Realisms: Canadian Art, 1850 to the Present

January 18 to May 3, 2020

Ivey Galleries

This exhibition endeavours to show that realism is about so much more than making something look like something else. Artistic realism can mean capturing the world with human empathy, or supplying a hard-nosed view of the socially marginalized, or peering behind the veil of everyday appearances to uncover deeper truths. Reality remains, as John Lennon famously observed, something that “leaves a lot to the imagination.”

Spanning more than a century and drawing almost exclusively from Museum London’s permanent collection, Realisms brings together paintings, photographs, sculptures, and installations by over 40 artists. The exhibition examines the multifaceted ways the idea of “realism” has been visually interpreted by Canadian artists with different intentions, at different moments in history.

Realisms highlights ways in which artists from Charles Macmunn to Edward Burtynsky to Suzy Lake have both assumed and subverted photography’s truth-telling essence. The exhibition explores the work of painters that have, like Alex Colville, complicated the line between dreams and reality, or like Joanne Tod, have called the meaning of “the real” in an age of virtual reality into question. Realisms also explores the work of artists like Yvonne McKague Housser and Bertram Brooker whose seemingly abstract paintings are motivated by a desire to uncover a more fundamental reality, beyond appearances. Finally, the exhibition looks at artists such as Micah Lexier and Kelly Mark, whose work explores realism from a conceptual point of view.

RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Exhibition Opening Reception
Sunday, February 2, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

“Art Now!” Artist Talk with Kelly Mark
Thursday, February 13, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

PA Day Camp: Colour Me Happy
Friday, March 6, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Culture Club: New Thoughts on Realism in Visual Art
Wednesday, March 11, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
100 Years of Nursing Education in London
February 1 to May 24, 2020
Interior Gallery

In 2020, Western University celebrates 100 years of nursing education. To mark this milestone, Museum London is presenting an exhibition that explores this in London.

London has been a centre of nursing education for almost 140 years. Like many other communities, the City found inspiration in Florence Nightingale and her training school for nurses, which had opened in 1860 in England. The first of London Ontario’s three hospital-based nursing schools, the Victoria Hospital School of Nursing, opened in 1883. St. Joseph’s Hospital was next in 1901, soon followed by the London Asylum for the Insane in 1902. Within them, nurses learned to practice through a combination of lectures and apprenticeship-style training.


Western University entered the field in 1920 with a course leading to a Certificate in Public Health Nursing. This soon expanded to include a certificate in nursing education and then, in 1924, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. From those early days until today, Western’s nursing program has continued to evolve and innovate.

Pulling from Museum London’s extensive artifact collection and borrowing from the Archives of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Fanshawe College Archives, and private lenders, this exhibition traces the development of nursing education in London from its earliest days.

RELATED PROGRAMS & EVENTS
Exhibition Opening Reception
Sunday, February 2, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Curator Tour
Sunday, April 5, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Culture Club: Art and Health: Using Visual Art to Explore the Body
Wednesday, April 8, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Expo Explore: The Body
Wednesday, April 15, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Dean Carson  
January 25 to May 17, 2020  
Flex Space, Moore Gallery

The art we encounter in galleries and museums has the power to change how we experience the all-too-visible, everyday world. Overfamiliarity makes us oblivious to our daily surroundings.

Windsor, Ontario-based artist Dean Carson chooses his subjects from the quiet elements in daily life that surround us, and indeed enclose us. He depicts empty rooms in homes and public buildings. Carson represents familiar vistas such as the façades of houses and interiors altered by renovation and decoration such as patched drywall, or striped wallpaper.

Despite the importance of rooms as places of shelter and comfort, we quickly become accustomed to them. Carson engages with the background, contemplating the space itself and avoiding the traditional focus given to agents within it. His drawings and paintings capture visual irregularities and abstractions hiding in plain sight.

Carson’s scenes deal with contradictions. His works embrace incongruity and ambiguity. Modern design and décor can express individuality yet use materials that are mass-produced and uniform. The beauty of a personal or public space can be challenged by an almost unnerving emptiness. Unsurprisingly, the artist develops his paintings using photos from real estate listings, film stills, and found photos as resources. These guides, however, are often degraded, through low resolution, photocopying, and the fading of old prints. Notions of originals and copies also inform his work, alongside more formal relationships of amplitude, frequency, and density of colour and tone.
What’s the Score?
Sheet Music from the Collection
April 13, 2019 to April 5, 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.

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. Comprising well-loved 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.

Fragile! Handle with Care
May 4, 2019 to August 16, 2020
Wall Case, Atrium

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 Griffiths (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.

Exhibition Related

“Art Now!” Artist Talk with Kelly Mark
Thursday, February 13
7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
7:00 pm exhibition tour, 7:45 pm artist talk

Join Toronto artist Kelly Mark as she discusses her practices and projects. Hear about her explorations of pathos and humour in life’s mundane routines. See her photographs on a tour of the Realisms exhibition. Presented by Western University’s “Art Now!” series.

100 Years of Nursing Education in London Curator Tour
Sunday, April 5, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Cost: Free by donation

Celebrate World Health Day with a curator-led tour of Nursing. Learn how nurses championed public health initiatives: from poverty reduction, to eliminating tuberculosis and diphtheria. Museum donations that day go to the Unity Project for Relief of Homelessness in London.

Film Screening of GIFT (2018) and Art Workshop
Saturday May 2, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
1:00 pm screening, 2:30 pm workshop.
Cost: $5 recommended donation

Learn how artists around the world gift their art to circumvent capitalism. In the documentary GIFT by Robin McKenna, a young Indigenous man makes gifts of his possessions, and others stories. After the film is a gift-art workshop with the Museum’s Youth Council.

Classes

Yoga at the Museum
Sundays, January 19 to February 9
11:00 am to 12:00 pm
Cost: $40
Instructor: Celina Marlatt

Get centred in the new year. Relax your body and mind in these gentle Hatha yoga classes while enjoying the Museum’s stunning river view.

The Artist’s Sketchbook
Saturdays, February 29 to April 4
9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Cost: $190, supplies not included
Instructor: Jacqueline Demendeev

Explore the sketchbook as a place to develop new ideas, learn fundamentals, improve technique, and both document and express yourself in your day-to-day life. Use graphite, ink, and uncommon materials to take your artistic practice to the next level. All skill levels welcome.

Acrylic Painting: Photo Studies
Mondays, March 30 to May 11
(no class Easter Monday April 13)
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Cost: $190, supplies not included
Instructor: Jeff Willmore

Learn the best application of acrylic paints to create successful paintings. You will be led through the process of making two different paintings from supplied photographs, while learning about colour, composition, and ways of seeing in a supportive environment. All skill levels welcome.
Workshops
Warm up your hands and heart with our new line-up of winter workshops. Participants must be at least 16 years of age (minors need to be accompanied by an adult). Supplies are included.

Needle Felting: Penguin Love
Thursday, February 6, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Cost: $25, $20 students and seniors
Instructor: Katie Lardner
This amorous bird project will put a little Valentine’s Day cheer in your heart. Practice needle felting; the easy-to-learn, and stress relieving craft of transforming wool into soft figures with a barbed needle.

Not Your Grandmother’s (Feminist) Embroidery
Thursday, March 12, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Cost: $25, $20 students and seniors
Instructor: Katie Lardner
Get fired up for International Women’s Day! Choose a slogan or image, transfer it onto fabric, and learn basic hand embroidery stitches to embellish your work.

Macramé Feather Hangings
Thursday, April 9, 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
Cost: $40, $35 students and seniors
Instructor: Katie Lardner
Make a stunning spring wall hanging and learn the art of macramé at the same time. Create three mixed-tone feathers suspended on a dowel using a combination of knotting, cutting, and carding techniques. These hangings are sure to warm up your living space.

See all adult classes, workshops and programs and get more information at museumlondon.ca/workshops
Children’s Camps
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.

PA Day Camps
8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Cost: $50 per camp

Snow Show
Friday, January 24
We’re in love with sparkly winter. Visit snowy Group of Seven landscapes and Inuit prints of arctic animals in our exhibitions. Create a winter sports mural, cotton ball dioramas, animal prints, and crayon resist winter scenes. There will be snowflake slime too!

Colour Me Happy
Friday, March 6
Explore colour and emotion. Does the colour yellow make you happy or do you get green with envy? Visit our Realisms exhibition to see how artists use colour to create moods. Make funny-face flip books, discover calming stones, and create a dramatic painting.

March Break Camp
Crazy for Canada
Monday to Friday, March 16 to 20
8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Cost: $250

Get inspired by the Canadian art on display at Museum London. Learn about Paul Peel, the Group of Seven, Emily Carr, Kenojuak Ashevak, and Greg Curnoe. Make pointillism portraits, expressive texture paintings, collage landscapes, prints of northern animals, and clay sculptures. Camp includes daily drawing labs.

Expo Explore *NEW TIME*
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Cost: suggested donation of $5 per child
Intended for at-home parents and caregivers with children ages 6 to 12, these fun-filled and educational afternoons feature a family-friendly exhibition visit, followed by a related art-making session.

Explore: Portraits
Wednesday, January 15
Look at the many ways people are depicted in our exhibitions, then create your own portrait painting.

Explore: The Body
Wednesday, April 15
Learn about what nurses do in our new exhibition, then create a life sized X-ray collage of yourself.

Imagination Station
Every Sunday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Cost: Free
Enjoy self-guided artmaking for adults and children; art supplies provided! Visit one of our art or history exhibitions for inspiration. Take a free exhibition tour at 2:00 pm, then head down to the Clare Bice Studio for an afternoon of creative fun.
Youth Council

**Thursdays, February 13 to April 30**  
(no session March 19 for the Break)  
6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Cost: Free. Register online at museumlondon.ca/youthcouncil  

Calling all teens aged 14 to 19: become a cultural ambassador for the Museum! Inspire other teens about our art and artifacts through blog posts and events. Take exhibition tours, write blog posts, learn from an artist-in-residence, and host an event, all while earning volunteer hours.

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**Family Day at the Museum**

**Monday, February 17, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**  
Cost: Free  

Get inspired by our exhibitions, make art, listen to music, or take a pop tour. See century-old artifacts from our collections, look into the eyes of a hundred year old portrait, or hunt for London sites hidden in the landscape paintings. Enjoy smart, hands-on fun for the entire family.

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**Partnerships**

Museum London is proud of our long-standing community partnerships to bring you a regularly scheduled series of lectures and concerts.

The LSA Lectures are a free monthly series presented in partnership with the London Society of Architects.  

**Thursdays, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**  

**February 20** with Alex Josephson, co-founder of PARTISANS  

**March 19** film screening “Architecture of Infinity” by Christoph Schaub  

**April 23** with doublespace photography  

Magisterra at the Museum is an affordable series of chamber music concerts held every month at the Museum in partnership with the Magisterra Soloists.  

**Thursdays, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm**  

**January 16**  
“Holocaust - Music in Exile” with guest saxophonist Bobbi Thompson and pianist Brian Cho  

**February 27**  
“Masterworks” with guest pianist Walter Delahunt  

**April 2**  
“The Trout” with guest pianist Pieter Grobler  

**May 21**  
“Introducing the Magisterra Academy Ensemble” with guest pianist Yu-Lien The

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**Newsletter**

We are always adding more programs and events than we can fit in our printed guide. Stay up-to-date and get 10% off purchases in the Shop by signing up for our online newsletter. Be the first to know about film screenings, musical events, free lectures, parties, and family-friendly art activities!  

Sign up at museumlondon.ca/email
Programs & Events

UPwithART – ArtyParty Silent Art Auction Fundraiser

Saturday, April 25, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

UPwithART brings the arts and social justice together in support of Unity Project for Relief of Homelessness and Museum London. Over 75 works of art donated by local renowned and emerging artists, and notable collectors are up for bid. Door and raffle prizes, great food, music, and performance celebrate art in all its forms. The breadth of work, the calibre of artists, the accessible prices, and the party atmosphere all provide a unique opportunity to experience the London art scene.

More information at museumlondon.ca/cc

Culture Club

WEDNESDAYS, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
Cost: $8 or $10 for 2 people per session, $40 for all 5 sessions

Get the inside scoop on local art and history. Each session features a lecture by a guest speaker followed by light refreshments.

January 8
The Music of Magisterra: London’s Visionary Chamber Musicians
Jordan Clayton and the Magisterra Soloists

February 12
The Mechanic’s Institute: The Predecessor to the Library
Arthur McClelland: Ivey Family London Room Librarian

March 11
New Thoughts on Realism in Visual Art
Andrew Kear: Head of Collections, Exhibitions, and Programs, Museum London

April 8
Art and Health: Using Visual Art to Explore the Body
Amy Creighton: Artist and Western University Instructor

May 13
London: A New History in a New Exhibition
Amber Lloydlangston: Curator of Regional History, Museum London
Caldwell’s artwork is commanding, dynamic, and universal – transcending the test of time. Her collection will be on display in the Shop from January through to March. All seventeen pieces will be available for rent or purchase through our Art Rental program. Browse our catalogue online or come in to the Shop to view our extensive collection!

Located at 421 Ridout Street North in London, Ontario, Canada, the Shop at Museum London specializes in giftware and local art and craft products. We have a large selection of ceramics, glassware, local publications as well as woodwork and art cards. In addition to being a retail store, we also have London’s only Art Rental program. We have been serving the London and area community since November 2013 and have an online catalogue where you can browse through our local craft products and our entire art rental collection.

Featured Artist: Virginia Caldwell

Virginia Caldwell, Energetic

Caldwell’s artwork is commanding, dynamic, and universal – transcending the test of time. Her collection will be on display in the Shop from January through to March. All seventeen pieces will be available for rent or purchase through our Art Rental program. Browse our catalogue online or come in to the Shop to view our extensive collection!
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.
MOZART AND HAYDN: A MUSICAL FRIENDSHIP
Saturday, 29 February, 2020 at 7:30 pm
Metropolitan United Church

LARA ST. JOHN: THE SEASONS
Saturday, 9 May, 2020 at 7:30 pm
Metropolitan United Church

SARAH SLEAN
Saturday, 28 March, 2020 at 7:30 pm
Metropolitan United Church

LONDON SYMPHONIA
londonsymphonia.ca
**MUSEUM INFO**

**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.

**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 hubs near Dundas and Richmond. A bicycle rack is available outside the front doors.

Packing 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.

**Shop Museum London**
Open Tuesday to Sunday from 12:00 to 5:00 pm. Thursday until 9:00 pm

Our shop 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**
Cost: Free

Meet a tour guide every Sunday for a free tour of the exhibitions.

**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.

**Support your museum. museumlondon.ca/support**
MUSEUM LONDON

421 Ridout Street North
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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.

Stay Connected
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Cover: Martin Tielli, Lanark County, 2012, oil on board, Collection of John Moran