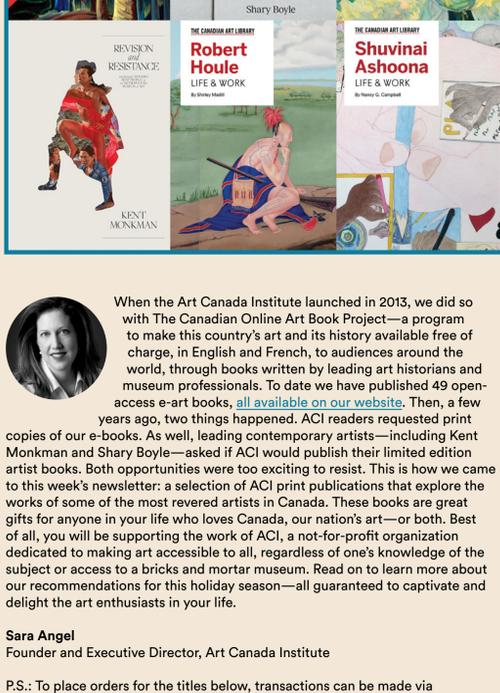


NOVEMBER 26, 2021

SEASON'S READINGS: SIX GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS

For the art lovers in your life, the Art Canada Institute has you covered with this selection of our beautifully illustrated and insightful books guaranteed to both provoke and delight.



When the Art Canada Institute launched in 2013, we did so with The Canadian Online Art Book Project—a program to make this country's art and its history available free of charge, in English and French, to audiences around the world, through books written by leading art historians and museum professionals. To date we have published 49 open-access e-art books, [all available on our website](#). Then, a few years ago, two things happened. ACI readers requested print copies of our e-books. As well, leading contemporary artists—including Kent Monkman and Shary Boyle—asked if ACI would publish their limited edition artist books. Both opportunities were too exciting to resist. This is how we came to this week's newsletter: a selection of ACI print publications that explore the works of some of the most revered artists in Canada. These books are great gifts for anyone in your life who loves Canada, our nation's art—or both. Best of all, you will be supporting the work of ACI, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to making art accessible to all, regardless of one's knowledge of the subject or access to a bricks and mortar museum. Read on to learn more about our recommendations for this holiday season—all guaranteed to captivate and delight the art enthusiasts in your life.

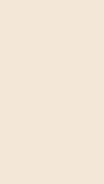
Sara Angel

Founder and Executive Director, Art Canada Institute

P.S.: To place orders for the titles below, transactions can be made via [ACI's website](#). Alternatively, please contact Rachel Boyle at 416-559-8509. December 15 is the last day for us to process orders.

REVISION AND RESISTANCE: MISTIKÔSIWAK (WOODEN BOAT PEOPLE) AT THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

by Kent Monkman

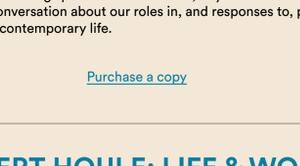


Get an exclusive behind-the-scenes look at one of the most significant art commissions of our time in *Revision and Resistance: mistikôsiwak (Wooden Boat People) at The Metropolitan Museum of Art*. Unveiled in The Met's Great Hall in December 2019, internationally renowned Cree artist Kent Monkman's (b.1965) monumental diptych—consisting of the paintings *Welcoming the Newcomers and Resurgence of the People*—offers a powerful vision of the past, present, and future of the Indigenous peoples in North America from the perspective of the famed Miss Chief Eagle Testickle, the artist's time-travelling, shape-shifting, gender-fluid alter ego. Rich with references to Romantic paintings in The Met's collection that perpetuate the myth of “the vanishing Indian,” Monkman's provocative works reverse the colonial gaze of American and European art history to reveal and honour Indigenous resiliency. *Revision and Resistance* is the definitive book on this masterpiece and Monkman's groundbreaking practice.

[Purchase a copy](#)

OUTSIDE THE PALACE OF ME

by Shary Boyle

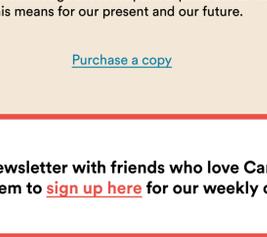


What do an amusement park innovator and a robotics engineer have to do with visual art? Internationally acclaimed multidisciplinary artist Shary Boyle (b.1972) collaborated with both, among others, for her audacious touring museum exhibition *Outside the Palace of Me*, originated by the Gardiner Museum and currently travelling across the country. In this one-of-a-kind singular artist book featuring works from the multi-sensory show, Boyle explores how we see each other and ourselves. Addressing global and individual struggles of identity in her art and writings, she reflects on how they may lead to a just, joyous, and collective future. From masterful ceramics and watercolours to animatronics of dizzying proportions and a dazzling spectrum of handcraft, and Boyle's fantastical works draw us into a crucial conversation about our roles in, and responses to, pressing issues that define contemporary life.

[Purchase a copy](#)

ROBERT HOULE: LIFE & WORK

by Shirley Madill



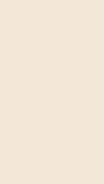
Between the mid 1800s and 1996, Canada removed 150,000 Indigenous children, under duress, from their families and forced them to attend government-funded, assimilation institutions known as residential schools. The internationally recognized Saulteaux artist and curator Robert Houle (b.1947) was one of those children. In *Robert Houle: Life & Work*, author Shirley Madill chronicles how the acclaimed artist went on to play a transformative role in bridging the gap between First Nations artists and the broader Canadian art scene, and synthesized contemporary art styles and Anishinaabe traditions. At a time of mourning and urgent need for change, Houle's art has particular poignance, encouraging a renewed vision of the world and asking us to consider fundamental questions about our country, acknowledge the most painful parts of our history, and contemplate what this means for our present and our future.

[Purchase a copy](#)

Share this newsletter with friends who love Canada's art, or invite them to [sign up here](#) for our weekly dispatch.

EMILY CARR: LIFE & WORK

by Lisa Baldissera

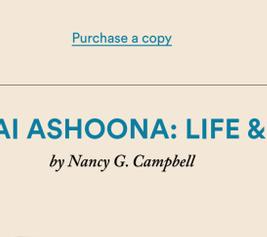


Few artists have impacted the country like Emily Carr. Along with the Group of Seven, she became a leading figure in Canadian modern art in the early twentieth century. Yet during the majority of her life, Carr felt her artistic career was a failure. In *Emily Carr: Life & Work*, author Lisa Baldissera reveals how Carr grew in artistic power as a result of her own intense observation, curiosity, determination, and experimentation. The book explores the artist's remarkable trajectory from her life in Victoria, where she struggled to receive acceptance, to her internationally renowned status. It documents Carr's resiliency and adventurous spirit, which led her to visualize depictions of the British Columbia landscape in a uniquely modern and spiritual manner, and documents how her work became an iconic articulation of the country's national identity and an inspiration to subsequent generations.

[Purchase a copy](#)

HELEN MCNICOLL: LIFE & WORK

by Samantha Burton

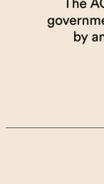
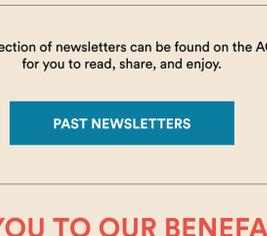


In January 2022, when the National Gallery of Canada opens its blockbuster exhibition *Canada and Impressionism: New Horizons*, all eyes will be on Helen McNicoll (1879–1915), whose painting *Sunny September, 1913*, is [the banner image for the show](#). During McNicoll's brief career, she played a pivotal role in popularizing Impressionism in Canada, and garnered international recognition for her luminous rural landscapes, intimate scenes of children, and portraits of modern women before her premature death at the age of thirty-five. Yet, as author Samantha Burton reveals in *Helen McNicoll: Life & Work*, her path to acclaim was not easy. The artist's severe hearing loss from a young age impacted her painting practice, and she and her partner, the British painter Dorothea Sharp (1874–1955), fought to give women artists greater access to the male-dominated art world. Still, against the odds and in a brief span of time, McNicoll transformed this country's cultural landscape.

[Purchase a copy](#)

SHUVINAI ASHOONA: LIFE & WORK

by Nancy G. Campbell



Tentacled creatures attacking citizens, a ship pursuing a giant squid, a woman with monstrous appendages giving birth—these are just a few of the scenes found in the highly imaginative drawings of the internationally celebrated Kinngait (Cape Dorset) artist Shuvinaï Ashoona (b.1961). Influenced by traditional Inuit culture and mythology, popular culture, and the changing Arctic landscape, Ashoona has assembled a unique personal iconography composed of hybrid creatures, globes, and post-apocalyptic landscapes that defy traditional representations of northern ice and snow. In *Shuvinaï Ashoona: Life & Work*, author Nancy G. Campbell examines the fascinating evolution of the artist's work from monochromatic, densely rendered Arctic landscapes to vividly coloured, surreal drawings that combine elements of the traditional and the contemporary in the North.

[Purchase a copy](#)

Our entire collection of newsletters can be found on the ACI website, for you to read, share, and enjoy.

PAST NEWSLETTERS

THANK YOU TO OUR BENEFACTORS

The ACI is a not-for-profit educational charity that receives no government financing or public support. Our work is possible by an important circle of [friends, patrons, and benefactors](#).

If you would like to support our important work, please see [this page](#).

Follow us on social media

Facebook
artcaninstitute/

Instagram
@artcaninstitute

Twitter
@artcaninstitute

Visit us at [aci-iac.ca](#) for more content on Canadian art and artists

Canadian Online Art Book Project

Purchase Available Print Books

Canadian Schools Art Education Program

Art Lecture Videos

Image Credits: [1] Cover of *Revision and Resistance: mistikôsiwak (Wooden Boat People) at The Metropolitan Museum of Art* by Kent Monkman (Toronto: Art Canada Institute, 2020). [2] Cover of *Shary Boyle: Outside the Palace of Me* by Shary Boyle (Toronto: Art Canada Institute, 2021). [3] Cover of *Robert Houle: Life & Work* by Shirley Madill (Toronto: Art Canada Institute, 2021). [4] Cover of *Emily Carr: Life & Work* by Lisa Baldissera (Toronto: Art Canada Institute, 2021). [5] Cover of *Helen McNicoll: Life & Work* by Samantha Burton (Toronto: Art Canada Institute, 2020). [6] Cover of *Shuvinaï Ashoona: Life & Work* by Nancy G. Campbell (Toronto: Art Canada Institute, 2019).