Solo Exhibition



Banff Series D #5, charcoal, chalk pastel, wax, oil pastel, ink jet on paper, 24x24 inches



Banff Series C #4, 2014, charcoal, chalk pastel, wax, oil pastel, ink jet on paper, 16×16 inches

## **Back to Banff**

Throughout the month of February, during EXPOSURE Photography Festival and Banff's SnowDays Festival, discover the mysterious world of Allan Harding MacKay. Back to Banff is a solo exhibition of mixed media works set in Banff, Nelson and Waterton by one of Canada's esteemed visual artists. This evocative exhibition is on view at the Willock & Sax Gallery in Banff, February 1 to 28, 2015.

Allan Harding MacKay is attracted to transitions that seem to occur with the clash of weather systems and the formidable clouds and dramatic skies that result. The works are based on the observations and images he gathered from the viewpoint of his Banff studio or his time in Nelson or Waterton. He transformed the digital sources into the traditional materials of charcoal, chalk pastel, oil pastel, wax, and oil on paper. Harding MacKay's search is to go beyond the pictorial experience. These are not literal landscapes; they rely on dramatic light, manipulation of form and references to 19th C. Romanticism to invoke feelings of quiet and fond meditations.

Born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, he has been a practicing artist in various media since graduating from the Nova Scotia College of Art in 1967. Mixed Media portrait, landscape, figurative and video works have occupied a major part of his interests through his artistic career. AHM served as a war artist with the Canadian Department of National Defense on two occasions: Somalia in 1993 and Afghanistan in 2002.

AHM has served as visiting artist, resident artist and lecturer at several Canadian universities, colleges of art, public galleries and national conferences, including the Banff Centre. He has been awarded numerous artist grants by the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council and Alberta Foundation of the Arts. In 2008, the artist was inducted into the Royal Canadian Academy and received a Kitchener Waterloo Visual Arts Award. The artist's solo and group exhibition history is extensive, both nationally and internationally. His work is found in public collections including the Canada Council Art Bank, National Gallery of Canada, Canadian War Museum, Confederation Centre Art Gallery, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Art Gallery of Alberta and Kunstmuseum Bern Switzerland as well as corporations and privatecollections in Canada and Switzerland. He has created four public art works located in Kitchener and Toronto. He presently resides and maintains a studio in Banff. Alberta.

Solo Exhibition

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Banff, Waterton & Nelson Series Chalk & oil pastel, wax, oil wash, ink on paper, 2014 Sizes 16"x 16" and 24"x 24"