



LEAH MARIE DORION: A Colourful Celebration a permanent collection exhibition curated by Milo Adair

June 23, 2022 - January 14, 2023

About A Colourful Celebration

Leah Marie Dorion's work is explosive – full of life and rendered in bright, energetic colours. Filled with symbolism and storytelling, Leah's art showcases and celebrates Métis life cycles, material culture and especially the central role that women play.

The paintings in this exhibition comprise nearly three-quarters of the generous donation the artist made to Mann Art Gallery in 2015. The donation was made with the proviso that it be exhibited to the public as often as possible.

Leah's work is full of symbolism with deep connections to her own Métis culture. Symbols that show up in the selected paintings include the goose and the dragonfly. Geese exemplify the importance of respectful communication. When flying in formation, they connect and

work as a team. Geese take turns flying ahead to cut through the wind so no individual is overworked and exhausted. Dragonflies represent ancestors and ancient wisdom. They exemplify how loved and honoured everyone in the community is. When Leah sees a dragonfly, she greets it as a relative.

Leah Marie Dorion is an interdisciplinary Métis artist raised in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. A teacher, painter, filmmaker and author,, Leah views her Métis heritage as providing her with a unique bridge for knowledge between all people. Leah holds a Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts, and Master of Arts degree.

Image: installation view in the Education Studio