

THE HNATYSHYN FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION HNATYSHYN

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**THE HNATYSHYN FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE
2015 WILLIAM AND MEREDITH SAUNDERSON PRIZES FOR EMERGING
CANADIAN ARTISTS**

Ottawa, September 17, 2015 – The Hnatyshyn Foundation today announced the 2015 recipients of the William and Meredith Saunderson Prizes for Emerging Canadian Artists. The \$5,000 prizes are intended to nurture emerging talent in the visual arts in Canada.

The prizes, initiated by Charles Pachter in 2012 for a period of three years are now supported by William and Meredith Saunderson and will continue through 2017. In recognition of the Saunderson's support, Gerda Hnatyshyn, C.C., President of The Hnatyshyn Foundation, said: "We would like to express our gratitude to the Saundersons for sustaining this very important prize program and for encouraging emerging Canadian artists at a time in their careers when financial support and recognition are critical for their development."

The winners of this year's awards were chosen by Daina Augaitis, 2014 recipient of the Hnatyshyn Award for Curatorial Excellence. Ms Augaitis is Chief Curator and Associate Director at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Maya Beaudry

Maya Beaudry is an artist from Vancouver, whose practice is centred around a subjective experience of material and a sensitivity to its affective qualities. Her work is primarily installation-based, and extends into painting, textiles, sculpture, video and design. In 2013 she founded Sunset Terrace, a shared studio and exhibition space, which she operates alongside and in dialogue with her studio practice. Much of her work concerns the psychological implications of interior space, aiming to find an intersection of the mystical and the practical and to consider the inherent conflicts that arise between the aesthetic and the pragmatic. She received a BFA from Emily Carr University in 2013, and was the recipient of the Royal Canadian Academy of Art CD Howe Scholarship.

Jessie McNeil

In her interdisciplinary art practice, Jessie McNeil addresses themes of place and memory with an emphasis on cultural history, identity and language. Her figurative paper-based collages, which she calls "portraits of place" are made with the eye of a street photographer while fulfilling the artist's need to cut, paste, smudge and assemble. McNeil holds a BFA from Emily Carr University, has exhibited locally,

nationally and most recently, completed an artist residency project at the Estonian Printing Museum in Tartu, Estonia.

Bridget Moser

Bridget Moser is a Toronto-based performance and video artist whose work is suspended between prop comedy, experimental theatre, performance art, absurd literature, existential anxiety and intuitive dance. She has presented work in venues across Canada, including La Centrale, Montreal; VIVO Media Arts Centre, Vancouver; Video Pool, Winnipeg; the Art Gallery of Ontario, Gallery TPW, and Mercer Union, Toronto; The National Arts Centre and Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa; Owens Art Gallery, Sackville; and Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery, Halifax. She has presented projects throughout the US and Europe, and has been a resident artist at The Banff Centre and at Fondazione Antonio Ratti in Como, Italy. Her work has been featured in *Canadian Art*, *C Magazine* and a recent publication by *Mousse Magazine*.

The Hnatyshyn Foundation offers its sincere congratulations to this year's recipients.

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About The Hnatyshyn Foundation

The Hnatyshyn Foundation is a private charity established by the late Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Canada's twenty-fourth Governor General, to assist emerging and established artists in all disciplines with their schooling and training, and promote to the Canadian public the importance of the arts in our society. Its programs are funded by donations from government, foundations, corporations and individuals. The Department of Canadian Heritage has provided \$5 million in grants to assist the Foundation.

For more information:

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