August 23, 2018

**Fall exhibition is all about being CHILDISH**

Edmonton – The John and Maggie Mitchell Art Gallery’s fall exhibition in Allard Hall at MacEwan University is titled CHILDISH. The exhibition intentionally complicates the idea of childhood, which is a socially constructed concept that doesn’t account for or represent the complexity or value of children’s lived experiences. The featured artworks suggest there’s more that children have to offer, and a greater depth and diversity of ideas that they have to offer than is often assumed.

“These artists integrate the perspectives of children into their respective collaborative art practices,” said Carolyn Jervis, gallery curator. “This approach gives credence to the input and experiences of children that as a practice refuses reproduction of nostalgic, ahistorical, or monolithic constructions of childhood. The works present how child perspectives help us conceptualize the social world beyond the limits of adulthood.”

**About the artists**

**Richard Boulet** is an Edmonton-based artist who works with quilting, cross-stitching and assemblage to address his history with schizophrenia and mental-health issues.

**Meagan Byrne** is based in Toronto and her work features digital storytelling, game design and Indigenous culture. Her games often use Indigenous languages and include female lead characters.

**Leisure** is a Montreal-based collaboration between [Susannah Wesley](#) and [Meredith Carruthers](#), who create conceptual work that investigates socio-historical narratives through research, public texts and exhibitions.

**Joelle Walinga** is a Toronto-based visual artist and filmmaker whose work explores subjective experience, outsidership and the aesthetics of empowerment.

**Big Rock Candy Mountain** is a think-tank between [Hannah Jickling](#), [Helen Reed](#) and students at Queen Alexandra Elementary School in East Vancouver. The project is comprised of workshops, artist invocations, strange conversations and installations on school grounds.

**Kasie and Mavi Campbell** are a mother and daughter team based in Edmonton. They will create a work each Thursday afternoon throughout the exhibition’s run. While they are creating their work, they will invite gallery visitors to help them create their project.

**About the exhibition**

Artist panel discussion: Wednesday, September 12, 6-7 p.m.

Opening reception: Wednesday, September 12, 7-9 p.m.

**CHILDISH** runs from September 13 to December 12 at the John and Maggie Mitchell Art Gallery, Allard Hall, MacEwan University (11110-104 Avenue). Gallery hours are Tuesday to Saturday, 12 - 5 p.m. This is a free exhibition and is open to the public.

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.

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