# Fall 2019

September to December

## MUSEUM LONDON

## Esmaa Mohamoud: To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat

#### September 14, 2019 to January 5, 2020

Ivey Centre & North Galleries

"I am invisible, understand, simply because people refuse to see me... When they approach me, they see only my surroundings, themselves or figments of their imagination, indeed, everything and anything except me." – Ralph Ellison, Invisible Man

To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat is a celebration of diversity and an urgent call to action around issues of racial marginalization. Taking inspiration from the African American writer Ralph Ellison, artist Esmaa Mohamoud explores the ways in which Black bodies at once appear—and yet are rendered metaphorically invisible—within the spaces they navigate. She aims to re-examine understandings of contemporary Blackness, questioning the definitions of Blackness as a colour and shade, and/or as a societal or cultural construction.

Mohamoud draws on the modern industry of professional sports, which she equates with a covert form of neo-slavery. The London, Ontario-born artist transforms athletic equipment and symbols to illustrate pervasive, discriminatory behaviours and attitudes based on race, class, gender, and sexuality. She examines collective and individual struggle, focussing on the homogenization of bodies within professional sports, and the enforced playout of competitive violence between Black subjects. Through sculpture, photography, video, and installation, she investigates how high-level athletics operate as sites of corporate profit and discrimination.

The artworks in this exhibition consider a variety of concerns. Mohamoud's combination of basketball jerseys and Victorian-era ballgowns, for example, complicates the sport's fraught relationship with queer, genderfluid, and female identities. Hockey mesh becomes a physical barrier that articulates the economic privileges and barriers that define contemporary sport. Reconstructed football equipment, including branded black leather footballs and African wax-printed helmets, celebrate cultural plurality through their exuberant, diverse designs, while also protesting the staged enactment of Black violence for entertainment.

Guest curated by Matthew Kyba, To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat is a plea to address the inherent inequities driving the contemporary sports entertainment systems, while envisioning agency, resilience, and collective strength.



Esmaa Mohamoud, *Glorious Bones*, 2018-19, 46 repurposed football helmets, African wax prints, soil, metal. Image courtesy of the Artist, and Georgia Sherman Projects

#### RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Exhibition Opening Reception Sunday, September 29, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Esmaa Mohamoud: To Play In the Face of Certain Defeat Artist & Curator tour Sunday, November 10, 2:00 pm

## Ways of Being: Yhonnie Scarce and Michael Belmore

#### September 14, 2019 to January 5, 2020

#### Ivey South Gallery

This exhibition brings into dialogue the work of the Australian Aboriginal artist Yhonnie Scarce (Kokatha and Nukunu peoples) and the Canadian First Nations artist Michael Belmore (Ojibway). Working primarily in glass, Scarce makes visible the historical oppression of Aboriginal peoples in Australia, examining relations between human bodies and the land. Through his deliberate use of materials, especially metal and stone, Belmore's work similarly embodies Indigenous knowledge, material realities of the land, and the experience of living in relation to its sense of time.

Both artists explore notions of being in the world that express parallel histories of repression, colonial practices that set out to dehumanize. *Ways of Being* looks at the artistic practices of Scarce and Belmore as they critically celebrate Indigenous ways of knowing the world, which represent a valuable potential for rethinking our world in a time of global crisis.

Ways of Being is guest curated by Miriam Jordan-Haladyn (Oneida) and Julian Jason Haladyn. Both are academics, writers, and curators based in London. A Museum London catalogue for *Ways of Being* will be released in December 2019.



Michael Belmore, *Settlement*, 2009, hammered copper, river rock. Collection of Woodstock Art Gallery. Gift of Michael Belmore, 2013



Yhonnie Scarce, *Barwell and Beverly: Andamooka Opal Fields*, 2019, water-based ink screen print of archival photograph, vintage tent, hand-blown glass. Image courtesy of the Artist and THIS IS NO FANTASY. Photograph by Janelle Low

#### **RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS**

#### Exhibition Opening Reception Sunday, September 29, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Exhibition Talk with Yhonnie Scarce and Michael Belmore

Sunday, September 29, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

ArtNow Artist Talk with Michael Belmore Thursday, October 17, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Curator Tour Sunday, November 24, 2:00 pm

Ways of Seeing Writing Experiments Workshop Thursday, November 28, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

## London Lens: Ian MacEachern and Don Vincent

#### September 21, 2019 to January 19, 2020

Flex Space, Moore Gallery

London Lens brings together imagery from the 1960s by two London photographers. Ian MacEachern and Don Vincent portrayed life in our downtown, representing work and leisure, and the creative cultural ferment in which the London Regionalists—artists, filmmakers, novelists, poets, musicians, and activists flourished.

MacEachern and Vincent turned their cameras on some of London's best known artistic innovators, including Jack Chambers, Greg Curnoe, Ron Martin, and Tony Urquhart. They recorded performances by one of Canada's earliest and most influential noise collectives, the Nihilist Spasm Band, creating remarkable images that, once published in national art journals such as *artscanada* (now *Canadian Art*), helped to define this city's art scene.

In 1967, Vincent produced a series of portraits commemorating the participants in a National Gallery of Canada exhibition, *Heart of London*. This project helped earn artists including Curnoe and Chambers, and London itself, great acclaim. MacEachern's work of the time likewise featured artists, alongside the denizens of the city's downtown, at such settings as the York Hotel (now Call the Office nightclub). He also documented life on the Canadian National Railroad, and labour and industry, featuring important companies in London, such as the Ex-Cell-O Corporation.

**RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS** 

Exhibition Opening Reception Sunday, September 29, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm The portraits of both artists helped define an era in London, populated by an eccentric and vital community of creators. The individuals portrayed here exhibited or performed across Canada and around the world, including at the São Paulo Biennial (1969), the Biennale des Jeunes in Paris (1969), and the Venice Biennale (1972, 1976, and 1978).



Don Vincent, *Tony Urquhart*, undated (c. 1960s), gelatin silver print on paper. Collection Museum London. Gift of Bernice Vincent, London, 2006



Ian MacEachern, *Man in a Bar Car (CNR Train), Between London and Windsor, Ontario,* 1969, gelatin silver print on paper. Collection Museum London. Gift of the Artist, London, Ontario, 2016

## THE LOST CITY: lan MacEachern's Photographs of Saint John

#### September 21, 2019 to January 26, 2020

#### Interior Gallery

From the 1950s through the 1970s, cities throughout North America engaged in disruptive periods of "urban renewal" of older, poorer areas. These aged neighbourhoods were razed to make way for highways, housing projects, sports arenas, and acres of open, unoccupied space.

In *The Lost City*, 75 black-and-white photographs drawn from the London-based artist's archive depict 1960s life in the North End of Saint John, New Brunswick, before urban renewal. Living in the city from 1962 to 1966, MacEachern witnessed the profound transformation of Canada's oldest city as it was buffeted by the forces of modernization. Like the documentary works of Walker Evans, Dorothea Lange, and Henri Cartier-Bresson, MacEachern recorded the city's neighbourhoods, residents, and social life. His photographs show an extraordinary power in their honest depictions of fleeting moments and raw humanity.

Among the finest social documentary photographs ever taken in Canada, the photographs portray day-to-day adversity, but also episodes of sympathy and joy that surrounded inner city urban life not so long ago. These photographs show us a Saint John that was tired but full of energy; decaying but full of life.

Curated by John Leroux and organized by the Beaverbrook Art Gallery.







Canada Council Conseil des arts for the Arts du Canada



Ian MacEachern, *Urban Renewal with Sailors*, 1968, gelatin silver print on paper. Image courtesy the Artist and Beaverbrook Art Gallery



lan MacEachern, *Cluster of Houses, Chapel Street,* 1965, gelatin silver print on paper. Image courtesy the Artist and Beaverbrook Art Gallery

#### **RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS**

Exhibition Opening Reception Sunday, September 29, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

The Lost City Comic Camp Friday, November 15, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Culture Club: To Catch A Moment: A Brief History of Photography Wednesday, December 11, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

## What's the Score? Sheet Music from the Collection

#### April 13, 2019 to February 2, 2020 Community Gallery

Museum London has some 400 examples of sheet music. We have reproduced the covers of 99 of them. Most of this sheet music dates from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The majority has colourful, eye-catching cover art to attract the attention of consumers. It worked. Sheet music publishing was big business and people amassed large collections. Over time, some of these collections made their way into archives and museums. You'll notice that some of the exhibition labels have an asterisk (\*) beside them. That means you can use your mobile device to search Youtube and listen to the song.

## Fragile! Handle with Care

May 4, 2019 to August 16, 2020 Wall Case, Atrium Case

Fragile! Handle with Care features examples of the china, ceramic, pottery, and plaster items Museum London holds in its material culture collection. In the exhibition, you'll learn a little about the Glass Brothers whose business gave Pottersburg — a part of London — its name. You'll meet people like John Howard Griffths (1826-1898) and Harriet Priddis (1847-1922), both of whom painted china. You'll see remnants of London establishments now long gone, including the Tecumseh Hotel and the Masonic Hall. And, last, you'll examine some of what interested local collectors like Millicent Giddens, Dr. J. Malcom Smith, and Sarah Idell Stinson.

## Taking the Long View: The Museum London Art Collection, from its Beginning to Today

#### Ongoing

Volunteer & Moore Galleries

Taking the Long View is Museum London's permanent art exhibition. Comprised of wellloved treasures from the vaults; intriguing, though lesser-known gems; and recent acquisitions of modern and contemporary art, this exhibition provides an ongoing survey of art acquired over generations.

Selections demonstrate the ways in which a public art collection can record and reflect a community. These primarily highlight the accomplishments of London and area artists from the mid-1800s through the 2000s. It sets these achievements within a national context, illuminating ways in which London has been a centre of great artistic vitality.



Greg Curnoe, *Car*, 1967, oil with metal on masonite and wood, Collection Museum London, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Moore, London, Ontario, through the Ontario Heritage Foundation, 1978

# Art TO Celebrating 20 Years

#### Art Toronto Opening Night, a benefit Gala for the Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO)

#### October 24, 2019

Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building

Museum London is proud to be a Cultural Partner of Art Toronto, Canada's international fair for modern and contemporary art. Now in its 20th anniversary season, the fair is an integral event in the Canadian visual art sector. Join the Museum London e-mail newsletter and follow us on social media for ticket giveaways and discounted regular admission tickets. ArtToronto.ca

#### CONCERTS

The Museum will be hosting more musical events this season than we ever have! We've partnered with the Magisterra Soloists, the Forest City London Music Awards, and The Wood Shed Concert series to bring you a dynamic range of musical stylings.

See the full schedule of upcoming concerts at museumlondon.ca/music

#### **EXHIBITION PROGRAMMING**

## Exhibition Talk with Yhonnie Scarce and Michael Belmore

Sunday, September 29, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Cost: Free

Join the Ways of Being artists, along with guest curators Julian Haladyn and Miriam Jordan-Haladyn, talking about the exhibition and their art practices.

#### Fall Opening Reception

Sunday, September 29, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm Cost: Free

ArtNow Artist Talk with Michael Belmore

Thursday, October 17, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Exhibition Tour: 7:00 pm Artist Talk 7:45 pm Cost: Free



Michael Belmore is an Ojibway artist based in Ottawa. He will discuss the development of his ideas through working with plastics, metal, wood, and stone. Presented by Western University ArtNow Series.

Esmaa Mohamoud: To Play In the Face of Certain Defeat Artist & Curator tour Sunday, November 10, 2:00 pm

Cost: Free

Join Toronto artist Esmaa Mohamoud and guest curator Matthew Kyba, as they tour you through Esmaa's sports-inspired installations and sculptures that explore the idea of Blackness.

Ways of Being Curator Tour Sunday, November 24, 2:00 pm Cost: Free

Join the *Ways of Being* guest curators Julian Haladyn and Miriam Jordan-Haladyn for an exhibition tour.



## Culture Club

Wednesdays, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm Cost: \$8 or \$10 for 2 people per session, \$40 for all 8 sessions

Get the inside scoop on local art and history. Each session features a lecture by a guest speaker followed by light refreshments. Tailored to ages 55+ but we don't check ID!

#### October 9

Going, Going, Gone: Gardner Auctions History Grant Gardner, London Businessman

#### November 13

Up, Up & Away: the British Commonwealth Training Program during World War 11 Mike Baker, Elgin County Museum Curator

#### December 11

To Catch A Moment: A Brief History of Photography Matthew Ryan Smith, Glenhyrst Art Gallery Curator

#### **January 8**

The Music of Magisterra: London's Visionary Chamber Musicians Jordan Clayton and the Magisterra Soloists

#### FILMS, FESTIVALS, FUNDRAISERS

Doors Open London Saturday, September 14 and Sunday, September 15, 2:00 pm daily

Learn the untold stories of the forest city on an exhibition tour of our permanent art collection.

Oral Storytelling Through Singing, Dancing, and Drumming

Saturday, September 14, 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm Cost: Free

Join Frazer Sundown and the Ukwehuwe Connection dancers for hourly performances of

Indigenous song, dance, and traditional water drum and corn husk doll stories.





Nosferatu Film Screening with Live Soundtrack by Wormwood Friday, October 25, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Cost: \$10, \$15 at the door.

Fangs, crypts, and blood lust! You'll get it all with cinema's first vampire in F.W. Murnau's 1922 silent horror masterpiece. Live accompaniment by electro-acoustic duo Wormwood.

Check museumlondon.ca/cc for a listing of all sessions

See all programs & events at museumlondon.ca/programming



#### Words Festival

Friday, November 1 to Sunday, November 3 Cost: Free

Words returns to the Forest City for its 6th annual literary and creative arts festival at the Museum! Highlights include readings by Nino Ricci, Jane Urquhart, Sally Armstrong, Lynn Coady, Seth, Drew Hayden Taylor, Kevin Sylvestor, and more. More information at wordsfest.ca



#### Night at the Forks November 16

Join us for an elegant and memorable night at the Museum to support of our children's programming. Following the success of last year, there will be dinner, dancing, activities, plus a few extra surprises.

## More information at museumlondon.ca/NightAtTheForks

#### CLASSES



Elements of Acrylic Painting Mondays, September 30 to November 11, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. (No class October 14 ) Cost: \$190. Supplies not included. Instructor: Jeff Willmore

Explore colour, composition, ways of seeing, application and the unique properties of acrylic paints in this six week course. Consider how to focus, compose and render images of your subject to create successful paintings. Students will be guided through the process of making a painting of subjects suggested and supplied by the instructor. One-to-one support will also be provided.

#### Yoga at the Museum Sundays, October 6 to 27, and November 10 to December 1, 11:00 am to 12:00 noon Cost: \$40 each 4 week class Instructor: Celina Marlatt

Relax your body and mind in these gentle Hatha yoga classes while enjoying the stunning river view from our new Centre at the Forks. We will incorporate breath work and mindfulness into yoga poses to explore muscle activation and release, stability, and growth. Wear comfortable clothes and bring your own water and yoga mat.

Register for classes at museumlondon.ca/classes

#### WORKSHOPS



Fall Needle Felting: Pumpkins and Owls Thursday, October 10, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm Cost: \$25, \$20 students and seniors Instructor: Katie Lardner

Make some fall magic and turn soft wool roving into a pumpkin or owl (pick one). Enjoy an evening with like-minded makers in this workshop on easy-to-learn 3D felting with barbed needles.

#### Macra-weave Wall Art Saturday, November 9, 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm Cost: \$60, \$55 students and seniors Instructor: Katie Lardner

Make hand-crafted wall art with this innovative technique of working wool into macramé. Combine hand weaving and knotting to complete a cozy textile for your home.

#### Ways of Seeing Writing Experiments Thursday, November 28, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm Cost: \$15 Instructor: Tom Cull

Mine our art exhibitions and find images that resonate with you. Everyone is welcome to this evening of writing experiments with poet Tom Cull. Explore the words that find you.

Register and see all workshops at museumlondon.ca/workshop

## Make-A-Wish Paint Night with the Youth Council

Thursday, December 5, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Cost: Free

All are welcome to join our Youth Council in painting wish boxes that will later be filled with presents and sent to children with lifethreatening illnesses. Painting tips and tricks will be offered with snacks.

#### **Beaded Fringe Earrings**

Saturday, December 7, 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm Cost: \$25, \$20 students and seniors Instructor: Holly Pichette

Create some cool beaded earrings in your favourite colours, and learn about this fun contemporary form of Indigenous jewelry. Make them as a gift or wear them yourself.

#### Wool Beading

Thursday, December 12, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Cost: \$25, \$20 students and seniors Instructor: Katie Lardner

Learn to embroider patterns on pre-made wool beads to create your own one-of a kind necklace or three holiday ornaments.



Holiday Card Printmaking Saturday, December 14, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm Cost: \$25, \$20 students and seniors Instructor: Jen Hamilton

Impress family and friends with hand printed gifts for any celebration this winter. Learn to make easy-to-carve lino prints and take home six unique hand-made cards.

#### CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS



#### PA Day Camps 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

#### Cost: \$50 per camp

Camps are designed for children 6 to 12. Children must be 6 years of age to register. Before and aftercare is free from 8:00 am to 8:30 am and 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

#### Round and Round We Go Friday, September 27

We're exploring circles and spheres! Learn how to draw bubbles and globes, experiment with round weaving, and play with colour theory to paint Kandinsky-style fields of vibrating circles. Hunt all a-round in our exhibitions including a look at Esmaa Mohamoud's basketball sculptures.

#### Halloween Camp Friday, October 25

Draw, paint, and sculpt your way into the Halloween spirit. Make monster masks, paint mini pumpkins, bring a skeleton to life, and create your own creepy plaster hands just in time for Halloween.

#### The Lost City Comic Camp Friday, November 15

Get inspired by lan MacEachern's photography in *The Lost City* exhibition. Then, imagine your own secret places and tell their story in comic form. Learn figure drawing, story development, bubble text, outlining, and colour application.



Youth Council Thursdays, October 3, 2019 to May 7, 2020 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm (Break from December 5 to February 6) Cost: Free

Apply to Museum London's Youth Council to contribute to London's cultural scene! Receive volunteer hours while developing leadership skills, learning about art and culture, working each term with an Artist in Residence, using the internet to communicate effectively, and hosting public events as youth ambassadors to the Museum.

#### Imagination Station Every Sunday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Cost: Free

This drop-in artmaking program (with free supplies) for adults and children will stimulate communication, collaboration, and creativity. Visit one of our many exhibitions and then stop by for an afternoon of artmaking.

#### Expo Explore

Wednesday October 16, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Cost: suggested donation of \$5 per child

Intended for at-home parents and caregivers with children (aged 6-12). Join us for a tour of Esmaa Mohamoud's art, followed by painting and sculpting in our Studio. Host your next event at London's premier venue! Our extraordinary art and history exhibitions provide a unique setting for corporate meetings, special events, wedding celebrations, and more.

Located in downtown London, our beautiful facility overlooks the spectacular Forks of the Thames River. Our experienced events staff and team of acclaimed caterers, show-services technicians, and décor specialists will work with you to create a memorable occasion that is custom-designed for your event.

#### Email events@museumlondon.ca or call 519-661-0333 ext. 4265

Visit museumlondon.ca/museum-rental to find out more.

All revenue generated from gallery rentals is directed towards supporting exhibitions and public programs.











## THE SHOP *at* MUSEUM LONDON

The Muse Shop + Rental is changing its name! Come and see all the changes we've made inside.

Holiday Open House Sunday, December 1, 12:00 noon to 4:30 pm Cost: Free



Meet the local artists and crafters who create the unique pieces in the Shop. New seasonal work from local artisans will be featured alongside one-of-

a-kind items we carry year round. This is the perfect chance to get your holiday shopping done!



Steve Tracey, Eight Mile Road

#### Featured Artist: Steve Tracy

London painter Steve Tracy is best known for his vibrant landscapes and use of colour. He is a long-time member of our Art Rental program, where you can have original artwork in your home or office at an affordable monthly rate. Browse our catalogue online or make an appointment today!

# **GRAND**THEATRE WORLD CURIOUS LONDON PROUD 2019/20 SEASON BEASON

TITANIC THIS LONDON LIFE THE RUNNER MARY POPPINS FULLY COMMITTED ROOM EVERY BRILLIANT THING GROW BETWEEN BREATHS HONOUR BEAT JUNO'S REWARD JEANS 'N CLASSICS



#### Acknowledgement

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation we would like to acknowledge that Museum London operates within the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Attawandaron (Neutral), and Wendat peoples. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties. This territory is the homeland of the Chippewas of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee Delaware Nation. We also recognize the contributions of Métis. Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples, both in shaping and strengthening this community in particular, and our province and country as a whole.

#### Gift Shop + Art Rental

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 12:00 to 5:00 pm. Thursday until 9:00 pm

Muse is your one-stop boutique for unique products, gifts, and art rental services.

#### **Group Tours**

Cost: \$10 per adult; \$8 per senior; \$4 for those 14 years old and under.

To book your group tour of ten people or more, we require notification two weeks in advance by calling 519-661-0333.

#### Guided Tours Sundays, 2:00 pm

Meet a tour guide every Sunday at 2:00 pm for a free tour of the exhibitions.

#### Accessibility

There are two accessible parking spaces at the main entrance, a wheelchair accessible ground-level main entrance with push button doors, an elevator, accessible washrooms, and a complimentary transport chair. For more information, please call 519-661-0333 or visit museumlondon.ca/accessibility.

#### **Transportation & Parking**

We are on bus routes 2, 5, 9, 11, 12, 19, 20, 23, 102 and a 5 minute walk from the major bus hub at Dundas and Richmond. A bicycle rack is available outside the front doors.

Parking is available in our lot (Municipal Lot #19) at a rate of \$2/hour and a flat rate of \$6 after 6:00 pm. Parking vouchers must be purchased at the machine (credit card or coins) or you can use the HonkMobile app (Zone 2186). Nearby on-street metered parking is also available. More parking information at museumlondon.ca/parking.

#### **River Room**

Open Tuesday to Friday from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm for lunch, Sundays from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm for brunch

Outstanding food and service in a stunning space with fabulous views of the Thames River.

#### Rhino Lounge

Open Tuesday to Sunday from 11:30 am to 4:30 pm. Thursday until 8:30 pm

Bakery & Café by day, Lounge by night. Enjoy cronuts, in-house pastries, soups, and sandwiches. Offering vegan and Keto options too. Fully licensed with a selection of fine wines, craft beer, and liquor.



## MUSEUM LONDON

421 Ridout Street North London, ON N6A 5H4 519-661-0333 museumlondon.ca

#### **Our Mission**

We inspire and educate our community by preserving and sharing our art and history.

#### Hours

Tuesday to Sunday 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm Thursday 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm Closed Monday

Admission by donation.

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