

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

Selected Professional Experience

2018-21 **Instructor**, Painting and Drawing, Red Deer College, AB
2003-21 **Instructor**, Painting and Drawing, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC
2014-21 **Exhibition and Residency Coordinator**, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC
Contractual work for the curation, production and installation of select artist residencies and exhibitions for Oxygen Art Centre.
2017-19 **Artist and Researcher** for project *Like Cures Like* (Pan-dulum: *a call to unreason*) funded by Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance. *Pan-dulum* explores social anxiety and its relationship to mental health.
2015 **Independent Studies**, Metal Studio at Kootenay School of Art, Nelson, BC
Self-directed studies in metal studio to learn mold making, casting and bronze foundry techniques through the creation of new work.
2015 **Curator for project - Thirst!** Transboundary Exhibition for Columbia River Treaty Conference, creation of pop-up exhibition at Conference in Spokane, WA
2009-13 **Curator of contemporary exhibitions** for Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art and History, Nelson, BC
2007-09 **Guest Curator for Touchstones Nelson**, SALT project, exhibition of new work exploring impermanence, shown at Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
1999-02 **Faculty**, Drawing, Design and Mixed Media, at Kootenay School of Art, Nelson, BC
1997-98 **Adjunct Faculty**, Fine Art Department, University of Montana, MT

Published Curatorial Writing

2020 Catalogue essay for Zot'z Collective, *Expressions of relatedness - a lens into the world of Zot'z Collective* for exhibition at Oxygen Art Centre
2017 Catalogue essay for Stephanie Kellett, *RE-Wilding: Fire Starter* at Oxygen Art Centre
2013 Catalogue/ Curatorial essay for Kristi Malakoff's **Golden Bell**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
2012 Catalogue essay for **RiverSpines** for Tanya Pixie Johnson's exhibition RiverSpines, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC

Selected Solo Visual Art Exhibitions

- 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: a Call to Unreason**, Gallery 2, Grand Forks Art Gallery, Grand Forks, BC
Curator: Tim Van Wijk
- 2018 **Pan-dulum: a Call to Unreason**, 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
- 2008 **Plant Forms**, Gallery 378, Nelson, 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
- 2004 **Bird in the Hand**, Nelson Museum of Art and History, Nelson, BC
- 2002 **Conversation Series**, Main Gallery, University of Reno, Reno, Nevada

Select Group exhibitions

- 2017 **Up Stream Benefits**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson BC
Curator: Arin Fay Artists; Ian Johnston, Susan Andrews Grace, Brent Bukowski, Maggie Shirely, Rachel Yoder, Amy Bohigan, Natasha Smith, Boujke Elzinga
- 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
- 2007 **Cartographies**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
Curator: Deborah Loxam -Khol
- 2006 **Ark Project**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
Curator: Deborah Loxam-Khol

Awards

- 2017 **Major Project Grant**, Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance for **Like Cures Like**, 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 in Spokane, WA.
- 2014 **Special Initiative Grant** from Columbia Basin Trust for curatorial research on 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 through the life of St. Teresa of Avila, Spain. 15th century mystic, writer and administrator.
- 2009 **Major Project Grant** from Columbia Basin Trust for curation and production of 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, through Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
- 1996-8 **Fell-Oskins Scholarship** awarded to a graduate student for graduate studies, University of Montana, MT

Residencies

- 2021 forth coming: **Jordan Schnitzer Printmaking Residency**, Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, Cascade Head, OR
- 2021 forth coming: **Art Shed Residency**, for creation of new work, November, Sointula, BC
- 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.
- 2006 **Artist in Residence**, Hidden Gallery, New Denver, BC
- 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

- 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

Select Public Lectures, artist talks and interviews

- 2019 **CBC** interview by **Sheryl Mackay** for North by North West on exhibition **Between.**
- 2019 **Elephant Mountain Literary Festival** panel presenter the discussion on dark stories, Nelson, BC
- 2019 **Artist talk**, Pan-dulum: a Call to Unreason, Cranbrook Arts Council, Cranbrook, BC
- 2019 **CBC** interview by **Sheryl Mackay** for North by North West on exhibition Pan-dulum
- 2019 **Artist talk**- in conversation with curator **Tim Van Wijk**, Gallery 2, Grand Forks, BC
- 2019 **Artist talk** - in conversation with curator **Maggie Shirley**, Kootenay Gallery, Castlegar, BC
- 2017 Panel Presenter on **Creative Process** at **Elephant Mountain Literary Festival**, Nelson, BC
- 2014 Artist talk, ***Medieval Mysticism and Contemporary Art***, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC
- 2012 Artist talk, **Tales from the Underworld**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC