



LASTING

An exhibition of thesis work by BFA graduates of the IshKaabatens Waasa Gaa Inaabateg Department of Visual Art, Brandon University

Curated by Lucie Lederhendler and the artists

COMMUNITY GALLERY

MAY 13 - JUNE 19, 2021



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LUNCH & LOOK MAY 28, 2021, 1:00PM

RECEPTION JUNE 10, 2021, 7:30PM

Building their exhibitions during the collective trauma of the pandemic year, these artists, like many of us, are wrestling with the nagging contradiction of their deep yearning for an end to this and the subsequently treasonous thought, that maybe some things are better. Nobody wants long Covid, but who would mind if checkout lines remained civilized? Can we stop flying as a matter of course but still see our distant friends regularly?

Eleni Kilbride and Linda Tame are holding on to something precious, and, surprisingly, what they're identifying as precious is not the most joyful moments of life, but those fleeting moments in which the inconceivable complexity of life is laid bare. Painting the traces of collaboration--between an oyster and an invasive speck, an artist and her daughter, a human being and their past--these works are tributes to the substance of relations.

Melanie Barnett and Blaire Trenaman are reflecting on how time changes in relation to itself, and recording those thoughts in three dimensions. Trenaman's sculptures are talismans, pulling hindsight out of the future and into the present, acting on the knowledge that this time of isolation and mourning was brief and finite. Meanwhile, Barnett is experimenting with old alchemies, trying to achieve immortality. The formula is simple: juxtapose a long life span with a short one. A ceramic vessel, compared to a human being, will never cease to exist, nor will a mycelium, compared to the mushroom that flowers above the Earth's surface.

These works manipulate the optics that bring the past into focus. When a period of time becomes a moment in history, that means it will not be forgotten. *Lasting* showcases the artistic methods of four artists who, like so many of us, are engaged in the difficult task of defining their own future by claiming authority over what will last.



Linda Aleta Tame, *Breathe*

THE ARTISTS

MELANIE BARNETT is an emerging ceramicist and arts professional currently living on Treaty 2 territory in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada, and is originally from Grandview, Manitoba. Barnett's work utilizes concepts surrounding home, familiarity, land, and environmental theory to comment on the climate crisis and her relationship to the planet.

Barnett has recently completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts (honours) in Ceramics at Brandon University, and has exhibited work at galleries and venues across Manitoba, as well as at Nuit Blanche Regina (Saskatchewan) in 2019.

ELENI KILBRIDE is an emerging visual artist of mixed European and Ojibway ancestry from Swan Lake First Nation. Eleni is largely influenced by her experiences as a mother and her intersectional identity and explores this with concepts pertaining to connection, reflection, and collaboration. She has recently completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts (honours) in Painting from Brandon University and has exhibited work in group and solo exhibitions in the Southwestern Region of Manitoba. Eleni is the recipient of multiple awards, including the Recognize Scholarship for the 2020/2021 school year. Her thesis exhibition was created with the generous support of the Manitoba Arts Council.

LINDA ALETA TAME has recently attained a Bachelor of Fine Arts (honours) and is now working from her home studio in Brandon, Manitoba. Her art has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in Manitoba's Southwest Region. She established and operated Artist Heart Studio & Gallery in downtown Brandon where local and regional artists were inspired and recognized from 2018-2020.

This body of work was therapeutic in nature, and expresses the navigation through endurance. She attempts to capture the intangible mysteries that both complicate and enrich our lives. Tame says, "The task is at least a challenge and at best a sense of wonder."

BLAIRE TRENAMAN is a Canadian based artist who graduated from Brandon University with a BFA (honours) in Ceramics. Trenaman is a mixed media artist who concentrates in 3-dimensional art, ceramics and sculpture. Trenaman's personal practice focuses on concepts of queer theory, feminism, and experiments with media. Her current work uses fragile materials as a way of provoking emotions about separation, time, and temporariness. Trenaman has been part of both solo and group exhibitions and participated in Nuit Blanche Regina (2019).



Blaire Trenaman, *Day by Day*



Eleni Kilbride, *(Kids) In the Kitchen (Detail)*



Melanie Barnett, *Slept Within The Soil (Detail)*

LIST OF WORKS

Melanie Barnett
Ecosphere, 2021
Ceramic and mixed media
Dimensions variable

Melanie Barnett
Slept Within the Soil, 2021
Ceramic and mixed media
18" x 16½" x 13¾"

Melanie Barnett
Playing God, 2021
Ceramic and mixed media
18" x 15¾" x 29"

Melanie Barnett
Remedium, 2020
Ceramic and mixed media
16¾" x 15" x 17"

Eleni Kilbride
Falling Friend, 2019
Oil on canvas
35" x 25"

Eleni Kilbride
(Kids) In the Kitchen, 2020-2021
Mixed media on unstretched canvas
58" x 88"

Eleni Kilbride
"High Five!", 2021
Oil, acrylic, tempera paint
on canvas
48" x 36"

Eleni Kilbride
(Kids) In the Garden, 2020
Oil and seeds on canvas
16" x 40"

Eleni Kilbride
After the Rain, 2020
Oil, acrylic, tempera,
and crayon on canvas
35½" x 35½"

Linda Aleta Tame
Birth of a Pearl, 2020
Oil on canvas
36" x 48" each

Linda Aleta Tame
Elusive, 2020
Acrylic on canvas
60" x 84"

Linda Aleta Tame
Breathe, 2020
Acrylic on canvas
24" x 48"

Linda Aleta Tame
Lost, 2020
Oil on Canvas
16" x 20"

Linda Aleta Tame
Emerge, 2020
Acrylic on canvas
24" x 30"

Linda Aleta Tame
Pearl Essence, 2011
Oil on canvas
48" x 48"

Linda Aleta Tame
I Just Don't Understand, 2019
Oil on canvas
30" x 30"

Linda Aleta Tame
Limbo, 2020
Acrylic on canvas
24" x 48"

Blaire Trenaman
Adjusting, 2020
Tissues and clay
38" x 18" x 18"

Blaire Trenaman
Day by Day, 2020
Tissues, tissue box, ink
Dimensions variable

Blaire Trenaman
All My Emotions, 2021
Clay and mixed media
Dimensions variable

