



# ***Beyond Belief:*** **a juried exhibition of photography**

August 26 – October 29, 2006

Surrey Art Gallery

13750 88 Ave, Surrey BC



organized by the Arts Council of Surrey and presented with the assistance of the

This juried exhibition asked artists to reflect upon the concept and roles of fact, reality and fiction in their photographic practices. *Beyond Belief* encouraged submissions that challenge our expectations of visual imagery in photography or that are arrestingly beautiful, compelling, or astonishing. Works in traditional photographic formats as well as digital prints were invited. This show was presented concurrently with the Surrey Art Gallery's *Fiction non Fiction* exhibition.

## **President's Message**

Welcome to *Beyond Belief*. For more than twenty years, the Arts Council of Surrey, in partnership with the Surrey Art Gallery, has been privileged to provide local and emerging artists with opportunities to celebrate their unique creative talents by submitting their work to juried art exhibitions.

Today, as you view the diversity and scope of the photographs on exhibit, I hope you will look beyond what you see at first glance. Whether the opportune moment has been preserved, enhanced or created what you see started as a thought and awareness. These photographers have created art through the lens. It has become a happening... a sharing... a reminder... an experience.

I congratulate the artists who have received recognition for their artwork.

I want to thank all the photographers who submitted their work, the staff at the Surrey Art Gallery, *Beyond Belief* committee members, Shirley Buick, Brian Foreman, Kay Van Deventer, and Shirley Doyle, and jurors, Liane Davison and Randy Bradley. All are to be commended for their excellent effort in making *Beyond Belief* an enjoyable community event.

Eileen Gratland

## **Jurors' Statement**

This exhibition was developed as a companion exhibition for the *Fiction non Fiction* exhibition.

Over sixty images were submitted for consideration for this exhibition. The process of selection included an overall review for

- Technical ability
- Expression of intellectual content or issues within the image
- Innovation
- Responsiveness to the theme of the project

The final selection of works in this exhibition offer a sample of the many possibilities and tools used in contemporary photography. Viewers will notice the increasing use of digital cameras and evidence of software manipulating images, the ability to print on surfaces other than paper, as well as the continued use of manual cameras and traditional printing methods. Whether artists are interested in radically altering or presenting images, or are invested in documentation, photography offers an ever-expanding arena for creative expression. Photography has always been powerful – photos persuade us to see the world around us in new or even profound ways. Artists also use photography poetically to express their thoughts and ideas in metaphors and images that are particular to their experience or worldview.

We chose these 36 works from over 60 submissions. Our criteria for selection included technical merit, originality, clarity of expression, intent and innovation as well as presentation.

We sincerely thank all of the artists who offered their work for this exhibition, and would like to thank the volunteers who made this opportunity for artists possible.

Randy Bradley & Liane Davison

## Placing Artists

### 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#### Stuart McCall *Oyster Ontology*

Frequently making use of unconventional perspective and scale, I offer the viewer a fresh look at the familiar imagery from nature and industry in order to challenge preconceived notions about our surroundings... and perhaps even ourselves. By enlarging the oyster shell to five times its original size, we notice astonishing detail and intricacy. In concert with the natural convulsions of the shell's outer surface, tiny barnacles and limpet shells create contours and subtle colours that bring to mind the landscape of miniature Japanese garden.



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

#### Margaret Brezden *Simplicity*

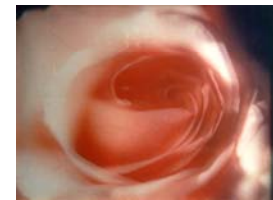
My photography has helped me visualize a small part of my heritage and has enabled me to perpetuate a life style that few of us would have endured. After seeing Jill Enfield's hand-coloured images I knew that by using her hand-coloring technique with my heritage images it would give them a look of aged beauty that a regular coloured image would never convey to the viewer. My other passion is viewing things from a different perspective, moving in close to my subject in order to show the intricate design and form that we normally don't notice.



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#### Leslie Stanick *Landscapes of the Heart*

This image reflects the delicate transparency of the heart in the process of awakening; deep joy and gratitude emanating in waves of gentleness and grace.



## Honourable Mention

#### David Crocker *Sleeping Theatre*

One morning while helping a fellow photographer take down her work from a display at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre, I wandered into the darkened main auditorium. This is one of the images that resulted. For me it is a simple, quiet, contemplative scene that speaks about the other life of a theatre - the performance is over, the lights are off and it is time to rest.



## Exhibition Checklist

Paul Baker	<i>Into The Fire</i> <i>Captured</i>	Milenko Grgar	<i>High Noon in Cuba</i>
Colleen Baran	<i>Opening Night Streamers</i>	Leetta LaFontaine	<i>Reflection of Character</i>
Larry Breitzkreutz	<i>Dance of the Lupin 1</i> <i>Dance of the Lupin 2</i>	Stuart McCall	<i>Oyster Ontology</i> <i>Reaching Skyward</i> <i>Fantasy</i>
Margaret Brezden	<i>Simplicity</i>	Norma Nickel	<i>The Dancers (After Matisse)</i>
Genevieve Chandler	<i>Fluid Animation</i>	Kim Pearsall	<i>Crescent</i>
Wesley Chandler	<i>Conquer the World</i>	Andrea Pratt	<i>Short Days, Long Nights</i>
Toni Chubb	<i>Opening</i>	Gayle Reeves	<i>Nature's Inferno</i> <i>Spirit Dance</i>
David Crocker	<i>Sleeping Theatre</i> <i>Dolores and Her 27 Packard</i>	Cynthia Richardson	<i>Light Within</i>
Gregory Dawe	<i>The White Truck</i>	Jevon Safarik	<i>Symmetries I</i>
Emese Dome	<i>pause</i>	Joci Sirak	<i>Wrinkles of the Future</i>
Bruce Garton	<i>Time Travel</i> <i>Karen Marie</i>	Leslie Stanick	<i>Landscapes of the Heart</i> <i>Heat</i>
Gabor Gasztonyi	<i>Couple Havana</i> <i>Woman Alone Havana</i>	Vanessa Turke	<i>Everyone Secretly Believes</i>
Neville Grey	<i>Helen</i> <i>Ferns</i>	Dorrit Zaroba	<i>Union of Myth and Reality</i>



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