

CONTACT

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RELATED SKILLS

Teacher: OTC, OCT

RECENT EDUCATION: COURSES/CLASSES

2020

Photoshop Expanded Skills & Tools for Printmakers, Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists

InDesign for Printmakers, Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists

Get Exposed to Cyanotypes!
Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

Swarm: Ayatana Research Residency Online, July 2021

Germinate: Ayatana Research Residency Online, July 2020

Biophilia: Ayatana Research Residency Online, August 2020

Mary Abma

Visual Artist

Profile: Mary Abma is a versatile artist who specializes in community-engaged artworks and environmental art. Always up for new challenges, Mary seeks constantly to push the edges of her practice and to learn new skills and information. Her artworks, which consist primarily of idea-based works executed in a variety of artistic forms, explore the theme of "place". Her work embraces her interest in history, her concern for the environment, her passion for science, and her desire to find visual expression for her insights into the living world and the interconnectedness of systems.

SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2017** April 28 - May 14 *Signposts and Traces: Ash Tree Memorial Trail*, Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery, Sarnia, ON
- 2014** Sept 5 -Jan 4 2015 *Our Own Back Yard*, with Lyndal Osbourne, Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery, Sarnia, ON
- 2013** July 6 - Aug. 25 *Flora and Fauna*, with Amy Swartz, Durham Art Gallery, Durham, ON
- Mar 16 - May 12 *In My Own Back Yard*, Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford, ON
- 2012** Jan 6 - Feb 18 *In My Own Back Yard*, Center Art Gallery, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI, USA
- 2011** Sept. 24-Nov. 26 *In My Own Back Yard*, Redeemer University College Art Gallery, Ancaster, ON,
- 2009** May 1-30 *In the Eye of the Beholder*, Artopia Gallery, Sarnia, ON,
- 2008** Feb. 1 - March 1 *Peregrinatio*, Gallery Lambton, Sarnia, ON
- 2003** Feb 1 - March 1 *If Remembered*, Gallery Lambton, Sarnia, ON
- 2000** May *Just for the Fun of It*, Gallery in the Grove, Bright's Grove, ON

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020** February *Connexions*, Gallery in the Grove, Bright's Grove, ON
- 2009** February *Love and Romance*, Kenneith Gallery, Sarnia, ON
- 2008** May-October *River Road*, River Road Gallery, Grand Bend, ON
- 2007** June 1-3 *A New Breed*, LovArt Gallery/Grace Brothers Gallery, Sarnia,
- 2007** September 14-30 *Tuktu Prayers*, Yellowhead Museum, Jasper Alberta,
- August 1-31 *Tuktu Prayers*, Buffalo Nations Luxton Museum, Banff Alberta
- 2006** December *Tuktu Prayers*, Alberta Legislature, Edmonton, Alberta

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

- 2020** *We Live Here: Wellington Flats Mural*, with Sarnia Christian School and Wellington Flats, Vision '74
- 2018-2020** *Bottlecap Mural*, Sarnia Christian School and Sarnia Community
- 2017** *Ash Tree Memorial Gathering*, Community Performance, Canatara Park and JNAAG, Sarnia, ON
- 2016-2017** *Driftwood Mural*, Sarnia Christian School
- 2016** *Genesis*, Sarnia Christian School
- 2015** *Ash Story*, On-site installation, Hampton Park, Ottawa.
- 2014** *Triptych Altarpiece*: JNAAG, Sarnia, ON
- 2013** *Triptych Altarpiece*: Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford, ON
- 2012** *Triptych Altarpiece*: Center Art Gallery, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
- Milagro Prayer Shawl*, Forest City Community Church Commission/Worldwide Community

OUTDOOR INSTALLATIONS

- 2017** April 29 - 2020 *Signposts and Traces: Ash Tree Memorial Trail*, Canatara Park, Sarnia, ON
- 2015** June 14-21 *Ash Story*, On-site installation in Hampton Park, Ottawa. With Peggy DeVries and Marcia Lea

PERFORMANCES

- 2021** Jan 9 *Be-Coming Tree Performance via Zoom*
- 2017** April 29 *Signposts and Traces: Eulogizing the Ash Trees*, Canatara Park, Sarnia, ON

MAJOR COMMISSIONS

- 2020** *We Live Here: Wellington Flats Mural*, Vision Nursing Home and Rest Home, Sarnia, ON
- 2013** *Together, We Journey* (seven works), Forest City Community Church, London, ON

SELECTED WORKSHOPS/LECTURES/SEMINARS

- 2018** January 17 *Lecture: Signposts and Traces: The Lost Ash of Canatara*, Sarnia Horticultural Society
- 2017** May 3 *Lecture: Signposts and Traces: The Lost Ash of Canatara*, Brush and Palette Club, London, ON
- April 27 *Artist Talk, Signposts and Traces: The Lost Ash of Canatara*, Arts and Ideas, Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery, Sarnia, ON
- April 25 *Signposts and Traces: The Lost Ash of Canatara*, Triple K Kiwanis, Sarnia, ON
- 2015** Oct. 2 *Paper Presentation: Art-Science Collaborations in Contemporary Art Practice – An Artist's Perspective*, Verge Conference: Arts & Environment, Langley, BC
- June 14 *Lecture: Ash Stories: Tales of Loss and Mourning*, Davis Art School, Ottawa, ON
- 2014** Oct. 2 *Artist Talk*, Judith and Norman Alix Art Gallery, Sarnia, ON
- 2013** April 21 *Artist Talk with Phil Jenkins: In My Own Back Yard*, Glenhyrst Art Gallery
- 2012** February 22 *Lecture: In My Own Back Yard*, Lambeth Art Association, London, ON
- February 3 *Seminar: In My Own Back Yard*, Art Department, Calvin College
- January 8 *Seminar: Adult Ed Class*, Woodlawn C.R.C., Grand Rapids, MI
- 2011** November 3 *Lecture: Footprints on the Land*, Redeemer University College
- October 27 *Workshop: Engaging Contemporary Art in the Curriculum*, OCSTA Teacher's Convention, Ancaster, ON
- October 19 *Workshop: Abstracting Nature*, Brush and Palette Club, London, ON
- October 7 *Seminar: In My Own Back Yard: Inside an Art/Science Collaboration*, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
- April 13 *Lecture: In My Own Back Yard*, SAW, Winter Wednesdays
- April 6 *Speaking Engagement: In My Own Back Yard: Inside an Art/Science Collaboration*, Sydenham Field Naturalists, Wallaceburg, ON
- 2010** May 7 *Seminar: In My Own Back Yard: Inside an Art/Science Collaboration*, Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
- 2003** October Panelist and guest for alumni panel discussion, Brescia College, UWO

Publications and Articles

2020
The Prayer Project: Finding beauty and community during COVID-19, Judith Farris, Christian Courier

2017
Eulogies for Sarnia's Ash Trees, Barbara Simpson, The Observer, Sarnia

2014
Plaster Creek Stewards stepping out: Connecting with Sarnia, Okayama, Calvin College

The Eco-Secrets Beneath our Feet, Cathy Dobson, The Sarnia Journal

In Conversation with Mary Abma: Ideas Bursting to Get Out, Cathy Smith

2013
Calling Cards from the Natural World, Arlene Laskey, Brantford Expositor:

This Land: Perspectives on Mary Abma's In My Own Back Yard, Exhibition Catalogue

- Phil Jenkins, *Earth Matters*
- Marcia Lea, MFA, *Site-Specific, Global-Art*

Digging Deep at Glenhyrst
Lauren Baron, Brant News:

2012
In Her Own Backyard
Myrna Anderson, staff writer, Calvin College

2011
Art From Dirt, Cathy Smith, Christian Courier

Cultivation and Conquest, Mary Abma, Mobile Justice Newsletter: CRCNA

2009
Featured Artist, Imago Summer Newsletter, Vol. 11, Issue #2

2008
Beyond the Obvious: The Language of Art and Nature, Lisa Daniels, BFA, MA