



REPORT
TO THE
COMMUNITY
2016/2017

ART GALLERY OF NOVA SCOTIA



ABOUT

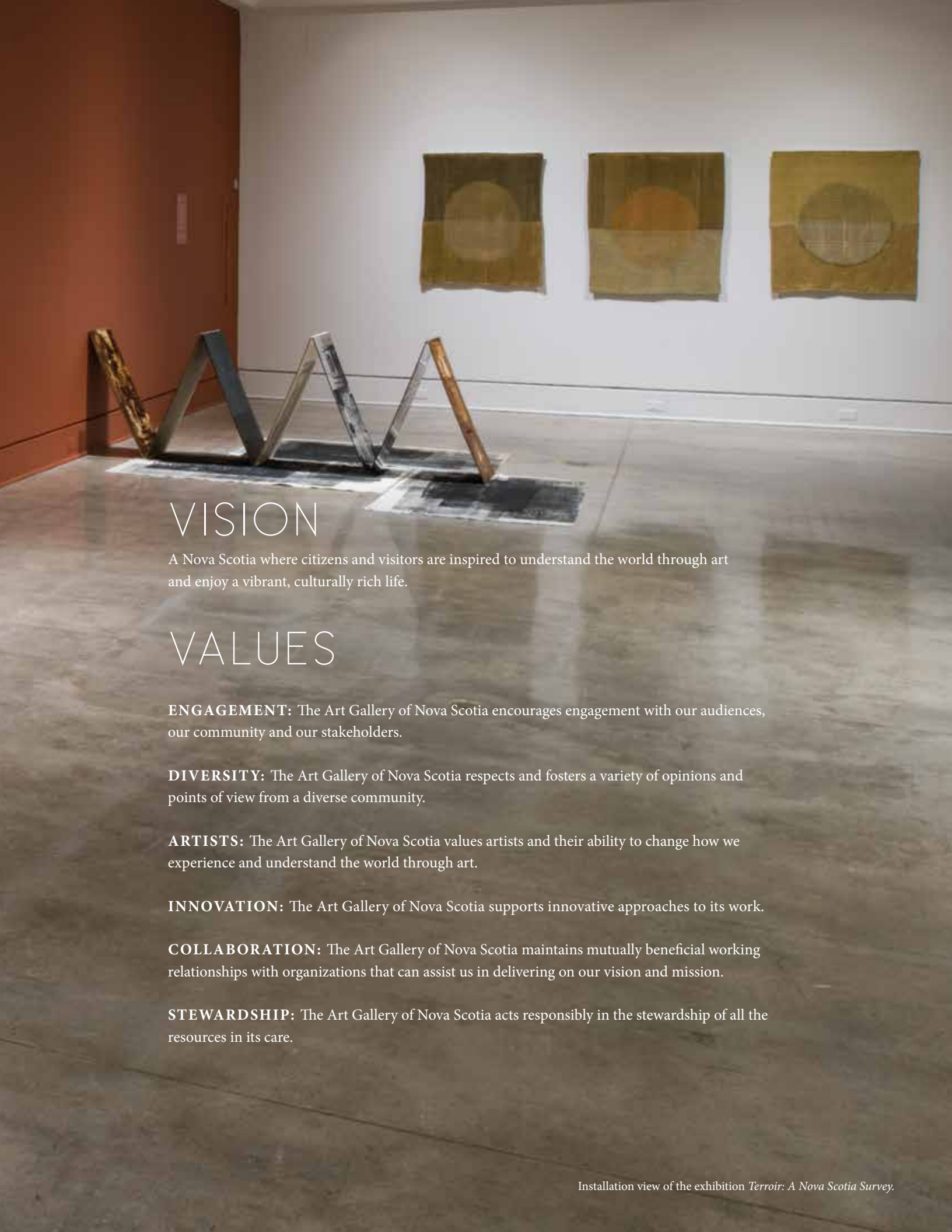
With locations in downtown Halifax and Yarmouth, the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is the largest art museum in Atlantic Canada. Since 1908, the Gallery has been a gateway for the visual arts in Atlantic Canada by engaging people with art. It is committed to this mission as an agency of the Province of Nova Scotia and one of the premier arts institutions in Canada. The Gallery is also responsible for acquiring, preserving and exhibiting works of art and for providing education in the visual arts. The Gallery's Permanent Collection currently holds over 17,900 works.

MANDATE

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is an agency of the Government of Nova Scotia, falling under the jurisdiction of the Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage. The Department is mandated to contribute to the well-being and prosperity of Nova Scotia's diverse and creative communities through the promotion, development, preservation and celebration of the province's culture, heritage, identity and languages. The Gallery, through the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia Act, is mandated to acquire, preserve, and interpret the province's art collection. The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia aligns with departmental objectives through its exhibitions and programming by promoting arts education and life-long learning, improving the social well-being of communities, enhancing cultural experiences for tourists and residents alike, and by fostering artistic and expressive excellence in the province. With a collection of over 17,900 works, the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is an incredible resource that provides the people of Nova Scotia and its visitors a unique way to explore the province, country and world through art.

MISSION

To stimulate meaningful connections with art, through stewardship of the collection and innovative exhibitions and programs.



VISION

A Nova Scotia where citizens and visitors are inspired to understand the world through art and enjoy a vibrant, culturally rich life.

VALUES

ENGAGEMENT: The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia encourages engagement with our audiences, our community and our stakeholders.

DIVERSITY: The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia respects and fosters a variety of opinions and points of view from a diverse community.

ARTISTS: The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia values artists and their ability to change how we experience and understand the world through art.

INNOVATION: The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia supports innovative approaches to its work.

COLLABORATION: The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia maintains mutually beneficial working relationships with organizations that can assist us in delivering on our vision and mission.

STEWARDSHIP: The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia acts responsibly in the stewardship of all the resources in its care.



REMARKS FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As the new Board Chair for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia I can tell you that I am very excited about the positive change we have seen at the Gallery this year. Our focus as an organization is on building a better Nova Scotia through culture and the arts. It is clear that our Province is highly focused on our sector as demonstrated by the successful launch of the Culture Action Plan this year with the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia as a key partner in that plan.

We are very lucky to have attracted new leadership to the Gallery in the form of Nancy Noble. She has hit the ground running and has made a big impact in the first nine months in her role. As we look forward to next year we have many major initiatives that are all about creating great engagement and experiences for Nova Scotians, and how we can evolve our overall experience as we look to become the Gallery of the future.

Hang on! It is going to be an exciting 12 months!

A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, consisting of a large, flowing 'R' followed by a horizontal line.



REMARKS FROM THE DIRECTOR AND CEO

The past nine months as Director and CEO of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia have been extraordinary as we work to create a provincial art museum that contributes to building strong and vibrant communities in Nova Scotia. 2016/2017 saw an exceptional slate of exhibitions and programs that highlighted Nova Scotian artists. Through our programming, we continued to address community interest and need by fostering collaborations with health and social justice organizations.

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is on the cusp of significant change and I am optimistic about its future. I am very fortunate to work with an incredible group of passionate people – board, staff, volunteers, artists and community partners. The team is working towards building an exciting new vision and path forward for the Gallery including new types of engagement, greater audience diversity and a continued strengthening of our relationships with the community—artists, collaborators, members and donors—to bring art to Nova Scotians.

Nancy Noble



COLLECTION DETAILS

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia collects, preserves, and exhibits visual arts for the benefit of residents and visitors to Nova Scotia.

264

New works of art were added to the Permanent and Study collections in 2016/2017.

At the end of the 2016/2017 year the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia held

17,909

works in its Permanent
and Study Collections.



Shary Boyle, *Live Old*, 2010

Porcelain, enamel, gold lustre, glass beads, 2/2,
20.0 x 25.5 x 22.0 cm. Gift of Rob Sobey, Stellarton,
Nova Scotia, 2016, with assistance from the
Jean and Lloyd Shaw Endowment Fund. 2016.52



TERROIR: A NOVA SCOTIA SURVEY

CURATORS: David Diviney, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia; Bruce Johnson, Independent Curator; and Sarah Fillmore, Chief Curator, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia



Borrowing heavily from the language of wine, this three-part exhibition looked at regional artistic production through the culture from which it emerges. The word “terroir” refers to the complete natural environment in which a particular wine is produced, including factors such as the soil, topography, and climate.

Terroir: a Nova Scotia Survey presented works by 29 artists working in the province, mining its history and culture and offering a diversity of production.

Artists from across the province responded to an open call, and this exhibition was built exclusively from that list of respondents. The exciting range of experienced and emerging artists made for a dynamic, engaging and diverse exploration of artistic practice. From painters, weavers, sculptors, printmakers, makers of video and installation art, hookers and beyond, Nova Scotia is home to some of the country’s best artists, this was our opportunity to showcase that talent, and unearth its roots.



MITCH MITCHELL: I WILL MEET YOU IN THE SUN

CURATOR: Sarah Fillmore, Chief Curator,
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Mitch Mitchell has long dealt with issues of labour and production, environment and technology, as well as the history of the print medium. The exhibition *I will Meet You in the Sun* developed over five years and offered visitors a personal interpretation of global events and their aftermath. Through various labor-intensive, large-scale installations, Mitch Mitchell revisited his grandfather's legacy following his role as radar technician in the Second World War. Drawing from a deeply personal history, Mitchell's work gave renewed meaning to the soldiers work overseas, and that of the family members left behind. Mitchell's used democratic materials (paper, rust, fire) and processes in creating a powerful body of work that visitors could connect to through their own histories. The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia was pleased to be host to this important first Canadian Gallery exhibition for Mitchell.



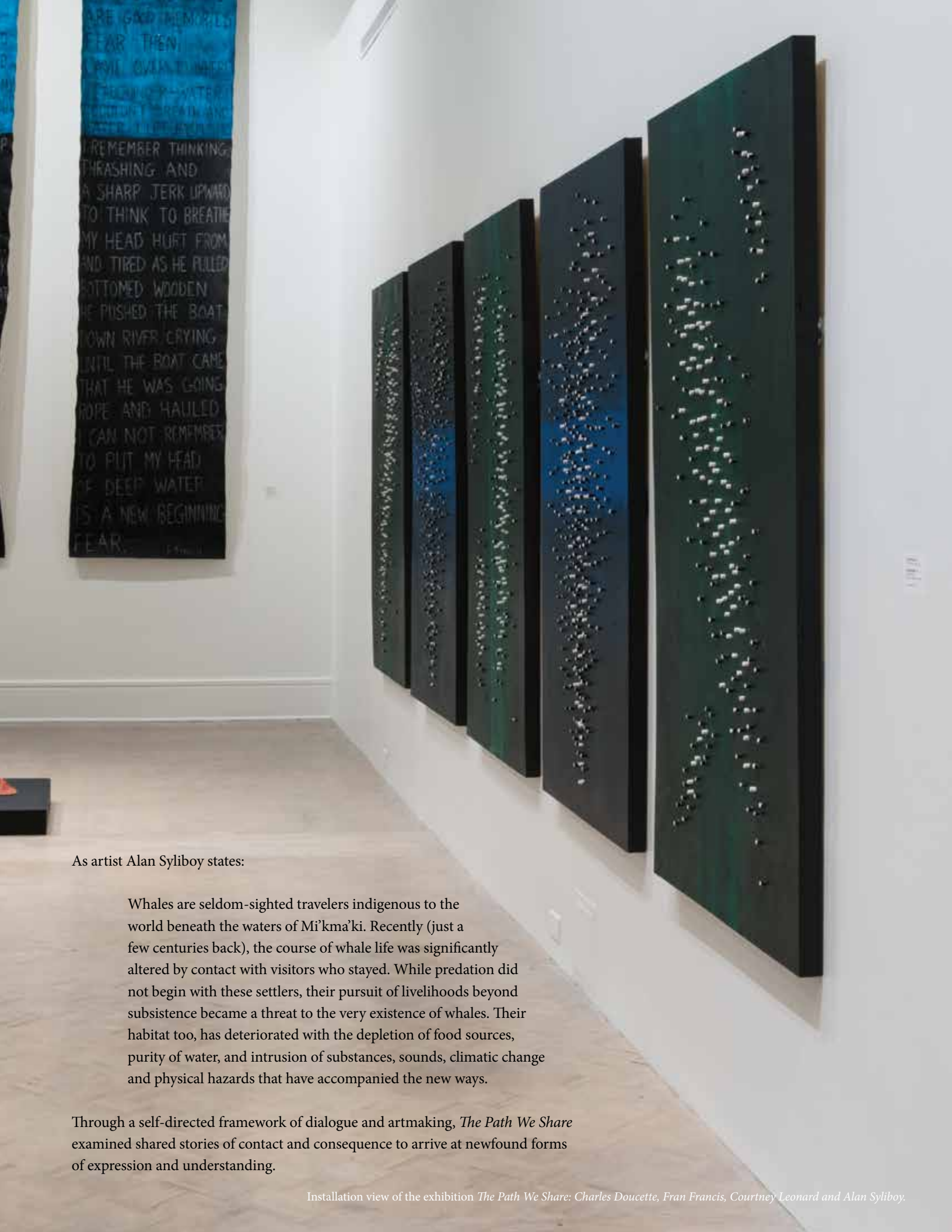
Installation view of the exhibition *Mitch Mitchell: I Will Meet You In The Sun.*



THE PATH WE SHARE: CHARLES DOUCETTE, FRAN FRANCIS, COURTNEY LEONARD AND ALAN SYLIBOY

CURATOR: David Diviney, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Four First Nations artists came together to take part in two creative residencies in Nova Scotia—one at The Deanery Project in Lower Ship Harbour in 2014, the other on Brier Island in 2015. The basis of this collaborative exchange was centered on reconciling the parallel journeys of the Mi'kmaq People and the whales of the North Atlantic.



As artist Alan Syliboy states:

Whales are seldom-sighted travelers indigenous to the world beneath the waters of Mi'kma'ki. Recently (just a few centuries back), the course of whale life was significantly altered by contact with visitors who stayed. While predation did not begin with these settlers, their pursuit of livelihoods beyond subsistence became a threat to the very existence of whales. Their habitat too, has deteriorated with the depletion of food sources, purity of water, and intrusion of substances, sounds, climatic change and physical hazards that have accompanied the new ways.

Through a self-directed framework of dialogue and artmaking, *The Path We Share* examined shared stories of contact and consequence to arrive at newfound forms of expression and understanding.



COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia delivers a range of programs which invite people of diverse backgrounds, ages and abilities to engage with art. We encourage the exchange of ideas and multiple perspectives through a range of tours with specially trained Guides, to interactive talks between artists and curators and studio-based programs and events.

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia provides a place in the community to learn, challenge assumptions and give value to ones curiosity, imagination and sense of discovery. The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is proactive in addressing the needs and interests of Nova Scotian communities when developing programs. The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia strives to:

Encourage transformation and change through the arts;

Inspire and stimulate conversations;

Provide a culturally safe space;

Collaborate to bring expertise and resources to the community, and

Effectively champion the arts.

PARTNERSHIPS: WORKING WITH OTHERS

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia has supported the direction of enhancing public access through a community collaborative partnership model that has generated significant opportunities. Many of the Gallery partnerships are non-traditional and cross into various sectors of the community. Partnership programs positively reflect the creativity and diversity of our communities.



ARTFUL AFTERNOON

In January 2017, the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia and the Alzheimers Society of Nova Scotia celebrated the opening of the *Artful Afternoon* exhibition during Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

This partnership program, facilitated by artist Bess Forrestall, celebrated individuals with dementia and their partners in care. Friendship, fun, and creativity are all important components of this stimulating and inspiring monthly program which includes both a Gallery tour and hands-on studio workshops.



“Artful Afternoon is one of the few things my partner and I can still do together. As his disease progresses, these opportunities are very few. I also benefited greatly from the interaction with other care givers....”

Partner in care

JUSTICE, ART & YOUTH

**A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MICHAËLLE JEAN FOUNDATION,
ART GALLERY OF NOVA SCOTIA AND YOUTH ART CONNECTION.**

Building on the success of the first *4th Wall: Justice, Art and Youth* exhibition in 2014 a *4th Wall* (2nd edition) exhibition was held in the spring of 2016. The work has placed emphasis on developing capacity and “homegrown” expertise in using the arts to address direct challenges facing the province, specifically in the areas of justice, prevention, safety, reconciliation, and rehabilitation of the incarcerated.

“I am so thrilled to see work by youth in a major gallery.
So, so, so awesome and amazing!”

Gallery visitor



Four themes that are being addressed in the next phase of this initiative through 2020 are:

Reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Nova Scotians;

Reducing gun violence and incarceration, particularly affecting African Nova Scotian youth;

Diminishing the incidence of violence against women and girls; and

Reducing prejudice and discrimination against LGBTQ and Two-Spirit residents of the province.

This powerful multidisciplinary exhibition attracted hundreds of visitors, who were moved by the serious issues of social justice addressed by the young artists selected for this juried show. The exhibition became a gathering place for many government, business and community groups and others to organize public forums, workshops, performances, and discussions related to the themes of social justice raised by the artists.

“The courage of these artists to share their hurt but also their strength. Truly beautiful! Hope all of this leads to some positive change in our society.”

Gallery visitor



Speakers, artists and guests attend the pening of the exhibition 4thWall.

ART KITS FOR NEW IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES





With funding from TD Bank, the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia designed *Art Kits* to support and welcome Syrian refugees and other newcomers to Atlantic Canada. *Kits* were developed by the Education and Programming team of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia for use in programs delivered in six Atlantic Canadian galleries/museums. Facilitated and animated by staff and volunteers in the respective communities, *Art Kits* provide opportunities for participants to develop new relationships through creative activities while encouraging respect and self-expression.

Art Kits provide activity suggestions for children, youth and their families, allowing for positive and reaffirming experiences. A series of illustrated books broaching common themes of humanity were included in the *Kits* as well as art materials, suggested lesson plans, and in-gallery games and activities.

A young man with a friendly smile, wearing a grey flat cap and a light-colored, vertically striped button-down shirt, stands in the center of the frame. He is holding a white coffee cup with a black lid. Behind him is a large, circular, dark-toned artwork with a textured, possibly abstract or celestial, pattern. The background is dark, and the lighting is focused on the man and the artwork behind him.

EVENTS AT THE GALLERY

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia's Young Patrons Circle wanted to expand the way Nova Scotians experienced art, so they invited people to take in the Gallery as it transformed into a vibrant space.

The 2016/2017 *ArtParty* events, allowed the curiously minded to explore the Gallery after hours. Attendees experienced art through tours, live music, DJs, hands-on art making activities and, most importantly, the exhibitions. Nova Scotians engaged with fellow art-lovers, met curators and artists, wandered the galleries and experienced a one-of-a-kind Friday night.



Total Art Party
Attendance:

1,108

ArtParty was supported by presenting sponsor TD, entertainment sponsor Maple by Southwest Properties and The Coast.

Attendees of January's Art Party interact with work by Denise Dumas part of *Terroir: A Nova Scotia Survey*.

2016/2017 VISITATION HIGHLIGHTS



39,701

people from around
the world visited the
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia
in Halifax.



3,019

visited the
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia
in Yarmouth.



2,556

Students and Youth
attended Art Camps.

423

people attended
Autism Arts workshops.

Events and space rentals attracted

10,913

people to the Gallery.

the Gallery had

2,186

Members for
the 2016/2017
fiscal year.



over

\$102,000

in revenue was generated
from online transactions.

artgalleryofnovascotia.ca saw

96,575

visits.



FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at March 31

	2017 \$	2016 \$
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash	380,106	534,222
Accounts receivable	234,866	303,691
Inventory for resale	44,184	51,824
Investments — endowment	4,166,756	3,588,164
	4,825,912	4,477,901
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	406,976	424,728
Deferred revenue	373,347	369,381
	780,323	794,109
Net financial assets	4,045,590	3,683,792
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets, net	85,867	93,391
Prepaid expenses	37,696	31,103
Other assets	16,414	16,340
	139,977	140,834
Accumulated surplus	4,185,567	3,824,626
Accumulated surplus is comprised of:		
Accumulated operating surplus	3,896,764	3,830,080
Accumulated remeasurement gains (losses)	288,803	(5,454)
	4,185,567	3,824,626

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

Year ended March 31

	2017	2017	2016
	\$	\$	\$
	[budget - unaudited]	[actual]	[actual]
REVENUE			
Operating	3,166,445	2,915,140	2,916,441
Programming	464,686	366,294	564,491
Gallery shop	162,500	114,253	146,135
Other revenue	45,000	163,665	1,042,329
	3,838,631	3,559,352	4,669,396
EXPENDITURES			
Salaries and benefits	2,227,907	2,085,453	1,977,746
Programming	590,617	449,713	648,198
Administration	337,460	448,650	355,829
Development and marketing	290,900	155,991	273,045
Acquisitions	—	3,225	251,869
Western Branch	152,643	157,546	223,637
Gallery shop	142,365	143,516	146,321
Building operations	19,800	13,386	11,682
	3,761,692	3,457,480	3,888,327
	76,939	101,872	781,069
Amortization of tangible capital assets	76,300	35,188	32,813
Annual surplus	639	66,684	748,256
Accumulated operating surplus, beginning of year	3,830,080	3,830,080	3,081,824
Accumulated operating surplus, end of year	3,830,719	3,896,764	3,830,080

STATEMENT OF REMEASUREMENT GAINS AND LOSSES

As at March 31

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Accumulated remeasurement (losses) gains, beginning of year	(5,454)	696,656
Unrealized gains (losses) attributable to investments	301,219	(121,434)
Capital gain reclassified to statement of operations	(6,962)	(580,676)
Net remeasurement gains (losses) for the year	294,257	(702,110)
Accumulated remeasurement gains (losses), end of year	288,803	(5,454)

SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia gratefully acknowledges our 2016/2017 sponsors and supporters

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The man who made
time stand still*
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*The Nature of Nature:
The Photographs of
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1976-2016*
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Childhood Development
Young Canada Works



David Elliott, *Vanitas*, 2009-2010
Oil on canvas, 204.5 x 174.0 cm. Gift of the Artist, Montreal, Quebec, 2016,
with assistance from the Fred and Elizabeth Fountain Endowment for Contemporary Art. 2016.73

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George Barbier, *Toilette de taffetas imprimé, Chapeau de paille*, 1914
 Engraving with pochoir coloring on Japan paper, 15.4 x 8.8 cm.
 Gift of Arthur Smith, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 2016. 2016.66

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as of March 31, 2017

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Jessie Oonark; Magdalene Ukpaticu, *Favourite Daughter*, 1985
Colour stonecut and stencil on laid japan paper, 22/50, 93.5 x 62.0 cm.
Gift of Dr. Alan Hunt and Dr. Christine Hunt, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 2016,
with assistance from the Marshall Endowment Fund. 2016.28



Art Gallery of Nova Scotia