



TELEPHONE GALLERY  
293 EAST 1 AVE  
VANCOUVER, BC  
604 499 9679

## **Maria-Margaretta**

### **A Brief Retelling Of A Long Story**

TELEPHONE GALLERY is pleased to showcase its third exhibition featuring artist Maria-Margaretta presented by Jack Kenna. Maria-Margaretta's practice operates in subtlety and humour, asking us to look again, and think again. Out of a reverence for everyday objects and the stories they hold, Maria's work pulls at the tangled strings of old family histories and fictions: at once humorous and interrogative.

*My mother used to tease me that my father was actually a famous country singer from Virginia, It was one of those ongoing jokes that spanned over centuries. When I briefly fell for a city boy posing as a cowboy someone remarked "well you know what they say, women fall for men like their fathers". I would listen to John Denver's country roads, take me home and imagine a blissful life in West Virginia, kicking off my boots and cashing in on years worth of unpaid child support. My mother would always shatter those dreams with a grin "Maria, trust your mother, unfortunately, your father is your father".*

*A Brief Retelling Of A Long Story is an autoethnographic investigation into Indigenous storytelling and the familiar object through the lens of my Michif identity. Utilizing family stories, personal experience, and the everyday as a place of exploration. While claiming sovereignty over the documentation of my stories through satirical intervention. Highlighting the importance of objects as transformative motifs; carrying and retelling stories for past, current, and future ancestors.*

--Maria-Margaretta

**Maria-Margaretta** is a multidisciplinary Red River Métis artist from treaty 6 Saskatoon Saskatchewan, currently living on the stolen territory of Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations. Utilizing traditional beadwork practice merged with contemporary mediums she considers how this duality serves as both an act of reclamation and commentary on cultural hybridity. Navigating Indigeneity through the lenses of both the settler and the settled Maria-Margaretta attempts to negotiate her sense of self through the implications of existing in a colonial system. Using Métis' identity as a place of transformation she questions how memory, personal experience, and ancestral relations influences her understanding of self.