Dimensions 2003





CRAFT COUNCIL

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FRONT COVER: Kaija Sanelma Harris, **Excavations No 1**, 2003 Details on page 5

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LOTTERIES



Every spring, the Saskatchewan Craft Council invites all Saskatchewan craftspeople to submit up to two handmade items for Dimensions, the only annual, open, juried exhibition of craft in the province. This year 101 craftspeople submitted 162 entries for consideration by the Dimensions jury.

The unique attributes of the Jurors, together with the fact that the exhibition is open to all Saskatchewan craftspeople, means that the look of Dimensions is constantly changing, with new and experienced craftspeople having an equal chance to be included. *Dimensions 2003* is a dynamic, colourful exhibition of 35 works by 29 craftspeople from a wide variety of craft media.

The ongoing success of Dimensions depends upon the generous support of a number of groups and organizations,

Introducing the Jurors

The Saskatchewan Craft Council entrusts its Exhibitions Committee with selecting the Jurors for *Dimensions* each year. The Committee not only looks at a wide range of highly-qualified potential jurors but also attempts to vary the specialization of the Jurors each year.

The Dimensions Jurors spend two full days selecting the show and choosing the award winners. They are specifically instructed not to concern themselves with selecting an exhibition or taking on a curatorial role; instead, they are simply asked "to choose the best among all eligible entries." They are asked to select works that "transcend technique, have content, and are a unique individual expression," keeping in mind that the Saskatchewan Craft Council encourages "creative and educated use of traditional methods, innovative exploration of materials, technical competence, historical perspective, and integrity."

including the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture, and Recreation; the Saskatchewan Arts Board; Government of Saskatchewan Department of Culture, Youth and Recreation; and the Town of Battleford.

The award donors also make a substantial contribution to Dimensions, with each focusing on a different area of craft production. The Town of Battleford, for instance, not only provides facilities for the exhibition but also previews the work each year in order to select a piece to add to their growing permanent collection. The Saskatchewan Craft Council acknowledges the contributions of the award donors and greatly appreciates their ongoing commitment to the exhibition. A complete list of donors and awards can be found inside the front cover.

The Jurors are also asked to participate in a public critique in which they are encouraged to speak about why specific works have been included or not included in the exhibition and to answer questions from the many craftspeople who attend.

Dimensions 2003 was selected by two Jurors: Wendy Parsons, a clay artist and arts educator from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and John Little, a blacksmith from East Dover, Nova Scotia. Both Jurors have extensive knowledge of the contemporary craft movement. They gave detailed attention to every entry in selecting Dimensions 2003, and in choosing the award-winners.

The Saskatchewan Craft Council thanks the Jurors for their valuable contribution.



The most impressive part of the jurying experience for us was the magic and power of a significant number of the pieces. These were pieces, which evoked such a strong response in us that they could not be denied. In many cases these were fabrics. The surprise was that we knew instinctively, intuitively, and instantly that we were reacting to the magic of the pieces. This is, after all, what we as artisans are looking to achieve. Our response to these objects was a profound experience... largely because it can't be explained.

Working with our hands is real, and when done really well, we make magic. A powerful antidote to the antiseptic, high-tech world we live in and a true expression of our humanity.

Our task was to choose 35 pieces from the 162 pieces submitted. A daunting task which was as exhilarating as it was exhausting. We should note that there were some conspicuous disciplines under-represented,



specifically metal and glass. It helped that there were a tremendous variety of objects that defied classification. It was good to see these eclectic pieces that were often humorous or just plain thought-provoking. This kind of lateral thinking is exciting, like a whispered rumor of great things to come.

It occurs to us that congratulations are in order. The artisans of Saskatchewan achieved something very special here. Having a continuing tradition of juried exhibitions is of paramount importance for pushing craft and design forward. Thanks to Saskatchewan artisans for their courage in putting their skills and passions up for scrutiny for the benefit of all. This is the best possible way for everyone to develop their individual vision and to ensure that Saskatchewan crafts continue to play an important role in the international arena.

John Little and Wendy Parsons

Premier's Prize

It is an honour for me to be asked to write a few words about Kaija Sanelma Harris, this year's Premier's Prize Award winner. She is a long time friend and a person whose work and work ethic I admire enormously.

Kaija studied at the Turku (Finland) Textile Teachers Institute and from there accepted a position in Iceland where she worked in a wide range of fibre related media. Her next move, in the late sixties, was to the United States (USA). At this time a great deal of very exciting experimentation and creativity was taking place in fibre arts in the USA and there were many opportunities to exhibit in juried and curated exhibitions. It was a very positive environment and Kaija won many awards while she lived there.

When she came to Saskatoon in the early seventies she was active with the local weaving community, and made beautiful functional weavings and wall works which she exhibited locally with the Shoestring Gallery and in exhibitions at the Dunlop, the Norman MacKenzie, and the Mendel Galleries. Kaija took part in the Dimensions Exhibition as a juror early on and later entered works and won her first Premier's Award in 1978. In 1977 she was invited to attend an Architectural Tapestry Workshop at the Banff Centre where she had an opportunity to meet her peers from Eastern Canada.

In the nineteen eighties the Saskatchewan Craft Council (SCC) opened a gallery for fine craft—Kaija was on the founding gallery committee where her extensive and ongoing exhibition experience, expertise in the evaluation of craft, and her ability to show us how to exhibit work to its best advantage was of great value to the SCC.

Kaija's work appears in exhibitions all across Canada and in national and international touring exhibitions. She has had several large commissions, the ones most visible to the general public being two large tapestries for the TD Bank Tower in Toronto. Her work is in many public Saskatchewan and Canadian collections, hangs in Rideau Hall and Canadian Embassies, and is in many private collections in Canada, Scandinavia, and the USA.

In her tapestries she continuously extends the possibilities of her medium and expands her subject matter while always maintaining the particular qualities present in a superbly crafted object. Her usual work process is to thoroughly research her theme and make a great many increasingly detailed drawings while concurrently experimenting with techniques and materials to explore ways to best portray her vision. Tapestry on the loom is an extremely demanding medium requiring much advance planning and the ability to visualize. The artist cannot see the weaving as a whole as it is rolled up upon itself as fresh warp is gradually brought to the front of the loom.

This is Kaija's fifth Premier's Prize Award in *Dimensions* and her work continues to astound and inspire us and send us back to our studios with increased vigour.

All measurements are in centimetres, height precedes width, precedes depth/diameter.



KAIJA SANELMA HARRIS Saskatoon, SK **Excavations No 1**, 2003 (detail) wool, silk, rayon; 8harness doubleweave, felting, unraveling, stitching. 114 x 105 cm. \$3250.00

The "Excavations" series is the latest work rooted in my long time interest in double layered weaves and were particularly inspired by reading about archaeological excavations. The writer* had a special interest in textiles.

* Elisabeth Wayland Barber: "Women's Work: The First 20,000 Years" and "The Mummies of Ürümchi."

Jane Turnbull Evans Award for Innovation in Craft



Part of my backyard, Sylvan Pond is one of my favourite "Places of Peace." I periodically make images from this site, each one exploring a different focus of vista, plants, colours, and light. Layers of threads build the scene. First warp threads are painted on the loom, then fabric is woven with many textured accent threads, and finally embroidery threads add details. This picture emphasizes densely textured threads woven and embroidered to make the foreground. It also purposefully presents one of my favourite themes, light and shadows. The colour changes which are due to lightfall stimulated a somewhat different palette than I have often used, making this a very interesting and enjoyable piece on which to work. I knew it was communicating properly when a viewer said, "It's where you want to sit and watch butterflies."

SCC Member Merit Award



KAIJA SANELMA HARRIS Saskatoon, SK **February Day**, 2003 wool warp, mohair weft; handwoven in 8-harness twill, hand brushed 167 + fringe x 127 cm \$400.00

SCC Member Merit Award



MORLEY MAIER Yorkton, SK Set of Three Willow Baskets, 2003 willow, ash, inner bark of maple for frame; red osier dogwood, willow weavers 15 - 50 x 15 - 50 x 15 - 50 cm NFS

It is very rewarding to be able to make something useful and attractive from a bundle of natural materials, especially if you have collected those materials yourself. There is a rustic natural quality to willow baskets that most people find is instinctively warm and appealing.

SCC Member Merit Award



FRANK SUDOL Paddockwood, SK **Hawks, Owls, and Magpies**, 2003 birch, acrylic paint; wood turning, carving, wood burning, painting 26 x 14 cm \$3,700.00

This feather vase is dedicated to the tens of thousands of these birds who were shot needlessly because man, without knowing much about them, decided that God was wrong and these "bad" birds had to be destroyed.

I turned the piece on a lathe, then carved the feathers, burned each tiny barb on the feather then coloured them to be as near to the real feathers as possible.

This is a monument to persecuted birds.

SCC Member Merit Award

ZANE WILCOX Saskatoon, SK Journey to the Moon, 2003 stoneware, glaze; thrown, altered 19 x 30 x 13 cm \$165.00

"Journey to the Moon" is a teapot assembled from multiple wheel thrown pieces. It came about as part of a series exploring the teapot format, and specifically moving the body of the teapot from a vertical to a diagonal plane. Although not made with the title in mind, this teapot inspired thoughts of the highly stylized, streamlined rocket ships portrayed in early and mid 20th century culture, from the film of Jules Verne's novel,

Award for Excellence in Clay



MEL BOLEN Humboldt, SK **Macaroon**, 2003 porcelain, glaze, stains, industrial ceramic (no glue!) slab rolled clay, handformed additions 8 x 29 x 41 cm \$250.00 I am a binge worker. A certain form or decoration attracts me and I run with it until it leads to the next series. I found some ceramic radar insulators and began incorporating them into pieces as feet or handles. I think they work well together.

Award for Excellence in Glass

LEE BRADY Saskatoon, SK **Bronzeway Bowl**, 2003 glass; fused, kiln formed glass, sandblasted 11 x 41.5 x 37 cm \$1,500.00

"Bronzeway Bowl" is a pedestal bowl of fused, sandblasted and kiln formed glass. In the piece, I wished to draw upon the tile-like qualities of the multi-coloured iridescent glass that I sandwiched between two layers of glass.

I chose to lay this texture on a background of bronze and mauve, hence the title "Bronzeway Bowl."

Dimensions 2003

Award for Excellence in Wood Award for Excellence in Craft



ROBERT HOLOWATY Saskatoon, SK **Tree for Two**, 2003 cherry, curly maple; furniture making tools, carved, oiled, buffed 40 x 50 x 100 cm \$5,850.00 The majority of work was done using hand woodworking tools. The top frame and leg assembly are cherry; the captured top panel is curly maple. The leg assembly is fitted by mortise and tenon into the top.

The title comes from the old jazz classic song. Tea for Two = Tree for Two.

Award for Excellence in Metal



DARYL RICHARDSON Saskatoon, SK **Untitled**, 2003 copper; forged, turned over into rubber. 11 x 18 x 16 cm \$550.00

Copper is a beautiful material to work; it is wonderfully plastic when forged hot. I wanted to take a simple form and give it an exaggerated texture with a modest amount of uncertainty. By using some unconventional techniques I believe this was accomplished.

Award for Excellence in Quilting



LYNN E. UNDERWOOD Saskatoon, SK **Facets**, 2001 commercial and hand dyed cottons, beads; machine pieced, machine quilted 84 x 84 cm \$495.00

This piece was inspired by a Kaffe Fassett design. Hence the name. The colour scheme was an intentional use of complimentary colours with beads added for an extra twinkle. Using hand-dyed and batik fabrics, the log cabin blocks are machine-pieced.

Nell Steedsman Award for Excellence in Weaving Award for Excellence in Fibre



JUDY HARALDSON Saskatoon, SK I Shall Wear Purple, 2003 handwoven, hand dyed jacket; silk, cotton, dyes 87 x 120 cm \$1,000.00

The title is from a poem by Jenny Joseph called "Warning—When I Am Old I Shall Wear Purple." It talks about the freedom to change attitudes and behaviours, that comes with growing older. Reaching age milestones makes one evaluate one's life and make changes in order to live more fully and more consciously.

Award for Excellence in Functional & Production Ware



About 25 years ago I asked a local potter to teach me how to make a bowl. Apparently I finally got it right.

Town of Battleford Purchase Award



JODY GREENMAN-BARBER Buena Vista, SK Untitled, 2003 clay, glaze, brown engobe; exaggerated wheel thrown marks, assembled, altered 38 x 32 x 8 cm \$150.00

This untitled piece is essentially an exploration of non-functional wheel thrown and altered form. I am constantly searching for new ways of using the wheel and the various possibilities of what you can do with it. It is the expressive qualities and spontaneity in manipulating a piece of clay in that state of perpetual motion that "drives" my work.

ROBERT JACKSON Ruddell, SK Untitled, 2002 clay, salt glaze:

wheel thrown 8 x 16 x 16 cm

NFS

Selected Participants







BRUCE H. ANDERSON Regina, SK \$625.00

Misty: Trot 5-Phase, 2002 clay, alaze; sculpted, press mold 20 x 176 x 5 cm (installed)



DONOVAN T. CHESTER Regina, SK Pentagonal, 2003 clay, oxides; raku firing, sprayed glazes 14.5 x 66.5 x 65.5 cm \$460.00



SHAN COCHRANE Saskatoon, SK Moody Blue, 2003 cotton; machine pieced and guilted 115 x 160 cm \$1,800.00



F. EVANGELINE ENNS

Flowers 'n Lace, 2002

paper, glue; husking,

23.5 x 13.5 x 13.5 cm

crimping, quilling

NFS

Emma Lake, SK

ELIZABETH M. CUMING

Saskatoon, SK Irises in my Garden, 2003 21 different hand dyed, batiked, and feature cottons; watercolour pieced, machine & hand applique 103 x 89 cm \$1.000.00





BERNARD GAUDET Bellevue, SK **Dream Harvest**, 2003 wood: peach, padauk, African blackwood, maple; oil & resin finish; turned, carved 88 x 22 x 22 cm \$3.000.00



GARY GREER Saskatoon, SK **Quicksilver**, 2002 440-C stainless steel, brass, desert ironwood, German silver bolsters 3 x 2 x 23 cm \$650.00



JANE A. EVANS Grandora, SK Summertime, 2003 woven landscape, #79 in a series called "Places of Peace" cotton, rayon, wool, orlon, polyester threads, textile paints 47.1 x 47.5 x 5 cm \$2,565.00



JUDY HARALDSON Saskatoon, SK White Silk Scarf, 2003 silk; handweaving, 3/1 twill blocks, twisted fringe 174 x 17.5 cm \$225.00



75 x 175 cm

\$875.00

CINDY HOPPE

Klee Oak, 2003

recycled wool suits, ties; patchwork,

applique, knitting, crochet, overdyeing

Biggar, SK



ROB KELLY Saskatoon, **Blue Ches** poplar box aniline dye, dovetails; lo 23 x 56 x 2 \$1,200.00

ROB KELLY Saskatoon, SK **Blue Chest**, 2003 poplar box stained with aniline dye, maple lid & dovetails; lacquer finish 23 x 56 x 23 cm

PAUL LAPOINTE Saskatoon, SK **Black Spruce**, 2003 BFK etching paper, ink; dry point etching on copper plate 87 x 26.5 x 3 cm \$500.00



JOANNE LEPP Saskatoon, SK **The Silent Cathedral**, 2002 hand painted fabric, embroidery threads, water colours; machine applique 51 x 71 cm NFS



MORLEY MAIER Yorkton, SK Willow Basket, 2002 willow frame, willow weavers 50 x 50 x 50 cm NFS



MELVYN MALKIN Saskatoon, SK Summer (5.12.7.02), 2002 clay, glaze; hand built slab construction, raku fired 37.5 x 38 x 3 cm \$275.00



LYNDON D. TOOTOOSIS North Battleford, SK Grandmother Watches, 2003 Brazilian soap stone; chiselling, knife carving, sanding, wax 34 x 43 x 11 cm NFS



Never Cry Wolf, 2003

carving, painting 66 x 22 cm \$4,200.00

birch, acrylic paint; wood turning, piercing,

PAT McGILLIS Regina, SK And The Point Is.... , 2003 stoneware clay, oxides, stains, glaze, ink; slab built 26 x 22 x 9 cm NFS





ZANE WILCOX Saskatoon, SK Untitled, 2002 stoneware, shino glaze; thrown, altered, reduction firing 22 x 23 x 16 cm \$165.00



CARLA MICHELLE WILSON Regina, SK Teeth for Two, 2003 porcelain, clear glaze 10 x 15 x 15 cm NFS

Dimensions 2003

This exhibition is intended to display some of the outstanding craft items produced by Saskatchewan craftspeople during the past year. The winners of the awards are announced at the Dimensions Award Ceremony and Opening Reception, Thursday, July 17, at 7:30pm at the Alex Dillabough Centre, Battleford, SK

Published for the exhibition Dimensions 2003, organized by the Saskatchewan Craft Council (SCC), a non-profit organization formed in 1975 to enhance and promote the craft community. Craftspeople, supporters of craft, and the general public are served by the many and varied programs of the SCC, including gallery and touring craft exhibitions, craft markets, work-shops, conferences, and publications. The SCC is an affiliated member of the Canadian Crafts Federation.

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Itinerary

MacKenzie Art Gallery Regina, SK May 31 - July1, 2003

Saskatchewan Handcraft Festival Battleford, SK July 18 - 20, 2003

The Godfrey Dean Art Gallery Yorkton, SK September 8 - November 3, 2003 (tentative)

Saskatchewan Craft Gallery Saskatoon, SK November 21, 2003 - January 11, 2004

Barr Colony Heritage Centre Lloydminster, AB January 21 - February 29, 2004

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Dimensions 2003 is sponsored and organized by the



SASKATCHEWAN CRAFT COUNCIL

813 BROADWAY AVENUE, SASKATOON, SK S7N 1B5 Ph: 306.653.3616 Fax: 306.244.2711 www.saskcraftcouncil.org saskcraftcouncil@shaw.ca

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SASKATCHEWAN CRAFT COUNCIL



Kiss Bench (Puss-Sate), 2002 Emma Lake Collaboration

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Jane A. Evans, **Sylvan Pond**, 2003 Details on page 6