# Annual Report 2024



rRemai mModern





Below: Installation view, Views from the Blue House: The Remai Modern Collection.

Cover image: Installation view, Céline Condorelli: In the Light of What We Know.

Left: Installation view, How Not to Be Seen.

Photos: Carey Shaw



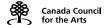
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We are grateful for support from:









#### Board Chair's message



After a record-breaking 2023, Remai Modern continued to flourish in 2024, achieving sustainable growth and continuing to meaningfully reach the community through exhibitions, programs, and countless opportunities to connect.

Remai Modern's Board of Directors is delighted to see the ways the museum welcomes people from all communities, challenges viewers with new ideas, and makes the city a more vibrant place to live.

After several challenging years, it is a testament to the leadership of Co-Executive Director & CEO Aileen Burns and Johan Lundh that Remai Modern has not only recovered, but exceeded pre-pandemic visitor numbers. The Board was thrilled to renew this dynamic pair's contract in 2024. Burns and Lundh have signed on until mid-2030. Following impactful changes like the move to admission by donation and Remai Modern's partnership with Hearth restaurant, we can't wait to see what they do next.

Staff in every department continued to contribute to the vision set out in Remai Modern's 2021-25 strategic plan. You can learn more about the tremendous strides taken in support of the museum's four overarching goals later in this report.

Top: Remai Modern Foundation Board member Jennifer Pereria, partner Kurt Soucy, Remai Modern Board Chair Doug Matheson, and partner Sandie Matheson

While I will continue to enthusiastically support
Remai Modern as a patron, my time as Board Chair
concluded December 31, 2024 and my time on
the board will conclude at the AGM in April 2025.
I am delighted to have passed the torch to Robin
Chapman as Remai Modern's new Board Chair.
Her extensive experience in finance, philanthropy,
and non-profit organizations has been—and will
continue to be—an asset to the museum.

It has been an honour to serve as Board Chair since 2020, and prior to that as a board member. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with my fellow board members and want to thank them all, past and present, for their steadfast commitment and passion in support of Remai Modern.

On behalf of the board, I also want to thank the Remai Modern staff. I have come to understand and deeply appreciate the world of art through your incredible work. I've also been moved by the extraordinary support of the Frank and Ellen Remai Foundation and our other core funders, the City of Saskatoon, the Canada Council for the Arts, SK Arts and Sask Lotteries. Of course, the many sponsors, donors and members who continually back the mission of the museum are also an essential part of Remai Modern's success. Thank you!

It has been my pleasure to be part of this organization.

#### **Doug Matheson**

Remai Modern Board Chair

#### Remai Modern Board of Directors 2024

Doug Matheson, Chair Roy Anderson Robin Chapman\* Councillor Bev Dubois Councillor Sarina Gersher^ Candice Grant Terri Lemke\* Véronique Loewen

Sean Makahonuk\*

Clint Neufeld
Debra Pozega Osburn^
Kristi Ross\*
Cheryl Thorson
Rheana Worme

- \* Joined at April 2024 AGM
- ^ Departed in 2024

#### Co-Executive Director & CEO's message

In 2024, Remai Modern hit its stride with record-breaking attendance, vital exhibitions, and engaging public programs.

After achieving its highest visitor number to date in 2023, the museum's



upward momentum continued the year after. We greeted over 215,000 visitors in 2024, which is an all-time high for the museum. For the fifth consecutive year, the museum achieved a breakeven financial result, demonstrating business acumen and sound financial management.

Art is at the core of everything we do at Remai Modern. The 2024 exhibition program continued the museum's successful strategy of showing exceptional Saskatchewan artists alongside nationally and internationally significant peers.

Remai Modern also saw numerous projects tour North America in 2024. Meryl McMaster: bloodline, Denyse Thomasos: just beyond, and Laure Prouvost: Oma-je all found new audiences at museums across the continent. Later, Chief Curator Michelle Jacques and Senior Curator Sally Frater co-curated an exhibition, between elsewhere and possibility, for Canada Gallery in London, UK, extending the reach of our program beyond North America. Jacques' impact on the art world was honoured in 2024, when she received a Governor General's Award for Outstanding Contribution in Visual and Media Arts.

Throughout the year, 70,000 people–including 22,000 youth–took part in Remai Modern programs. We also partnered with more than 60 community organizations and are heartened by the increasing number of local and national businesses joining as donors, sponsors and Corporate Members.

In the fall of 2024, the board asked us to renew our contract to lead Remai Modern through mid-2030. Thank you to the board for your continued trust. We're honoured and delighted to continue our work here in Saskatoon.

We need to extend our deepest thanks to outgoing Board Chair Doug Matheson, whose leadership since 2020 has been invaluable. Thank you to incoming Chair Robin Chapman for stepping into this important role. To all board members, including those on the Foundation Board, thank you for your time and commitment to Remai Modern.

We echo Doug's gratitude to our core funders, including the Frank and Ellen Remai Foundation, the City of Saskatoon, the Canada Council for the Arts, SK Arts and Sask Lotteries.

From our talented team at the museum to the many individuals, organizations and communities who support Remai Modern, we are deeply fortunate to have countless people to thank for the museum's continued success.

#### Aileen Burns and Johan Lundh

Co-Executive Director & CEO

Photos: Carey Shaw

#### **Exhibitions**

- 13 diverse exhibitions presented
- 193 local artists showcased through exhibitions, programs, acquisitions, and more

#### Relationships

- 62 community organizations partnered with including schools, care facilities, newcomer groups, Indigenous organizations and much more
- 104 Indigenous artists and leaders involved in programs



 38,284 social media followers



#### Engagement

- 2,600+ Learning & Engagement programs
- 70,000 people took part in Remai Modern programs



276 collection works shown at the museum



#### Loans

- 3 Remai Modern exhibitions toured North America
- 45 works loaned from Remai Modern's collection to artists and other institutions including the Eiteljorg Museum, Minneapolis; PHI Foundation, Montreal; and the Nelson Museum Archives & Gallery, Nelson, BC

#### **Attendance**

- 215,630 total visitors, a new record
- 23% increase in thirdparty event attendees
- 35% growth in film program attendance with nearly 6,000 guests



online sales at the Art & Design Store

#### Membership

 939 memberships sold and an 8% growth in our membership base

Note: Percentage growth reflects 2023 vs. 2024.

We are so grateful to everyone who took the time to share an online review, in-person feedback or fill out a survey about their museum experience. In 2024, Remai Modern received 129 five-star Google reviews, an 11% increase over 2023.

Here are a few of our favourite reviews alongside some eye-catching visitor posts from Instagram.

"My fave gallery/art space in North America."

"My visit to Remai Modern was captivating. The museum features a diverse and thought-provoking collection of contemporary art, set in a strikingly modern architectural space. The exhibits are well-curated and engaging, offering a rich cultural experience. Overall, it's a must-visit for art enthusiasts and anyone looking to explore innovative art in a dynamic setting."

"Amazing place, arts and collections. We are so fortunate to have a museum of this caliber in a city like Saskatoon. A place that is so dear to my heart: the first landmark I visited when I moved in the city and where my Canadian citizenship ceremony was held."

"My visit to Remai Modern was an incredible experience! This art gallery is a true gem in Saskatoon, offering a thoughtfully curated collection of contemporary art that is both inspiring and engaging."

"This is an incredible art museum! Do not skip it. How often do you expect a Picasso on the prairies? Honestly it is on par with art museums we have visited in Europe and around major cities in the world. It also has beautiful examples from the Group of Seven, Emily Carr, Kenojuak Ashevak, and contemporary artists like Carl Beam and Nick Cave."



### **Exhibitions**

#### **LEVELS 1, 2 AND 3**

#### Gallery Lounge, Riverview Foyer and Connect Gallery

Céline Condorelli: In the Light of What We Know June 29, 2023-May 4, 2025 Ian Abdulla, Elizabeth Aglukka, Joseph Angatajuak, Roy Arden, Arksotingwa, Fanny Arngnakik Arnasungaaq, Kenojuak Ashevak, Mayoreak Ashoona, Pitseolak Ashoona, Shuvinai Ashoona, Betty Udliak, Lynda Benglis, Daphne Boyer, Bob Boyer, Stanley Brunst, Bill Burns, Victor Cicansky, Jessica Eaton, attributed to Epichuk, Joseph Fafard, David Garneau, General Idea, Gerald Gladstone, Tuna Iquliq, Rosa Arnarudluk Kanayok, A. Kaunak, John Kavik, Johnnie Keeseereenak, Wanda Koop, Rosalie Ookangok Kopak, Thomas Nakturalik Mannik, Lucie Angalakte Mapsalak, Andy Miki, Joan Miró, Fred Moulding, Jermaine Napayuk, Samwillie Niviaxie, Alison Norlen, Noah Nuna, Jessie Oonark, Parr, Warren Henry Peterson, Pablo Picasso, Donald Proch, Sharlene Dee Stauffer, Art Sterritt, George Kopak Tayarak, Eli Tikeayak, Rirkirt Tiravanija, Tony Urquhart, Paul C. Wong (Bau-Xi Huang), Russell Yuristy, unidentified artists (3)

#### LEVEL 1

#### **Atrium**

Nick Cave: Spinner Forest 2022 (ongoing)

#### **Connect Gallery**

Lucy Raven: Demolition of a Wall (Album 1)
November 18, 2023-March 10, 2024

<u>Live Editions: Jillian Ross Print</u>
April 5–August 11, 2024
With Wally Dion, William Kentridge

taisha paggett: soliloquy for a horizon September 7-November 3, 2024

#### LEVEL 2

#### Cameco Play Area

<u>Céline Condorelli: Conversation Piece (Spinning)</u> 2022 (ongoing)

#### **Collection Galleries**

Views from the Blue House: The Remai Modern Collection January 27, 2024 to January 4, 2026 Roger Aksadjuak, David Alexander, Kenojuak Ashevak, Pitseolak Ashoona, Shuvinai Ashoona, Amalie Atkins, David Barnett, Carl Beam, Martin Bennett, Eli Bornstein, Robert Boyer, Jack Bush, Emily Carr, Donovan Chester, Robert Christie, Alex Colville, Lois Connor, Louise Cook, Rita Cowley, George Csató, Ruth Cuthand, Stanley Day, Diane Evans, James Graham, Philip Hakuluk, Gregory Hardy, Lawren Harris, James Henderson, James Hogg, Robert Houle, Luke Iksiktaaryuk, Tuna Igulia, Edit Ivan, A.Y. Jackson, Becky James, William James, Alex Janvier, Franz Johnston, Augustus Kenderdine, Illingworth Kerr, Roy Kiyooka, Dorothy Knowles, Luther Konadu, Ernest Lindner, Arthur Lismer, Attila Lukacs, Ken Lum, Henri Masson, Arthur McKay, Wynona Mulcaster, Pierre Nauya, Clint Neufeld, Alison Norlen, David O'Hara, Toni Onley, John Pangnark, Graeme Patterson, Thelma Pepper, William Perehudoff, Pablo Picasso, Edward Poitras, John Reeves, Frances Robson, Leslie Gale Saunders, Eliyakota Samualie, Joseph Sánchez, Sandra Semchuk, Inglis Sheldon-Williams, Hilda Stewart, Dmytro Stryjek, David Thauberger, Jeffrey Thomas, Irene Tiktaalaag, Anne Truitt

Artists rotated in: Ignac Conrad, Niviaksiak, Becky Mackie, Jesse Oonark, Brenda Pelkey, Keeleemeeoome Samualie, Rembrandt van Rijn

#### LEVEL 3

#### **Feature Gallery**

<u>Laure Prouvost: Oma-je</u> June 29, 2023–January 28, 2024 Also included works by Jane Ash Poitras, Monica Imaimaa Iquliq, John Latham, Eugenie Tautoonie Kabluitok, and Agnes Varda

#### Other Arrangements:

#### <u>Poetics of the Performance Score</u>

March 1-September 3, 2024

George Brecht, John Cage, Raven Chacon, The Dim Coast, Brendan Fernandes, Rodney Graham, Pierre Huyghe, Alison Knowles, Rodney LaTourelle and Louise Witthöft, Tanya Lukin Linklater, Evgenia Mikhaylova, La Monte Young, Yoko Ono. With performances by Steve Bates, Isabella Forticini, Lindsay Harpham, Mitchell Larsen, Marcus Merasty, jake moore, Chad Munson, Sofia Mycyk, Helen Pridmore, Tatum Wildeman, Aurora Wolfe

#### Nancy Lowry: Colour in Place

October 19, 2024-April 6, 2025

Also included works by Tammi Campbell, Mina Forysth, Elizabeth MacIntosh, Landon Mackenzie, Leah Rosenberg, Sylvia Ziemann

#### **Marquee Gallery**

Kapwani Kiwanga: Remediation October 6, 2023–April 7, 2024

#### How Not to Be Seen

May 10–September 8, 2024
Brook Andrew, Zach Blas, Sandra Brewster, Ruth
Buchanan, Charles Campbell, Nick Cave, Ruth
Cuthand, David Garneau, Sondra Perry, Amalia
Pica, Hito Steyerl, Haegue Yang

Kaija Sanelma Harris: Warp & Weft
September 28, 2024–March 9, 2025
Also included works by Kai Chan, Gale
Hagblom, Otto Rogers, Dawna Rose. Warp &
Weft was organized in collaboration with the
Saskatchewan Craft Council.

#### **Picasso Gallery**

<u>Picasso's Ceramic Studio</u> June 17, 2023–April 15, 2024

<u>Life in Print: William Kentridge and Pablo Picasso</u> May 10–December 29, 2024



## Views from the Blue House

#### The Remai Modern Collection

The first new exhibition of 2024 gave visitors a chance to revisit old favourites, discover new ones, and learn more stories held within the museum's extensive collection. Views from the Blue House: The Remai Modern Collection looked to the past and future of the museum's diverse collection, highlighting the influences and ideas that have given the collection its current shape.

Over the past six decades, Remai Modern, and its predecessor, the Mendel Art Gallery, have been building a public art collection. Modest in its origin, the collection stems from a single gift: Henri Masson's small oil painting *The Blue House*, donated by H. S. Southam to the Saskatoon Art Centre in 1947.

"When the Mendel Art Gallery opened in 1964, curator-director John Climer joked that the Gallery's permanent collection was so small that he moved in with one painting under each arm," former staff member Helen 'Bubs' Coleman recounted in her book, *Dreaming a Gallery*. By the time Remai Modern opened its doors some 50 years later, the collection had grown exponentially, and now numbers more than 8,000 works.

Using Masson's painting as a starting point, the exhibition drew out the many narratives, histories, and perspectives tied to the collection and invited visitors to find their own stories and relationships within these works. Some works were rotated during the exhibition, both to highlight additional voices in the collection and to ensure proper conservation of works on paper.

Developed by the museum's full curatorial team in consultation with an interpretive planner, the exhibition contained nested and layered narratives with the goal of telling the story–more accurately, some of the stories–of this place. The title and the philosophy of *Views from the Blue House* drew on the idea of home. In addition to artwork, each room in the Collection Galleries held objects–furniture, wallpaper, games, and puzzles–creating a comfortable space to explore the collection, find new connections and linger together over art.







## Live Editions: Jillian Ross Print

In April, Remai Modern's Connect Gallery was transformed into a working print studio, offering visitors the opportunity to learn more about this complex art form and see how a print is made from start to finish.

Part exhibition, part residency, *Live Editions*: Jillian Ross Print: showcased the editioning of the latest collaboration between artist William Kentridge and Saskatoon-based master printer Jillian Ross.

The exhibition explored and celebrated the significance of Ross's work as a collaborative printmaker in the production of the yet-unpublished series by the internationally renowned South African artist. It also included recently published works by Jillian Ross Print with a focus on Kentridge's Studio Life Gravures series created in response to COVID lockdown, the short film A Guided Tour of Etching by Joanna Dudley and William Kentridge, and Wally Dion's Prairie Braids.

In the SaskTel Theatre, the museum also screened Kentridge's latest lecture series, A Natural History of the Studio. These lectures provided additional context to Kentridge's multi-disciplinary practice as he dissects the creative process in his studio.



# William Kentridge and Pablo Picasso

Concurrently, the Picasso Gallery featured print works by both Kentridge and Pablo Picasso in an exhibition titled *Life in Print*. Kentridge's *Universal Archive* series was presented alongside selections from Remai Modern's comprehensive holding of Picasso's linocuts.

The exhibition highlighted remarkable parallels between the two artists including a prolific practice, multidisciplinary approach to artmaking, and personas that precede the work. They were also brought together in this exhibition by their extraordinary ability to pivot the medium of linocut through absolute trust in the potential of collaboration and experimentation.

In the fall, the themes presented in these complementary exhibitions were explored by experts, artists, and aficionados at Remai Modern during the Innovate | Collaborate | Contemporary Printmaking Gathering (read more on Page 27).

## Other Arrangements: Poetics of the Performance Score

In February, Other Arrangements: Poetics of the Performance Score featured a selection of works that reference the ways artists document the instructions to a live artwork.

Like music, performance often uses a score of text, diagrams and pictures that detail the live work on paper. In performance, however, there is not a standardized system of notation with staffs, clefs and notes. Without defined rules, artists have played with the performance score's malleable form to create expressive new works.

Other Arrangements presented a range of artistic responses to the score, from open-ended invitations and playful proposals to poetic appeals to the body and weather. The exhibition highlighted the ways artists use performance scores to invoke action and possibility.

The exhibition included a selection of event scores by leading figures from the mid-20th century alongside works from the Remai Modern collection by Rodney Graham, Pierre Huyghe, and Rodney LaTourelle and Louise Witthöft. The exhibition also featured a collaborative sound installation from the curator/artist duo The Dim Coast and projects by Tanya Lukin Linklater and Evgenia Mikhaylova.

Performance programming brought these scores to life throughout the exhibition, including:

#### February 29:

 Performances of Brendan Fernandes, Contract and Release performed by Lindsay Harpham, Mitchell Larsen and Marcus Merasty; and Rodney Graham, The School of Velocity performed by Sofia Mycyk

#### March 16: (in conjunction with LUGO Light):

Erik Satie, Vexations performed by Sofia
Mycyk; and Brendan Fernandes, Contract and
Release performed by Marcus Merasty, Tatum
Wildeman, and Mitchell Larsen

#### May 10:

 Other Arrangements in Concert featuring a tour of A Sound that Never Was by The Dim Coast; Raven Chacon, Compass performed by Chad Munson; and performances by Isabella Forciniti and Steve Bates

#### **June 13:**

 Raven Chacon, Compass performed by Aurora Wolfe

#### July 25:

 John Cage, Song Books performed by Helen Pridmore

#### September 22:

Closing performance of Brendan Fernandes,
 Contract and Release, performed by Mitchell
 Larsen and Tatum Wildeman



Brendan Fernandes, Contract and Release, featured dancers: Mitchell Larsen, Lindsay Harpham and Marcus Merasty. Work in background: Pierre Huyghe, I do not own 4'33", 2006. Collection of Remai Modern. Purchased with the support of the Frank and Ellen Remai Foundation 2018. Photo: Carey Shaw.

#### Additional 2024 live programs:

#### March 16:

 LUGO Light featured Begonia, Eekwol, Lindsay Harpham, Reginald Sankey, and Stephanie Kuse

#### May 12:

• Music of Picasso performed by Sofia Mycyk

#### June 13:

 Concert highlighting the works of Rodney Sharman in partnership with the Strata Festival of New Music, with performers Naomi Piggott Suchan, Walter Hoffmeister, Chelsea Mahan, Garry Gable, and Joey Zhuang

#### September 6:

• taisha paggett, soliloquy for a horizon

#### October 4:

• Afrorack, in partnership with Vancouver New Music

## How Not to Be Seen

In How Not to Be Seen, a group exhibition in the Marquee Gallery, the featured artists employed strategies either to abstract the self or to use opacity and withdrawal as forms of resistance. The constant scrutiny of surveillance technology is an unwelcome extension of longstanding and targeted surveillance practices, indicative of the racial discrimination and inequity underlying contemporary society.

How Not to Be Seen featured works by a roster of artists from Canada and abroad, including Brook Andrew, Zach Blas, Sandra Brewster, Ruth Buchanan, Charles Campbell, Nick Cave, Ruth Cuthand, David Garneau, Sondra Perry, Amalia Pica, Hito Steyerl, and Haegue Yang.

From various perspectives and with a range of approaches, these artists all interrupt the expectation that art makes things visible for everyone to see, creating instead new spaces of shelter, protection, and community.

The title came from a work in the show by Steyerl, whose consideration of digital images, circulation, visibility, and invisibility is relevant to the group of artists presented. The works in this exhibition explored ways to be simultaneously present and safe, offering warnings and ways forward that were generative and generous. The exhibition showcased a wide array of media including painting, sculpture, video, sound, installation, photography, and beading to offer different points of view on these themes. The artists shared lived experiences and knowledge from geographically and culturally diverse positions. Works addressed the widespread impacts of colonialism, invasive technologies, and intolerance to difference. They also offered joyful, humorous, wondrous, and creative redirections for safe futures.

Top right: Ruth Buchanan, *The scene in which I find myself / Or, where does my body belong?*, 2019/2024, multimedia installation. Courtesy of the artist and Coastal Signs.

Bottom right: Sandra Brewster, *Blur Grid*, 2016–19, photo-based gel transfer on archival paper. Courtesy of the artist and Olga Korper Gallery.





## KAIJA SANELMA HARRIS WARP & WEFT

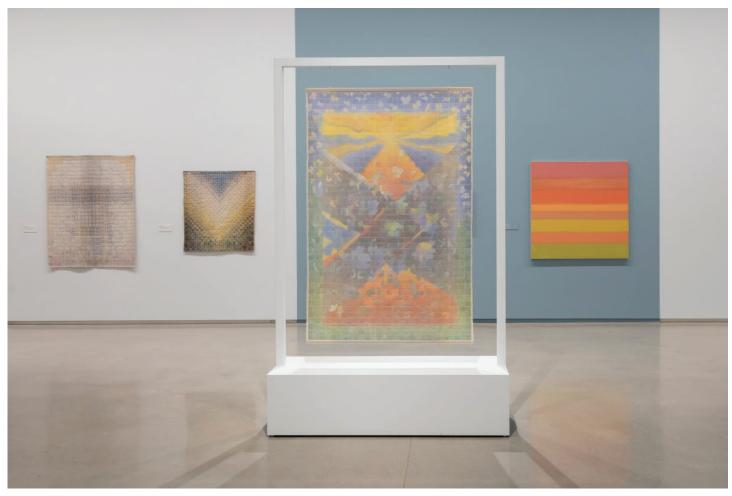
In October, Remai Modern's first partnership with the Saskatchewan Craft Council (SCC) opened in the museum's Marquee Gallery. Kaija Sanelma Harris: *Warp & Weft* told the story of one of Canada's most important textile artists.

The exhibition was presented across two venues: Remai Modern and the Saskatchewan Craft Council Gallery on Broadway Avenue. In recognition of the complementary missions of the two organizations, SCC's exhibition highlighted the creative, personal, and technical shifts in Harris's extraordinary work, while Remai Modern's exhibition situated her within the context of visual art history.

Both venues included works from all decades of Harris's career, as well as preparatory drawings,



Kaija Sanelma Harris, *Sun Ascending*, 1985, wool, linen, 396.2 x 86.2 cm (each for 24 components). Collection of the Mackenzie Art Gallery, gift of Cadillac Fairview Corporation Ltd., 2014-12.



Left and above: Installation views, Kaija Sanelma Harris: Warp & Weft, 2024, Remai Modern. Photos: Carey Shaw.

fibre studies, and archival materials. Remai Modern's selection of more than 50 works was brought together from private and public collections across the country and included *Sun Ascending* (1985), Harris's largest and most important architectural commission, created for the Mies Van Der Rohe designed TD Centre (Toronto), which is now in the collection of the MacKenzie Art Gallery (Regina).

Born in Turku, Finland, the late Harris was trained in fibre and textile work in her home country. While apprenticing in Iceland, she met an American student who became her husband. They moved to the U.S. where their daughter was born, before emigrating to Saskatoon in 1973. Harris would soon become a leading voice in Canadian fibre arts.

From her home studio in Saskatoon, Harris created breathtaking textile works that brilliantly conveyed her love of colour, texture, nature and light. She was an artist who both innovated the technical processes of weaving and pushed its aesthetic potential far beyond the limits of functionality. Her lifetime of work is a testament to her profound dedication and industriousness, effortlessly fusing the concerns of fine art and craft.



### Nancy Lowry: Nancy Lowry: Olour in Place Colour in Place

In October, the largest survey of Saskatoon-based artist Nancy Lowry opened in the Feature Gallery. In Colour in Place, recent paintings—which explore the intersection of abstraction and landscape—were placed alongside a selection of works from the last two decades held in collections in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Lowry's intuitive formalist approach reveals an intimate awareness of landscape and prairie abstraction; references to history and nature are both embedded in her work. The dynamism in her paintings draws from Lowry's participation

in numerous residencies in Canada and beyond, beginning when Lowry attended the renowned Emma Lake Artists' Workshops as a teen. Lowry paid homage to her time at Emma Lake and several of the artists she encountered there by including their work alongside her own in the exhibition.

Included in the exhibition were works by artists Reta Cowley, Mina Forsyth, Dorothy Knowles, Margaret Vanderhaeghe, Tammi Campbell, Landon Mackenzie, Elizabeth McIntosh, Leah Rosenberg, Monica Tap, and Sylvia Ziemann. Lowry's work is imbued with the histories of the workshops and the knowledge passed down through generations of artists.

Colour in Place also featured elements from Lowry's studio, mirroring how artists' processes become public during residencies when moving from their own studios to communal spaces. This glimpse into her creative space—including books, found materials, and relics from the residencies she has participated in—revealed more inspiration behind her work.

The exhibition included a 2024 collaboration with fellow Saskatoon artist Clint Neufeld. The pair developed cane brushes for large-scale paintings based on a cane Lowry has relied on during periods of her life. The natural wood cane, found on the shores of the South Saskatchewan River by a friend, features a handle that fits perfectly with the shape of Lowry's hand. Using 3-D printing, Neufeld editioned several cane brushes, replicating the handle and adding a variety of brush ends to extend the painter's reach.



Left and above: Installation views, Nancy Lowry: Colour in Place, 2024. Photos: Carey Shaw.

# Céline Condorelli: In the Light of What We Know

The culmination of a project that began unfolding at the museum in 2022 came to an impactful conclusion in 2024, with works inhabiting all three levels of the museum.

Céline Condorelli: In the Light of What We Know, invited visitors to encounter and experience the museum in new ways. Through her installations, the artist asked questions about the role of museums in their communities and what these extraordinary public spaces can offer.

In the Light of What We Know started in 2022 with Conversation Piece (Spinning) in the Cameco Children's Play Area—a carousel that invited people to spin, play, and rest. The following year, Condorelli built on her invitation to play through a large-scale textile work named for the exhibition. The work—a piece of textile art, a curtain, and a frame around our view of the South Saskatchewan River—softened the edges between inside and outside.

The exhibition expanded once again in 2024 with several new installations including *Limits to Play*, a life-sized drawing of overlapping sport courts that invited questions of who is allowed to play what games and on whose terms; and *Integrations*, an installation of colourful hand-woven rugs created through an ongoing collaboration between Condorelli and Amazigh weavers in Morocco.

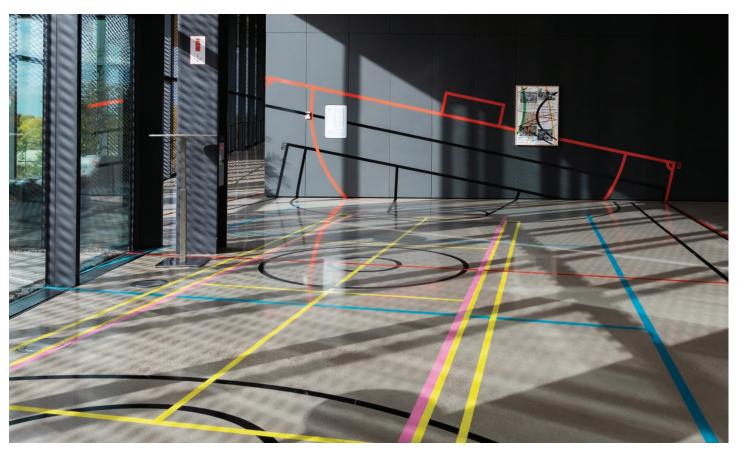
In the Connect Gallery, Condorelli continued her exploration of Remai Modern, reframing the museum's collection by including her own artwork and placing it in dialogue with other artists' works. Presented in unexpected clusters of relations, the more than 75 works she selected formed new stories through an artist's eye.

Condorelli's sculptures and play structures live in the soft edges between public and private, art and function, and work and leisure. The works are often a reminder of how art museums have evolved from a European colonial model, and that while accepted modes of display are continuously shifting, the notions of taste, culture, and value celebrated in museums are often dictated by socio-economic conditions.

Remai Modern would like to acknowledge the contributions of the Consulate General of France in Vancouver and Laser Impressions for supporting this exhibition.



Installation view, Céline Condorelli, In the Light of What We Know, 2024.



Installation view, Céline Condorelli, Limits to Play, 2024. Photos: Carey Shaw.

#### **Acquisitions**

### The Collection

#### **2024 PURCHASES**

#### Purchased with funds donated by Diana Billes

Paul P. Untitled, 2024 oil on linen 33 × 24 cm

#### Purchased with the support of the Frank and Ellen Remai Foundation

David Garneau

The Museum and its Discontents (after Holbein and Luna), 2024 acrylic on canvas

76.4 × 198.1 cm

Brian Jungen Blanket no. 2, 2008

professional sports jerseys

134.6 × 132.1 cm

Wanda Koop

Barcode Face, 2021 acrylic on canvas 213.4 × 152.4 cm

Nancy Lowry

Stroke, 2012

oil on panel

50.8 × 76.2 cm

Nancy Lowry

Splits Villa, 2015

oil on panel

61 × 121.9 cm

Nancy Lowry

Into the Mystic, 2018

oil on canvas

91.4 × 121.9 cm

#### Purchased with funds donated by Marnie Schreiber

<u>Kablusiak</u>

Surprise Bag, 2022

digital pigment print on paper, soapstone, cellophane, paper stick, felt, embroidery thread, laminated plexiglass, metal keychain ring, paper stickers, temporary tattoo  $27.3 \times 18.9 \times 5.3$  cm (bag)

#### Kablusiak

Party City (where you belong), 2022 digital pigment print on archival kozo blend paper 49.5 × 55.9 cm

#### **2024 DONATIONS**

#### Gift of the estate of Mary Louise Cameron

Reta Cowley

Untitled (May 18, 1978), 1978

watercolour on paper

 $37.5 \times 58 \text{ cm}$ 

Reta Cowley

Untitled (Denholm, SK), 1962

serigraph

45.5 × 51.3 cm

#### Gift of Patricia Jamieson and Dwight St. Amand in memory of Margaret and Kenneth Jamieson

**Brian Wood** 

Barrel, 1979

colour photograph collage

79 × 117 cm

**Brian Wood** 

Untitled, 1971

serigraph

 $47.5 \times 46.7$  cm

#### Gift of Miriam Shiell and Leon Liffmann

Joan Jonas

Untitled (from Reanimation Performance), 2014

oil stick on paper

 $140 \times 74.5 \text{ cm}$ 

**Anish Kapoor** 

Untitled, 1987-1988

papier mâché, earth, glue on heavyweight paper

54 × 74 × 11 cm

Kiki Smith

Untitled, 1999

ink on paper

174.6 × 97.8 cm

#### Gift of M. Hope Smith

Rick Rivet

Dumont - 1, 1994

acrylic on canvas

 $72.5 \times 92.4 \text{ cm}$ 

#### Gift of Jim and Diane Wells

William Perehudoff

Untitled (Estevan Power Plants), circa 1955-1960 watercolour on paper

 $28 \times 48.2 \text{ cm}$ 

#### **Gift of Cheryll Woodbury**

James Rosenquist

Mirrored Flag, 1971

lithograph with metallic Mylar

 $73.5 \times 56.7$  cm



Wanda Koop, *Barcode Face*, 2021, acrylic on canvas, 213.4 × 152.4 cm. Collection of Remai Modern. Purchased with the support of the Frank and Ellen Remai Foundation, 2024. © Wanda Koop. Images courtesy of the artist and Night Gallery, Los Angeles. Photography by Dawn Blackman.

#### Clockwise from top:

LUGO Light attendees relax on a sculpture by Rodney LaTourelle.

galaMODERN attendees take part in an artmaking activity at the annual fundraiser.

A packed house attends the curator tour of Nancy Lowry: Colour in Place.

Public Program Coordinator Carol Wylie shows a visitor how to create a button at the opening of Views from the Blue House.









Clockwise from top left:

Fancy shawl dancer Raina Buffalo and drummer Elmer Tootoosis perform at the opening for Maskihkiy Kiskinohamâkewin – Indigenous Medicine Teachings.

Marcus Merasty performs at LUGO Light in the premium lounge.

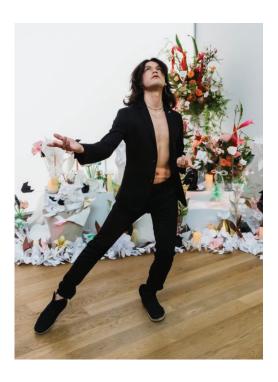
Artist Céline Condorelli (centre) speaks during a tour of her exhibition *In the Light of What We Know.* 

A visitor looks at works in the exhibition *Life in Print:* Wiliam Kentridge and Pablo Picasso.

Photos: Carey Shaw









# earning & Engagement



Students from Charles Red Hawk Elementary School on the Whitecap Dakota First Nation model regalia they created through a workshop series organized by Remai Modern. Photo: Eyes of Echo Photography

In 2024, Learning & Engagement focused on programs that respond to current community needs. From in-house programs to community engagement across the city, this department delivered programs to nearly 70,000 participants of all ages. The museum also worked with 62 local community organizations to create programs that attract new audiences, amplify marginalized voices and provide enriching experiences for everyone.

These are just a few of the Learning & Engagement highlights from the year.

#### **Community Programs**

In addition to programs at the museum, Learning & Engagement leads numerous programs at locations across the city including residences for adults 65+, health organizations and more. In 2024, the department averaged 35 community programs every month.

#### <u>Irene & Leslie Dubé Centre</u> for Mental Health:

This new partnership began in April 2024 after a successful three-month pilot period. Twenty-eight programs were facilitated at their location, reaching over 349 participants.

#### invisibly ill:

In collaboration with AKA artist-run, we hosted the launch for the second edition of *invisibly ill*, a zine created by Saskatoon artist Gabby Da Silva. Sherbrooke Community Centre residents and the intergenerational (iGen) grade 6 class from École College Park School contributed artwork to the magazine through workshops facilitated by Da Silva and Remai Modern. The zine explored themes around disabilities and invisible illnesses.

#### **Indigenous Programs**

<u>Saskatoon Residential School Survivors</u> <u>Circle (SRSSC) & Tipi Painting Experience</u> with Jerry Whitehead:

Led by the SRSSC, Remai Modern was honoured to provide space for this special project featuring artist/Residential School Survivor Jerry Whitehead, who was on site in the museum's Cameco Learning Studio to adorn a tipi with a new logo for the SRSSC. At the same time, members of the SRSSC were present to provide support and answer questions about their lived experiences as Residential School Survivors. This project was generously supported by SIGA.

#### Art for Life at Charles Red Hawk Elementary School

Since 2016, Remai Modern has worked with Charles Red Hawk Elementary School on the Whitecap Dakota First Nation to provide weekly art programs. In 2024, the museum also coordinated an eight-week project with the school aimed at reinforcing and revitalizing the Dakota culture, language and art forms. This project was taught by local artists from Whitecap and Whitecap Traditional Knowledge Keepers (TKK). Both projects were supported in part by Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation. Several different workshops were offered to their grade 2-5 students, including:

- Equine-assisted learning workshops with Elmer Eagle
- Beading regalia workshops with Raina Buffalo
- Regalia design workshops with Debra Moccasin
- Hoop making and dance workshops with Terra Bear

#### <u>Maskihkiy Kiskinohamâkewin –</u> <u>Indigenous Medicine Teachings</u>

Remai Modern Indigenous Program Guide Kamisha Alexson consulted with Elders and community members to create a meaningful tool to aid in the decolonization of urban spaces. The medicine wheel garden was created to transfer traditional Indigenous knowledge onto the next generation. The medicine wheel is made up of four quadrants that represent the four directions, which hold the four sacred medicines: tobacco, cedar, sage and sweetgrass. These medicines are deeply instrumental in spiritual practices used in traditional healing and ceremonies. Maskihkiy Kiskinohamâkewin was integrated into public and partner programs including Youth Art Night and summer art camps, offering learning opportunities around traditional knowledge. This project was supported by TD Bank Group through the TD Ready Commitment.



Summer art camp participants learn about Indigenous medicines with Kammy Alexson. Photo: Carey Shaw

#### National Indigenous Peoples Day:

Indigenous Programs Coordinator Kim Bird created a full day of activities to honour and celebrate National Indigenous Peoples Day, including a pipe ceremony and honour song led by Elder Wally Awasis. Bird also worked with Anthony Pasqua (hip hop artist Big Tones) to program a youth hip hop showcase featuring emerging performers, followed by sets by established artists Eekwol and Big Tones. The day also included the debut screening of Big Tones' new music video. In the Cameco Learning Studio, visiting school groups and museumgoers learned about ceremonial tobacco pouches and were invited to create one of their own.

# -earning & Engagement

#### **Feature Programs**

#### WEGO:

This free festival of art, music, dance and more engages people of all ages through a fun and varied program both inside and outside the museum. 2024 performers included The Steadies, Eliza Mary Doyle, Falynn Baptiste and Jake Chenier, among others. The following day, a low-sensory version of WEGO was offered for children and parents who prefer a quieter environment. We were delighted to see all free tickets to Low-Sensory WEGO claimed.

#### Innovate | Collaborate | Contemporary Printmaking Gathering:

In September, the museum presented a series of talks, panel discussions and workshops that highlighted the collaborative nature of printmaking and the innovations taking place in the medium. Drawing inspiration from Remai Modern's broad holdings of Pablo Picasso's linocuts, the program highlighted his work in printmaking, his innovations in the medium, and

his collaborations with master printer
Hidalgo Arnera. The program included
a panel discussion with Saskatoonbased master printer Jillian Ross, Steven
Dixon from the University of Alberta, and
Jenn Law, Toronto-based artist/writer.
Artist Wally Dion spoke about his print
residency at the museum. The University
of Saskatchewan hosted printmaking
studio tours and demonstrations. AnneFrançoise Gavanon, Director of Frederick
Mulder Inc., shared her extensive
knowledge of many of the individual
works in Remai Modern's Picasso linocut
collection.

#### Mendel International Lecture:

Philanthropist Frederick Mulder delivered 2024's Mendel International Lecture, sharing his personal journey from the prairies to Picasso, and how he assembled the unique linocut collection now housed at Remai Modern, as well as the importance of the collection and its place in history. The Mendel International Lecture was generously supported by Colliers and Tom and Keitha McClocklin.



#### **Museum Programs**

#### Film:

Remai Modern's film program saw strong growth in 2024, offering 170 screenings and welcoming nearly 6,000 film fans to the museum for a variety of movies, from cult classics to family favourites. This marks a 35% increase over 2023.

Through our Community Screenings program, we worked with numerous groups, including 30 Birds Foundation, Saskatchewan Intercultural Association, and the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. Remai Modern was also delighted to partner with the Ācimowin Film Festival and the Prairie Ukrainian Film Festival to host their events.



Jerry Whitehead paints an original design on a tipi for the Saskatoon Residential School Survivors Circle. Photo: Carey Shaw.

#### **Tours & Accessibility Programs:**

Learning & Engagement leads daily public tours, as well as programs that offer increased accessibility for a variety of audience needs. In 2024, the department offered a range of tours, including relaxed tours with Autism Services of Saskatoon, described tours with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, and multilingual tours. The team also hosted 400 School Tours and reached rural classrooms through *Virtual Art Saskatchewan connected by SaskTel* school workshops.



ZHE the Free, Dr. Unpublished, Dylan Rivers, and Happy Jamaly perform at the National Indigenous Peoples Day youth hip hop showcase. Photo: Carey Shaw.

#### New name, same great program:

The long-running programs Creative Space and Something on Sundays merged in 2024 to become Modern Artmakers, inviting families and visitors of all ages to make art every weekend.



# Operations

Building on the success of 2023, Remai Modern's Operations department continued to see growth in event rental revenue and attendees. The museum recorded increases in numerous statistics related to events; notably:

- 20% increase in event revenue
- 23% increase in event attendees

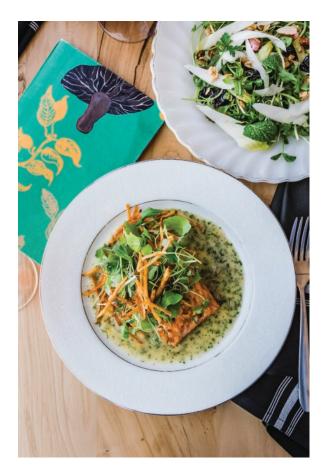
Remai Modern has become a go-to venue for weddings, corporate events, conferences and gatherings of all kinds. In 2024, the museum hosted 250 third-party events, including the North Saskatoon Business Association's Popcorn and Entrepreneurship, a reception for the Professional Convention Management Association, Ronald McDonald House Gala Fundraiser, the USask Alumni Achievement Awards, and City of Saskatoon Mayor's Office Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, to name a few.

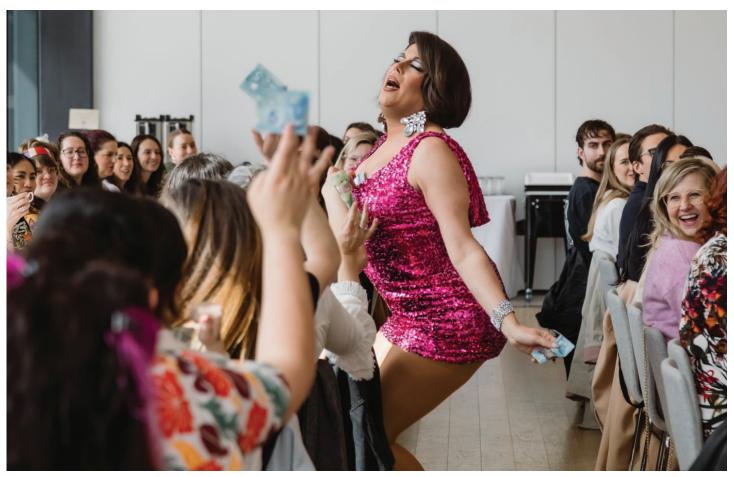
Hearth continues to be a popular spot for lunch, brunch and dinner. The local restaurant welcomed more than 55,000 guests in 2024 (a 37% increase from 2023). Hearth has also built out its own event offerings through our partnership. In 2024, they hosted a series of drag brunches, stunning wine and food collaborations overlooking the South Saskatchewan River, and the second iteration of their signature Kindred Plates dinner series. Since moving from their Avalon location at the end of 2022, they have grown their team from 18 to nearly 116, establishing them as one of the largest independent restaurant businesses in Saskatchewan.

Operations also plays a vital role in all internal Remai Modern events from Pop-Up Happy Hour to LUGO, collaborating with other museum departments to make every experience incredible.

The Art & Design Store had a vibrant year that included an eight per cent increase in sales and a 29% increase in online sales. The best-selling items were those proudly made by Saskatchewan makers.

The store launched an expansive line of merchandise featuring beloved artists in Remai Modern's collection. We sold out of first-run prints of Dorothy Knowles' Lush Garden T-shirt and Jim Graham Shinkaruk's Carpet puzzle. We collaborated with local weaver Scarlett Dahlia Artistry to produce cloths and wall hangings inspired by Kaija Sanelma Harris, which also sold out twice.





Hearth's drag brunches in the Riverview Room were a popular Sunday outing. Photo: Carey Shaw



Remai Modern collection merch included several items featuring the iconic Lawren Harris painting Untitled (mountains near Jasper). Photo: Molly Schikosky

# Development

#### Advancement

In 2024, Remai Modern's Development department joined forces with Marketing and Communications to form the Advancement Department. This change helped streamline the work of these complementary areas and allowed the team to create shared strategies to continue to promote Remai Modern's stories and impact with the public.

The Development staff–dedicated to membership, sponsorship, grants, and fundraising–continued the momentum of the previous year by building excitement around signature events, deepening connections with the local business community, and fostering new members at every level.

2024 highlights from Development:

- Strong and sustainable growth in membership, with increases in all areas including general membership, Circle of Supporters, and Corporate Connect. Overall, membership sales grew by 17% over 2023 and our membership base increased by 8%
- Another sold-out crowd of 1,100
  guests for LUGO, a jam-packed night
  of immersive art and performance.
   TD generously supported the muchanticipated and widely shared
  photo booth
- The 2024 iteration of galaMODERN,
  the museum's signature fundraiser
  and celebration of art, sold out
  for the third consecutive year. The
  event celebrated Saskatoon-based
  abstract painter Robert Christie and
  –thanks to the vision of artist Monique
  Blom–transformed the museum
  using his signature bold colours as

inspiration. Through sponsorships, a dynamic live auction, and ticket sales, galaMODERN generated over \$100,000 in net revenue and eight new Corporate Connect memberships. We are grateful for the support of our galaMODERN sponsors, including: **Presenting sponsor:** Wyant Group Culinary sponsor: Nutrien Champagne toast sponsor: **RBC** Wealth Management postMODERN sponsor: All Space Office Solutions & the Peter **Ballantyne Group of Companies** Dessert Gallery sponsor: Harman Eggs Spotlight sponsors: Discover Saskatoon, KPMG, Rock & Bloom, and Scotiabank

- Engaging RBC to present the 2024-25 iteration of the RBC Sustained Artist Mentorship Program with artists Gabby Da Silva, Xiao Han, and Luke Maddaford
- Continuing activations of our multi-year support from TD Bank Group, including Youth Art Night and Maskihkiy Kiskinohamâkewin – Indigenous Medicine Teachings
- Renewing support from SaskEnergy for the museum's beloved program, Fireside with Lyndon
- Securing a donor for our Community Screenings program. These films are free to the public and uplift the voices of a wide range of local communities, organizations, and groups
- Securing and continuing sponsorships from a growing number of generous funders, all of which are outlined on the following pages



Remai Modern's Circle of Supporters enjoy a rooftop life drawing session. Photo: Bokeh Media.



Remai Modern Board Chair Doug Matheson congratulates galaMODERN honoured artist Robert Christie. Photo: Carey Shaw.

### Donors

#### **LEAD DONOR**

Frank & Ellen Remai Foundation

#### **GOVERNMENT**

Canada Council for the Arts Canada Heritage City of Saskatoon Creative Sask Government of Saskatchewan Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport Culture and Recreation SK Arts Tourism Saskatchewan

#### \$50.000-\$99.999

Dorothy Yuel

#### \$10.000-\$49.999

Dr. Cole Beavis Diana Billes McCreath Foundation National Gallery of Canada Foundation Yann Martel & Alice Kuipers

\$1.000-\$9.999 Anonymous (2) Barrett Ross Beverly & **Hugh Townsend BHP** Potash Brian Henderson & Betty Anne Latrace Henderson Buckberger Baerg & Partners LLP CAA Saskatchewan Travel Cameco Corporation Commercial Sand Blasting & Painting Dakota Dunes Community Development Corporation Donna Bailey Doug and Sandie Matheson Ineke Knight Dr. Marilyn Kinloch & Allan Stonhouse

Edna Jen Warrington

Gerald & Tina Grandey

Sundeep Nijjar

Felesky Flynn LLP

Gurpreet &

Herb McFaull & Anthony Bidulka Kathryn Warden & Peter Stoicheff Kevin Niessen Maison Design & Build Malcolm & Marilyn Leggett Michelle Jacques Nicolette Sinclair PIC Investment Group Inc. PR Developments Inc Private Giving Foundation Robert Jones & Lori Tastad

Robertson Stromberg LLP Robin Chapman & lan Judd-Henrey Saskatoon Community Foundation Seiferling Law, Larry & Steve Seiferling Sherwood & Elaine Sharfe The Polar Foundation Tom & Diane McClocklin & Family

\$500-\$999 Alan & Edda Ryan Annabelle & Laurent Wanson Beth Bilson Candace Schierling Carla Angelski & Nigel Rawlings Claudia Durand Dawn Martin & **David Forbes** Dr. Benjamin Thomson & Martine Thomson Dr. David Hastings & Mary Hastings Dr. Penelope Stalker & Kenneth Coutu Gail Prpick Garry & Kathleen Gable Grit & Scott McCreath Halev Kondra Hillary Simon-Worobec Dr. Isobel Findlay Jocelvne & Dr. Gregory Kost Julie Barnes & Joshua Remai June Morgan & Kevin Hogarth Kathleen Crowther & Brett Suwinski

Kelly Remai

Charlsie Ogaick

Patricia Farnese

Maurice &

Ron & Honya Olson Sharmi & Rick Jaggi Teal & Paige Grenier University of Saskatchewan Office of the President Valerie Ellis Valerie K. Martz & John Patterson Venessa Liang Verna L. Boehm Vickie J. Martin & Paul Bell Glen & Sonia Sorestad

Gordon Wyant K.C. &

Christine Hrudka

Harriet & Jamie Peirce

Gloria Mitchell

Graham Strickert

Grant McConnell

Harold Baldwin

Hayley Linklater

Hayley Lee

Gloria & Herman Boerma

#### **UP TO \$499**

**Ernest Olfert** 

Gary Zdunich

Gary & Diane Holroyd

Helene Prefontaine High Noon Barber Hope Smith Abigail Kenny & Margaret & Craig Hubbard Ben Lamothe Jake & Louise Buhler Aileen Burns & Johan Lundh James Johnston James Svarc Al & Sandra Ritchie Jane Calder & Aleksandar Ilic Alex Bunda Zachary Yuzwa Janet & Mike Gauthier Alexei Krasnoselsky & Jennifer Heinrichs Angela Rasmussen Jeremie Bourgeois Alvin Claypool John Diefenbaker Amv Weekes Andrew Leask Public School John Graham Anita Johnson Anne Ballantyne John Scarfe John & Patricia Thompson Anne Marie Moulin Joshua Pol Barry Singer Judy Bonn Bayla Jacobs Kaelee Corcoran & Betsy Rosenwald & Devin Koenig John Penner Kathleen Miller **Brad Turner** Keith Lindberg Brenda McLean Kevin Veitenheimer Cami Kaytor Carly Koshman Kristin Morton Larry Scannell Cathryn Cozens & Nigel West Lisa Anderson Charles Critchlow Mairin Loewen & Will Robbins Cheryl Duncan Chloe Corcoran Mandy Harding Margaret Lowry Christopher Dobni Marion Podborochynski Clarence Krause Marjorie Kirkby Coralie Prin Cristina Ramirez Maygen Kardash Daniel Ronis Mona Nasser Naila Zaman David Molesky & Nancy-Jean Taylor Heather Adams Nathaniel Teed & Deanna Yung James Rayner Derrick Na Desaree Weeres Nicholas Varauer Donna Rawlake Patricia Verbeke Phyllis Baker Doreen Kerby Pierre-Francois Noppen Dr. Jack Shiffman & Rachael Kenny & Carol Wylie Paolo Fenu Dr. Mary Leggett Dr. Ralph & Rachel Johnson Marg Schneider Rebecca Perehudoff

Minton

Reilly Forbes

Renee Kennedy

Rheana Worme Rosalinde Bodrug Rowan Pantel Roxanne Classen Sandra Schultz Sara Durand SARCAN Sheila D. Scott Sheila Mogk Sheilagh & Ron Steer Stephanie Hughes Susan & James Ens Funk Susan Milburn & Randy Pangborn Tamara Hinz Terry & Teresa Billings Tom Steele Ty Johnston **SPONSORS** 

Allspace Office Solutions Colliers International / Tom & Keitha McClocklin Discover Saskatoon Consulate General of France Harman Eggs / Star Egg KPMG LLP Nutrien Ltd Peter Ballantyne Group of Companies **RBC** Wealth Management Rock & Bloom SaskEnergy SaskTel Scotiabank Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority TD Bank Group U.S. Consulate General Wyant Group

#### **IN-KIND**

Allspace Office Solutions Alt HOTELS by Le Germain Black Fox Distillery Blossoms Boutique **Florists** Great Western **Brewing Company** Lucky Bastard Distillers PR Productions

### Circle of Supporters

#### PATRON'S CIRCLE \$5.000

Adele & Eugene Dupuis Allan Stonhouse & Dr. Marilyn Kinloch Greg & Olivia Yuel Herb McFaull & Anthony Bidulka Yann Martel & Alice Kuipers

#### DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE \$2,500

Colby Art & Alan Koop
Carla Angelski &
Nigel Rawlings
Doug & Sandie Matheson
Gurpreet & Sundeep Nijjar
John Scarfe
Kathryn Warden &
Peter Stoicheff
Poonam & Anil Sharma
Robert Affleck &
Dawn Doherty-Affleck
Robin Chapman &
lan Judd-Henrey
Shilpa & Kabir Virdi

#### **CURATOR'S CIRCLE** \$1,000 Abigail Kenny & Ben Lamothe

Anabelle & Laurent Wanson Barbara Morrison & James Morrison Dr. Beniamin & Martine Thomson Charlsie & Maurice Ogaick Deanna & Drew Yung Julie Barnes & Joshua Remai Kathleen Crowther & Brett Suwinski Kelly Van Damme & Kent Evans Keith & Cathy Martell Nancy-Jean Taylor Richika Bodani Robert & Norma Greer Teal & Paige Grenier Varun Bathini & Rachana Bodani

Veronique Loewen

## Corporate Connect

#### CORPORATE LEADER \$10,000

Nutrien Ltd
Oxbow Architecture

### CORPORATE ADVOCATE \$5,000

Allspace Office Solutions Harman Eggs / Star Egg Laser Impressions Inc. RBC Wealth Managemen

#### CORPORATE PARTNER \$2,500

KPMG LLP Discover Saskatoon North Saskatoon Business Association Rock & Bloom Scotiabank

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of Remai Modern's lists of donors and members, but we acknowledge that errors may occur. If your name has been omitted or listed incorrectly, please accept our apologies and inform us by calling 306-975-8060 or email development@remaimodern.org.

# Marketing & Communications

#### Advancement

As part of the newly formed
Advancement department, Marketing
& Communications staff continued to
amplify the incredible work done by
every Remai Modern department through
media relations, social media, graphic
design, advertising, and more.



Visitors enjoy a sunny spot inside the museum.

#### **Art that Bridges**

In the first quarter of 2024, Remai Modern unveiled the initial phase of a significant brand initiative. The campaign, titled Art That Bridges, not only serves as Remai Modern's new tagline but also reflects the museum's ongoing efforts to ensure inclusivity and accessibility. The promotional materials were prominently displayed on billboards in Saskatoon and on the digital displays at the airport.

Later in the year, the Art that Bridges campaign expanded to target seasonal travelers, particularly drive markets across Saskatchewan and major cities in Alberta and Manitoba. In 2024, the campaign garnered 3,949,969 views from 595,238 people across western Canada, making it the largest digital marketing campaign in Remai Modern's history. The campaign is also visible on colourful new Remai Modern street banners installed in River Landing and on 19th Street, posters around downtown, and other marketing collateral.



Remai Modern made the cover of Porter Airline's magazine in 2024.



Billboards around Saskatoon shared Remai Modern's new Art that Bridges campaign.

Marketing & Communications also saw continuing positive momentum in numerous areas, including:

- 129 5-star reviews on Google, an 11% increase over 2023 (check out Page 5 to read some of our favourites)
- Our video views reached 373,475 in 2024, a 68% increase over 2023
- 984 membership purchases were completed via email marketing in 2024, a 23% increase over 2023
- Media highlights included eight article mentions in Canada's newspaper of record, the Globe & Mail, and landing on the cover of Porter Airline's magazine
- We met with or hosted 42 travel and art writers and attended two travel media conferences to pitch stories to international and national media
- In partnership with Hearth and the Alt Hotel– and with support from Tourism Saskatchewan– we created and executed a Saskatoon travel package, selling 41 packages and resulting in 61 hotel nights between August 2024 and February 2025

- Our Art Lovers' Trip to Montreal contest prompted a significant membership uptick in the final quarter of the year. Through digital advertising, targeted email campaigns, print advertising, and custom landing pages on the Art & Design Store website, the contest helped drive the sale of 379 memberships between October and December
- At the start of 2024, Remai Modern initiated a focused survey campaign to engage with and understand visitors better. Throughout the year, the museum gathered more than 10,000 survey responses, providing valuable insights that will help us be more responsive



Co-Executive Director & CEO Johan Lundh and artist Céline Condorelli at the opening day of her exhibition.

# Strategic Plan

Remai Modern made meaningful progress on the four goals outlined in the museum's 2021-25 strategic plan in 2024. This non-exhaustive list captures key actions taken and milestones reached during the year.

#### **GOAL 1: ACCESSIBILITY, INCLUSIVITY AND RELEVANCE**

- Achieved best museum attendance to-date, welcoming 215,630 visitors to Remai Modern, up more than 2,000 from the previous year
- Received more audience feedback with 14.7% year-over-year growth in total online reviews and 11.21% increase in 5-star reviews compared to 2023
- Hosted 22,000 children in Remai Modern's programs, up from 16,500 in 2023



- Welcomed 70,000 people of all ages to 2,600 varied programs
- Expanded offerings in additional languages through audio guides, programs, tours, and signage, including Plains Cree, Michif, French, German, and American Sign Language
- Partnered with AKA artist-run to host the launch of the second edition of invisibly ill, a zine created by Saskatoon artist Gabby Da Silva, and facilitated the contribution of artwork by Sherbrooke Community Centre residents and the Grade 6 class from École College Park School (see Page 26 for more details)
- Worked with 62 local community organizations to create collaborative programs and supported an additional 40 local organizations through donations of event space, memberships and prizes for fundraisers

#### **GOAL 2: AN INSTITUTION ROOTED IN PLACE**

- Presented our first co-curated exhibition with the Saskatchewan Craft Council
- Partnered with the University of Saskatchewan on the symposium Innovate |
   Collaborate | Contemporary Print Gathering, which was attended by 75 people from both in and out of province
- Supported 193 local artists including delivering major solo exhibitions of artists Kaija Sanelma Harris and Nancy Lowry
- Opened *Views from the Blue House*, showcasing nearly 100 works from the Remai Modern Collection
- Continued our successful partnership with Saskatoon restaurant company Hearth
- Expanded our survey program to gather valuable insight and feedback from visitors
- Remai Modern staff participated in local events including Pride, Rock Yout Roots, and Earth Day

#### **GOAL 3: GOVERNANCE, OPERATIONS AND SUSTAINABILITY**

- Updated the Health and Safety program to align with 2024 legislation
- Created the Advancement Department to take advantage of leadership talent on the Marketing & Communications and Development teams, and create administrative efficiencies in both departments
- Delivered a break-even budget
- Sustained core funding from the City of Saskatoon, Canada Council for the Arts,
   SaskArts and Sask Lotteries
- Achieved growth in membership revenue, funds raised through galaMODERN, and donations to our annual appeal
- Completed the transfer of the Mendel Art Gallery Collection to Remai Modern and the dissolution of the Saskatoon Gallery and Conservatory Corporation
- Established a staff Sustainability Committee
- Engaged more than 9,000 subscribers through segmented email campaigns, resulting in 33% growth in sales from email marketing
- Undertook a board governance review

#### **GOAL 4: TRUTH, RECONCILIATION AND SELF-DETERMINATION**

- Completed the Treaty Learning Journey with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner
- Consulted with eight Elders and Knowledge Keepers on the purpose, form and future of Land Acknowledgements
- Worked with 104 Indigenous artists and leaders
- Supported Indigenous staff members Kamisha Alexson and Kim Bird in the creation
  of Maskinhikiy Kiskinohamâkewin Indigenous Medicine Teachings garden and
  public programs with the support of the TD Ready Commitment (see Page 27 for
  more details)
- Under the leadership of Tarah Hogue, Adjunct Curator (Indigenous Art), continued to work with the National Gallery of Canada on cross-institutionalizing best practices
- Hosted a project initiated by the Saskatoon Residential School Survivors Circle (see Page 27 for more details) to learn about the lived experiences of Residential School Survivors
- Developed a program called K\(\tilde{\to}\)hkom ak\(\tilde{\to}\)kwa \(\tilde{\to}\)sima (Grandmothers &
  Grandchildren) inspired by the work of Meryl McMaster. The focus of the project—
  which included members of the Red Pheasant First Nation—was on the knowledge
  and stories shared by grandmothers who raise their grandchildren. Interviews
  and photo portraits by Tenille Campbell were used to create a 2025 calendar for
  community members



Clockwise from top: Remai Modern staff and friends walk in the Saskatoon Pride Parade.

Remai Modern staff and visitors take part in an impromptu round dance on National Indigenous Peoples Day.

Artist Ruth Cuthand prepares for a loud performance of Raven Chacon's *Compass* by Chad Munson on Remai Modern's rooftop.

Troy Gronsdahl, Curator (Performance & Public Practice) takes participants in the RBC Emerging Artist Mentorship Program–(from left) Luke Maddaford, Gabby Da Silva, and Xiao Han–on a tour of Remai Modern's vaults.

Photos: Carey Shaw.







#### 2024 Financial Statements

In order to support Strategic Plan Goal 3: Governance, Operations and Sustainability, fiscal responsibility is a top priority. The museum reported a \$468,000 surplus in 2024.

#### **OPERATING FUND STATEMENT**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024 (reported in thousands of dollars)

#### Revenue

Grants - City of Saskatoon	\$6,519	51%
Grants - Other	\$792	6%
Self-generated	\$3,324	26%
Donations & Sponsorships	\$1,904	15%
Interest Income	\$177	2%
Total Revenue	12,716	100%
Operating Surplus	\$468	

#### **Expenditures**

Administration & Operations	\$4,381	35%
City of Saskatoon Management Fees	\$1,911	16%
Sales & events	\$2,059	17%
Programming & Exhibitions	\$3,896	32%
Total Expenditures	\$12,247	100%

#### Note

#### 2024 Visitation

For the second-consecutive year, Remai Modern broke its historical attendance figure. In 2024, 215,630 people visited the museum, 2,000 more than the previous record year in 2023.



Young WEGO attendees enjoy a performance by The Steadies.



LUGO Light attendees applaud headliner Begonia.



Students from Charles Red Hawk Elementary School take part in an artmaking activity.



Michelle Jacques, Head of Exhibition & Collections/Chief Curator speaks with artist taisha paggett following the opening of their exhibition soliloguy for a horizon.

<sup>1.</sup> The operating fund statement is a summary of Remai Modern's main financial activity for 2024. Financial statements for the 2024 fiscal year, audited by Deloitte LLP, are available upon request from Remai Modern.

