



2026 OCAD U GALA ART AUCTION

WHY WE LOVE IT!

LOT 1: Kendra Yee – JOY

JOY captures the exuberance of an artist whose work is gaining rapid institutional and public recognition. Yee's ceramic portrait vibrates with playful surface variation and technical confidence, reflecting a practice already exhibited with galleries and art spaces in Toronto, Los Angeles, and New York. As the City of Toronto's current Artist in Residence, *JOY* offers collectors an early, celebratory work by an artist firmly on an upward trajectory.

Artist Statement:

This ceramic portrait was fired under atmospheric conditions using the onsite gas kiln at the Art Gallery of Burlington. Reactions of copper and iron oxides are sprinkled across the surface revealing figures of play, curiosity, and gratitude.

LOT 2: Kristine Moran – BIRD OF PARADISE

A striking example of Kristine Moran's mature painting practice, *Bird of Paradise* radiates confidence through bold colour and assured gesture. Moran's work is held in major international collections including the Saatchi Collection (London), the Buffalo AKG Art Museum, and the Tom Thomson Art Gallery, and she has presented seven solo exhibitions with Daniel Faria Gallery. This painting reflects the clarity and assurance that have come to define her practice.

Artist Statement:

The painting "Bird of Paradise" began my exploration of public gardens as sites of fantasy and utopian desire. Painted after drawing at Kepple Croft Gardens along Georgian Bay, a place sustained through decades of careful conservation and devotion, the work reflects the imaginative space it opens for longing and possibility.

LOT 3: Mitchell Fenton – SEARCH

In *Search*, Mitchell Fenton brings painterly skill and quiet humour to a contemporary take on landscape and art-historical reference. Working between observation and reinvention, the painting invites recognition while gently unsettling expectations. Fenton's practice has been supported by galleries across Canada and by commissions such as his work with Parks Canada. This piece reflects his ease with both tradition and subtle disruption.



Artist Statement:

This painting is a take-off from a Cornelius Krieghoff painting, "A Krieghoff knock-off". Instead of Le Habitant in the wilds of Canada, we have Le Hipster out and about, consulting his device.

LOT 4: Alexa Kumiko Hatanaka – THE CATFISH BENEATH KANTŌ

The Catfish Beneath Kantō reflects the depth and refinement of Alexa Kumiko Hatanaka's internationally recognized practice. Her works are held by leading institutions including the British Museum, National Gallery of Canada, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, and the Dallas Museum of Art. With upcoming inclusion in both the Venice Biennale and Toronto Biennale, this work represents a pivotal moment within an international career.

Artist Statement:

Printed on handmade paper, "The Catfish Beneath Kantō" references an archival photo that belonged to my grandmother. The photo depicts the aftermath of the 1923 earthquake in Kantō, Japan -- the same natural disaster that prompted my family's immigration to Canada.

LOT 5: Pixie Shaw – APPLE

Apple exemplifies Pixie Shaw's thoughtful engagement with form and surface. The work invites careful looking, revealing how subtle shifts in material and contour resolve into a unified whole. Shaw's sculptures have been exhibited nationally and internationally, including presentations in London and across Canada. This piece reflects a practice grounded in sustained inquiry and material intelligence.

Artist Statement:

The intrigue is not simply the shape of an object, but the surface of the piece. When everything is considered, it's all one form.

LOT 6: Camille Jodoin-Eng – FIRE SHOAL

Fire Shoal holds movement and reflection in delicate balance. Metallic surfaces catch light and shadow, creating a sense of quiet animation that echoes natural and spiritual rhythms. Following recent solo and group exhibitions in Montréal and Toronto, including at Patel Brown Gallery and Onsite Gallery, Jodoin-Eng continues to develop a practice that is both intimate and expansive. This work offers a contemplative, quietly resonant presence.

Artist Statement:

"Fire Shoal" is a piece inspired by the fluid movement of a shoal of fish and the flickering wisps of a burning



fire. The body of the work is made from repurposed waste material: laundry lint held together with a binding adhesive, gilded in metallic leaf, and then painted using my father's airbrush from the 1980's.

LOT 7: John Scott – THE WOUNDED

A deeply affecting work by one of Canada's most important artists, *The Wounded* distills John Scott's raw, emotive visual language. Known for his uncompromising social commentary and visceral use of black oil stick and charcoal, Scott's work confronts vulnerability, power, and the human condition with unflinching honesty. His art is held in major collections including the National Gallery of Canada, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the Museum of Modern Art (New York). This piece offers collectors a rare opportunity to acquire a deeply emotive piece by a foundational figure in contemporary Canadian art.

Statement about the Artist:

A Canadian multimedia artist, Scott, was known for his drawings, paintings and sculpture/installations. His artistic creations have drawn comparisons to those of American artist Jean-Michel Basquiat (1960-1988), who similarly explored themes of mortality, destruction, and the disparity between wealth and poverty. (From Dart International Magazine, 2025)

LOT 8: Kyle Scheurmann – DON'T WORRY, I'M STILL HERE TO HELP

This poignant painting exemplifies Kyle Scheurmann's ability to merge advocacy with visual storytelling. His work is grounded in lived experience and careful observation, translating urgency into scenes that feel personal and reflective. Exhibited with Bau-Xi Gallery and featured in national media, his paintings invite viewers into a slower, more attentive relationship with place. This compelling contemporary piece balances a quiet tenderness with resolve.

Artist Statement:

Last summer while hiking out of an ancient grove full of moss and maple, a small screech owl sat on a branch and stared into the beam of my flashlight as full logging trucks kicked dust only a hundred meters away. I whispered quietly to the bird, "Don't worry, I'm here to help".

LOT 9: Megan McCabe – WATER'S EDGE

Water's Edge showcases Megan McCabe's ability to evoke emotional complexity through gesture and atmosphere. A finalist in the RBC Canadian Painting Competition, McCabe's work has been exhibited at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts and presented in multiple solo exhibitions in Toronto. This beautiful painting reflects a practice that continues to gain national recognition for its quiet intensity and creative sophistication.



Artist Statement:

I'm a figurative oil painter. In several works over the years, I've explored themes of relationships, coexistence, and isolation through images of figures wading in water.

LOT 10: Wendy Coburn – U-HAUL SUITE #6 (LIGHTNING)

Part of Wendy Coburn's well-known *U-Haul Suite*, this stunning limited-edition work blends humour with reflection. Everyday objects are transformed into carefully staged scenes that speak to intimacy, accumulation, and care. Coburn's work has been widely exhibited and is held in collections including the Art Gallery of Ontario and Oakville Galleries. This is a highly recognizable and historically significant piece from a seminal Canadian artist.

Statement about the Artist:

Wendy Coburn had significant impact on the Canadian art community as an artist, educator and activist who has exhibited internationally. Coburn's work explores representations of gender, sexualities, everyday objects, material culture, and human/animal relations.

(From *Fable For Tomorrow: A Survey of Works by Wendy Coburn* Exhibition Publication, 2022)

LOT 11: Bewabon Shilling – BLACK RIVER SERIES

Rooted in observation and place, *Black River Series* reflects the strength and clarity of Bewabon Shilling's landscape practice. Painted with clarity and restraint, the work distills place into rhythm and bold colour. Shilling's work is held in major public collections, including the Art Gallery of Ontario, and has been exhibited internationally. This piece offers a beautiful grounded and meditative encounter with the natural world.

Artist Statement:

The black river near my home has always inspired me. With its constant flow and ever-changing colour and movement. I try to get a sense of it.

LOT 12: Pardiss Amerian – fox and cypress

fox and cypress demonstrates Pardiss Amerian's sophisticated handling of surface, layering, and narrative restraint. Following a residency at the La Napoule Art Foundation in France and presentation with Zalucky Contemporary at NADA New York, Amerian's work has gained international attention for its intellectual and visual depth. This painting marks a compelling moment within a rapidly expanding career.



Statement about the Artist:

The process of pressing paper together creates suction and pushes diluted paint around when lifted off the flat surface; outlines are approximated and gaps are left behind while the material is animated by chance.
(From Art Viewer, 2021)

LOT 13: Jordin Mimran – BEFORE THE GUESTS ARRIVE

Before the Guests Arrive captures a moment suspended between anticipation and calm. Mimran’s cinematic sensibility turns a familiar scene into something quietly charged, shaped by light, posture, and timing. With a growing presence among Canadian collectors and an internationally informed practice, this work reflects an attentiveness to the poetry of everyday transitions.

Artist Statement:

“Before the Guests Arrive” captures a quiet moment of preparation on the beach at the famous Faena in Miami, as an attendant raises a parasol before the crowds arrive for the day. The scene reflects the artist’s ongoing interest in painting fleeting “style moments” — the subtle rituals and atmospheres that exist just before a place comes to life.

LOT 14: Rosalie Sharp – BLUE MY MIND

Blue My Mind reflects Rosalie Sharp’s instinctive and confident approach to colour and composition. Known for shaping some of the most iconic interior spaces within the Four Seasons Hotels through her design practice, Sharp brings a lifelong sensitivity to atmosphere, harmony, and visual rhythm into her painting. The result is a work that feels assured, intuitive, and deeply attuned to how colour moves through space.

Artist Statement:

I paint bold works in oil following where one colour commands another.

LOT 15: Kristín Morthens – MOTHER’S SHADOW CATCHING ITSELF

This evocative work explores emotional closeness and distance through suspended, fragmentary forms and is a highlight of Kristín Morthens’ internationally exhibited practice. Her paintings are held in the collections of the National Gallery of Iceland and the Reykjavík Art Museum, and she has presented work at major art fairs including CHART in Copenhagen. *Mother’s Shadow Catching Itself* reflects the emotional nuance and material depth that define her work.

Artist Statement:

This work reflects on complexities of motherhood, fragility, deep benevolence and the spiral as a symbol of life and rebirth.