## **Rigmor Clarke: A Retrospective**

Main Gallery: June 11 - July 27, 2019 Curated by Jesse Campbell



Rigmor Clarke, *The Silver Forest*, oil on canvas, 48" x 48" Collection of Dorthy Booker-Tymchatyn and Ed Tymchatyn, Saskatoon

2019 marks 70 years since Rigmor Clarke arrived in Canada from her birthplace of Sweden. In this time her work as a visual artist and an arts educator have fostered a supportive, creative, and strong community in north-Central Saskatchewan. A canoe trip on the Churchill River first cemented Clarke's love for nature and its history, and the wilderness of Northern Saskatchewan became the primary subject of her painting, clay, woodworking, and printmaking practice. She has made her place in this province and is driven to record the peace and solitude that she experiences while canoeing, camping, and hiking in northern Saskatchewan.

Rigmor Clarke's practice is an expression of the variety and ever-changing conditions of the large, natural world in which she feels fortunate to exist. Her works are a portal to her memories of the places that make up her identity. For Rigmor, art and nature is who she is.

In turn, her pieces provide a different perspective of Saskatchewan that is often perceived as an open and flat prairie landscape. In Rigmor's work, there is both a celebration of the northern terrain and a sense of respect and intimacy with the land. At a studio visit on June 13<sup>th</sup> 2018, I asked Rigmor what she hopes people will feel as they view her lifetime of artwork. Clarke replied, "I hope they realize how beautiful this world is, how beautiful Saskatchewan is. We are blessed. It is so powerful." - Jesse Campbell

Thank you to Miriam Korner for writing the essay in the accompanying exhibition brochure.





Rigmor gave an artist talk at the opening reception on June 14, 2019