

## Open Spaces: Window to a View

This program offers local and regional artists an opportunity to showcase their art in a highly visible downtown location while working with a professional guest curator. The program, which began in 2009, celebrates the diversity and quality of works by regional artists, while enlivening the Centre Street LRT platform on 7 Avenue between 1 Street S.E. and Centre Street.

### Alana Bartol, Essential Oils (for Alberta)

August 15 - November 12, 2020

Alana Bartol is a respected Canadian artist and teacher based in Calgary. She was recently longlisted for the National Gallery of Canada and Sobey Art Foundation's 2019 Sobey Award, a prestigious award for young Canadian artists.

In 2016, The City of Calgary Public Art Program launched Open AiR, a pilot community-based public art residency. Open AiR offered artists a 12-week residency where they were embedded into two communities. Working out of the historic Fire Hall No. 6 on Memorial Drive N.W., artists were encouraged to consider both the Hillhurst Sunnyside community and the adjacent West Downtown community.

As part of her residency, Bartol co-facilitated plant walks and workshops with a focus on smell and plants, as well as their edible and medicinal properties. She explored these concepts through enfleurage which is a process used to extract fragrances or essential oils from plants and botanical materials. *Essential Oils (for Alberta)* is a series comprised of photographs that document the artist's experiments with the



**Alana Bartol, Enfleurage: Thistle and Wild Mustard** (Hillhurst Sunnyside, Downtown West), 2016, colour photograph on paper.



Plant walk with Alana Bartol and Latifa Pelletier-Ahmed 2016.



*Essential Oils (for Alberta)* exhibition at Open Spaces.

enfleurage process. She used botanical (and other materials such as coffee beans and socks) from both communities that were donated, purchased or foraged.

### **Molly Caldwell, Images of Rapture**

November 29, 2019 - March 6, 2020

Presented in partnership with Untitled Art Society  
Molly Caldwell is a multidisciplinary Yonsei artist working predominantly with textiles. Caldwell received her BFA from Alberta University of the Arts in 2017, and has completed multiple residencies internationally since. Her practice focuses on navigating pop culture through the lens of end-stage capitalism. Currently, she is living and working in Calgary, AB.

In the words of the artist, “Images of Rapture explores the ecstatic in vapid: all that is ostentatious yet somehow joyful for it. The sticky sweetness of hair stuck in lip gloss. Flip through a glossy magazine, and rub the perfume ads on your wrist. The tactility, the gesture of scrolling through Instagram. Britney Spears, 'my loneliness is killing me...', your heart screaming along: me too.

You want to live fancy?

Baby believe me, it's only a matter of time.”

*Images of Rapture* by Molly Caldwell was exhibited at The City of Calgary's Open Spaces Gallery at eastbound Centre Street CTrain Station from November 29, 2019 to March 6, 2020.

