

Deborah Thompson

Artist - Curator - Educator

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Education

M.F.A in Visual Arts, University of Montana, MT 1997

B.A. in Southwest Cultural Studies, Prescott College, AZ 1987

A.O.C.A.D in Fine Arts, Ontario College of Art and Design (University), ON 1984

Solo Art Exhibitions

- 2025** **Boat without a Boat**, Nelson Museum, Archives and Gallery
Nelson, BC Curator: Arin Fay
- 2025 **Atelier Ouvert / Open Studio**, DrawInternational artist residency
Caylus, FR
- 2024 **Boat without a Boat**, Grand Forks Art Gallery
Grand Forks, BC Curator; Tim Van Wijk
- 2020 **Once We Were Whole**, Langham Gallery, Langham Cultural Centre, Kaslo, BC
Curator: Seathra Bell
- 2019 **Between**, Tilted Brick Gallery, Tilted Brick Artist Run Centre, Creston, BC
Curator: Lisa Benschop
- 2019 **Pan-dulum**, Gallery 2, Grand Forks Art Gallery, Grand Forks, BC
Curator: Tim Van Wijk
- 2018 **Pan-dulum**, Kootenay Gallery of Art, Castlegar, BC
Curator: Maggie Shirley
- 2014 **Tales from the Underworld**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
Curator: Rod Taylor
- 2010 **Coming Forth by Day**, Gallery Gachet, Artist run Centre, Vancouver, BC
- 2007 **Hide**, Kootenay Gallery of Art, Castlegar, BC
Curator: Maggie Shirley
- 2005 **Maternal Body: the paradox of desire**, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC
- 2004 **Impotent**, Langham Cultural Centre, Kaslo, BC
Curator: Brent Bukowski
- 2002 **Drawn from the Body**, Campus Gallery, University of Reno, NV
Curator: Tim Guthrie

Group exhibitions

- 2022 **Art Invitational**, Sitka Centre for Art and Ecology, Portland, Oregon
- 2017 **Up Stream Benefits**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson BC
Curator: Arin Fay

- 2017 **150 Creative Acts**, Kootenay Gallery of Art, Castlegar, BC
Curator: Maggie Shirely
- 2014 **Samuel Beckett in a Minor Key**, Concordia University, Thesis Project, Montreal, QC
Curator: Tracy Valcourt
- 2012 **Language of Drawing**, Kootenay Gallery of Art, Castlegar, BC
Curator: Helen Sebelius
- 2009 **Flame: Artists for social awareness and activism**, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC
Curator: Nicola Harwood

Awards

- 2025 **Canada Council for the Arts, Concept to Realization Grant** for curatorial project-
LOOT: Orienting to Matter with the work of the Ten Thieves Artist Collective.
- 2024 **Cultural Ambassador** for the city of Nelson, BC
- 2022 **Canada Council for the Arts**, Research and Creation Grant for *Spectral Companions*, research and
creation grant focused on stop motion animation and drawing.
- 2017 **Major Project Grant**, Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance for the research and
creation of new work. Project investigates the poles of instinct in the response to anxiety. Project was
exhibited under the title: *Pan-dulum: a Call to Unreason*
- 2015 **Outstanding Achievement Award** from the **Canadian Museum Association** for the
curatorial project, THIRST on the Columbia River Treaty. Project was presented in a pop-up
exhibition at the transboundary boundary Columbia River Symposium, Spokane, WA
- 2014 **Special Initiative Grant** from Columbia Basin Trust for curatorial research on the
symbolism of water in relation to the Columbia River Watershed/ water as a resource/
and the renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty
- 2011 **Major Project Grant**, from Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance, for *Bird Woman*.
Research and creation of new work exploring the *spiritualization of matter* and the
generative aspect of the feminine through the life of St. Teresa of Avila, Spain. 15th
century mystic, educator, writer and visionary.
- 2009 **Major Project Grant** from Columbia Basin Trust for curation and production of a
group exhibition, *Reflections on Water* prepared in conjunction with a symposium on
water, Touchstone Nelson, Nelson, BC
- 2007 **Project Grant** for exhibition SALT: the Nature of Impermanence from Osprey
Foundation, exhibited at Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC

Curatorial

- 2025 **LOOT: Orienting to Matter**, Guest Curator at Langham Cultural Centre, Kaslo, BC
10 Thieves Artist Collective group show supported by a Concept to Realization grant from the Canada
Council for the Arts.
- 2016- 2022 **Exhibition and Residency Coordinator**, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC, Canada
- 2010 -2015 **Curator**, Nelson Museum and Art Gallery, Nelson, BC. Canada

Residencies

- 2025 **DRAWinternational**, Drawing residency in Caylus, France
- 2024 **BoxoPROJECTS**, Artist Residency, Moth Sensorium project, Joshua Tree, CA
- 2022 **Sointula Art Shed Residency**, creation of new work, Sointula, BC
- 2021 **Jordan Schnitzer Printmaking Residency**, Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, OR
- 2019 **Langham Cultural Centre**, open studio for the creation of a new piece for exhibition, **Once We Were Whole**, Kaslo, BC
- 2015 **Independent Study** in Metal Studio, **Kootenay School of Art** at Selkirk College, Nelson, BC
- 2011 **Artist in the Collection**, research for bird woman in avian archives, **Royal British Columbia Museum**, Victoria, BC
- 2009 **Artist in Residence** at **Banff Centre**, Banff, AB for curatorial research on SALT project and studio work on impermanence.
- 2001 **Artist in Residence**, at **Vermont Studio Centre**, self-directed study in drawing towards the creation of exhibition at University of Reno, Reno, Nevada

Select Bibliography

- 2025 **Catalogue essay by Greta Hamilton for exhibition, *Boat without a Boat***
- 2024 ***Sea of Faces* by Susan Andrews Grace**. Essay for *Articulate Magazine*
https://issuu.com/articulatemag/docs/articulate_spring_2024
- 2019 ***Between* by Lisa Benschop**, Curatorial essay for exhibition at Tilted Brick Gallery, Creston, BC [Lisa Benschop curatorial essay](#)
- 2018 Review of **Pan-dulum** exhibition by **Susan Andrews Grace** in **Galleries West Magazine** <https://www.gallerieswest.ca/>
- 2018 Curatorial Essay for **Pan-dulum: A Call to Unreason** exhibition by **Maggie Shirely**
- 2012 **Review of the exhibition *Tales from the Underworld* by Tom Hardy** for **Border Crossing Magazine** <https://bordercrossingsmag.com/magazine/issue/issue-124>
- 2005 ***Fierceness of Being* by Susan Andrews Grace**, Catalogue essay for *Maternal Body: Paradox of Desire* at Oxygen Art Centre
[Maternal Body catalogue essay by Susan Andrews Grace 2005 copy](#)

Collections

- 2021 **Jordan Schnitzer Foundation**, Portland, OR USA
- 2021 **Portland Museum of Art**, Print Collection, Portland, OR USA
- 2019 **Art Gallery of Grand Forks**, Permanent Collection, Grand Forks, BC