

Catherine Blackburn: New Age Warriors

Touring Exhibition Curated by Jesse Campbell

September 14 - October 25



Catherine Blackburn, *The Churchill Challenger*, photograph on dibond, 2018

Catherine Blackburn, of Dene and European roots, is part of a new generation of contemporary beaders on the prairies who has made a name for herself nationally and internationally in the past few years. Much of her earlier work, including 'But there's No Scar, Our Mother(s) Tongue, and Tell Me the Truth grapples with themes of loss and survivance, and similar concepts underpin this exhibition. Yet in many ways, this is a series that defies the spaces she has most commonly treaded. *New Age Warriors* opens conversations about Indigenous innovation, ways to live on the land in the twenty-first century, and how love serves as a mighty force. With gear designed from plastic beads, Blackburn draws from the past and present to shape notions about an imagined future - a future filled with strong Indigenous women in protective Armour battling stereotypes and facing colonialism by channeling the power of love. - Dr. Carmen Robertson, 2018

New Age Warriors is the first touring exhibition organized by the Mann Art Gallery. It is accompanied by a tri-fold exhibition brochure with an essay by Dr. Carmen Robertson.

Exhibition Touring Dates:

Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery
February 1st - May 5th, 2019

Chapel Gallery (North Battleford, SK)
September 9th - November 4th, 2019

Neutral Ground Artist Run Centre
Jun 15th - August 3rd, 2019

Art Gallery of Swift Current
March 7th - May 3rd, 2020

Congratulations to Catherine Blackburn, Jesse Campbell, and Emma Anderson on this ambitious and dynamic touring exhibition. *New Age Warriors* engaged significant numbers of students of all ages while at the Mann Art Gallery, including during Culture Days, when Catherine lead students in a beaded photo medallion activity. Special thanks to IPAC- Indigenous Peoples Artist Collective, for organizing and sponsoring two “Bead-Ins” with accompanying artist talks by Ruth Cuthand, Kathleen Boyer, and Judy Anderson during this exhibition.



Catherine Blackburn, *New Age Warriors* Exhibition, installation views in Main Gallery, Mann Art Gallery