



Amanda Dunsmore, *BILLY'S MUSEUM* [still], 2004. Video (colour, sound), 19:40 minutes. Courtesy of the Artist.

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

New exhibition at MacEwan University's Mitchell Art Gallery features work focused on landmark agreement for Northern Ireland

Edmonton – The Mitchell Art Gallery at MacEwan University is proud to present its latest exhibition Amanda Dunsmore: *AGREEMENT*. This series of works from the Irish artist was created through a research-intensive practice that investigates societal transformation via portraiture.

Following the signing of the Belfast 'Good Friday' Agreement on April 10, 1988, Dunsmore began a dedicated practice of filming video portraits of each of the fourteen signatories, a creative process that took two decades to complete. The resulting artwork, now on display at the MAG, asks for a similarly committed viewership: seeing the work in its entirety would require weekly visits as each portrait is being screened for a single week during the fourteen-week exhibition.

Over twenty-five years have now passed since the signing of the landmark document. Today, contemporary conflicts are witnessed globally in the form of viral photos and seconds-long videos on social media. Dunsmore's work asks us to be present in the gallery with each of these portraits that represent divergent perspectives, and to return for weeks, echoing the labour and dedication required by the signatories to keep returning to the table and come to an agreement, and the ongoing work in Irish communities to keep the peace - something that continues to this day.

Using time-based media, Dunsmore's work punctuates how there is no shortcut to fully grasping the complex social ruptures left in the wake of colonialism, and how time, relationships and sustained attention are key ingredients in building trust and understanding in services of positive change.

The exhibition runs from May 21 to August 24, 2024, Tuesday to Friday, noon to 5 p.m. with extended hours on Thursdays, noon to 7 p.m.

Learn more about Amanda Dunsmore: *AGREEMENT* [here](#).

There will be a reception and artist talk with Amanda Dunsmore:

Wednesday, June 19

6 to 9 p.m.

Mitchell Art Gallery, Allard Hall Atrium

11110 104 Avenue

For more information, please contact archerj24@macewan.ca

Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.