

CANADIANART

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD

For an organization that sits at the intersection of the media and non-profit sectors, these are exciting times. After a year of many changes, Canadian Art is now well-positioned to deliver on its critical mandate: to promote independent voices of integrity and conviction. We see evidence of these traits in all sectors where journalism makes a difference, and believe passionately that the art world should be no different.

Our board was focused last year on recruitment and renewal, adding five new members, each with a crucial role to play: be it providing executive-leadership experience, entrepreneurial energy or the vision that comes from being an art-world insider. As we embark on our next chapter, these individuals will help sharpen our accountability functions to meet stakeholder expectations and strengthen our connection to communities that have been excluded from conversations about art and culture in Canada.

The management team has been working closely with the board as it seeks to respond to audience needs and meet financial targets. Editor-in-Chief and Co-Publisher David Balzer returned in January after a six-month writing residency at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity. He and Co-Publisher Debra Rother are undertaking a strategic review that will gather perspectives from all of Canadian Art's stakeholder communities, including art institutions, artists and sponsors.

Community service is the ultimate goal of all our activities. Our efforts aim to promote a publishing platform that exists to tell stories, share points of view and lift our collective understanding of cultural spaces. There are few institutions that share this goal; that's why we at Canadian Art are so committed to getting it right. In the end, we depend on the support of generous individuals and institutions, for which we are profoundly grateful.

Debra Campbell and Gabe Gonda

Co-Chairs, Canadian Art Foundation Board of Directors

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TEAM

The best thing about new connections—whether it's meeting someone you don't know, going somewhere you haven't been or seeing a remarkable affinity between ideas—is how they change you. In 2017, thanks to your generous support, Canadian Art has changed. We are excited about these changes, and proud to share some highlights with you. It makes us extra proud to be able to say that we've followed through on promises and projections made last year. Committing to, exploring and realizing our initiatives is not possible without a passionate group of donors who care about creating a space for relevant dialogue and criticism about contemporary art and culture in this country. Again, thank you so much.

As you will see in this report, the last year brought a multiplicity of personalities and perspectives to our publication and programming. It is our mission to empower diverse audiences to understand, debate and be inspired by art. In culture-at-large, we are seeing the exciting emergence of previously under-heard perspectives and opinions. Canadian Art wants not just to witness but to embody this trend—to support and make space for voices that, through art and writing, tell urgent, challenging and inspiring stories.

As we look back on the year that was, we anticipate with enthusiasm the year ahead. We work hard to create a contemporary-art organization with integrity and heart. Naturally, the best connections evolve and grow. You, our donors, remain among our most important collaborators.

David Balzer, Editor-in-Chief and Co-Publisher

Debra Rother, Co-Publisher

REACH

VANCOUVER
Gallery Day and Spring Issue Launch

CALGARY
Panel Discussion and Summer Issue Launch

TORONTO
Canadian Art Encounters Talks
Gallery Day and Fall Issue Launch
School Hop
Social 2017

HALIFAX
Gallery Day and Winter Issue Launch

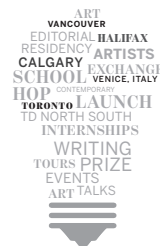
VENICE
Spring Issue Launch at the Venice Biennale



PRINT READERS
95,368



ONLINE AUDIENCE
158,941



PUBLIC PROGRAMS
2,870



canadianart.ca won the Gold Medal for General Excellence in Digital Publishing (Small Publications) at the 2017 Digital Publishing Awards.

“Gorgeous and ground-breaking... powerful and full of humour and delight”

JANICE WILLIAMSON, READER

In 2017, your donations allowed us to publish daring, unprecedented content that asked tough questions, and included diverse communities in the national conversation about art, culture and criticism.

With the 150th anniversary of Confederation dominating headlines and cultural initiatives last year, Canadian Art chose to take a bold, unconventional approach. Our two issues dealing with the sesquicentennial anniversary—Summer and Fall, on the themes of “Kinship” and “The Idea of History” respectively—have turned heads, sparked conversations and made us relevant to new readers and communities.

Our “Kinship” issue, organized by our Indigenous Editor-at-Large, Lindsay Nixon, was a particular highlight. This issue was written entirely by and about Indigenous authors and artists, and for it we also made the bold decision to eliminate our publication name and logo from our cover, replacing them with Cree syllabics. The issue challenged traditional perceptions of Canada’s art-historical narrative, and ultimately generated the most positive feedback from donors and social media followers we have ever received. In a rare moment for any publication these days, we received reorders of the print issue from newsstands and newsstand sales increased 7% compared to our Summer 2016 issue. Sales of single copies and back issues of this important edition continue into 2018. Our endeavour to interrogate history through the magazine has resulted in a historic moment for the magazine itself.



TD NORTH/SOUTH ARTIST EXCHANGE

The TD North/South Artist Exchange aims to bridge the gap between Canada’s North and South by creating residency programs for artists across both regions. In 2017, we expanded the scope of the program to include more Inuit regions of Canada in addition to Cape Dorset and developed a new advisory committee consisting of scholar Dr. Heather Igloliorte, curator Candice Hopkins, Inuit Art Foundation executive director Alys Procida and *Canadian Art*’s Indigenous Editor-at-Large Lindsay Nixon. The upcoming residencies have been awarded to Calgary/Banff-based Inuvialuk artist and curator Jade Nasogaluak Carpenter and Iqaluit-based interdisciplinary artist Jesse Tungilik.

Thank you to presenting sponsor TD Bank.

ART TORONTO

For the second year, Canadian Art’s booth at Art Toronto featured an artist project: an immersive architectural installation by Toronto-based artist Christian Kliegel. The artist incorporated copies of various iterations of *Canadian Art* dating back to the 50s, giving the booth an engaging aspect that spoke to the history of the publication. We also presented a mainstage talk on the Saturday night of the fair. The panel, moderated by Assistant Editor Merray Gerges, was dedicated to Black Canadian histories and included Associate Editor Yaniya Lee, as well as artists Deanna Bowen and Michèle Pearson Clarke.

RBC CANADIAN PAINTING COMPETITION

RBC and Canadian Art’s long-standing partnership began in 1999, with the establishment of the RBC Canadian Painting Competition. The competition supports and nurtures the next generation of Canadian artists by providing them with a forum to display their talents. It is produced with the art-world expertise of Canadian Art, and the winning works from the top three artists become part of the RBC Corporate Art Collection. This year’s winner was Ambera Wellmann, and the two honourable mentions were Teto Elsidique and Veronika Pausova.

Thank you to presenting sponsor RBC.

GALLERY DAYS

In 2017, we were able to expand Gallery Days to include events in Vancouver and Halifax, in addition to our popular Toronto event. These free days are open to the public, and are intended to bring *Canadian Art* editors and contributors to audiences around Canada, inviting them to get up close and personal with the art scenes in their cities. In 2018, Gallery Days will be presented in even more cities across the country, including Victoria, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Montreal and Ottawa.

Thank you to RBC and ARTO LIFEWTR for their support of Canadian Art Gallery Days, and to Jane Irwin and Ross Hill for their support of Gallery Day Vancouver.



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1. RBC Canadian Painting Competition 2017 winner Ambera Wellmann, *Temper Ripened*, 2017. Oil on linen, 38 inches by 35 inches.

2. *Canadian Art* managing editor Caoimhe Morgan-Feir speaks at Daniel Faria Gallery for Gallery Day Toronto. PHOTO: CONNIE TSANG

“Thoughtful, critical, interesting writing...a conversation with continuity...”

JOHN COOK, DONOR

CANADIAN ART ENCOUNTERS SERIES

The 2017 edition of this popular series of talks focused on art writing in its many forms, from historical to personal, and theory to fiction. First, internationally renowned art critic and professor Isabelle Graw presented a lecture in Toronto on the value of painting. This was followed by a sold-out conversation between Los Angeles-based author Maggie Nelson, who has expanded the definition of what it means to be an art critic, and Toronto-based author Sheila Heti.

This program was produced with the generous support of BMO. Isabelle Graw's lecture was produced in partnership with the Goethe-Institut. Maggie Nelson in conversation with Sheila Heti was produced in partnership with the Art Gallery of Ontario.



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SCHOOL HOP

Our School Hop program is a youth initiative aimed at developing visual literacy and critical thinking skills for high school students by providing provocative encounters with art. In 2017, our team of artist-facilitators led 875 students to galleries, artist-run centres and artist studios across Toronto. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we are launching a new student workbook and classroom resources that will help bring more arts-based learning to public schools.

Thank you to EQ Bank, the Hal Jackman Foundation and the Friends of School Hop.



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3. Maggie Nelson and Sheila Heti speak during their Canadian Art Encounters conversation at the Art Gallery of Ontario. PHOTO: CONNIE TSANG

4. Students at Akin Collective, Lansdowne Studio, during their School Hop session. PHOTO: CONNIE TSANG

MENTORSHIPS

We're committed to the mentorship of young art writers through our two key programs: the summer Editorial Residency and the Canadian Art Writing Prize. The 2017 Writing Prize was awarded to Calgary writer Areum Kim, who received a \$3,000 award and will be commissioned to write an upcoming feature story for an issue of *Canadian Art*. The two runners-up were Nicole Kelly Westman of Calgary and Sarah Amarica of Montreal, who each received a \$1,000 award.



Areum Kim

Our summer editorial resident was Toronto critic Vidal Wu, who received a \$7,000 prize and spent 11 weeks working under the guidance of the editorial team. Wu has recently been commissioned to provide editorial assistance and mentorship in Canadian Art's Young Critics critical writing program.



Vidal Wu

Thank you to the Joan and Clifford Hatch Foundation and the Norman and Margaret Jewison Charitable Foundation.

VENICE BIENNALE

Our Spring 2017 issue, on the theme of "Structures," featured a cover and artist project by Geoffrey Farmer, who was also the artist behind the Canada Pavilion at the 2017 Venice Biennale. The artist project included a limited edition multiple featuring a sound recording made by Farmer in collaboration with Toronto-based artist duo Life of a Craphead during the preparation for his Canada Pavilion installation. In coordination with the National Gallery of Canada, we were able to showcase the project at a reception held at the Canada Pavilion on Thursday, May 11. Editor-in-Chief David Balzer, Co-Publisher Debra Rother and Editors Nicholas Brown, Rosie Prata and Caoimhe Morgan-Feir were all on-site to greet approximately 100 guests, who included collectors, curators and artists from around the world. Geoffrey Farmer was also present, as were his dealers Catriona Jeffries and Casey Kaplan.

Thank you to Jane Irwin and Ross Hill for their support of our Geoffrey Farmer artist multiple.



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5. Geoffrey Farmer's installation at the Canada Pavilion, Venice Biennale. © GEOFFREY FARMER PHOTO: FRANCESCO BARASCIUTTI

With gratitude to our 2017 donors

Our donor listings acknowledge contributions of \$125 or more. This list is also published in the Spring 2018 issue of *Canadian Art* and online at canadianart.ca.

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Joyce and Fred Zemans
John Zinn
Anonymous (5)

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John Zinn
Anonymous (3)

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our School Hop sponsors, EQ Bank and the Hal Jackman Foundation.

SOCIAL 2017 ARTISTS AND GALLERIES

Thank you to the artists and galleries who contributed to our annual art auction.

ARTISTS

Micah Adams
Saimaiyu Akasuk
Stephen Andrews
Shuvinal Ashoona
Melanie Authier
Nicolas Baier
Shannon Bool
Sascha Braunig
Vanessa Brown
Hank Bull
Robert Burley
Julia Dault
Moyra Davey
Manon De Pauw
Geoffrey Farmer
Nika Fontaine
Sky Glabush
Claire Greenshaw
Fred Herzog
Colleen Heslin
Stephanie Hier
Lili Huston-Herterich
Jeremy Jansen
Eleanor King
Zachari Logan
Katie Lyle
Niall McClelland
Kent Monkman
Geoffrey Pugen
Les Ramsay
Tony Romano
Jade Rude
Beth Stuart
geetha thurairajah
Joseph Tisiga
Howie Tsui
Ambera Wellmann
Janet Werner
Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun

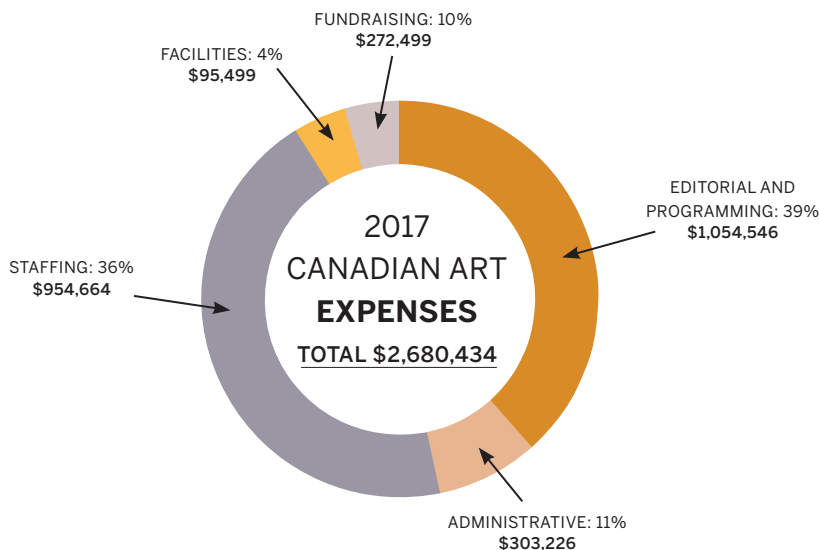
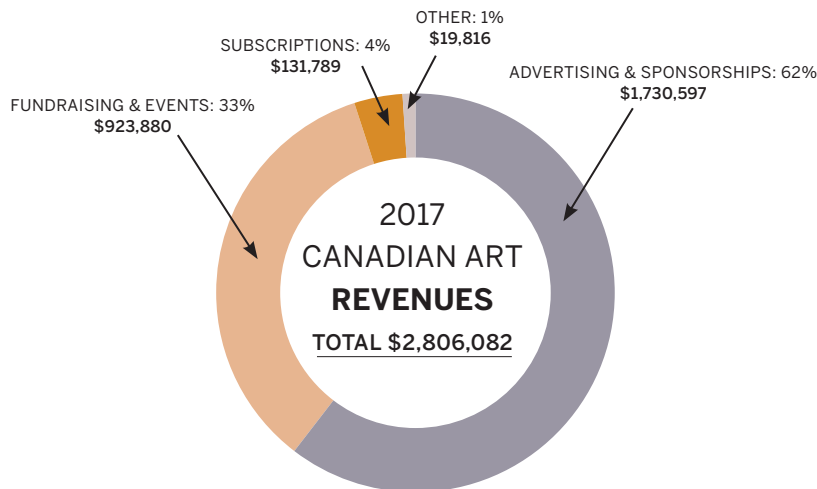
GALLERIES

Art Labor
Battat Contemporary
Catriona Jeffries
China Art Objects
Clint Roenisch Gallery
Daniel Faria Gallery
Diaz Contemporary
Division Gallery
Equinox Gallery
Erin Stump Projects
Feheley Fine Arts
Foxy Production
Franc Gallery
Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran
Georgia Scherman Art Projects
greengrassi
Macaulay & Co. Fine Art
Marianne Boesky Gallery
MKG127
Monte Clark Gallery
Olga Korper Gallery
Parisian Laundry
Paul Petro Contemporary Art
Stephen Bulger Gallery
Wil Aballe Art Projects
wildpalms
Zalucky Contemporary

For more information and to learn more about your donor benefits, please contact:

Caroline Chan Development Manager
caroline@canadianart.ca
(416) 368-8854, x111

2017 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT



NET OPERATING SURPLUS (UNAUDITED), EXCLUDING RESTRICTED FUNDS: \$125,648

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Debra Campbell (Co-Chair) Gabe Gonda (Co-Chair)
Amanda Alvaro, Jessica Bradley, Daisy Desrosiers, David Franklin, Jane Irwin,
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