

Albirdda

PUT A BIRD ON IT



Albirda: Put A Bird On It

January 21 – April 29, 2023

Covid 19 has impacted all of our lives and, for those who were fortunate enough to choose time away from work and able to isolate for health and safety, one of the positive legacies of this time was an opportunity to try something new or concentrate on hobbies and passions. As we prepared the calls for 2022/23 we considered some of the activities that seemed to flourish during the lockdowns and of course bird watching came to mind right away. Many of us found comfort, hope, lessons, awe, and peace as we whiled away hours observing the habits of our fine feathered friends in the beautiful Alberta landscape

"The benefits of bird watching have been profound. I spent more time outside doing something I love. I spent more time with the people I love (in our COVID bubble) doing what we all love. I have learned many new things about birds, nature, my place in nature, humans place in nature, my art practice. I have looked closer, smelled deeper, heard more, saw more, felt alive.

Bird watching has made the world less confusing and more manageable than I ever thought possible given the crazy that is going on "out there". I am a birder and will continue to be one for the foreseeable future. I have made connections to others and I have connected other people to birds, coming full circle in a time of uncertainty."
Jill Nuckles

Flocking to the fields, meadows, marshes, and forests of our province to soothe their covid weariness, the artists of *Albirda* found their lives enriched and were inspired to make works based on their time with the fascinating flying creatures that live in and migrate through our beautiful province each year.

With fine craft objects from over 60 Alberta craft artists, ***Albirda: Put A Bird On It*** considers our province's winged wildlife through a broad diversity of depicted bird species, materials, and artistic approaches. Featuring works from both members, and artists new to the Alberta Craft Council, we hope that this exhibition's fantastic spectacle of avian delights inspires you too.

Alberta Craft Gallery – Calgary
1721 – 29 AVE SW
Calgary AB
587-391-0129
www.albertacraft.ab.ca

1



Stephanie Elderfield
Dabbling Duck
\$540

A sign that spring has finally arrived is the sudden influx of mallard ducks. It's a joy to watch the adults searching for food and tending to their young, enjoying the sparkling water, now free from an icy covering. "Dabbling Duck" uses a beautiful cut quartz, featuring inclusions of other minerals, as a pond for a silver mallard to dive into. The silver is carefully cut and stacked, then blackened and buffed to bring the details of the bird to life. A small school of fish is hidden on the backside, a little secret for the wearer.

2



Karla Mather-Cocks
Open Band
\$150

"Open band" is a series of handwoven bracelets inspired by the textures and colours of feathers and the layering of feathers that creates patterns on birds. Weaving a band is similar to a feather, with the warp being similar to the rachis and weft becoming the barbs. The colours are based on the beauty of the cryptic birds such as the Swainson's Hawk, Great Horned owl, and the Brown Creeper.

3



Claudia Zakrison
Great Horned Owl
\$695

It always me excitement and pleasure to see a great horned owl in the wild. I once saw one flying through the pine trees on a bright sunny afternoon. It never made a sound as it flew past me like an immense grey ghost. This owl pendant reminds me of that powerful wild spirit. Each delicate feather is formed from a single twisted fine silver wire soldered individually into a sterling silver frame.

4



Shellie Jones
Yellow Shafted
Northern Flicker
\$175

The northern flicker is one of central Alberta's most common bird and is currently in the running for the honor of being named Calgary's bird. This bird is seen in all landscapes across Alberta, even bringing life into burnt forests while looking for food. Their bill and tongue (which can extend 2 inches beyond the bill) make this bird quite unique.

5

**Bonny Houston**

Scissor Tail 1
\$250 (shown)

Scissor Tail 2
\$250

Scissor Tail 3
\$250

The scissor-tailed flycatcher sports a long split tail and is normally found in the southern united states. These birds are sometimes spotted in Canada including Alberta. That they migrate to Alberta makes me think of the vitality of these birds and the sheer wonder of nature.

6

**Wendy Passmore-Godfrey**

Duet
\$250

IN HER STUDIES, WENDY EXPLORES NON-TRADITIONAL TECHNIQUES SUCH AS PHOTOGRAMS, TEXTILE ARTS, WEAVING, PAPER CRAFT, PINHOLE CAMERAS, COLLAGE, AND VIDEO ARTS. IN HER PUPPET CONSTRUCTION WORK SHE'S WORKED WITH MANY FABRICATION MATERIALS FROM FOAM, WOOD, PLASTER PULP PAPER.

She has a deep appreciation of the symbolism of the puppet and the related theatrical devices of narrative.

7

**Caitlin Sian Richards**

The Visitor
\$100

Birds' songs provide a comforting presence in our shared ecosystem; their nest-building activities outside my window have inspired this series. Birds symbolize cycles of change and their use of available materials from their immediate environment have inspired my own efforts to establish a more ecological art practice. series is about regeneration and the transformation of materials.

8

**Annette ten Cate**

Western
Meadowlark
\$195

Say hello to the western meadowlark, distinguishable from the eastern meadowlark by his western boots (of course!). This bird is often spotted in Alberta's grasslands. His western boots are a signature of my work; I frequently embellish clay creatures with human garb partly to inject an element of humour and whimsy, and partly to encourage people to smile and feel a connection to the wildlife around them.

9

**Hilary Forge**chicka-
\$40dee
\$40dee-dee
\$40

Chickadees are probably one of the first birds a person growing up here in Alberta recognizes. Their distinctive sounds are the sound of home for me. they are feisty little scavengers who don't fly south for the winter.

I drew these soft little birds holding onto the textural barbed wire encircling the tumblers as a nod to their toughness.

10

**Tracey Cameron**Pigeon 06
\$1200

I FEEL MOST CONNECTED TO THE WORLD AND MYSELF WHEN I AM OBSERVING NATURE. IT IS THROUGH THESE MOMENTS OF WONDER AND AWE THAT I FEEL POWERFUL AND GROUNDED. I AM FASCINATED BY THE IMMENSE AMOUNT OF BIODIVERSITY ON EARTH AND USE MY WORK TO CELEBRATE THE WILDNESS OF LIFE.

11

**Teresa Johnston**One for Sorrow, Two
for Joy
\$

I IDENTIFY THE EXTRAORDINARY IN EVERYDAY THEMES, ELEVATING OBJECTS BY MANIPULATING THE VISUAL CLUES, SYMBOLISM AND METAPHORS OF LESSER-KNOWN HISTORIES INTO RICH NARRATIVE ASSOCIATIONS.

"One for sorrow, two for joy" is an antiquated nursery rhyme that inspired a widely held cautionary tale.

This magpie is carrying the burden of two very long black ribbons that threaten to weigh him down, pulling him to the ground.

12

**Shikha Banerjee**Away from Reality
\$400

The work is inspired by a painting made by the great painter Suzuki Kiitsu. I decided to render the work in a 3-dimensional form by embroidering it with various stitches. The form once completed casts different lights and shadows depending on the angle and brings in vivid colors and shades to the work. During the pandemic, my imagination took me to the wild forests of faraway lands with herons and stalks.

13

**Liv Pedersen**

Pelican

\$495

The white pelican is not an unusual guest to Alberta. The sightings fascinate everyone, whether flying overhead in formation or floating on the lake. Apparently 30 million old fossils of pelicans have been found in southeastern France, so it is a very old water bird.

14

**Barbara Howe**

Hanging Ornaments

\$28

Chickadee

Downy Woodpecker

Great Horned Owl

Mountain Blue Bird

Nuthatch

I have been a bird lover for many years. I have feeders in my backyard and am fascinated with these little creatures. The chickadee is a real favourite and became my first hanging ornament. I have added a new bird to the collection each year since then. What started with 'backyard' birds has now become birds of Alberta.

15

**Darcy L. Hoover**

Woodpecker 1

\$47

Woodpecker 2

\$47

In the summer months I pack up my things and work from the patio in my secluded yard. In the winter I work from my studio which has three walls of windows overlooking my garden. My creativity is directly proportional to how much of my day can be spent in or near to nature. This love of nature is frequently reflected in my creative subject matter.

These embroideries of pileated woodpeckers use basic embroidery stitches. The challenge in creating comes in learning to manipulate the simple stitches to create a recognizable image. It's this challenge that motivates me.

16

**Tracey Cameron**

Pigeon Study

\$255 each

Using recycled textiles is an important part of my work. The push and pull of how the desire to constantly express and connect is harming the environment at large, where we derive our greatest sense of interconnectedness and wholeness.

17



MelsBigArt
Melanie
Schoenbeger
 Owl
 \$675

Mel believes art can be therapeutic and is always inspired by nature and whatever is around her to work on new projects. She challenges herself with a variety of subjects and follow her path as an artist.

18



Sarah Ritchie
 Magpie Jar
 \$250 (shown)

Sarah Ritchie
 Great Horned Owl
 Jar
 \$250

Sarah Ritchie
 Raven Jar
 \$250

My selection of the: owl, raven, and magpie, to feature on these jars is a nod to the memories I have growing up in rural Alberta, on my grandfather's property. With over a hundred acres of woods to scour, the large nests in the tops of aspens were always a staple to check in on during our walks or drives through the wood. I often hear how folks like to store collections in small jars, keep precious belongings safe, and find that there is a certain amount of intrigue or mystery in not knowing what may be inside.

19



Rawry & Pohly
(Kevin Chow & Jamie Mason)
 Creatividee, Smol
 (Teal)
 \$75 (shown)

Creatividee, Flight
 (Red)
 \$75

In our November 2021 residency at Sparrow Artspace, titled 'Birb': my partner and I explored the liminal space between birds and humans, the ways they intersect and interact, and our shared urban ecologies. Utilizing our iconic style, through both visual art and literary art, we created pieces that explored the dynamic facets of birds and humans with a focus on how common behaviour is reflective of our shared animality.

20



Taygan Appleton
 Forest Owl
 \$165 (shown)

Barn Owl
 \$165

Snowy Owl
 \$165

Taking an animated approach to their design I focused on the eyes rimming them in black to make them stand out and using flameworking techniques for the pupil. I took inspiration from the great horned owl for the head and ears, giving these glass sculptures a crown of sorts noting the nobility of these creatures within their avian family.

21



Kaleb Romano
Toucan With
Flowers
\$325

Working in clay, I create functional objects that entice the beholder by featuring unique and quirky details. Using commercial moulds that were used in ceramic paint shops from the 70's-90's I give them new life by transforming kitsch objects into planters, or using components of pieces with new moulds or additions to create whimsical functional objects. Exploring unconventional methods to finish pieces.

22



Scott Van de Sande
Clever
\$750

No stranger to anyone, Crows are seen all over our beautiful province. At times they are noisy, spotted at the scene of road kill, and historically painted as dark or shady characters. It could be easy to misunderstand these black clad beady eyed specters. But the truth is corvids are brilliant communicators, crafty problem solvers, and the only non-primates to utilize tools. Makes it hard to deny these clever birds their due.

23



Suzette Knudsen
Say's Who?
\$480 (shown)

Suzette Knudsen
Just Looking Thanks
\$370

Alberta is a wonderful place to see the Canada Goose. I know some find these creatures a nuisance but I love the sound of their calls as they announce themselves to each other. I have spent many evenings walking by the river watching for them head to their nighttime rendezvous, flying low overhead their wings whispering through the air.

24



Corinne Cowell
JK, Nightmare #13
\$950

During the pandemic, bird watching took on a different intensity – to the point where I began to take note not only of timid back-yard visitors but also the behavior of bully birds and those seasonal scavengers, seagulls. Jason Kenney's Nightmare #13 was inspired by the 1963 poster for Alfred Hitchcock's movie, 'The Birds.' Here, it is the former premier who is being swarmed by a conspiracy of ravens – a fitting consequence of his opportunistic and negative environmental policies.

25



Linda Vincent
Colourful Bird Trio
\$150

Linda was very excited when she heard about Albirda. She has been creating bird-themed art at the Nina Haggerty centre for the arts for several years and they are her favorite animal.

26



MEM
(Mike Hooves, Erin Saunders, Mary Sanche)
Treasure Tapestry
\$1000

Treasure tapestry is a celebration of one of Alberta's most iconic corvids, the magpie. Often considered a nuisance bird, unprotected by the migratory birds' act, magpies let their true colours shine through their vivacious curiosity and intellect.

27



Mimi Valais-Clark
Who's Watching Who?
\$400

During lockdown there was more human presence outside and an increase in wildlife sightings. At my house, we had coyotes on our driveway and bobcats in our backyard. It made me realize that, while we don't usually see the wildlife around us in the city, they are still there, watching us without us realizing it. We watch birds at our backyard feeders while we sit at our kitchen table, but I had never stopped to think that the birds might be watching us as well.

28



Sandy Nemeth
Bird and Flowers
Dessert Plate
\$65

Art and art appreciation have been constant themes throughout Sandy's life. She has studied drawing at university of Waterloo and the Banff centre, and more recently, botanical illustration and photography at Red Deer College.

Her first exposure to clay was many years ago through a series of workshops offered by Canadian sculptor, Tony Bloom.

29



Tara Owen
Linen in Flight
\$120

This piece uses the beautifully intricate edges of linen handkerchiefs to emulate the outstretched wings of a bird soaring in flight. The lightly lifting edges of the linen cloth evokes the beauty of feathers holding its owner aloft while flying through a clear blue sky. Not alone, there is a reference to a second soaring figure below, made of stone and thread, in reference to bone and sinew.

30



Brielle Reeves
Suburban Menace
\$600

As soon as spring begins, the Northern Flicker drums to find a mate and suburbia offers the perfect item to ensure its drum is heard far and wide, a chimney cap. I am amused at the annoyance drummed up in suburban residence while the Northern Flicker does its work on chimneys or drills holes into house sidings, especially since it's doing what it is instinctually hard-wired to do.

31



Alana Biffert
Hummingbird
Red Wings
\$300

Hummingbird
Lavender Wings
\$300

THIS WORK IS A CONTEMPORARY STUDY INTO THE DELICATE AND ELEGANT PRESENCE OF THE HUMMINGBIRD. THE SOUNDS THAT EMERGE FROM THESE INNUMERABLE MUSICAL LEADERS BESIEGE ALL OF US. PRESENTING SANCTIMONIOUS MOMENTS, ALLOWING US TO SEPARATE AND SUPPLEMENT WHAT DEFINES OUR ATTENTION.

The influence of mother nature, the environment and sustainability have been realised for me. Accommodated with time, the past three years have been allotted to hummingbirds, exploring their anatomy, colours, and habits.

32



Frankie FBR
(Fernandez Beltran-Rachubinski)
Birds Want to Have Fun!
\$850

Acreage living...plenty of maintenance, slow life and small victories! Wild birds are an integral component (the main part) of my social life these days as we are part of project feeder's watch.

33



Leslie Delanty
A Sparrow Amongst
the Sparrows
\$150

While my little sparrow may appear to be at rest, sparrows are known for their productivity, cooperation, and teamwork. They appear to find joy in the little things of life. My embroidery also includes a quote by Eva Peron, "I am only a sparrow amongst a great flock of sparrows."

34



**Gracie Mirabo
Safranovich**
Good Morning
\$140

Blue is one of the rarest colours to find in nature. Blue jays are a beautiful exception to this pattern. It's always a joy to hear their call and begin searching for a bright blue wing passing overhead or perched in an evergreen. Through these pieces I wanted to highlight the interesting colours and patterns of these birds.

35



Darren Petersen
Good Northern
Wood
\$850

Often in nature you see evidence of a bird having been active in the vicinity without seeing the actual bird. A yellow-bellied sapsucker grid on the bark of a birch tree is evidence of feeding activity creating an interesting pattern. It also creates a food source visited by other species that will feed upon the flowing sap as well as the insects that get caught upon the sticky surface. I have observed both hummingbirds and chickadees utilizing this food source. On the occasions when I am lucky enough to see brown creepers working their way through the forest actively searching for food, creeping and spiraling up trees gleaning tiny morsels from crevices, I think they too would appreciate the opportunity left behind by a sapsucker. This is a small part of the beautiful story of a forest and the birds that live in it.

36



Heather Strachan
Migrating Snow
Geese
\$150

I wanted to capture the beauty of the white snow geese in the bluest of skies flying in a not so perfect formation. I love the open prairies and used the florals for interest.

37



Margaret R. Hall
Migration
\$120

I enjoy observing birds in my garden and whilst out in the countryside, and how the arrival and dispersal of the migratory birds define the change of seasons. The raucous return of the Canada geese and skillful organisation of their migratory formations have always delighted. In the creation of this hat I try to imply migration imagining geese rising and starting to form a chaotic line before their distinctive v.

38



Milt Fischbein
Great Horned Owl of
Alberta
- A Portrait in Filigree
\$750

When creating this piece I chose Alberta's provincial bird and wanted to make the bird as "Alberta" as possible. The right breast has the wild rose. The opposite holds a map of Alberta, highlighting four major rivers: the Peace, Athabasca, North Saskatchewan and the Bow/South Saskatchewan. Edmonton and Calgary are in ammolite, Alberta's gemstone. Fort McMurray is highlighted with a rainbow-coloured cubic zirconia. The owl's beak is a blue tiger's eye which was cut locally by Alberta goldsmith, Luke Weiser.

39

**Danielle Piper**ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (apisci
kakakes)

\$2150

ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ (pihpihciw)
\$1150 (shown)

I began to learn Nehiyawewin (Plains Cree) in 2020. My grandmother was the last fluent speaker of my family's ancestral language, and after she passed, I felt it was more important than ever to learn. one of the ways I would practice, not having many human speakers to converse with, would be to learn the names of common birds in Nehiyawewin. I would greet them and ask simple questions as a way of speaking the language every day. In honour of this relationship and the love I have for birds, I've created handsewn leather birds. They are embroidered with beaded details and Cree language, describing qualities of the bird and/or its name.

40

**Jill Nuckles**The Way I See It
\$210

As a person who centers their life around connecting with others and connecting other people with an expanding circle, I didn't know what to do when that was the one thing we were not able to do. I looked outside my front window and found that if I switched my gaze from a broader view of the world to a narrow/close-up view the realities of life were more manageable. bird watching has made the world less confusing. I have made connections to others, and I have connected other people to birds, coming full circle in a time of uncertainty.

41

**Jennifer Hartley-Illanes**Burger Bird
\$700

During covid I started going on adventures in the woods near my house to make sure I got enough time in the sun. As I walked and collected feathers I paid more attention to the crows, magpies, and ravens in the neighborhood. I became more enamored by their personalities and intelligence, and I felt a sort of similarity to them as we all were scavenging around for things to put in our nests.

While this piece started out as an exercise in humor, it became an ode to the birds that exist amongst us, who adapt to the changes we make in the world.

42



Louise McFadyen
Magpie Marauders
\$1100

To me, Magpies have a busy and vibrant social life of which the complexity, I'm sure as humans, we are completely naive. They watch and observe the happenings in the city and I imagine them gossiping profusely about silly human activities, as we often observe the almost human-like activities of magpies, remarking on our perceptions of their silly or clever activities.

43

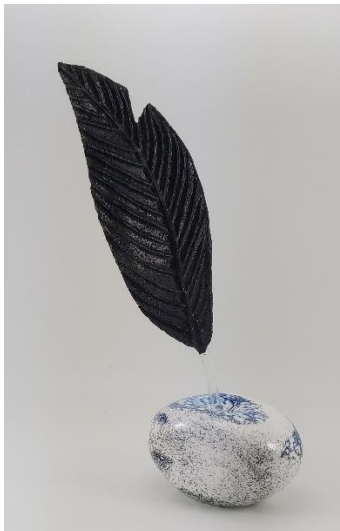


P Susanah Windrum
Marabou
\$45

I divert metals destined for the landfill and convert this discarded, unwanted material into unique, one-of-a-kind characters inspired by the way the metal has been altered by patina, aging and wear.

Using hand-riveting. I take this classic jewellery cold connection technique and put it to use with post-consumer tea tins, rusted steel, flattened bottle caps and other non-precious metals.

44



Deanna McGillivray
Raven Feather
\$350

The ever-watchful raven can be seen throughout the Alberta wilderness. You may hear the subtle "clicks and clacks" before spotting this large, multifaceted bird but you certainly won't miss it as it soars past. Adaptable, playful, and smart, the raven marks their presence throughout history, taking the stage in folklore and myths.

45



Melanie Smit
Chickadee With
Rowan Berries
\$890

Chickadees nest every year in a bird house in my front yard tree. They are a cute and friendly bird. Their calls are also interesting to hear, and you can learn what their calls mean, like warning of danger or calling for a mate. Cleaning out their nests every year, I always love how cushy and soft the nests are, as they are made out of a thick layer of collected mosses with a downy feather top. What a lovely place to be born into, all nestled in such a comfortable bed.

46

**Erin Stinson**

Audacious Hope:
Ruby-Crowned
Kinglet \$160

Patience is a Virtue:
Yellow Warbler
\$160 (shown)

Queries Welcome:
Red-Breasted
Nuthatch \$160

Song of Lament:
White-Throated
Sparrow \$160

These artworks are a series of miniature recreations of memorable birding moments over the last two years. These expeditions into the northern Albertan boreal forest reminded me of a world beyond turmoil. And as a guest in their world, I find joy in not having control here.

in each of the scenes there is a small quilt at the base, the fabric dyed with wildflowers I have gathered in past summers here. The blanket surrounding their perches symbolizes the comfort of a place to retreat to as well as the invitation to sit at their feet with curiosity.

47

**Teresa Stieben**

Vincent
\$450

The altering of nature and fragmentation of natural landmass happens through many toxic means. Pesticide warfare against insects used in cities and farmland is to the detriment of native birds that require these bugs to survive. Parks built in cities along river valleys deprive birds and animals' natural passage and nesting habitat To what outcome for us and for the natural world?

48

**Lara Felsing**

From Exotic to
Invasive
(The Life of the
Starling on the
Prairies)
\$395

The starling was brought to Canada from Europe and was deemed a Shakespearian wonder and revered as exotic. The starling adapted too well to its new surroundings and is now known as an invasive species. Here, two starlings are perched on a fallen branch, as if the weight of their existence is too heavy for the branch to bear. I wanted to show that the starlings have not only adapted to their new environment but thrived.

49

**Holly Boone**

Feathered Family
\$325

During the coronavirus pandemic and subsequent lockdown, I spent quite a bit of time outside on my 6th floor balcony. During this time, I was lucky enough to witness something in the natural world most people don't get to see, the hatching and growing of a baby pigeon! It is an amazing process that I am excited to share with the public so that others may see a brief glimpse of the life cycle of these awesome feathered creatures.

50



**Raynelle Marie
Paramonova**
Lean On Me
\$625

In spring of 2020, I was scrolling through the beautiful images on the Alberta birds' Facebook group.

I found an image of two Great-Horned Owls sitting side-by-side in the doorway of an old barn, facing in different directions, but leaning on each other. I contacted the photographer, Sandi McPherson, for permission to use her photo as inspiration for a raku sculpture, she graciously agreed.

51



Sara Young
MAURICE
\$2000

I chose the Northern Flicker as my subject as they often stop by to visit my backyard. They are a gorgeous bird, with their golden under wings and spotted chest, and are a source of joy and pleasant memories. Maurice is an ode to these amazing birds.

52



Siri McCormick
Wren and Birch
\$480

A bird, in a nest, on a branch, in the wild... no better way to gauge that spring has finally arrived. You're instantly aware of the diversity within the Alberta bird population by the harmony of chirped conversations that greet you when you step outside. The birds that live in my neighbourhood are always noisy, but when I first sit down, the air goes silent. If I wait a minute or two, I am joined by dozens of tiny, feathered bodies. Most perch in the safety of the nearby lilacs, but a braver few will land on the table to watch me as curiously as I watch them.

53



Stephen Yettaw
"Author Unknown"
The Raven's Quill
\$3500

Most of my free time is hiking in nature observing and photographing wildlife. living on an orchard we pay close attention to the changes in bird populations that migrate in and out of the area. Often finding stones and seeing images of birds and animals hidden inside. The colours and texture often have potential to highlight nature.

54



Shona Rae
Ramsay Rooster
\$790

The Red Ramsay Rooster is a unique and rare species of bird that inhabits old vacant birdhouses in the southeast district of Calgary, Alberta in the old Ramsay neighbourhood. Their bone structure allows them to fit through extremely small spaces to find nesting despite their visual size. You will often find one peeking through the entry hole as they seek to guard their precious offspring. Using found objects to build unique narratives and personal experiences is very satisfying at this time.

55



Ken Lumbis
Marsh Walker
\$400

This piece is an impressionistic sculpture of species such as a bittern that frequent the edges of marshes. Stalking along the edges of these habitats they hunt for prey amongst the roots and vegetation. Pit-firing this sculpture has created a mottled surface that would be typical of this species.

56



Lisa Wilkinson
Birdhouse
\$300

I was raised in Ontario and moved to Alberta to pursue graduate studies in bat ecology and be near the mountains. After making pottery for many years, I began to sculpt. As a wildlife biologist, the focus of my sculpting has been wildlife and elements of nature. I love the endless possibilities of working with clay.

57



Dale Lerner
Moe & Shemp
\$795

Vincent
\$450

The relationship between my work and myself shows a connection to my earliest influences...the comic book. I also don't stray far from the natural organic world no matter how bastardized it may seem. On a deeper level, I still need to show a tie to the representational world by using the human figure and face even though my interpretation is somewhat distorted. When my work extorts a chuckle (or stimulates revulsion), I consider myself successful.

58



Teena Dickerson
Guidance
\$4600

During the isolating times, my husband and I grabbed our binoculars and would do a nest site tour most evening in our rural area. We watched each nest to see if redtail hawks or great grey owls would take possession of last years nests. Admittedly we rooted for the owls and were so happy to get to watch a pair hatch two owlets. Witnessing these little fluff balls fledge felt like an honour and a sensitive privilege that we may not have embraced if life hadn't slowed down during lockdowns.

59



Kerry Warner
Resting AI "birdies"
\$425

This piece was inspired by various birds of Alberta, which have been carved into the piece. It is hand-built ceramics that I manipulate, tear, and carve throughout the process, creating a history within the piece. It is finished with an iron oxide wash, clear matte glaze and copper accents.

60



Vicki Myers
Chickadee
Nuthatch (shown)
\$65 each

Vicki enjoys exploring all areas of the human existence. Teaching creativity is very important, helping others to connect with art on a firsthand basis. The more people understand about their own creativity the more they can feel free to let go and express it.

61



Crys Harse
Bright Wing -
Nuthatch
\$300

Over the years, I have made a few metal shoes. Two were a pair of sandals that could be worn more comfortably than walking on a bed of nails. Another included a found carved bird incorporated into the heel. This offering is a high-heeled sandal featuring a fanciful bird. The sole and the heel are two upcycled oak napkin rings, the heel purposely attached with a wingnut. The challenging part of the design was hiding most of the structural connections.

62



Keith Turnbull
Raven
\$120

I have always been intrigued with birds, but especially the corvid family. There were lots of magpies, crows and jays on the farm where I grew up, just a few kilometres northwest of Edmonton. But there were no ravens, unlike now when they are all over Edmonton. I love to watch them in the winter and especially in the spring nesting season. I saw my first ravens on a trip to La Loche, SK. In the early 1970's, while working for the Saskatchewan provincial library. I was amazed at the size, beauty and boldness of these magnificent birds. Sculpting them gives me great pleasure!

63



Esther Neufeld
White Pelican
\$2010

My fascination of pelicans stems from my seeing and hearing them, throughout the year. Their presence is ever felt, and the realization that what we as humans do and don't do has a direct effect on their very existence. It is always a thrill to look up and see a flight of eight or a dozen pelicans all ablaze in their pristine white plumage wheeling in great arcs against the deep blue of the southern Alberta sky. Occasionally they will spiral directly overhead in perfect unison for a seeming eternity, as though the elegance of flight itself was their only concern.