

LISA MATTHIAS

Website: lisamatthias.com

SUMMARY

Residing just outside of Edmonton, Alberta, I am an interdisciplinary visual artist with a Master of Fine Arts in Printmaking from the University of Alberta, a Master of Science in Plant Ecology from the University of Manitoba, and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Guelph. My artwork has been showcased in exhibitions across Canada, the US, and internationally, and is represented by two commercial art galleries in Calgary and Edmonton. Solo exhibitions of my work have been held in Edmonton (2013, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023), Calgary (2014, 2015, 2019, 2020, 2022), Winnipeg (2024), Toronto (2021), Vernon (2023), and Vancouver (2025).

I spent over a decade as a botanist and wildlife biologist in the landscapes of western Canada before transitioning into a career in the visual arts, and this experience deeply influences my work. My studio practice is rooted in the study of nature and ecology and engages with urgent environmental issues from biodiversity decline to climate change, integrating science-based processes with printmaking and other media. Alongside my studio practice and related professional engagements I balance my time between teaching community art classes, volunteering with various arts organizations, supporting my children and family, and spending time outdoors.

TRAINING AND LEARNING

University Education

2010-2013. Master of Fine Arts (University of Alberta). Department of Art and Design.

- Thesis advisors Sean Caulfield and Daniela Schlueter

2008-2010. Open Studies (University of Alberta). Department of Art and Design.

- Completed prerequisite courses (supplementing visual arts courses taken in my BSc and MSc programs) to apply to MFA program

2007. Introductory etching (University of Alberta). Continuing Studies.

2001-2004. Master of Science (University of Manitoba). Department of Botany.

- Thesis advisor Dr. Norm Kenkel

1996-2000. Bachelor of Science (University of Guelph). College of Biological Sciences.

- Thesis advisor Dr. Judith Canne-Hilliker

Artist Residencies

2026. Martha Street Studio, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

2025. Mokuhanga Innovation Laboratory Advanced Artist-in-Residence Program, Echizen, Fukui Prefecture, Japan. This five-week self-directed artist residency centers on the study of Mokuhanga (Japanese water-based woodcut printmaking) under the guidance of Japanese instructors. Independent creative exploration is complemented by a curated program that combining workshops, instructional sessions, excursions, and networking opportunities with both visiting and local artists.

2025. Ecole Meridian Heights School (K-9), Stony Plain, Alberta. This one-month artist residency introduces printmaking, collaborative art-making, a lunchtime art club, and exhibition of works, to the approximately 600 students at the school.
2024. University of British Columbia, Okanagan Campus, Kelowna, British Columbia. Two-week Artist Residency in the printmaking studios of the Faculty of Critical and Creative Studies at the invitation of Professor Briar Craig. Self-guided experiments in monotype and zinc etching, alongside field research.
2023. Point Pelee National Park. Parks Canada, Ontario. One-week Artist-in-Residence focused on field research, sound recording, en plein air painting, creative writing, and woodcut printmaking.
2023. City of Edmonton. Yorath House, City Arts Centre, Edmonton, Alberta. 5-week Artist-in-Residence, focused on field research, sound recording, en plein air painting, creative writing, and woodcut printmaking.
2021. Artist's Research Program. *Swarm: Insects+art*. Two-week remote Artist's Residency. The residency included a series of expert lectures relating to insects and art; and self-directed experimenting with recording equipment and software for digital sound recording of insect sound, ecological soundscapes, and more (part of ongoing self-taught sound work for over ten years), as well as self-taught experiments in stop-motion animation.
2017. Banff Centre for the Arts, Banff, Alberta. Five-week Individual Artist's Residency. This residency included among other things self-taught approaches to printmaking-based stop-motion animation through studio experimenting with equipment and set-ups, speaking with other artists, internet reading and library research; and experiments with copper etching.

Printmaking Conferences

2024. *Genius Loci: The Pathos of Places*, invitational curated group exhibition. Mid-America Print Conference. Kansas State University, Kansas.
2023. Panel Chairperson and presenter (remote). *The Political Ecology of Printmaking*. 2022. Mid-America Print Council Biennial Conference, Kent, Ohio.
2013. Portfolio presentation. Impact 8 International Printmaking Conference. Dundee, Scotland. I learned about woodcut printing with hand baren through plenary speaker and exhibitor Teruo Isomi, who influenced my work.

Example Additional Learning

2023. CARFAC Alberta Board workshop with Future Ancestors, "Moving Beyond Diversity and Inclusion".
2022. CARFAC AB members workshop with Blaine Campbell, "How to Photograph your Artwork".
- 2020-2021. Self-taught methods hand-printed monotype printing, including trace monotype and watercolour-based monotype, using experimentation, textbooks, YouTube and Instagram tutorials.
2019. Self-taught relief printing by hand instead of press using online resources and experimentation.
2013. Monotype workshop at Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists by guest printmaking artist Koichi Yamamoto.
2013. Print collage workshop at Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists by guest printmaking artist Jon Swindler.

ARTISTIC WORK PRESENTED TO THE PUBLIC

Solo Exhibitions

2025. Beaty Biodiversity Museum, Vancouver, BC. Curated. Artist fees paid.
2024. *Printed Flight*. Martha Street Studio, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Curated. Artist fees paid.
2023. *Lisa Matthias*. Maud Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta. Curated.
2023. *Field Marks*. Vernon Public Art Gallery, Vernon, British Columbia. Curated. Artist fees paid.
2023. *Ecology Notes*. Spruce Grove Art Gallery, Spruce Grove, Alberta. Curated.
2022. *Field Notes II*. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2022. *Infinitesimal*. Gallery@501, Sherwood Park, Alberta. Artist fees paid. Curated.
2021. *Ecological Constructs*. Birch Contemporary, Toronto, Ontario. Curated.
2020. *Of Unknown Origin*. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2019. *Duality*. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2019. *Duality*. Spruce Grove Art Gallery, Spruce Grove, Alberta. Curated.
2016. *Remnants*. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2014. *Field Notes*. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2013. *Field Notes*. Alberta Printmakers Artist Proof +15 Gallery. Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2013. *Field Notes*. Fine Arts Building Gallery, University of Alberta.

Two- and Three-person Exhibitions

2025. *Future Wilder Collective*, three-person show. Spruce Grove Art Gallery, Alberta. Curated.
2021. *WaterBodies*. Duo exhibition. Spudnik Press Co., Chicago, Illinois. Curated.
2021. *Do you see what I see?* Duo exhibition. Wild Skies Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta. Curated.

Group Exhibitions

2025. *Juried Members Show*. Allied Arts Council of Spruce Grove. Spruce Grove, AB.
2024. *Genius Loci*, Mid-America Print Conference. Kansas State University, Kansas. Curated.
2024. *Okanagan Print Triennial*. Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, British Columbia. Curated.
2024. *The Ontario Miniature Print Exhibition*. TAP Centre for Creativity, London, ON.
2024. *The Peg?* Members' print exchange and show. Martha Street Studio, Winnipeg.
2024. *Multiples: A Print Exhibition*. Christine Klassen Gallery. Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2024. Saskatchewan Printmakers International Print Exchange and show. Eye Gallery, Saskatoon, SK.
2024. *Biannual Instructor's Show*. Spruce Grove Art Gallery. Spruce Grove, Alberta.
2023. *Snap Members Show and Sale*. Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers, Edmonton, Alberta.
2023. *Artist-in-Residence Group Show*. Visitor's Centre, Point Pelee National Park, Ontario.
2023. *The Strathcona Salon*. Gallery@501. Sherwood Park, Alberta. Curated.
2023. *Papyromania 3*. Christine Klassen Gallery. Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2023. *Gaia*. Muttart Conservatory. City Arts Centre Instructors Show. Edmonton, Alberta.
2023. *Lasting Impressions*. Alberta Printmakers 2023 Members Exhibition. Calgary, Alberta.
2022. *Biennial International Miniature Print Exhibition*. Visual Space Gallery. Vancouver, BC. Curated.
2022. *Lasting Impressions*. Alberta Printmakers 2022 Members Exhibition. Calgary, Alberta.
2022. *Open House*. City Arts Centre Instructors Show. Edmonton, Alberta.
2022. *Snap Members Show and Sale*. Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers, Edmonton, Alberta.

2021. *Artists in the Fallow*. Fall group show. Brighton Block, Edmonton, Alberta. Curated.
2021. *Chroma*. Group show. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2021. *Unseen*. Group show. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2021. *Biannual Instructor's Show*. Spruce Grove Art Gallery. Spruce Grove, Alberta.
2020. *Video Art: Modern Artmaking in Moving Images*. Multicultural Heritage Centre. Stony Plain, Alberta. Curated.
2020. *Papyromania 2*. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2020. *40th International Mini Print of Cadaques*. Cadaques and Pineda de Mar (Spain), and Bages, France. Curated.
2020. *The 8th International Contemporary Miniprint of Kazanlak*. Kazanlak Art Gallery, Bulgaria. Curated.
2020. *Members Print Exchange*. Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers, Edmonton, Alberta.
2020. *Authentic Marks - 3rd Annual International Miniature Printmaking Exhibition*. Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Curated.
2020. *Ottawa School of Art's 8th International Miniature Print Biennale*. Ottawa, Ontario. Curated.
2018. *Studio Now*. Four-person exhibition. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2017. *Ten*. Group show. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2017. *Open Studios*. Banff Centre for the Arts, Banff, Alberta.
2015. *Papyromania*. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta. Curated.
2013. *Manhattan Graphics Center*. 3rd Annual juried exhibition. New York, New York. Curated.
2013. *Encoding Identities*. Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists, Edmonton, Alberta.
2012. *30 Love*. Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists, Edmonton, Alberta.
2011. *Foray*. Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists, Edmonton, Alberta.
2010. *The 6th Biennial International Miniature Print Exhibition*. Federation Art Gallery and Dundarave Print Workshop, Vancouver, British Columbia; Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists, Edmonton, Alberta. Curated.
- 2009–2012. *Print Affair*. Annual Members Show and Sale, Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists, Edmonton, Alberta.

Example Public Artist Talks

2024. Artist's exhibition talk (joint in-person and remote). Martha Street Studio, Winnipeg, MB. Artist fees paid.
2023. Artist's exhibition talks (separate in-person and remote). Vernon Public Art Gallery, Vernon, BC. Artist fees paid.
2023. Panelist (in-person). *John K. Esler: The Art of Multiples*. Christine Klassen Gallery. Calgary, Alberta.
2022. Artist's exhibition talk (in-person). Gallery@501, Sherwood Park, Alberta. Artist fees paid.
2022. Artist's exhibition talk (in-person) including analysis of J.K. Esler works on display. Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta.
2021. Artist's exhibition talk (in-person). Birch Contemporary, Toronto, Ontario.
2021. Guest Lecturer (remote). Senior Printmaking, Department of Art, Colby College, Waterville, Maine.
2021. Guest Lecturer (remote). Aquatic Ecology, Department of Biology, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota. Artist fees paid.
2020. Artist's exhibition talk (remote). Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta.

2020. Artist's exhibition talk (in-person). *Video Art: Modern Artmaking in Moving Images*. Multicultural Heritage Centre. Stony Plain, Alberta.
2020. Artist's exhibition talk (remote). Society for Northern Alberta Print-artists, Edmonton, Alberta Culture Days contribution.
2019. Artist's exhibition talk (in-person). Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta.
2016. Artist's exhibition talk (in-person). Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta.
2014. Artist's exhibition talk (in-person). Christine Klassen Gallery, Calgary, Alberta.

Publications and Press

- Blair Fornwald, 2024, Love and Absence in Lisa Matthias' Printed Flight. Martha Street Printmakers, Exhibition Response. URL: <http://www.printmakers.mb.ca/gallery/discourse/>
- Grabado Panemico 4: No Mas Zonas de Sacrificio, 2024. Independent online catalogue publication. URL: https://grabadopandemico.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/GP4-final-ok_.pdf
- Vernon Public Art Gallery, 2023. Lisa Matthias: Field Marks. ISBN: 978-1-927407-79-0. URL: https://issuu.com/vernonpublicartgallery4/docs/lisa_matthias_catalogue_issuu_large
- Galleries West, 2023. Lisa Matthias: Field Marks. 2023. URL: <https://www.gallerieswest.ca/events/lisa-matthias-%7C-field-marks/>
- Spruce Grove Examiner, 2023. Lisa Matthias Brings Ecology Notes to Spruce Grove Art Gallery. URL: <https://www.sprucegroveexaminer.com/news/local-news/lisa-matthias-brings-ecology-notes-to-spruce-grove-art-gallery>
- Galleries West, 2022. Lisa Matthias: Infinitesimal. 2022. URL: https://www.gallerieswest.ca/events/lisa-matthias-%C2%A0infinitesimal/?occ_dtstart=2022-01-14T00%3A00
- Spruce Grove Examiner, 2022. Parkland County Artist Presents Multimedia Exhibition in Sherwood Park. 2022. URL: <https://www.sprucegroveexaminer.com/news/local-news/parkland-county-artist-presents-multimedia-exhibition-in-sherwood-park>
- Artoronto, 2021. Lisa Matthias at Birch Contemporary. 2021. URL: <https://www.artoronto.ca/?p=47872>
- Spruce Grove Examiner, 2021. Turning Science into Spectacle. 2021. URL: <https://www.sprucegroveexaminer.com/news/local-news/turning-science-into-spectacle>
- Waterbodies, 2021. Gallery artist book to accompany exhibition, Spudnik Press, Chicago. URL: <https://www.spudnikpress.org/shop/publications/waterbodies-amanda-lilleston-lisa-matthias/>
- Spruce Grove Examiner, 2021. Local Artist Debuts Latest Project at Edmonton Exhibition. 2021. URL: <https://www.sprucegroveexaminer.com/news/local-news/local-visual-artist-debuts-latest-project-at-edmonton-exhibition>
- CBC Edmonton, Radio Active, June 4 2021.
- Galleries West, 2020. Lisa Matthias: Of Unknown Origin. 2020. URL: <https://www.gallerieswest.ca/events/lisa-matthias/>
- Leader Post. 2020. Multicultural Heritage Centre to Bring Film Outdoors for Upcoming Show. 2020. URL: <https://leaderpost.com/entertainment/local-arts/multicultural-heritage-centre-to-bring-film-outdoors-for-upcoming-show/wcm/ae8fbb58-48ea-4aa7-bf2c-d8876a0ac3a9/amp/>
- Galleries West, 2019. Lisa Matthias: Duality. 2019. URL: <https://www.gallerieswest.ca/events/lisa-matthias-chris-kuzmanovich/>
- Canadian Art, 2019. Lisa Matthias: Duality. 2019. URL: <https://canadianart.ca/agenda/lisa-matthias-duality/>

Preview: The Gallery Guide, 2016. Lisa Matthias: Remnants. 2016. URL: <http://preview-art.com/oldsite/previews/04-2016/mathias.html>

Galleries West, 2016. Lisa Matthias: Remnants. 2016. URL: <https://www.gallerieswest.ca/events/lisa-matthias-remnants/>

SNAPLine gallery publication, My Process. 2013. URL: <https://snapartists.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Snapline-2013-Fall.pdf>

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

2025. Artist-in-Residence at Ecole Meridian Heights, Stony Plain, Alberta, March.

- I created a project proposal to undertake an artist residency at a local public school to introduce collaborative printmaking to the approximately 600 students at the school, including individual class instruction in the artist's classroom studio, creation of collaborative artworks, public exhibitions, lunchtime art club, and invitations to view and participate in the artist's practice. We were awarded a grant from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Artists and Education Funding, to carry out this project, with matching in-kind support from the artist.

2024. Artists's pecha kucha presentation as part of the new Strathcona Contemporary Exhibition, to connect artists and community through a series of social events. Gallery@501 and Arts and Culture Council of Strathcona County, AB.

2024. Public Art Commission, City of Spruce Grove. I created a tailored painting for the city to celebrate its public servants and the broader community.

2024. Co-founder of a small local rural arts collective, FutureWilder, with artists from several counties in the region.

2023. CARFAC Alberta Art and Industry Nights. Participation in networking events for visual artists and arts professionals.

2019-2024. Collaborating with the Spruce Grove Art Gallery I arranged to have several public exhibitions of my students' works in the Spruce Grove Library's classroom space.

2013-2015. Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists. Volunteer for annual *Print Affair* events and fundraisers.

RECENT EXAMPLES OF VOLUNTEERING

2022-2024. Board of Directors, CARFAC Alberta. Chair of Advocacy Committee (2024), Co-Chair Leadership Committee (2023).

2024-2025. Board of Directors, Allied Arts Council of Spruce Grove, Alberta.

2021-2022. Leadership Committee, CARFAC Alberta.

2013-2015 (2016 Past President). President of the Board of Directors. Society of Northern Alberta Print-Artists (SNAP), Edmonton, Alberta.

2019-2024. Parent volunteer, various roles teaching visual art in classrooms, helping in classrooms, and with school events, École Meridian Heights School, Stony Plain, Alberta.

2013. Supporting artist members. Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts, Edmonton, Alberta.

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Community Teaching

2022-2024. Visual Arts Program Specialist. City of Edmonton, City Arts Centre, Edmonton, Alberta.

Responsible for developing and delivering unique, high quality visual arts instruction for a wide variety of adult and youth programs for the City of Edmonton. Including but not limited to a variety of courses within painting (watercolour, acrylic, oil), drawing, printmaking, and mixed media.

2019–2025. Visual Arts Instructor. Art Gallery of Spruce Grove and Allied Arts Council of Spruce Grove, Alberta.

Responsible for developing and delivering unique, high quality visual arts instruction for a wide variety of adult and youth programs within painting (watercolour, acrylic, oil), drawing, printmaking, and mixed media.

2019. Art Instructor. Gallery@501, Sherwood Park, Alberta.

2013. Art Instructor. Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts. Edmonton, Alberta.

Work with a variety of adult and youth groups visiting the centre and as a guest artist in public schools.

2013. Art Instructor. SNAP, Edmonton, Alberta.

Teaching and assisting in printmaking workshops.

2020. Botany Instructor. Multicultural Heritage Centre, Stony Plain, Alberta.

Undergraduate Teaching

2013, 2016. Sessional Instructor. Intaglio Printmaking. University of Alberta, Art and Design.

2012. Sessional Instructor. Screen Printmaking. University of Alberta, Art and Design.

2012. Teaching Assistant. Screen Printmaking. University of Alberta, Art and Design.

2011. Teaching Assistant. Visual Fundamentals. University of Alberta, Art and Design.

Assessment and Adjudication

Oct 2024. Gallery@501, Main Gallery 2025-2026 Programming Jury, Strathcona County, Alberta.

Artist fees paid.

Apr 2024. Public Art Annual Acquisition Jury, Strathcona County, Alberta. Artist fees paid.

Science Positions

Provincial Habitat Conservation Specialist. 2008–2013. Government of Alberta, Fish and Wildlife Division, Edmonton, Alberta.

Policy development for and management of natural habitat for plants and wildlife. Areas of focus included climate change, land-use planning, and endangered species protection.

Species at Risk Biologist. 2004–2008. Government of Alberta, Fish and Wildlife, Edmonton, Alberta.

Policy and management for endangered species protection. Areas of focus included publication editor, public outreach, legislative process, field research.

Professional Biologist. 2007. Westworth Associates Environmental Ltd. Edmonton, Alberta.

Wildlife Biologist. 2006. Canadian Wildlife Service, Edmonton, Alberta.

Aquatic Ecologist. 2001. Capital Regional District, Water Quality, Victoria, BC.

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS

- 2025. Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Artists and Education grant (through École Meridian Heights).
- 2024. Canada Council for the Arts, Explore and Create grant.
- 2024. Canada Council for the Arts, Explore and Create grant.
- 2024. Alberta Foundation for the Arts Visual Arts and New Media Individual project grant.
- 2023. Canada Council for the Arts, Arts across Canada travel grant.
- 2023. Canada Council for the Arts, Explore and Create grant.
- 2022. Honourable Mention for *Biennial International Miniature Print Exhibition*. Visual Space Gallery. Vancouver, BC. Curated
- 2019. Alberta Foundation for the Arts Visual Arts and New Media Individual project grant.
- 2017. Marshall M. Williams Endowment, Banff Centre for the Arts
- 2014. Project Grant for Individual Artists, Edmonton Arts Council.
- 2013 Travel Grant, Edmonton Arts Council.
- 2012. Graduate Student Scholarship, University of Alberta.
- 2011. Alberta Foundation for the Arts Graduate Scholarship, University of Alberta.
- 2010. Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship, University of Alberta.

COLLECTIONS

- Strathcona County Public Art Collection, Sherwood Park, Alberta
- Alberta Foundation for the Arts Art Collection, Edmonton, Alberta
- University of Alberta Museums Art Collection, Edmonton, Alberta
- University of British Columbia, Okanagan, Creative and Critical Studies, teaching collection, Kelowna
- University of Alberta, Department of Art and Design teaching collection, Edmonton, Alberta
- City of Spruce Grove Public Art Collection
- Various private collections (e.g., Saks 5th Ave, Calgary, Alberta; Ever Real Estate Developments; The River, Calgary, Alberta)
- Various print exchanges

EXAMPLE MEMBERSHIPS

- 2004-2025. Society of Northern Alberta Print-artists, Edmonton, AB.
- 2021-2025. CARFAC Alberta.
- 2022-2025. Alberta Printmakers, Calgary, AB.
- 2024-2025. Allied Arts Council of Spruce Grove, AB.
- 2024-2025. Martha Street Studio, Winnipeg, MB.

COMMISSIONS

- 2024. TBWA Canada. Three original and tailored 22x30" woodcut prints, 6 per edition.
- 2024. City of Spruce Grove. Tailored 22x30" watercolour painting of municipal buildings.