

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 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

Select Group exhibitions

- 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
- 2007 **Cartographies**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
Curator: Deborah Loxam -Khol

2006 **Ark Project**, Touchstones Nelson, Nelson, BC
Curator: Deborah Loxam-Khol

Selected Professional Experience

- 2003-22 **Instructor**, Painting and Drawing, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC
- 2014-22 **Exhibition and Residency Coordinator**, Oxygen Art Centre, Nelson, BC
Curation, production and installation of artist residencies and exhibitions for Oxygen Art Centre.
- 2017-19 **Artist and Researcher** for project *Like Cures Like (Pan-dulum)* 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
Worked with faculty and students to learn mold making, casting and bronze foundry techniques through the creation of new work.
- 2015-20 **Private Mentoring**, worked with emerging artists in the community on professional practices and studio practice development. Nelson, BC
- 2010-14 **Curator**, Touchstones Nelson, worked as curator of exhibitions. Nelson, BC
- 1999-02 **Faculty**, Drawing, Design and Mixed Media, Kootenay School of Art, Nelson, BC
- 1997-98 **Adjunct Faculty**, Fine Art Department, University of Montana, MT

Awards

- 2021 **Canada Council for the Arts, Research and Creation Grant**, for *Spectral Companions* a stop motion animation project.
- 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

- 2022 **Art Shed Residency**, for research and creation of new work, Sointula, BC

- 2021 **Jordan Schnitzer Printmaking Residency**, Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, Cascade Head, 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

- 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** presenter, Nelson, BC
- 2019 **Artist talk**, Cranbrook Arts Council, Cranbrook, BC
- 2019 **CBC** interview by **Sheryl Mackay** for North by North West
- 2019 **Artist talk**- in conversation with curator **Tim Van Wijk**, Gallery 2, Grand Forks, BC
- 2019 **Artist talk** - with curator **Maggie Shirley**, Kootenay Gallery, Castlegar, BC
- 2017 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

Published Arts Writing

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