

MARCY FRIESEN

(B. Nipawin, Saskatchewan; Swampy Cree)

Marcy Friesen is of Swampy Cree and Welsh ancestry and currently resides on a mixed farm with her family near Carrot River, SK. She comes from a long line of traditional master beaders and talented creative family members. Friesen has always felt the need to create, and started her career with her Trapline Creations business where she makes utilitarian pieces such as mitts and mukluks. After visiting the Remai Modern in Saskatoon, she changed her practice to experimenting with artisanal craftsmanship outside the traditional spectrum of beauty and utility. Threading through beads, leather and furs, Friesen draws her viewer towards an intimate experience with her naturally intuitive sensibilities toward material, colour, and presentation. In Friesen's practice, the natural and synthetic come together in ways that are inclusive of the contemporary condition, transforming ways of understanding and expectations of cultural production. Friesen's work, *Muskrat Tears*, was included in Montreal's Contemporary Native Art Biennial (BACA) from April to June 2020, and two of her beaded COVID-19 masks were on view at the Whyte Museum in Banff, AB from September 24, 2020 – January 17, 2021. Friesen had her first solo exhibition, *S0E 0L0*, at Fazakas Gallery in Vancouver in June 2021.

Selected Exhibitions

- 2022** Tangible/Intangible, K Art, Buffalo, NY
In The Middle of Everywhere, Remai Modern, Saskatoon, SK
Up Next, Alberta Craft Council, Calgary Gallery, Calgary, AB
Symbiosis: Art and the Community, John V. Hicks Gallery, Prince Albert, SK
Pê-mîciso, Capture Photography Festival, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC
Radical Stitich, Mackenzie Art Gallery, Regina, SK
Breathe (2nd Wave), Galt Museum & Archives, Lethbridge, AB
- 2021** Breathe: Creating Resilience Through Traditional Art, Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton, AB
S0E 0L0, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2020** Breathe, Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, Banff, AB
Day of the Dead / Día de Muertos Mask Exhibition, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON
Living Room, Fazakas Gallery, Vancouver, BC
Contemporary Native Art Biennial (BACA), 5th edition, Kahwatsiretâtie:
Teionkwariwaienna Tekariwaiennawahkòntie/Honouring Kinship, Art Mûr, Montreal, QC

Programs

Feb 2020 - May 2020 — Micro-Grant for Depression Moccasin project
Sept 2019 - July 2020 — CARFAC Mentorship Program with Ruth Cuthand