PRESS RELEASE

New large-scale works by Julie Buffalohead to premiere at the Minneapolis Institute of Art

MINNEAPOLIS—November 5, 2019—The Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia) will present a solo exhibition of new work by St. Paul-based artist Julie Buffalohead. “Storytelling: Julie Buffalohead” unveils three large-scale diptychs—each approximately 12 feet tall by 4 1/2 feet long—and two smaller works, each providing a visual narrative told by animal characters with personhood, agency, and individuality. The exhibition opens November 23 in Gallery 255 and runs through September 6, 2020.

Like all great storytellers, Buffalohead connects the mythical with the ordinary and the imaginary with the real, offering a space to which viewers can bring their own experiences. As the viewer enters her worlds, she coaxes them to discover additional layers of meaning—social, historical, political, personal—using metaphor, wisdom, and wit.

The show was curated by Jill Ahlberg Yohe, associate curator of Native American art, and Josephine Lampone, media and technology fellow.

“This exhibition offers new monumental works on paper that are especially powerful, as their scale quite literally immerses you in a story,” Ahlberg Yohe said. “Julie Buffalohead is known for using characters to reveal layers of meaning—personal, social, political.”

Added Lampone, “Her work openly embraces nuance, complexity, and contradiction rather than simplifying it or shying away from it.”
Born in 1972 and an enrolled member of the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma, Buffalohead is a recipient of numerous fellowships and grants, including the Guggenheim Fine Arts Fellowship, the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant, and the McKnight Foundation Fellowship for Visual Arts. Her work has been included in group exhibitions at Para Site in Hong Kong, the Weisman Art Museum in Minneapolis, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indian and Western Art in Indianapolis, the Carl N. Gorman Museum in Davis, California, The Plains Art Museum in Fargo, and Artfit Exhibition Space in Phoenix, among others.


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About the Minneapolis Institute of Art

Home to more than 90,000 works of art representing 5,000 years of world history, the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia inspires wonder, spurs creativity, and nourishes the imagination. With extraordinary exhibitions and one of the finest art collections in the country—from all corners of the globe, and from ancient to contemporary—Mia links the past to the present, enables global conversations, and offers an exceptional setting for inspiration. General admission to Mia is always free. Some special exhibitions have a nominal admission fee. For more information, call 612.870.3000 or visit artsmia.org.

Museum Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday 10am–5pm
Thursday, Friday 10am–9pm
Sunday 11am–5pm
Monday Closed
For more information, call + 1 612 870 3000 or visit artsmia.org