

April Dean

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### Education & Professional Training

- 2019 Certificate: Tools For Reconciliation (Naheyawin)
- 2018 Artist in Residence: The Banff Centre of the Arts & Creativity
- 2012 Master of Fine Art Degree in Fine & Media Art:  
Nova Scotia College of Art & Design University, Halifax NS.
- 2008 Bachelor of Arts Degree, with Distinction:  
Major: Art & Design Minor: English, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB.
- 2002 Diploma in Photographic Technology:  
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), Edmonton AB.

### Exhibitions

- 2024 *In Violet Light*, The Art Gallery of St. Albert, St. Albert, AB Canada
- 2021 *Futures Barren/ Futures Abundant*, Martha Street Main Gallery, Winnipeg, MB Canada
- 2016 *Blowing In The Wind*, A/P Gallery. Calgary, AB Canada
- 2015 *Your Sunset Views*, Parade Gallery, Edmonton, AB Canada
- 2013 *Drill Holes Where You Think You Might Need Them For Air*, The Drawing Room, Edmonton, AB Canada
- 2013 *Contingency Plans*, Latitude 53 Community Gallery: Summer Incubator Series,
- 2012 *Soft Light, Hard Landing*, Anna Leonowens Gallery, NSCAD University. Halifax, NS, Canada
- 2011 *UNRAVELLING*, Port Loggia Gallery, NSCAD University. Halifax, NS, Canada
- 2009 *Raw Materials & Rose Coloured Glasses*, SNAP Studio Gallery & The Works Festival. Edmonton, AB, Canada

### Group & Travelling

- 2024 *pARTy*, DH Art World, Edmonton, AB, Canada
- 2022 *SNAP At Forty (40th Anniversary Exhibition)*, SNAP Gallery, Edmonton AB, Canada
- 2021 *The Scene*, Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada
- 2020 *borderLINE Biennial of Contemporary Art*, Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada
- 2019 *Printed Matter*, The Strzeminski Academy of Fine Arts, Lodz, Poland  
*Futurology*, A/P Gallery, Calgary AB
- 2018 *Cataclysm*, Holter Museum of Art, Helena, MT, USA
- 2017 *Gunpowder For The Mind*, Art Gallery of Regina, Regina SK, Canada  
*SubArctic Improv*, Mile Zero Dance, Edmonton AB  
*Canada & Japan International Print Exhibition*, University of Alberta Museums Galleries at Enterprise Square, Edmonton AB Canada & The Art Gallery of Regina, Regina, SK, Canada
- 2016 *Canada & Japan International Print Exhibition*, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art & Tokushima Modern Art Museum, Japan
- 2015 *Brain Storms: UAlberta Creates*, University of Alberta Museums at Enterprise Square Galleries, Edmonton AB, Canada  
*Connections: Edmonton & Houston*, Galveston Art Centre. Galveston, Texas, USA
- 2014 *50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibitions: Art & Design 1.0* Fine Arts Building Gallery, The University of Alberta, Edmonton AB Canada. (Publication).  
*Connection / Missed Connection: An exchange portfolio presented at SGCI Conference*, San Francisco, CA, USA

- 2013 *Text Crutch*, Curated by Rob Harpin, Presented by The Works, Jackson Power Gallery, Edmonton, AB, Canada  
 8th Annual *Biennale International D'Estampe Contemporaine*, Juried. Trois-Rivieres, QC, Canada. (catalogue)  
*The Drive Home*, The Brooklyn Art Library. Brooklyn, NY, USA  
*Cities in s'INK* Alberta Print Exchange: A/P Gallery, Calgary, AB & SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, AB, Canada  
*BIMPE : VII The Biennial International Miniature Print Exhibition*, Juried. Touring Exhibition: The Dunderave Print Workshop, Vancouver, BC.; The Federation Gallery, Vancouver ,BC.; SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, AB; The University of British Columbia Okanagan, BC, Canada.(catalogue)

### Employment

- Current Exhibitions & Galleries Manager, Faculty of Arts: Department of Art & Design, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB  
 2012 – 2022 Executive Director, Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists (SNAP), Edmonton, AB  
 2015 -2017 Curator: *Kyoto Hanga: Canada Japan International Print Exhibition*. (International travelling exhibition)  
 2013 – Current Lecturer: University of Alberta, Department of Art & Design. Edmonton, AB  
 2011-2012 Contract Academic Staff: NSCAD University, Department of Fine & Media Art. Halifax, NS.  
 2009-2010 Program Officer, Latitude 53 Contemporary Visual Culture, Edmonton, AB  
 2009 Collections Assistant, Alberta Foundation for The Arts, the Arts Branch, Edmonton AB

### Grants, Awards & Recognition

- 2023 Edmonton Arts Council: Primary Applicant, *Major Grants for Collectives* (Procrastination Press)  
 2023 Edmonton Arts Council: Collaborator, *Major Grants for Collectives* (Terraforming Earth Project)  
 2021 Alberta Foundation For The Arts: *Visual Arts & New Media Individual Project Grant*  
 2020 Edmonton Arts Council: *Individual Project Grant*  
 Edmonton Arts Council: *Creators Reserve Fund*  
 2018 City of Edmonton: *Salute to Excellence Citation Award* for Leadership in Arts & Culture  
 2017 Edmonton Arts Council: Edmonton Artist Trust Fund Award  
 2016 Edmonton Arts Council Public Art Commission: Paul Kane Park  
 2016 Edmonton's Top 40 under 40: Avenue Magazine  
 2016 Excellence in Arts Management: PACE – Mayor's Awards for The Arts  
 2014 Art Acquisition by Application: Alberta Foundation For The Arts  
 2011 Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC): *Joseph Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship*

**Artist Biography:**

April Dean is a visual artist living in Treaty 6 territory, in Amiskwaciwâskahikan (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada). Her father's grandparents were early settlers of what is now farmland in The Battlefords area in Saskatchewan (also Treaty 6), which is how she came to live, as a third generation settler, on Treaty 6 lands. She maintains an active studio practice in print media; combinations of installation, 2D & 3D works, and video. She is an arts & culture administrator, community advocate, and teacher. With formal training in analogue and digital photographic technology and printmaking, her work is often constructed of lens-based and language fragments. In 2012 she was granted a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Fine & Media Art from NSCAD University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

**Research Statement:**

Late stage capitalism has us trapped in our role as consumer and in fierce and almost constant competition for what are sold to us as limited resources under a threat of scarcity. Looking for ways to resist this narrative, affirm my belief that we are living in a time of abundance, and that there is, in fact, "enough", I turned my attention to the houseplant as a locus, symbol, and metaphor to work through these ideas. In my art practice and my life outside the studio the houseplant has continued to foster a sense of growing care and value for relationships that exist beyond language. It has also been a constant reminder of the extractive and problematic colonial worldview where "nature" is something to be owned rather than cared for. Gazing out the window upon a manicured lawn, carefully organized garden or urban park I've been trained all my life to understand the outside, the other side of the window pane, as a separate system and not as one I am inextricably a part of. Can the work of trying to unlearn and relearn better systems of coexistence be accomplished through an art practice? What does the context of art making have to do with reimagining an abundant future? My work often feels fragmented and layered much like these questions, as they keep coming together and then drifting apart, resisting any sense of solid ground but rather forming more questions, and framing more views of possible futures. In my art practice I value collaboration, poetic response, and slow observation of a fast-paced world.