

Press Release

Touchstones Nelson
Museum of Art and History



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For immediate release

***Beyond Recognition: Aboriginal Abstractions* expands the perception of Canadian Aboriginal Art**

Nelson, BC (May 9, 2019): Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art and History brings *Beyond Recognition: Aboriginal Abstractions* to Nelson this summer, an exhibition that adds another chapter to the story of Indigenous art in the Pacific Northwest and across the country.

The art showcased in *Beyond Recognition* was created by 11 artists past and present; from across the country and spanning decades. Bob Boyer, Benjamin Chee Chee, Robert Houle, Alex Janvier, Katia KaK'wa Kurtness, Ann McLean, Kimowan Metchewais, Susan Point, Rick Rivet, Helen Wassegijig and Linus Woods are renowned, celebrated artists using the canvas to open dialogue and contribute to the evolving idea of Aboriginal Art in North America.



(image: *Sweet Poetry* by Katia Kak'wa Kurtness - 2006, acrylic on canvas, framed: 32.7 x 63cm)

“Although these artists’ practice is seen as being informed by abstract expressionism, the narrative role this genre takes on in the hands of Aboriginal artists transforms it into a truly North American Aboriginal art form that pays homage to its Indigenous roots.” (excerpt, Michelle McGeogh)

The exhibition runs June 8 to August 11, 2019, with an opening event on Friday, June 7 in Gallery A from 7-9 pm at Touchstones Nelson.

Michelle McGeough is an Assistant Professor at the University of British Columbia, and is an Indigenous art historian, artist and curator who focuses on Indigenous cultural production and research methods.

The exhibition is on loan from the Indigenous Art Centre and the Collection of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.