

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



ACT ART GALLERY EXPLORES LAYERS OF MEANING WITHIN *INTRICATE ARRANGEMENTS: CONNOTATIONS IN COLLAGE*

**Exhibition is the Third of Five Planned for the
2022/23 Season of Visual Arts**

MAPLE RIDGE, January 3, 2023 – On Saturday, January 7 from 2pm-4 pm, The ACT Art Gallery will open *Intricate Arrangements: Connotation in Collage* with artworks by Amy J. Dyck (Langley) and Monique Motut-Firth (Vancouver).

The exhibition looks to the scientific concept of complex systems, such as social networks, cities, the human brain, or the entire universe. In Amy J. Dyck's and Monique Motut-Firth's work, the technique of collage is used to create detailed and layered visual systems. Amy collages together figurative paintings to depict the complexity of the bodily system, while Monique uses cut-paper collage to construct machine-like systems of visual culture. Through a process of intricate arrangement, the artists make new meanings from collected and combined images.

"I'm excited about the pairing of Amy J. Dyck's and Monique Motut-Firth's work. While the subject matter of their collages are quite different, their approaches to composition are similar. All the works in the exhibition are vibrant, eye-catching, and brimming with detail" says Courtney Miller, Curator and Gallery Manager.

Amy J. Dyck is a Langley-based artist who works primarily in self-portraiture and figurative painting, aiming to depict her subjects as whole and complex beings. In mediums of collage, oil paint, and mixed media, her work is created from anatomical studies, visual research, and personal experiences.

Monique Motut-Firth is a Vancouver-based multidisciplinary artist, writer, and arts educator working within the mediums of painting, paper, and digital media. Through collecting and cutting magazines, books, catalogues, and print ephemera, she uses ideas of motion and machine movement to construct new visual systems.

Intricate Arrangements: Connotations in Collage features artworks in the mediums of painting, mixed media collage and sculpture, animation, and digital prints of cut-paper collage.

The Opening Reception is a free event open to the public, and the exhibition will run through February 25, 2023. The ACT Arts Gallery is open Tuesday – Saturday, 10am-4pm and on selected evenings.

A dedicated Community Gallery space located inside The ACT Art Centre; The ACT Art Gallery is operated by the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Arts Council. In fulfilling its mission to broaden and enrich

the public's appreciation and understanding of the visual arts, the Gallery presents engaging and diverse displays of artwork by local, regional, and national artists, and accompanying talks, workshops, and other presentations. The adjacent Gallery Shop offers a diverse selection of art and handmade goods including ceramics, jewelry candles, artwork, art cards, glassware, and home goods, supporting local artists and artisans.

About The ACT Art Gallery and ACT Arts Centre

The ACT Arts Centre, opened in 2003, is operated by the Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows Arts Council, and provides excellence in Arts Learning Programs, Gallery Exhibitions and Performing Arts Presentations. The centre is home to many cultural and community events, reaching over 70,000 patrons annually.

The ACT Arts Centre gratefully acknowledges the generous support of [Morningstar Homes](#) as the 2022/23 season title sponsor, [Prospera Credit Union](#) as the Community Arts Programs Sponsor and support from The Department of Canadian Heritage, The BC Arts Council, The Province of British Columbia, The City of Maple Ridge and many generous individual and business donors and sponsors.

We acknowledge that we are fortunate to be able to work, create, learn, and connect on the traditional unceded territories of the Katzie First nation and Kwantlen First Nation.

Please visit us at <https://theactmapleridge.org/intricate-arrangements>

Media contact: Jacqueline Leclerc, Manager, Marketing, Communications and Brand: 604 476 2781

Exhibition Dates: Saturday, January 7 – Saturday, February 25, 2023
Opening Reception: Saturday, January 7, 2023, from 2-4pm (FREE)
Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10am-4pm and selected evenings
Location: The ACT Art Gallery (at The ACT Arts Centre)
11944 Haney Place, Maple Ridge, BC, V2X 6G1