



Justin Berger's Exhibit *Kulu* a "Signature Moment" in 2014



THE NINA NEWS

February 2015

Kulu & Strange Dream Signature Moments In Edmonton's 2014 Visual Arts Scene

Fish Griwkowsky had inspiring words for Nina artists and staff in his year end salute to the Edmonton visual arts scene. In addition to a shout out for the Art Gallery of Alberta and Edmonton Arts Council, he added a special cheer for the Nina Haggerty Centre for its "relentless efforts in elevating the creative human spirit! "

Coming in at number 9 on his top 10 list was Nina's exhibition at Enterprise Square, *Cross Contamination*, a collaborative

show of work by Nina lead artists and artists from the Collective. Sharing this spot was an exhibition in Nina's Stollery Gallery, *KULU!*, featuring amazing work by outsider artist Justin Berger.

Nina professional artist Jill Stanton took number 6 spot on the list, recognized as "the city's go-do illustrator" and "one of our weirdest best," for her immense *Strange Dream* piece in Manning Hall at the Art Gallery of Alberta.

Strange Dream by Jill Stanton

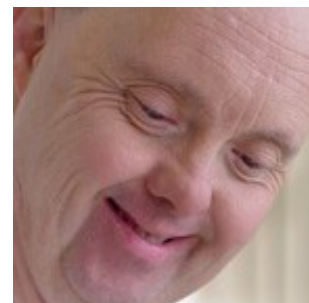


Nina Artists Headed to Scotland!



Leona Clawson

Leona Clawson and Randy Stennes, two long standing members of the Nina artists' Collective, are jetting off to Glasgow, Scotland on March 2 to participate in an international disability arts summit hosted by Project Ability. Artistic Director Paul Freeman and Exhibition Coordinator/artist David Janzen are also participating in the summit, accompanied by filmmaker Yvonne DuBourdieu and Director of Fund Development, Rona Fraser. Watch the Nina website and your mailbox for more news about this adventure.



Randy Stennes

We Couldn't Do It Without You!

World Stone Inc. remained rock solid title sponsor and Richard Wong and team from the Chateau Lacombe welcomed us to our new home. Old friends, Lexus of Edmonton and M&M Meats (Heritage Location) filled new roles as event sponsors and we welcomed back past sponsors: Avenue Magazine, Canadian Dewatering, Latium Fleet Management, CPI Construction and the Wegner Consulting Group. Thanks also go to those individuals and businesses that bought tables and to the many auction donors.

Here's Nina Rocks the Chateau

It was Cake Walk without the Cake! This year, the annual fundraiser focused on fun and the genius of Stewart Lemoine, Sheri Somerville and Varscona cast members of Lemoine's *That's Terrific* variety show.

On-stage games involved some of our audience members. Sarah Chan and her sister Sable Chan not only wowed at a pre-event VIP reception with their Ukelele/piano duet, they proved to be quite competitive in the "backwards spelling game!"



*Sheri Somerville and Stewart Lemoine teamed up to produce **Here's Nina***

In addition to the much anticipated return of Sheri Somerville, back for her eighth appearance as host, the event also welcomed back performers Colleen Rae, Josh Mellott and band and lively auctioneer Mark Scholz.

In addition to raising a lot of fun, the event also raised a lot of cash (\$40,000) that will go a long way to supporting programs at the Nina in the first quarter of 2015.

RBC Emerging Artist Apprenticeship Project 2015

The Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts is excited to announce that thanks to continued support from RBC, the Nina is accepting applications for the 2015 RBC Emerging Artists Apprenticeship Project.

Alysha Creighton, now a lead artist at the Nina, was one of five apprentices accepted to the 2014 pilot project.

Any artist who has recently graduated or will soon graduate from a Fine Arts Program is eligible to apply. Apprentices will spend one day a week in the Nina studios between May

and August, working alongside the professional artistic staff and members of the Nina Collective.

In addition to taking on group and individual projects, the successful apprentices will participate in exclusive workshops designed to assist with their transition from post secondary education to life as a practicing artist.

The application form for the 2015 project is on the Nina website.



Alysha Creighton [left] was pleased to accept a cheque on behalf of the Nina from RBC Account Manager Sydney Young.



Discover an exciting new apprenticeship opportunity designed to bridge the transition from post secondary academic program to professional artistic career.

Nina Artists Have Been Hard at Work to Create Confusement

Enter Confusement: a maze-like installation with walls of black and white eyeballs and a floating sea of transparent figures. Inspired by the work of artist Scott Berry, this installation has created an artistic groundswell in the studios.

Dozens of artists have been “wrapped” over the past few weeks [photo top right] and artists and by-standers alike have been caught up in the frenzy, smothering large

blank panels with black and white eyeballs. Walking in to the maze, Scott challenges the viewer to experience “the feeling of being stared at but no one can see who you are.”

Join Minister of Alberta Culture and Tourism Maureen Kubinec, Stantec and all your Nina friends for the party on February 19 [5 - 7 PM]. We’ve got all the ingredients for a fun event - live music by singer/songwriter Colleen Rae, wine and birthday cake!



Scott Berry, director of **Confusement**, wraps fellow artist, Erin Lepine, in packing tape to create floating figures for the exhibition.

Volunteer Genius and Stantec Boost Art Sales

Thanks to volunteer genius and generosity, the Nina enjoyed record art sales this December. First came a massive work bee, culling and matting art work. For days, the gallery was abuzz in organized chaos skillfully led by Airi Ono, Cindy Decock, Veronica Frank, Gerry Johnson, Francis Miranda, Amanda Powell and Lori Verhun. Airi was a Mad-Matter, matting over 100 prints with astonishing speed and precision.

Jodi Eyolfson, new to the Nina volunteer team, proposed a pre-show cocktail party for Stantec employees the night before the Opening for the annual Christmas show in the Stollery Gallery, *Behold!*

Despite serious snow and wind, almost \$1400 of art was sold!

Production also created work for sale at the Royal Bison Art & Craft Show in Strathcona, a popular 2-day sale that was also volunteer-powered.

Thanks go to the dynamic team of Marilyn Doyle, Ashley Fouillard, Andrea Hunter, Jenna Klemka and Lori Verhun for staffing the Nina booth.

In addition to posting record sales, the Centre received lovely coverage in the *Edmonton Journal*. With this kind of expertise and commitment, artists can look forward to new opportunities to market and sell their work.



Cynthia Sentara [left] works alongside artists from the Nina Collective to prepare for Nina’s 12 Birthday exhibition, **Confusement**.



Matted lino-cut prints were the most popular item, followed by seasonal DIY Stuffies and these Instructional Sketchbooks designed and constructed by Jodi Eyolfson.

In the Stollery Gallery: CONFUSEMENT

Beginning with a small creative team, *Confusement* has become a massive project that has taken over the whole studio! Please plan to join artists, staff, volunteers, board and friends of Nina as we celebrate the opening of this mind-bending installation on February 19. This event is a double celebration - Nina's 12th Birthday Bash and launch of an exciting new program created in partnership with Stantec. Artist Scott Berry, whose work inspired the installation, will be named Stantec Artist of the Year! Drop in between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. for the festivities, including live music by singer/songwriter Colleen Rae.

The exhibition runs in the Stollery Gallery from February 12—27.

GALLERY HOURS

Mon - FRI 10:00—2:00

Saturday 1:00—3:00

STUDIO HOURS

Mon - Fri 10:00—2:00

9225—118 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5G 0K6

Who's Who at the NINA

BOARD: Shelagh Kubish, Janice Kosak, Kristine Penner, Svetlana Pavlenko, Cecilia Bloxom, Heather Zwicker, James Parker, Heidi Veluw, James Morrissey and Bruce Kirkland.

ARTISTIC STAFF: Sherri Chaba, Cynthia Sentara, Jill Stanton, Susan Seright, Brenda Kim Christiansen, Stephanie Dickie, Carolyn Gingrich and Brittney Roy, Artistic Director Paul Freeman and Exhibition Coordinator David Janzen.

Executive Director Wendy Hollo
Director of Development: Rona Fraser; Community Liaison Jocelyn Brown and Admin Support, Marta Beranek.



The Artist Inside

The exhibition that enjoyed the most attention (and even a wee bit of controversy!) was the exhibition of work by inmates in Alberta Correctional facilities.

The Stollery Gallery was proud to partner with exhibit sponsor, Synergy Inmate Phone Solutions Inc. and Alberta Justice and Solicitor General to present this pilot project.

CBC TV and radio and CTV, along with the Edmonton Journal, provided excellent media coverage, including segments on CBC's DNTO (Definitely Not The Opera)

and news segments on CBC and CTV. DNTO included exhibit artist, Charles Bastien, [above] in a segment, "How a Piece of Art Changed My Life."

His story and that of fellow artist, Shane McDonald were particularly inspiring and both men received a lot of positive attention for their work. They remind us of the redemptive and healing power of art.

We are excited to report that dates are already set for next year's show, with Synergy back on board as sponsor.