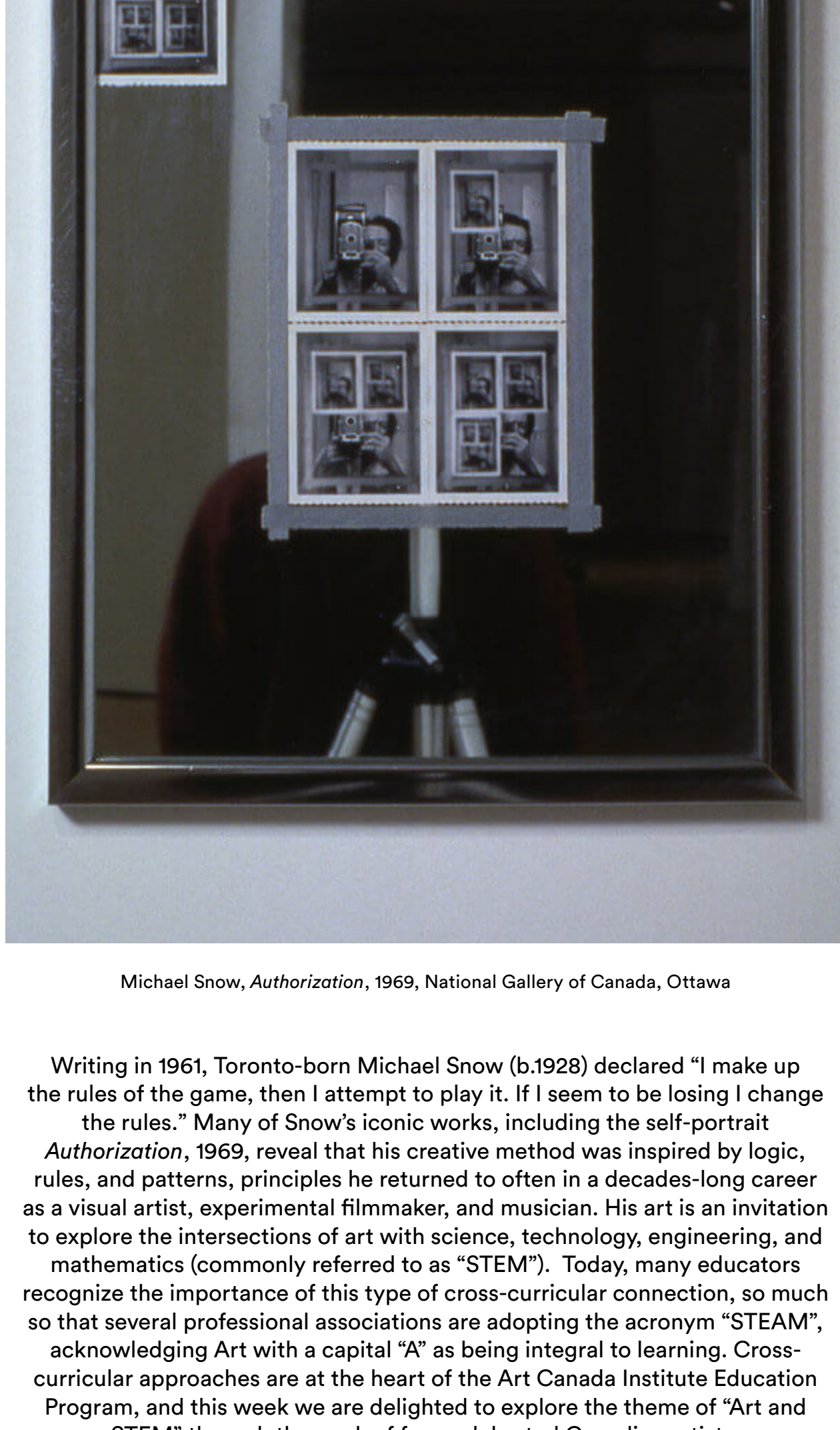


EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY,
ENGINEERING, AND MATH
AND THEIR ART CONNECTIONS

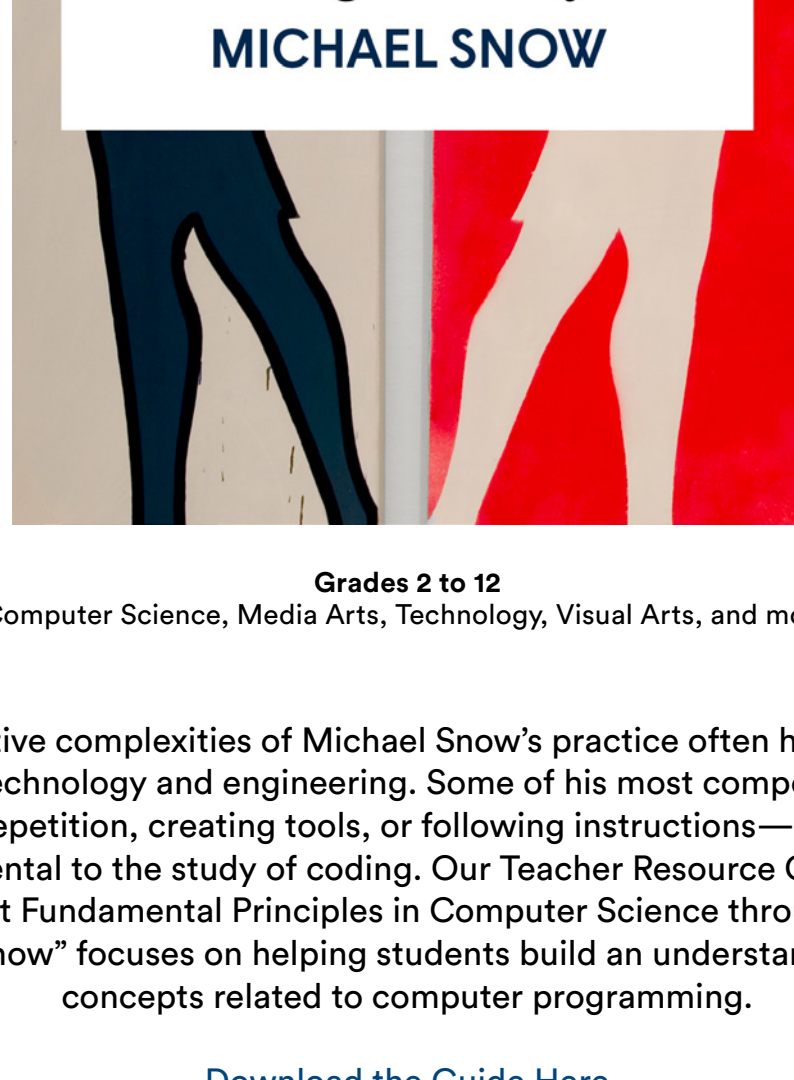
Explore connections between the visual arts and STEM with works from four Canadian artists



Michael Snow, *Authorization*, 1969, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa

Writing in 1961, Toronto-born Michael Snow (b.1928) declared “I make up the rules of the game, then I attempt to play it. If I seem to be losing I change the rules.” Many of Snow’s iconic works, including the self-portrait *Authorization*, 1969, reveal that his creative method was inspired by logic, rules, and patterns, principles he returned to often in a decades-long career as a visual artist, experimental filmmaker, and musician. His art is an invitation to explore the intersections of art with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (commonly referred to as “STEM”). Today, many educators recognize the importance of this type of cross-curricular connection, so much so that several professional associations are adopting the acronym “STEAM”, acknowledging Art with a capital “A” as being integral to learning. Cross-curricular approaches are at the heart of the Art Canada Institute Education Program, and this week we are delighted to explore the theme of “Art and STEM” through the work of four celebrated Canadian artists.

— The Art Canada Institute Education Team

Algorithms, Loops,
Functions—and Art

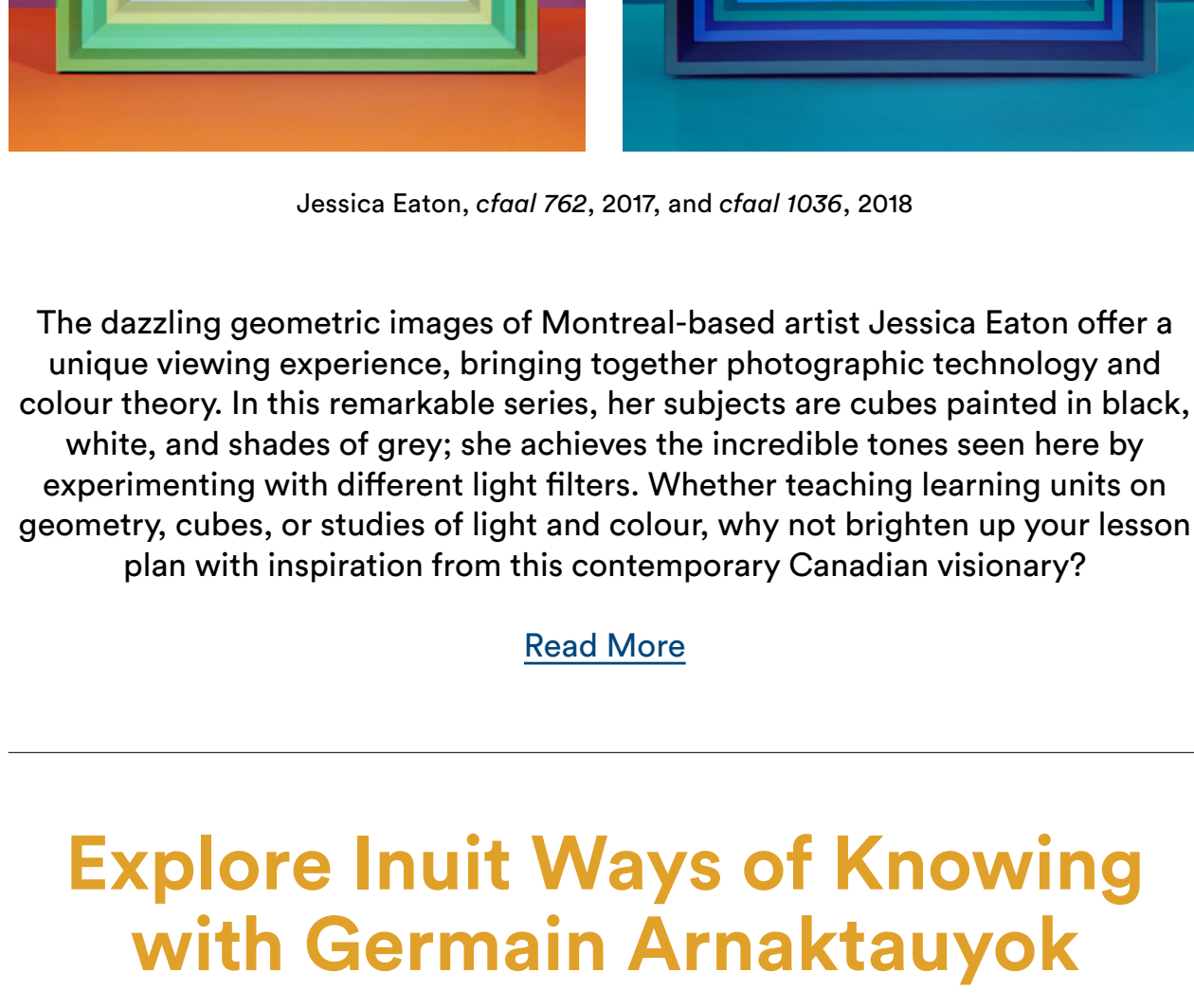
Grades 2 to 12

Computer Science, Media Arts, Technology, Visual Arts, and more

The creative complexities of Michael Snow’s practice often have strong parallels in technology and engineering. Some of his most compelling works of art involve repetition, creating tools, or following instructions—concepts that are fundamental to the study of coding. Our Teacher Resource Guide entitled “Learn about Fundamental Principles in Computer Science through the art of Michael Snow” focuses on helping students build an understanding of key concepts related to computer programming.

[Download the Guide Here](#)

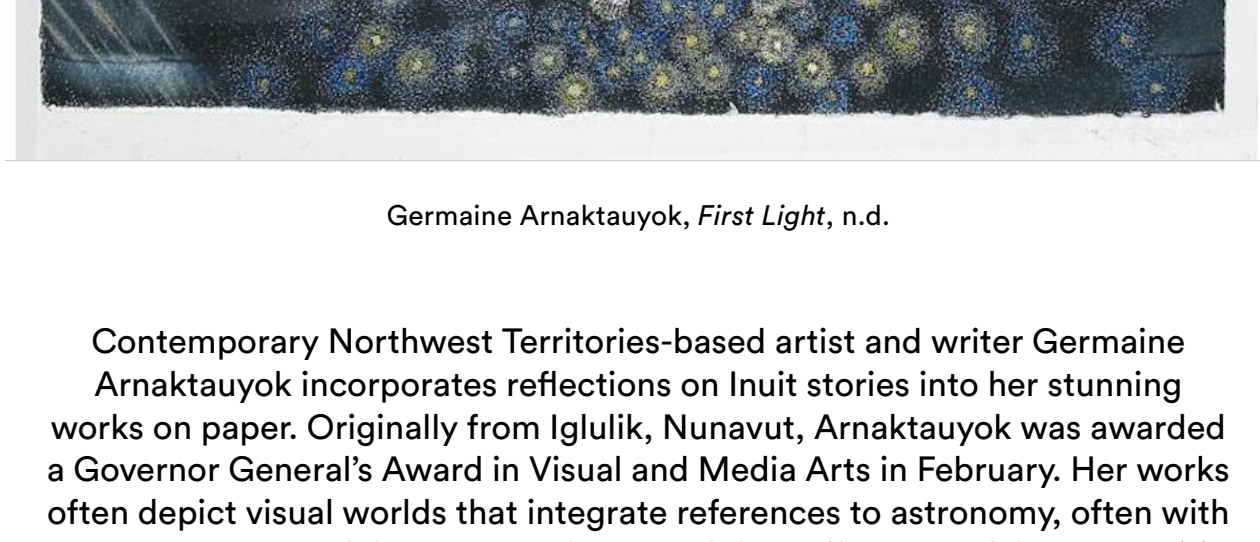
AVENUES TO EXPLORE

Jessica Eaton’s Colourful
Geometric Cubes

Jessica Eaton, *cfaal 762*, 2017, and *cfaal 1036*, 2018

The dazzling geometric images of Montreal-based artist Jessica Eaton offer a unique viewing experience, bringing together photographic technology and colour theory. In this remarkable series, her subjects are cubes painted in black, white, and shades of grey; she achieves the incredible tones seen here by experimenting with different light filters. Whether teaching learning units on geometry, cubes, or studies of light and colour, why not brighten up your lesson plan with inspiration from this contemporary Canadian visionary?

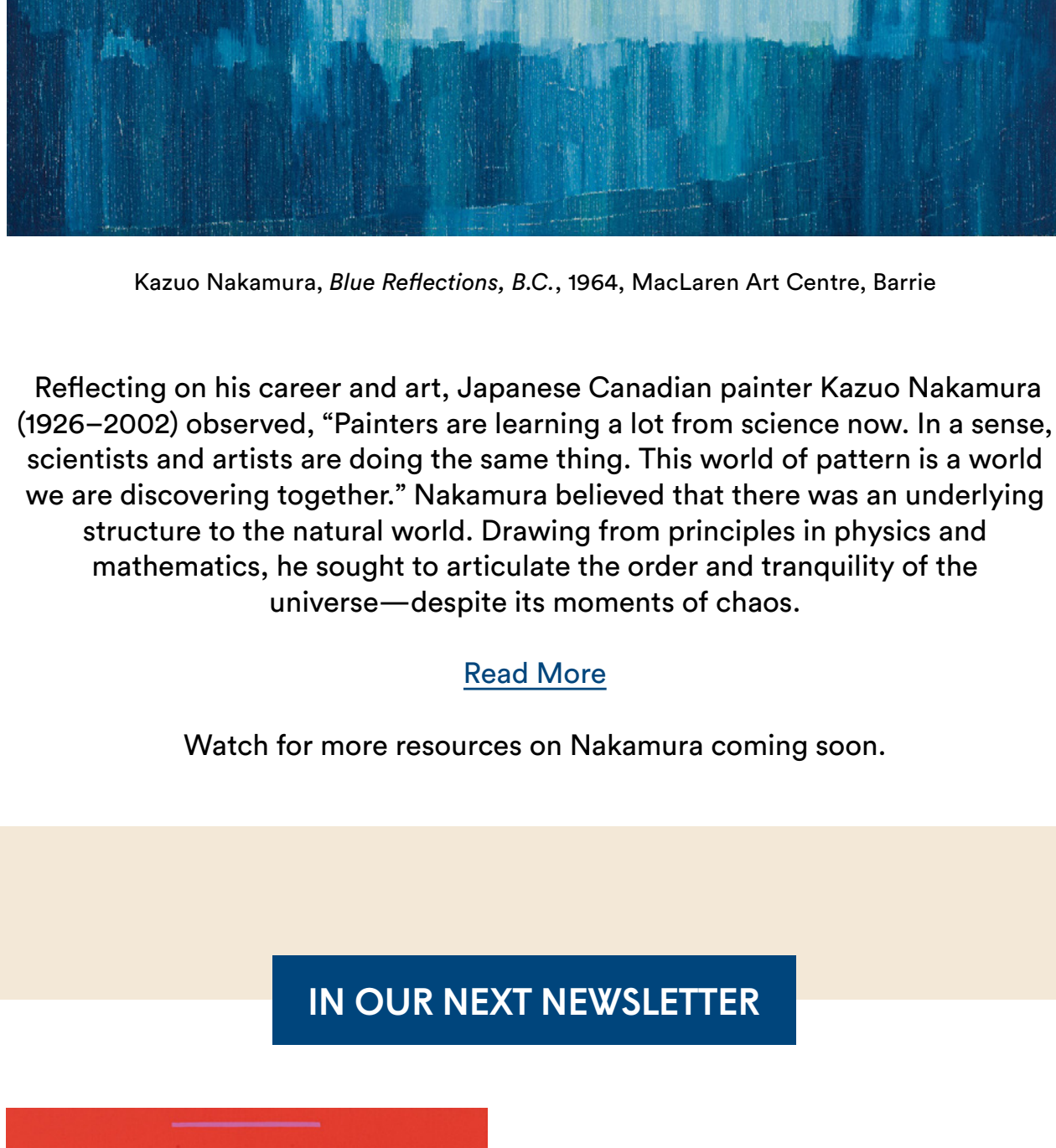
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Explore Inuit Ways of Knowing
with Germain Arnaktauyok

Germain Arnaktauyok, *First Light*, n.d.

Contemporary Northwest Territories-based artist and writer Germain Arnaktauyok incorporates reflections on Inuit stories into her stunning works on paper. Originally from Iglulik, Nunavut, Arnaktauyok was awarded a Governor General’s Award in Visual and Media Arts in February. Her works often depict visual worlds that integrate references to astronomy, often with a strong presence of the moon and sun, and they offer powerful opportunities to explore culturally-specific notions of space, time, and the interconnectedness of living beings.

[Read More](#)

Kazuo Nakamura’s
Universal Patterns

Kazuo Nakamura, *Blue Reflections, B.C.*, 1964, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie

Reflecting on his career and art, Japanese Canadian painter Kazuo Nakamura (1926–2002) observed, “Painters are learning a lot from science now. In a sense, scientists and artists are doing the same thing. This world of pattern is a world we are discovering together.” Nakamura believed that there was an underlying structure to the natural world. Drawing from principles in physics and mathematics, he sought to articulate the order and tranquility of the universe—despite its moments of chaos.

[Read More](#)

Watch for more resources on Nakamura coming soon.

IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER



LEARN ABOUT

COLOUR, LANGUAGE
& STORYTELLING
through the art of
YVES GAUCHER

Montreal-born abstract painter, printmaker, and collagist Yves Gaucher (1934-2000) created works that are an inspiring starting point for investigations of colour in art, language, and storytelling. Inspired by Gaucher’s love of art, our next newsletter presents highlights from the ACI Education Program, including art activities for transforming and brightening up your classroom.

As a bilingual organization, we are proud to offer our materials in both French and English, including this newsletter. Use the sign up links below to receive emails in your preferred language.

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Art Canada Institute

Launched in 2013, the Art Canada Institute is the only national institution whose mandate is to promote the study of an inclusive multi-vocal Canadian art history to as broad an audience as possible, in both English and French, within Canada and internationally. The ACI works with more than fifty of Canada’s leading art historians, curators, and visual culture experts who are dedicated to the creation of authoritative original content on the people, themes, and topics that have defined Canadian art history.

We are creating a central digital resource to tell the world about Canada’s most important works of art and where they are located. By functioning as an online art museum, a [digital library](#), and an interactive Canadian art encyclopedia, the ACI is an indispensable resource on Canada’s visual heritage.

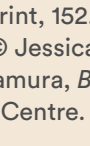
Visit us at aci-iac.ca

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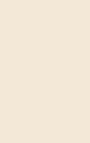
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Image Credits: [1] Michael Snow, *Authorization*, 1969, instant silver prints (Polaroid) and adhesive tape on mirror in metal frame, 54.6 x 44.4 x 1.4 cm with integral frame. Collection of the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, purchased 1969 (15839). Courtesy of the National Gallery of Canada. © Michael Snow. [2] Jessica Eaton, *cfaal 762*, 2017, pigment print, 152.4 x 121.9 cm. © Jessica Eaton. [3] Jessica Eaton, *cfaal 1036*, 2018, pigment print, 152.4 x 121.9 cm. © Jessica Eaton. [4] Germain Arnaktauyok, *First Light*, n.d., ink on paper, 57.2 cm x 52.1 cm. [5] Kazuo Nakamura, *Blue Reflections, B.C.*, 1964, oil on canvas, 127 x 160 cm. Collection of the MacLaren Art Centre. Gift of Ron McQueen, 2002. Photo: Andre Beneteau.