INTERACTIVE VIRTUAL SCHOOL TOURS at the MacKenzie Art Gallery

An exciting opportunity for students and educators to explore our histories and engage in today’s most urgent issues with Saskatchewan’s largest public art gallery – without leaving your classroom!

Installation views of Divya Mehra: From India to Canada and Back to India (There is nothing I can possess which you cannot take away), MacKenzie Art Gallery, 2020. Photo: Don Hall.

BOOK YOUR TOUR TODAY
For more information, contact:
E tours@mackenzie.art
T 306 584 4250 EXT 4257 or 306 584 4250 EXT 4292
Book online at mackenzie.art/learn

MacKenzie Art Gallery
3475 Albert Street
Regina, SK
S4S 6X6 Canada
ENGAGE WITH ART

Engagement with art supports the building of curiosity, empathy, collaboration, and communication. Our interactive virtual tours will encourage your students to participate in complex and critical conversations around important issues and histories that shape our shared communities. Choose from a selection of curriculum linked, age appropriate interactive tours and art workshops and let art be at the heart of your classroom learning.

ABOUT THE TOUR

Using materials informed by provincial curricula and current interpretive, cultural, and pedagogical strategies, students will learn to think critically, make creative connections, and express themselves. The same opportunity to encounter transformative experiences of the world through art – now online.

Live, interactive, 75 minute tours can be booked for classes of up to 30 students and include a teacher resource and lesson plan for a required hands-on pre-activity. Trained Gallery Facilitators conduct digital sessions that include an in-depth examination of exhibition themes and artworks, drawing meaningful connections through student engagement and live response. The tour is currently offered for grades 4 through 12.

ABOUT THE VIRTUAL TOURS

Our school tours offer students the opportunity to explore the gallery virtually with a specially-trained facilitator. The tour includes:

- 75 minute tours can be booked for classes of up to 30 students
- Includes a teacher resource and lesson plan for a required hands-on pre-activity
- The cost is $156/class

FEATURED EXHIBITION

DIVYA MEHRA

From India to Canada and back to India
(There is Nothing I Possess Which you Cannot Take Away)

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Installation view of Divya Mehra: From India to Canada and Back to India (There is nothing I can possess which you cannot take away), MacKenzie Art Gallery, 2020. Photo: Don Hall.
During a site visit to the gallery, Mehra’s research uncovered a peculiar story about a small stone sculpture in the University of Regina’s collection, held in trust and stewarded by the gallery. The sculpture—misidentified and catalogued as the Hindu deity, Vishnu—was acquired through questionable means by the gallery’s namesake, Norman MacKenzie, during a trip to Banares, India in 1913. The story of this object is not entirely unique, but it is something that contemporary galleries must confront in order to heal the cultural harms embedded within their foundations. For her project, Mehra will stage an intervention into the permanent collection, performing a conceptual heist that deftly and playfully addresses the practices, ideologies, and legacies of collectors and benefactors of the early twentieth century. Alongside this new installation, Mehra will present two recent inflatable artworks—one a 15’ replica of the Taj Mahal, the other an 8’ replica of Edward Said’s influential book, Orientalism—that characterizes desires to simultaneously define and consume the histories and identities of other cultures.

From India to Canada and Back to India (There is nothing I can possess which you cannot take away), features new and recent work by Divya Mehra that unravels the West’s obsession with both defining, and consuming the histories and identities of other cultures. In this collection of reproduced, misclassified, staged, and stolen cultural property, Mehra deftly and playfully navigates complex networks of colonial entitlement, popular culture, art history, sacred objects, exotic adventurism, and novelty. Her work both entices and withholds, requiring the viewer to confront their own complicated relationships to the subject matter while also directly implicating the MacKenzie itself in the fraught colonial underpinnings of ownership and display in institutional collections.

TOUR OUTCOMES

- Students will consider how societies consume culture, analyzing big questions such as ‘How do attitudes towards culture resonate both through history and into the current moment?’ and ‘Who defines culture?’ and ‘Who is telling the story?’.
CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP THINKING

The gallery experience:
- Confronts students with multiple contexts that shape artistic practice and experience.
- Allows students to understand the creativity of others, inspiring their own creativity.
- Challenges students to critically engage with works of art through peer discussion, analysis, and interpretation.

CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP IDENTITIES AND INTERDEPENDENCE

The gallery experience:
- Introduces students to artists who explore their individual and collective identities through a variety of artistic contexts.
- Engages students with art objects, which affect students’ senses, thinking skills, memory, and identity.
- Teaches students the cultural and environmental responsibilities of artists as well as their own individual impact.

CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP LITERACIES

The gallery experience:
- Stimulates students to reflect on visual literacy through peer discussion, interpretation, and analysis.
- Introduces students to new visual literacies, inspiring students to create art and conversations with their new knowledge.

CROSS-CURRICULAR COMPETENCY TO DEVELOP SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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

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CONNECTIONS TO CROSS-CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES