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EXPLORATIONS GRANT PROGRAM EIGHTEEN AWARDS GIVEN TO EDMONTON ARTISTS

Over the course of the next year eighteen established and emerging artists will take up the task of reaching new audiences with projects that evoke inventive, new styled themes and collaborations.

The Edmonton Cultural Capital Program is pleased to officially announce that \$226,678 has been awarded to Edmonton artists through the Explorations Grant Program, a component of the Edmonton Cultural Capital Program

The ECCP office received and reviewed 142 applications requesting support of just over 2.5million. The eighteen recipients will create and present new works in Edmonton during 2007-2008.

The second (final) deadline for receiving applications is October 1, 2007. Over the two rounds of grants \$540,000 is available.

Recipients of the first round of awards:

- **Terrance Armstrong** (Literary Arts) will present *Echoes from the Alley*.
- Twenty first-person accounts of homelessness in Edmonton.
- **Wes Borg** (Media Arts) will present *8th Funniest*.
- A collaboration with Mostly Water Theatre, producing two live multi media performances incorporating video.
- **Michelle LaVoie** (Visual Arts) will present an unnamed series based on "filtering perception through printmaking techniques and digital media".
- **Eva Colmers** (Film) is working with dramatic effects, sound and Edmontonians to produce *A Thousand Words*, a short movie depicting usual and unusual images as found around Edmonton. Sound will be manipulated and added. "In a thousand words we hope to challenge the audience's perception of the letter characters as a form of art imagery."
- **Laura O'Connor**, emerging artist (Visual Arts), will present *Patron Saints of Modern Times*. Using photo illustration this project explores the relevance and universality of Patron Saints in today's society – for example Saint Isidore of Seville is the Patron Saint of the Internet.

- **Annette Schouten Woudstra** (Literary Arts) will produce the first phase of an unnamed narrative inspired by the Keiskamma Art project of South Africa. Ms. Schouten Woudstra is an emerging, published creative non fiction literary artist, poet and writer.
- **Will Bauer** (Multi Media) will produce *River*, a 3D interactive, on line “data portrait” of Edmonton. Utilizing custom software, *River* is characterized by the use of poetry to ‘interrogate’ a living database of hundreds of Edmonton-relevant websites. “A sort of poetic enquiry into data.”
- **Anna Mioduchowska** (Literary arts) collaborates with four other literary artists to present *Five Ways to Snare a Magpie*. A celebration of poetry will be staged using music, video and visual art.
- **Tania Alvarado** (Dance) will present *La Fura*, a new full length choreography exploring light and environment and the impact and interplay of these elements in relationship to the moving body. A collaboration with lighting designer, David Fraser.
- **Amin Amir Mohamed** (Visual Art) will present an unnamed series of thirty large oil paintings, depicting women and their role in family and society. Mr. Amin Amir Mohamed grew up in Somalia and has worked as a professional artist for over thirty years.
- **Jalal Barzanji** (Literary Arts) is from Iraq and is Edmonton’s first Writer in Exile. He will produce and publish *Home in a Suitcase*, his first collection of poetry in English.
- **Ian Mulder** (Visual Art) will explore the many facets of graffiti art. Through workshops and a competition, street artists and “fine” artists will explore and discuss techniques of creating art in public spaces. Five wall murals will be created during September to beautify the new iHuman building (10231 – 95 Street).
- **Monica Pitre** (Visual Art) will present unnamed work in the form of three pieces of visual art to be installed onto billboards, replacing advertising at site specific locations.
- **Ted Kerr** (Visual Art) will collaborate with dancer Kathy Ochoa to present *Unaddressed*. Four photographs, greater than 16”x 24,” will be produced and framed to “address” and contextualize some of Edmonton’s under exposed issues.
- **Lesley Kroll** (Theatre) will present *Swallow*, a one act social satire on global warming, gullibility and the decline of the Ivory Gull. This dark comedy will be written by Lesley Kroll and performed by Rebecca Starr.

- **Dave Clark** (Theatre) presents *The Edmonton Museum of Malls*. This project will research and create performance text about the history and culture of Edmonton's shopping malls.
- **Amber Borotsik** (Dance) will produce *Scythe*, a full length dance theatre piece which explores the current depopulation of the rural west.
- **Junetta Jamerson** (Music) will produce a first time recording of the folk and gospel songs of Alberta's Black Pioneer Community.

MEDIA CONTACT

If you require more information about the Edmonton Explorations grant recipients, their projects or their contact information contact:

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