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MacKenzie Community Tours offer a two hour, hands-on learning experience complete with a **private guided tour** and **interactive studio activities**. Tours are **tailored to the unique needs of every group** and are **appropriate for all ages**, offering insight into the exhibitions, and opportunities for creative response and reflection.

WINTER 2017

TOURS FROM JANUARY 25 – APRIL, 2017



CORE FUNDING PROVIDED BY:



Conseil des Arts
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Community Tour and Studio Workshop \$100 / group up to 50
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ACROSS THE TURTLE'S BACK

The Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art

This winter season, we are excited to share with you the exhibit

Across the Turtle's Back: The Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art. This extensive exhibition of both two-and three-

dimensional works offers a glimpse into the diversity of artwork made by First Nations, Métis, and Inuit artists across North America. We invite you to use this exhibit as a starting point to re-examine colonial ways of thought, learn about the stories and values that bring people together across cultures, explore creative technologies and artistic methods employed by Indigenous peoples, and discover the variety of works and innovation by contemporary Indigenous artists.

WINTER TOUR OBJECTIVES:

- Participants will experience a broad and eclectic survey of North American Indigenous art through an expansive collection acquired by Canadian collector Thomas Druyan and Alice Ladner.
- Participants will learn about modern and contemporary Indigenous artistic practices through the exhibition's themes of story, portraiture, abstraction, music, mythology, and Indigenous worldviews.
- In this exhibition, participants will learn about colonial history and Indigenous issues through contemporary experiences and perspectives.

IN THE STUDIO

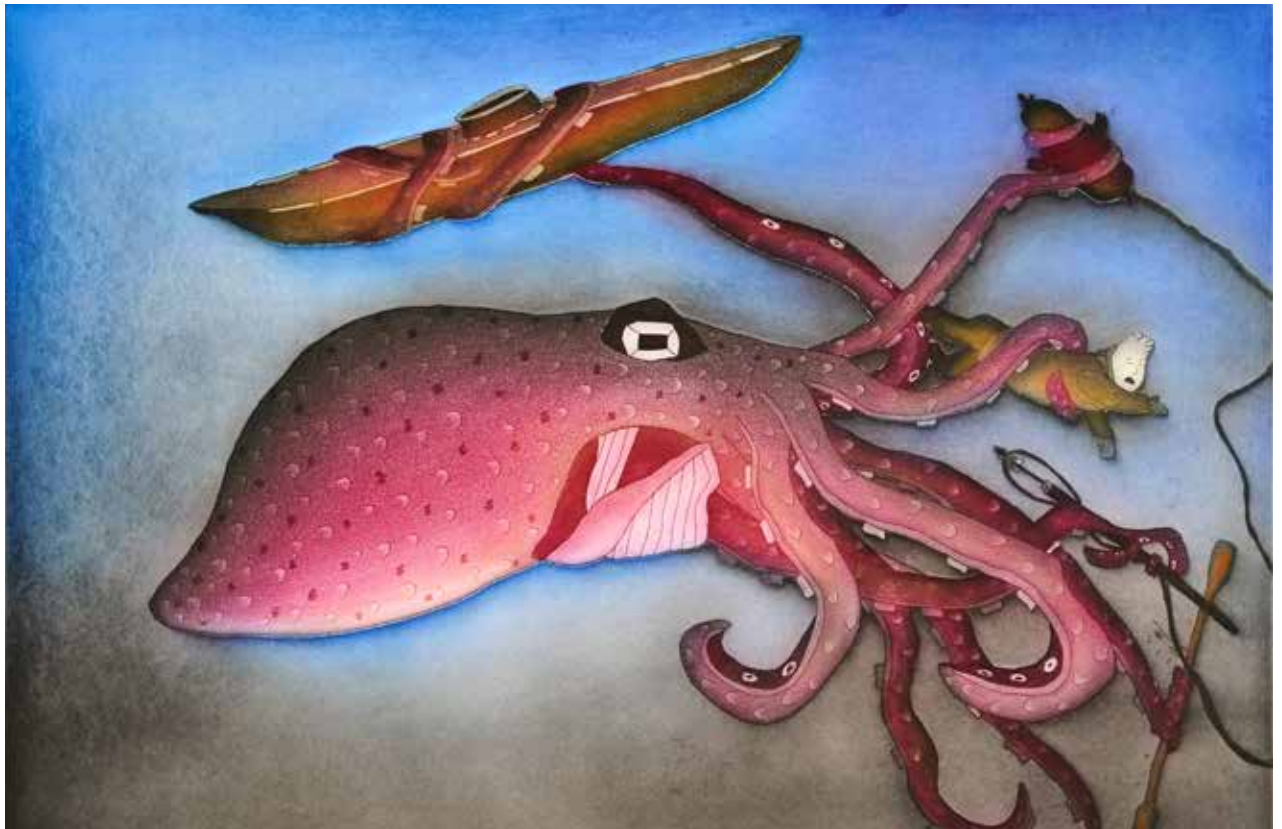
Participants will use simple looms to weave small cloth hangings. This activity gives an introduction to the world of textile arts, and could be used to discuss colour patterns with younger children.



ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

The Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art is the result of one couple's **passion for North American Indigenous art**. The exhibition features **245 artworks** that have been selected from over 1,000 works assembled by Yellowknife collectors Thomas Druyan and Alice Ladner. Named in honour of Druyan's grandparents Wolf and Sala Kampelmacher, the collection was **developed over almost 25 years** and **illustrates a myriad of artistic expressions from across the turtle's back**. Over 100 of these works have been promised as a donation from Druyan and Ladner.

The exhibition gives **insight into an eclectic vision** driven less by artist's reputation or style and more by the **expressive qualities of individual works**. Druyan and Ladner's enthusiasm in supporting artists of Indigenous descent often led them to include those **artists they felt were deserving of greater recognition**. While the range of subject matter and styles throughout the collection are quite varied, there are a number of **themes**: supernatural beings and legends; bears, birds and other animals; depictions of customary practices and worldviews; flora, fauna, and images of the land; and works exploring political issues and history. Several stylistic groups and categories are encompassed within the



Allen (Ahmoo) Angecone, **Wolves Looking Out of Den**, 1984, silk-screen on paper, 29 x 41 cm (sight). Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art. Promised gift to the MacKenzie Art Gallery Permanent Collection.

collection. Early Inuit printmaking and tapestry, and contemporary Inuit carvings from across the four regions collectively known as Inuit Nunangat are well represented. There are also numerous works by artists from the Manitoulin Island area of Ontario, other Woodland School artists, and members of the Professional Native

Indian Artists Inc. Artists from the Southwest United States and many more contemporary artists from across Canada and throughout North America are also prominently represented.

A key objective for Thomas Druyan and Alice Ladner in making a large donation of works to the MacKenzie is to **create an educational**

resource for current and future generations of students, scholars and community members.

This generous gift will undoubtedly be utilized for the years to come through permanent collection and outreach exhibitions, and through the Gallery's program of loans to institutions across Canada and abroad. This substantial acquisition will also **fill holes in the Gallery's existing holdings** with the addition of previously unrepresented artists, including: Joane Cardinal-Shubert, Roy Thomas, Blake Debassige, Eddy Cobiness, Rick Rivet, Allen Angecone, Pitalousie Saila and Germaine Arnaktauyok. Furthermore, it will **supplement the collection with important early works by a number of leading contemporary artists**, including: Robert Houle, Carl Beam, Alex Janvier and Helen Kalvak. The donation, one of the largest in the MacKenzie's history, will make a significant contribution to the Gallery's representation of First Nations and Inuit artists, and will add to our growing reputation as a leader in the collecting of contemporary Indigenous art.

- Michelle LaVallee, Curator



Images (clockwise starting top left): **Leland Bell**, *Thoughts in the Void*, circa 1975, acrylic on canvas, 59 x 49 cm. Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art. Promised gift to the MacKenzie Art Gallery Permanent Collection. **Allen (Ahmoo) Angecone**, **Wolves Looking Out of Den**, 1984, silkscreen on paper, 29 x 41 cm (sight). Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art. Promised gift to the MacKenzie Art Gallery Permanent Collection. **Rick Rivet**, *Small Pox Jack, #1*, 1992, acrylic on canvas, 156 x 123.2 cm. Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art. Promised gift to the MacKenzie Art Gallery Permanent Collection. **Pitalousie Saila**, *Spring Morning*, 2000, ink on paper, 39 x 57 cm. Kampelmacher Memorial Collection of Indigenous Art. Promised gift to the MacKenzie Art Gallery Permanent Collection.