

MACKENZIE ART GALLERY SCHOOL TOURS

TEACHER'S RESOURCE GUIDE

FALL 2016



CORE FUNDING PROVIDED BY:



School Tours fill quickly, please visit mackenzieartgalleryeducation.ca for more information
or call 306-584-4250 ext. 4292 to book your tour today!

School Tour and Studio Workshop \$100 / class up to 50 students

*additional fees apply for groups larger than 50

School Tour Fees support the Gallery's commitment to delivering outstanding, curriculum-based
and interactive tour experiences, facilitated by trained artists and educators.

mackenzieartgallery.ca | 3475 Albert Street, Regina SK





CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Exhibition Overview	3
Curricular Connections	5
Pre and Post-Tour Activities	8
Online Resources	8

INTRODUCTION

This fall we welcome students to visit **three exciting exhibitions** at the MacKenzie Art Gallery; *German Expressionists and their Contemporaries*, *Dmytro Stryjek: Found in Translation*, and *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go*. As a part of **The Caligari Project**, a city-wide festival celebrating German Expressionism, the MacKenzie Art Gallery is hosting *German Expressionists and their Contemporaries*, an exhibition of prints and drawings within the genre of German Expressionism. *Dmytro Stryjek: Found in Translation* provides **new insights** into the visual world of Saskatoon's self-taught Ukrainian-Canadian artist Dmytro Stryjek. *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go* captures a **30-minute chain reaction of everyday household objects** reacting, igniting and collapsing within an elaborate Rube Goldberg-esque machine. Through the film, students will **explore the connection between art, physics, and imagination**.



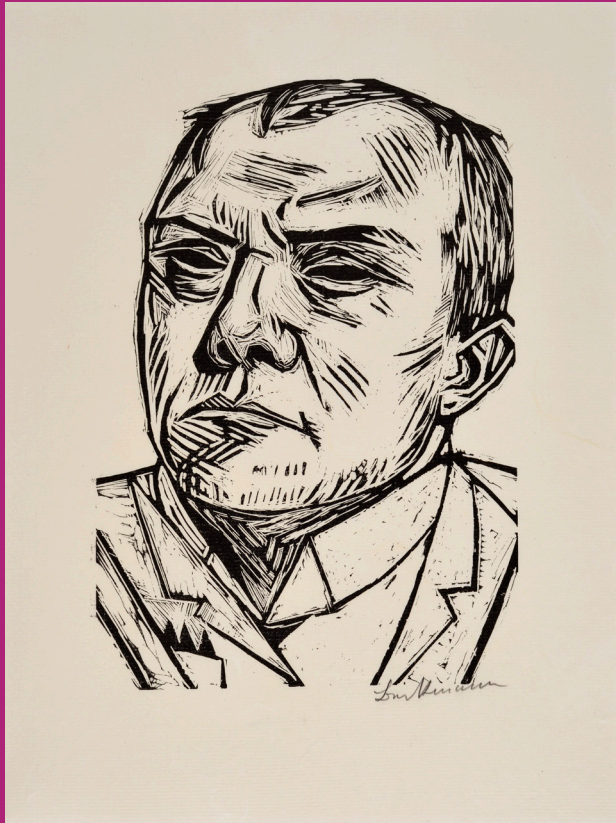
TOUR OBJECTIVES

- Students will experience the cultural history of Saskatchewan through the work of one of the province's most important Folk Artists.
- Students will explore connections between art and physics/science.
- Students will experience highlights of the MacKenzie Art Gallery's Permanent Collection, connecting our local collection with international artistic practice and history.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITIONS

German Expressionists and their Contemporaries

This fall, Regina will be home to the Caligari Project, a unique city-wide arts festival, public celebration and creative exploration of German Expressionism in its many artistic forms. As its contribution, the MacKenzie Art Gallery will present the print and drawing exhibition *German Expressionists and their Contemporaries*. The exhibition includes the works of key figures—Max Beckmann, Käthe Kollwitz, Otto Dix, among others—representatives of a movement which transformed Europe's angst in the first decades of the twentieth century into images filled with longing for alternatives to a decaying aesthetic and social order. As the Caligari Project demonstrates, the creative output of this turbulent period continues to be a source of inspiration for artists, filmmakers, actors, musicians, designers, dancers, and puppeteers. During the tour students will explore the history and cultural significance of this important artistic movement, as well as place this unique genre in a contemporary context.



Max Beckmann. *Self-Portrait*, 1922, woodcut on paper, 52.3 x 41 cm. MacKenzie Art Gallery, University of Regina Collection. © Estate of Max Beckmann / SODRAC (2016) Photo: Don Hall.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITIONS

Dmytro Stryjek

Found in Translation



Dmytro Stryjek, *Self-Portrait*, 1984, mixed media on card, 30.9 x 25.2 cm.
Collection of the MacKenzie Art Gallery, gift of Peter Millard. Photo: Don Hall

Dmytro Stryjek: Found in Translation provides new insights into the visual world of Saskatoon's self-taught Ukrainian-Canadian artist Dmytro Stryjek (1899-1991). Translations of Cyrillic inscriptions give **new keys to interpreting the vast array of imagery** found among the nearly 400 works by this artist in the MacKenzie's collection. They reveal a **complex exploration of Old World sources** (Ukrainian poets, icons, churches, etc.) and New World equivalents (pop stars, politicians, prairie scenery etc.) The exhibition coincides with the XXV Triennial Congress of Ukrainian Canadians in Regina and helps mark the 125th Anniversary of Ukrainian Immigration to Canada (1891-2016). On the tour students will **experience the cultural history of Saskatchewan** through the work of **one of the province's most important Folk Artists**, as well as engage with highlights from the MacKenzie Art Gallery's Permanent Collection.

Fischli and Weiss

The Way Things Go

The Way Things Go (1987) by Swiss artists Peter Fischli and David Weiss is sometimes regarded as the **most widely-seen "art video"** in the world and its **spectacular explosive sculpture** is wildly appealing to viewers of all ages and sensibilities. Set in an abandoned warehouse, the film captures a **30-minute long chain reaction of common objects** exploding, collapsing, and igniting, in an elaborate Rube Goldberg-like construction engineered by the artists. Through the film, students will explore the connection between **art, physics, and imagination**.



Peter Fischli and David Weiss, black and white still from *The Way Things Go*, 1987.
Photo: courtesy of Icarus Films.

CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS

CONNECTIONS TO ARTS EDUCATION CURRICULUM

KINDERGARTEN

- Students will have a chance to respond to art through a variety of forms, including drawing, movement, and dressing up to recreate a style of art. Students will also investigate how these artistic styles connect to their own lives.

GRADE 1: PATTERNS

- Fischli and Weiss show physical patterns in the way the energy moves through their machine through the film.

GRADE 2: COMMUNITY

- Dmytro Stryjek was an important part of the Saskatchewan's Ukrainian and art communities. His work explores multiple aspects of old and new world experiences, as well as portraiture, architecture, and the natural environment.

GRADE 3: ENVIRONMENT

- The work of Dmytro Stryjek often explores natural environments.

GRADE 4: SASKATCHEWAN VOICES

- Dmytro Stryjek practiced art while living in Saskatchewan over 40 years. He is remembered as a prominent Saskatchewan folk artist.

GRADE 5: POP CULTURE

- *German Expressionists and their Contemporaries* explores the artistic movement and history of German Expressionism and how this genre can be experienced in contemporary culture.

GRADE 6: IDENTITY

- Through his artistic practice, Dmytro Stryjek explores his personal identity, including his childhood in Ukraine, immigration to Canada, and adult life in Saskatchewan.

GRADE 7: PLACE

- Students will learn how place and culture affected the beginnings of German Expressionism, and how it has travelled and changed.
- Dmytro Stryjek explores place through the creation of works that reflect his place of birth in the Ukraine and adopted home in Saskatchewan

GRADE 8: SOCIAL ISSUES

- German Expressionism arose out of great social turbulence in Germany and Europe. Students will learn the origins and understand how social issues can affect art and culture on a broader scale.

GRADE 9: TAKING ACTION

- German Expressionism explores the experience of artists within a turbulent social environment and their efforts to take action through artistic expression.
- Fischli and Weiss challenged different styles and perceptions of art, changing the way art can be viewed and experienced.
- Dmytro Stryjek was a self-taught artist pursuing his passion for expression and the reflection of the culture in which he lived.

ARTS EDUCATION 10, 20, 30

- **Module 1: History in the Making:** This tour will explore both local and international artists from history. Students will draw connections between historical artists and culture, and contemporary experiences.
- **Module 4: Film and Video:** *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go* blends science with art through film. *German Expressionists and their Contemporaries* explores film and video through the historically significant film *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, from which students will recreate still scenes.
- **Module 5: The Arts and Popular Culture:** Students will explore the significance of multiple genres of art, and hypothesize about how these artists and genres continue to contribute to contemporary popular culture.
- **Module 7: Global Connections:** Students will explore the historical significance of German Expressionism including why the movement started, the significant role that German Expressionism played in the German art scene, and how it continued to affect the international art world.

CONNECTIONS TO SOCIAL STUDIES

INTERACTIONS AND INTERDEPENDENCE OF NATIONS

- Dmytro Stryjek was a Ukrainian immigrant who played a part in telling Saskatchewan's Ukrainian history. His paintings explore themes from his childhood, and themes from his childhood and life in Saskatchewan. This opens up topics of conversation about cultural diversity and the significance of Saskatchewan artists on a broader scale.

DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIPS

- Dmytro Stryjek held a significant role in Ukrainian-Canadian community of Saskatchewan. His contributions continue to impact this community to this day.

CONNECTIONS TO SCIENCE CURRICULUM

KINDERGARTEN: OBSERVING FORCES AND ENERGY

- Students will explore physical forces and heat energy through *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go*.

GRADE 1: USING OBJECTS AND MATERIALS

- Students will observe constructed objects and explore how they interact through *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go*.

GRADE 2: MOTION AND RELATIVE POSITION

- Through *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go*, students will explore factors which affect the motion of objects.

GRADE 3: STRUCTURES AND MATERIALS & MAGNETISM AND STATIC ELECTRICITY

- While reflecting on *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go*, students will explore structures and how they may be built. They will also explore many characteristics of contact and non-contact forces used in the video.

GRADE 5: FORCES AND SIMPLE MACHINES

- *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go* explores a Rube Goldberg-esque machine with a focus on the characteristics of various forces and simple machines.

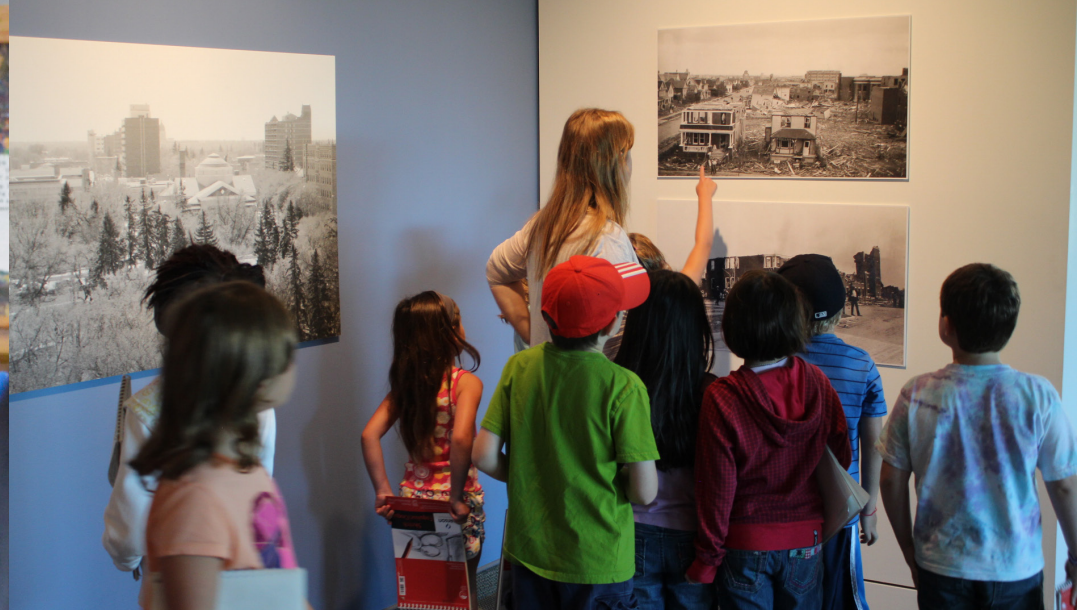
SCIENCE 10: FORCE AND MOTION IN OUR WORLD

- Through studying *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go*, students will explore motion-related technologies, acceleration, and the relationship between force and motion.

PHYSICS 30: KINETICS AND DYNAMICS

- Students will explore different types of movement and kinetics through the viewing of *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go*.





MACKENZIE ART GALLERY TOURS AND CONNECTIONS TO CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCIES

Cross-Curricular Competency to Develop Critical Thinking:

- The gallery experience confronts students with multiple contexts that shape artistic practice and experience.
- Students are encouraged to understand the creativity of others, inspiring their own creativity.
- The gallery methodology challenges students to critically engage with works of art through peer discussion, analysis, and interpretation.

Cross-Curricular Competency to Develop Identity and Interdependence:

- The gallery experience introduces students to artists who explore their individual and collective identities through a variety of artistic contexts.
- Students engage with art objects, which stimulates critical thinking, memory, and senses of identity.
- Students learn about the cultural and environmental responsibilities of artists as well as their own individual responsibilities.

Cross-Curricular Competency to Develop Literacies:

- Gallery methodology develops visual literacy among students through peer discussion, interpretation, and analysis.
- The gallery experience introduces students to new visual literacies, inspiring students to create art and engage in conversations with their new knowledge.

Cross-Curricular Competency to Develop Social Responsibility:

- In addition to the exploration of art objects, the gallery experience offers a space for considering social context, engagement, and change.
- The gallery experience supports the role of artists and students as socially responsible leaders in our city, province, and country.

PRE TOUR ACTIVITY

BUILD A RUBE GOLDBERG MACHINE WITH PEOPLE

Build a machine out of students! Explore simple machines and how all the parts of a machine work together and react to each other. This activity will directly relate to *Fischli and Weiss: The Way Things Go* where the artists explore blending art and science. Challenge the students in different ways by restricting how they can pass a ball through their created machines.

Materials

- Balls
- Scarves
- Tubes

Instructions

1. Watch the clip of *The Way Things Go* on the Fischli & Weiss website, or on YouTube.
2. Split students up into groups of 4-5.
3. Have students use various objects (e.g. scarves, tubes, etc...) to pass a ball through their group.
4. Challenge the students and inspire creativity by restricting how they may pass the ball.
5. OPTIONAL: Film these “machines”.

POST TOUR ACTIVITY

GERMAN EXPRESSIONIST PAPER COLLAGE

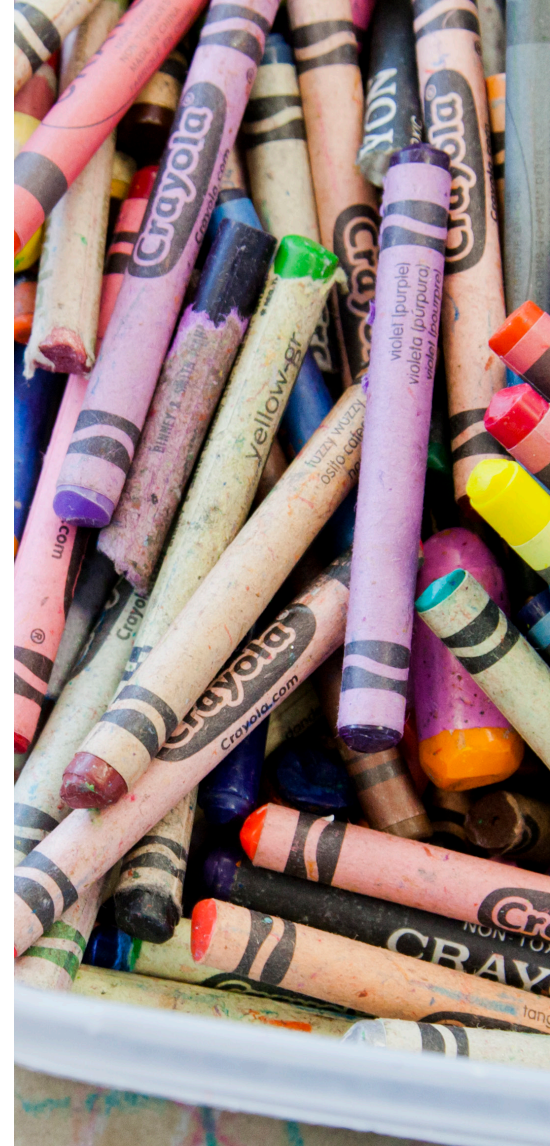
Explore the style of German Expressionism by creating a collage out of strips of paper.

Materials

- White Paper (cut into strips of various sizes and lengths)
- Black Construction Paper
- Glue Sticks

Instructions

1. Review the images found in *German Expressionists and their Contemporaries*. (Access <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0By8sGOYgTEsET1JDV2I4YjNyeKE> for images.)
2. Have students create their own image by gluing the straight white strips of paper onto the black construction paper.



ONLINE RESOURCES

- MacKenzie Art Gallery: www.mackenzieartgallery.ca
- Website for The Caligari Project: www.caligari.ca
- Website for Fischli and Weiss: fischli-weiss.com
- Essay on Dmytro Stryjek: “The Reinvention of Tradition: The Outsider Art of Dmytro Sytryjek” by Theresa Zolner, PhD: www.researchgate.net/publication/279961903_A_Reinvention_of_Tradition_The_Outsider_Art_of_Dmytro_Stryjek