



This publication accompanies the exhibition, *power*, and *Taqralik Partridge: >ć'bnŕ'ć (Pulaaqatigiit)*, presented at Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto.

**MAIN GALLERY**

*power*

January 24 to May 18, 2024

Onsite Gallery  
199 Richmond St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5V 0H4

**SPECIAL PROJECTS GALLERY**

*Taqralik Partridge:*

*>ć'bnŕ'ć (Pulaaqatigiit)*

January 24 to May 18, 2024

Onsite Gallery  
199 Richmond St. W.  
Toronto, ON M5V 0H4

**PUBLISHER:** OCAD University

**CURATORS/AUTHORS:** Lisa Deanne Smith, Linda Grussani

**DESIGNER:** Tom Chaggaris, Sarah Currie

**COPY EDITOR:** Lisa Frenette

**PRINTER:** Warren's Waterless Printing Inc.

**ISBN:** 978-1-77252-023-1

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For the *power* exhibition, Onsite Gallery thanks: Patel Brown Gallery, Gagne Contemporary, Naomi Campbell, OCAD U LIVE, and especially all of the artists and designers.

**ONSITE GALLERY**

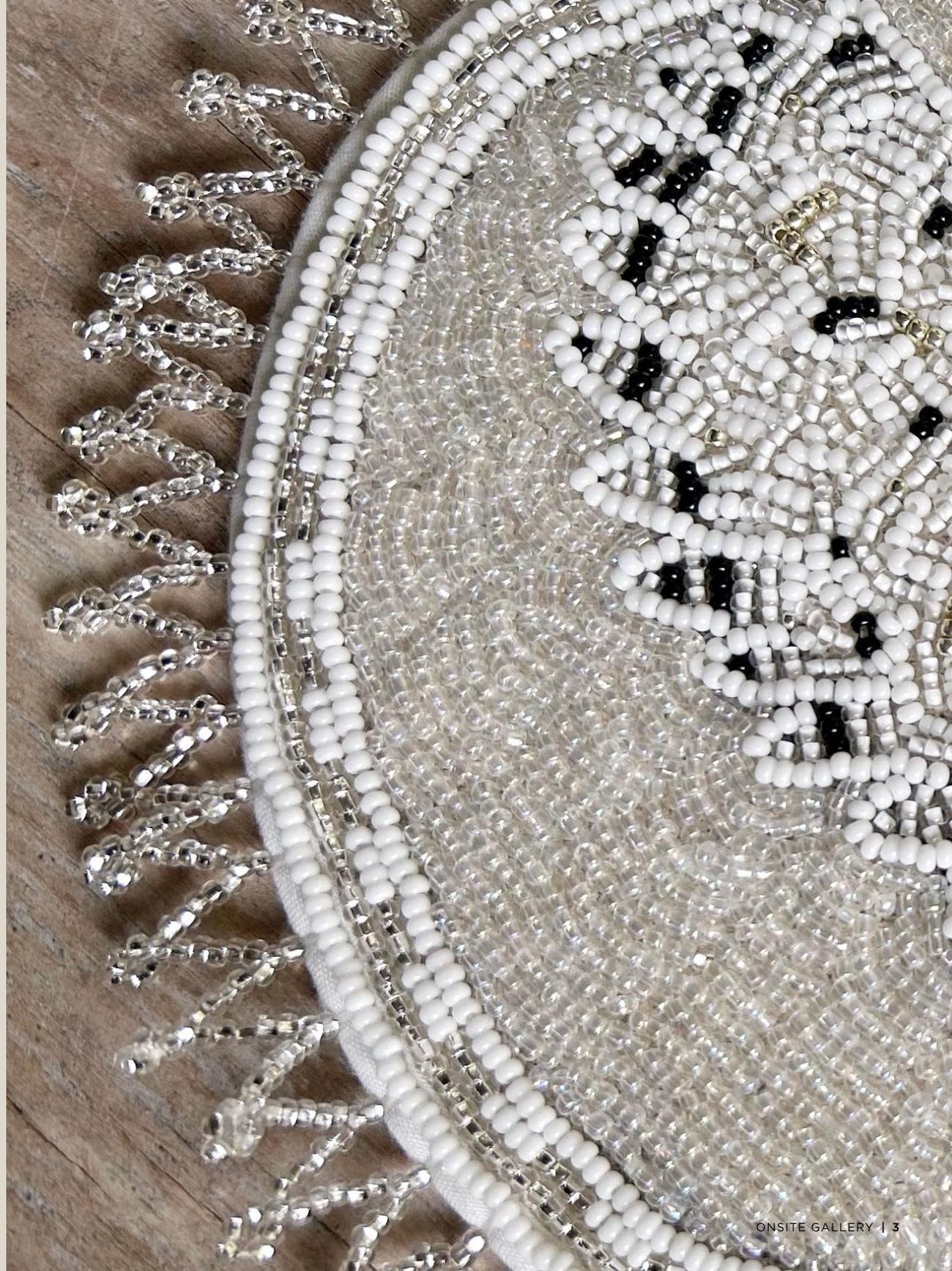
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Cover Image, opposite page, and following page:  
*Taqralik Partridge, Ukpik*, detail, 2023. Image courtesy of the artist.









Taqralik Partridge, *Tea with Daisy*, detail, 2023, reanimated chairs covered in fabric, artificial flowers, a table, vintage teacups and saucers, rug, bowl of foil-wrapped candies, an accordion, two curtain panels and curtain rod. Image courtesy of the artist.

Partridge creates a familiar environment for visiting in *Tea with Daisy* (2023). The artwork invites the viewer to sit in a chair opposite a 'spirit chair' and to contemplate a connection with those who are no longer in the physical world. Artificial flowers, which are a common sight in northern graveyards, have been placed on the seat to hold space for a remembered loved one. The table between the chairs holds vintage teacups, which represent the countless cups of tea that have been shared, as well as those that are yet to be shared.

A bowl of candies, the type preferred by Elders, is also on the table. They recall the tradition of Parlak, where candies are thrown to be caught. This is an Inuit practice that is held to celebrate special occasions. The artist also presents these candies to celebrate the importance of her first solo exhibition.

Imaapik Jacob Partridge (right) and an unidentified man seated on a mattress in a tent, Iqaluit, Nunavut.  
Credit: Rosemary Gilliat Eaton / Rosemary Gilliat Eaton fonds/  
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Taqralik Partridge, *Iqaluit 1*, 2023,  
digital photograph, 63" x 73".  
Image courtesy of the artist.

In the wall-hanging *ataatagilaurtaga ((one) who was my father)* (2023) the artist imagines her father visiting with his cinematic hero, Bruce Lee. Her father was fond of Asian martial arts cinema, particularly those starring Bruce Lee.

Bruce Lee is a beloved hero for many Inuit. The artist sees him as a role model for freedom, self-determination, and strength. The tapestry portrays her father and Bruce Lee leaning against an El Camino dressed in leisure suits.

Through *Iqaluit 1* (2023) the artist shares a photograph of the land outside Iqaluit, one of her childhood homes. The photo is intended to provide visitors with a unique perspective, a glimpse into the breathtaking beauty of Nuna (the land).

*>ċ'ḅḅċ' (Pulaaqatigiit)* aims to inspire visitors to contemplate, reflect, and engage with the artworks. It offers personal moments of connection and reflection to

explore multi-generational visiting, sharing, and reanimation. The exhibition provides an emotional and haunting experience, yet it is also comforting. The *Mawadishiwewin* exhibition series will continue in the second half of 2024 with reflections on visiting and community with Jean Marshall, an Anishinaabe bead worker, quiller, and aspiring hide tanner.

■ Linda Grussani, Guest Curator

## BIOGRAPHIES

**Taqralik Partridge** is an artist, writer, spoken word poet, and curator from Kuujuaq, Nunavik. Her artwork has been showcased both nationally and internationally, with exhibitions at venues such as the MacKenzie Art Gallery (*Radical Stitch*), Carleton University Art Gallery (*The Baroness von Elsa Project*), Leonard and Bina Ellen Art Gallery (*Among All These Tundras*), and the Sydney Biennale in Australia.

Partridge's performance work has been featured on CBC Radio One, and she has toured with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. In 2020, she published a book of poetry titled *curved against the hull of a peterhead*. Some of Partridge's writing has been translated into Swedish and French languages.

Taqralik Partridge is the former director of the Nordic Lab at SAW gallery in Ottawa and adjunct curator at the Art Gallery of Guelph.

**Linda Grussani** (Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg/Italian ancestry) is a curator, art historian and former arts administrator born, raised, and residing on Anishinàbe Aki in the Ottawa area.

For more than twenty years, Grussani has been dedicated to advancing Indigenous arts and culture, promoting positive structural change, and advancing Indigenous cultural diplomacy as a curator, arts administrator, academic, and mentor. Grussani most recently served as the Curator of Aboriginal Art at the Canadian Museum of History, as Director of the Indigenous Art Centre for Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, and has held various curatorial positions at the National Gallery of Canada.

Grussani is a doctoral candidate in the Cultural Studies program at Queen's University. Her research focuses on the recommendations, policies, and methodologies that have influenced the relationships between Indigenous people and institutions in museums and galleries on Anishinàbe Aki over the last fifty years.



## Upcoming Exhibitions

### Jessica Winters | Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery

January to April 2024

*Hopedale (2023)*

### Glenn Gear | Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery

May to August 2024

Onsite Gallery's mural series is produced in partnership with the Inuit Art Foundation (IAF) and recognizes the important contributions of the Inuit art sector. This project supports and advances Inuit art and artists in the public realm.

### Jean Marshall: Mawadishiwewin (visits)

Guest Curator: Linda Grussani

June 19 to November 30, 2024

*Mawadishiwewin (visits)* is a collection of solo exhibitions that delve into the connections we form through visiting, creating, and sharing.

### \_other tongues part I communication

June 19 to November 30, 2024

OCAD University Faculty and Staff Juried Exhibition

This exhibition mediates the debate of language as a medium for art, emphasizing how prominent visual culture and literacy crosses many cultures and genres as communication.

The *Mawadishiwewin* exhibition series is generously supported by the Ontario Arts Council, an agency of the Government of Ontario through the Curatorial Projects: Indigenous and Culturally Diverse program.



**The artist and curator want to acknowledge the following for their support;**

Ontario Arts Council  
Friends, Family and Ancestors  
Native Women's Association of Canada  
Native Women In The Arts  
Friends who donated wedding dresses  
Toronto Inuit Association  
SAW Nordic Lab  
Onsite Gallery: Executive Director and Staff  
OCAD University

**Onsite Gallery presents contemporary, Indigenous, and public art and design to advance knowledge creation and stimulate local and international conversations on the urgent issues of our time.**



199 Richmond St. W.  
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M5V 0H4

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416-977-6000, Ext. 265



Wednesday  
**noon to 7 p.m.**  
Thursday - Saturday  
**noon to 5 p.m.**



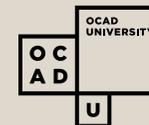
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