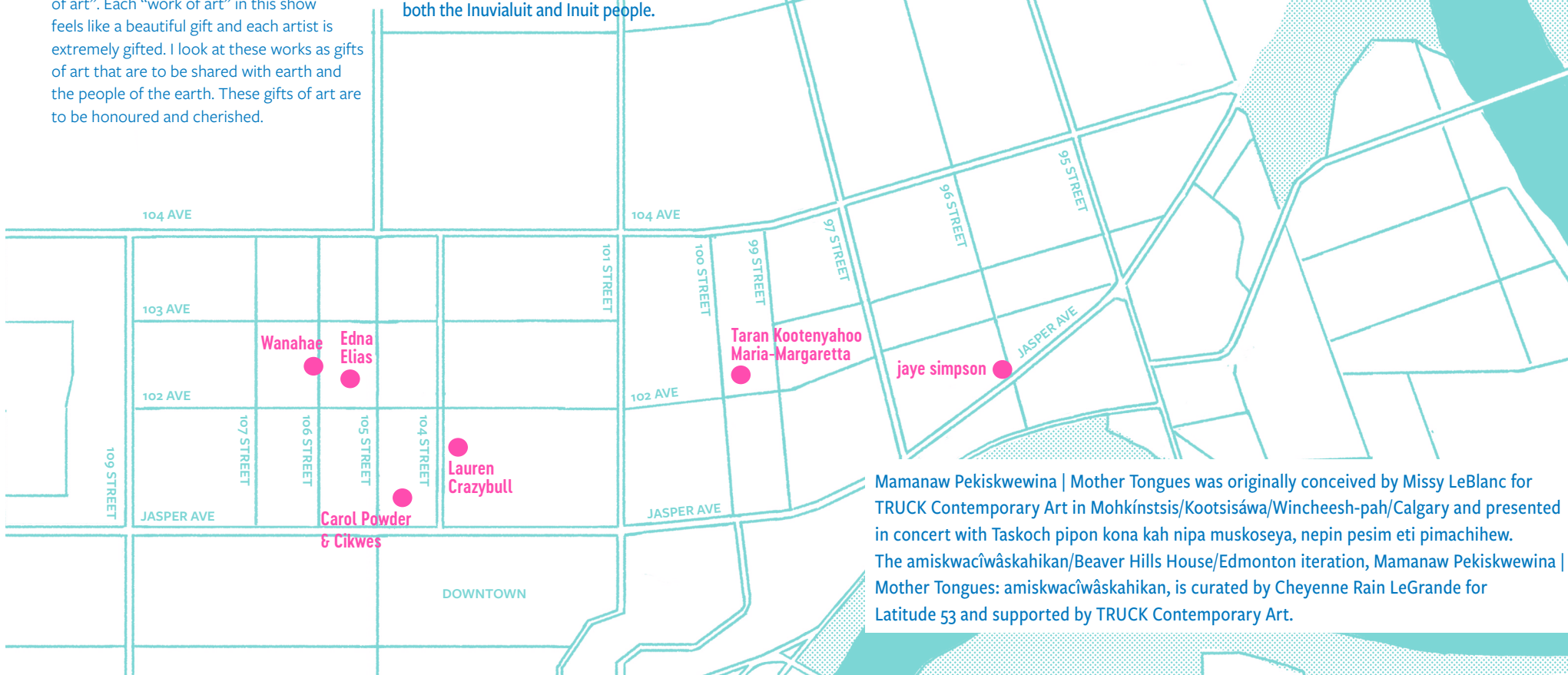
AMISKWASKAHEGAN (BEAVER HILLS HOUSE PARK), 10404 JASPER AVENUE

The song Kisemanito is a Nehiyaw spiritual. Kisemanto means ‘Kind Creator’ in the Cree language, a term that Elders start their prayers with in reference to Manito, the ‘Great Mystery.’ The Ancestors can be heard singing in an ancient style giving the listener a feeling of being cradled in a wapsowin, by way of traditional Cree drumming and chanting by Carol Powder of Chubby Cree. This song is medicine and brings a beacon of hope to everyone during this difficult time.

Lauren Crazybull

GREAT WEST SADDLERY BUILDING,
10137 104 STREET

Two pendulous skateboards printed with photographs of Sikohkotoki (Lethbridge). The text is translated into Nitsiipowahsiin (Blackfoot) by Ahstanskiaki Manyfeathers. A delicate hand dyed canvas floats in the space adorned with remnants of gifted objects. These gifts of art explore alternative approaches to returning home, honour the reclamation of language and consider the connection between skateboarding and language learning.



Mamanaw Pekiskwewina | Mother Tongues was originally conceived by Missy LeBlanc for TRUCK Contemporary Art in Mohkínstsis/Kootsisáwa/Wincheesh-pah/Calgary and presented in concert with Taskoch pipon kona kah nipa muskoseya, nepin pesim eti pimachihew. The amiskwacîwâskahikan/Beaver Hills House/Edmonton iteration, Mamanaw Pekiskwewina | Mother Tongues: amiskwacîwâskahikan, is curated by Cheyenne Rain LeGrande for Latitude 53 and supported by TRUCK Contemporary Art.

Maria-Margaretta

TIX ON THE SQUARE, SIR WINSTON
CHURCHILL SQUARE, 9930 102 AVENUE

A delicate beaded curtain made in connection to home. It flows in celebration, collaboration and in honour of Taran Kootenayoo. Beading over a yellow Kokum scarf as an act of healing. It radiates the love and light Maria and Taran shared here on this earth. Embroidery in Michif reads “as long as the sun shines,” which is a reference to the Logan Alexis singers who sing about the treaties in Taran’s brilliant film D.I.Y.

Taran Kootenayoo

TIX ON THE SQUARE, SIR WINSTON
CHURCHILL SQUARE, 9930 102 AVENUE

An Indigenous brilliant native skate film, which tells the story of a remarkable moment and interaction Taran experienced at a skatepark. The film is displayed with subtitles in denesų́tiné translated by Stesune Lynda Minoose. It’s about the magic we find within one another. I will forever cherish the magic you shared with us here on earth Taran.

*Sâkíhitowak
Neghanighit
I love you*

jaye simpson

GIBSON BLOCK, 9608 JASPER AVENUE

An iconic series of photographs, documenting a performance that addresses ideas around the inability to speak one’s language. A visceral black liquid flows from their mouth. A powerful act speaking to the loss of ancestral language. “Auntie Told me Mother used to speak the Language too” is a hunt for language and home. The images tell their story and display their transcendent poetry written in Nahkawiwin.

Wanahae

LATITUDE 53, 10242 106 STREET

A magical and powerful three panel mural painting which honours two spirited youth. This work is rooted in ancestral knowledge and tradition. A strong and influential statement of “Protect Two Spirit youth” is written on the banner in Nakota, translated by Nakota Language Keepers. The beautiful mural includes the seven grandmother colours, the transition of light and the transition of bodies.



ATB Financial™



Canada Council
for the Arts

Conseil des Arts
du Canada