



MacLaren Access Art

# Accessibility Check



An agency of the Government of Ontario  
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

# Table of Contents

1. About the MacLaren Art Centre
  - a. Who we are, and our history of exhibitions and education programs.
2. What is MacLaren Access Art?
  - a. An introduction to the project.
3. Exhibition and Interpretation
  - a. An introduction to Erika DeFreitas's exhibition, and the tools we're developing to make it more accessible.
4. Feedback
  - a. What accessible tools sound good, and what won't work?

# Section 1

About the MacLaren Art Centre

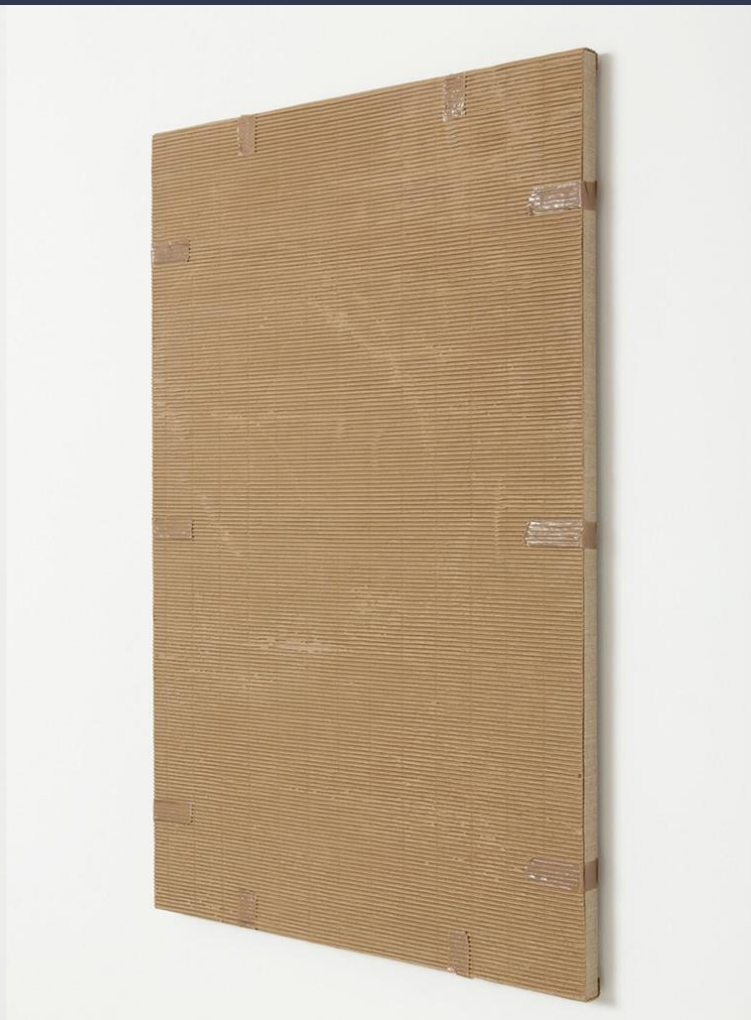
# What is the MacLaren Art Centre?

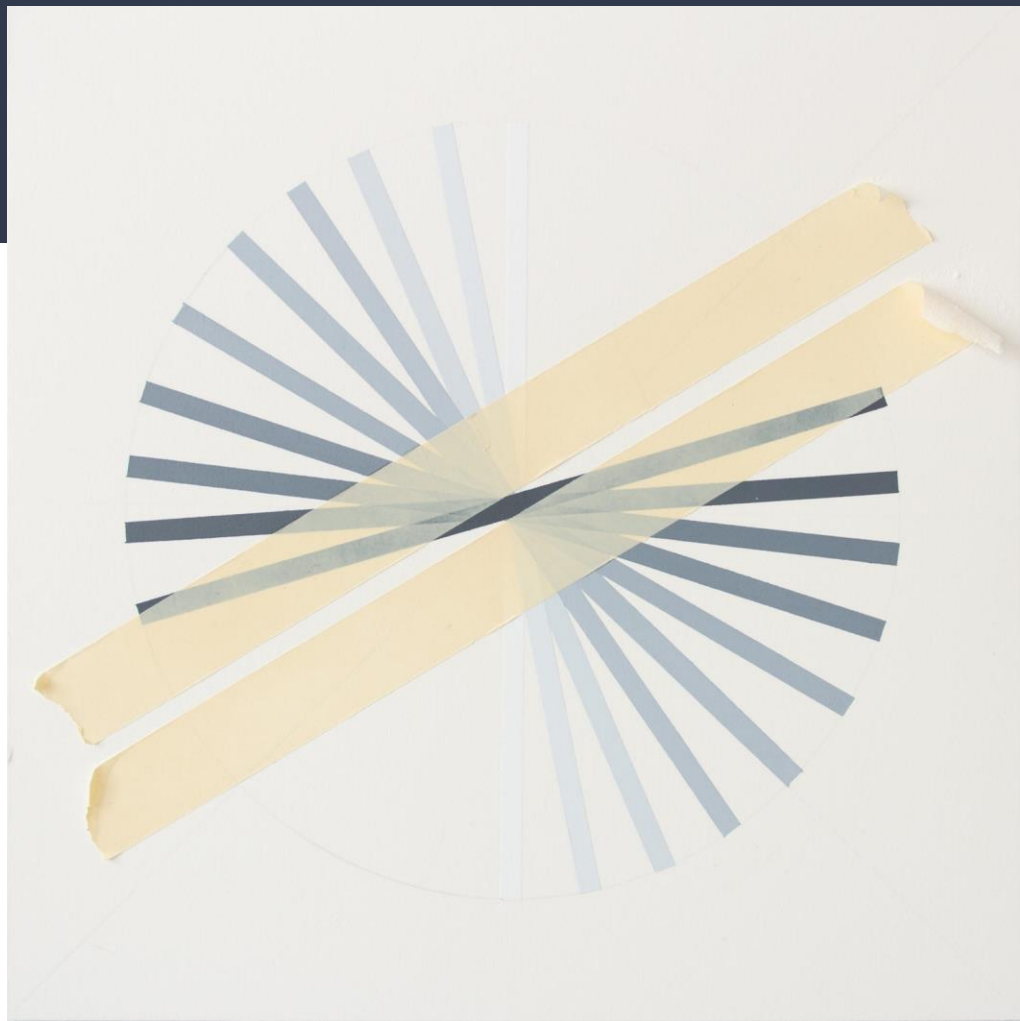
The MacLaren Art Centre is the regional public art gallery serving the residents of Barrie, the County of Simcoe and the surrounding area.



# Past MacLaren Exhibitions









# Education at the MacLaren

The MacLaren also offers art classes and workshops led by practicing artists, for adults, youth and children.



# Education at the MacLaren Continued

MacLaren Access  
Art tours will be  
followed by an art  
activity in the  
Education Centre.



# Section 2

What is MacLaren Access Art?





# The MacLaren Access Art Team

Tyler Durbano  
Accessibility Coordinator



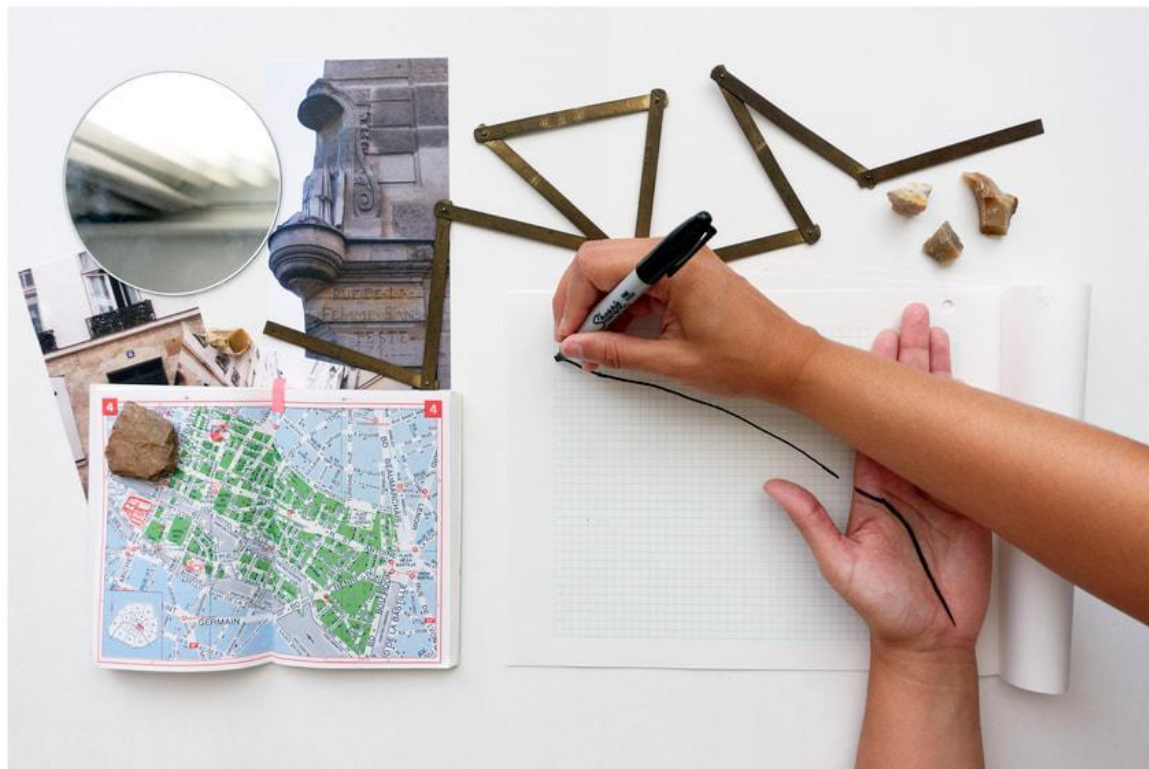
Lisa Nackan  
Registered Art Therapist



# Section 3

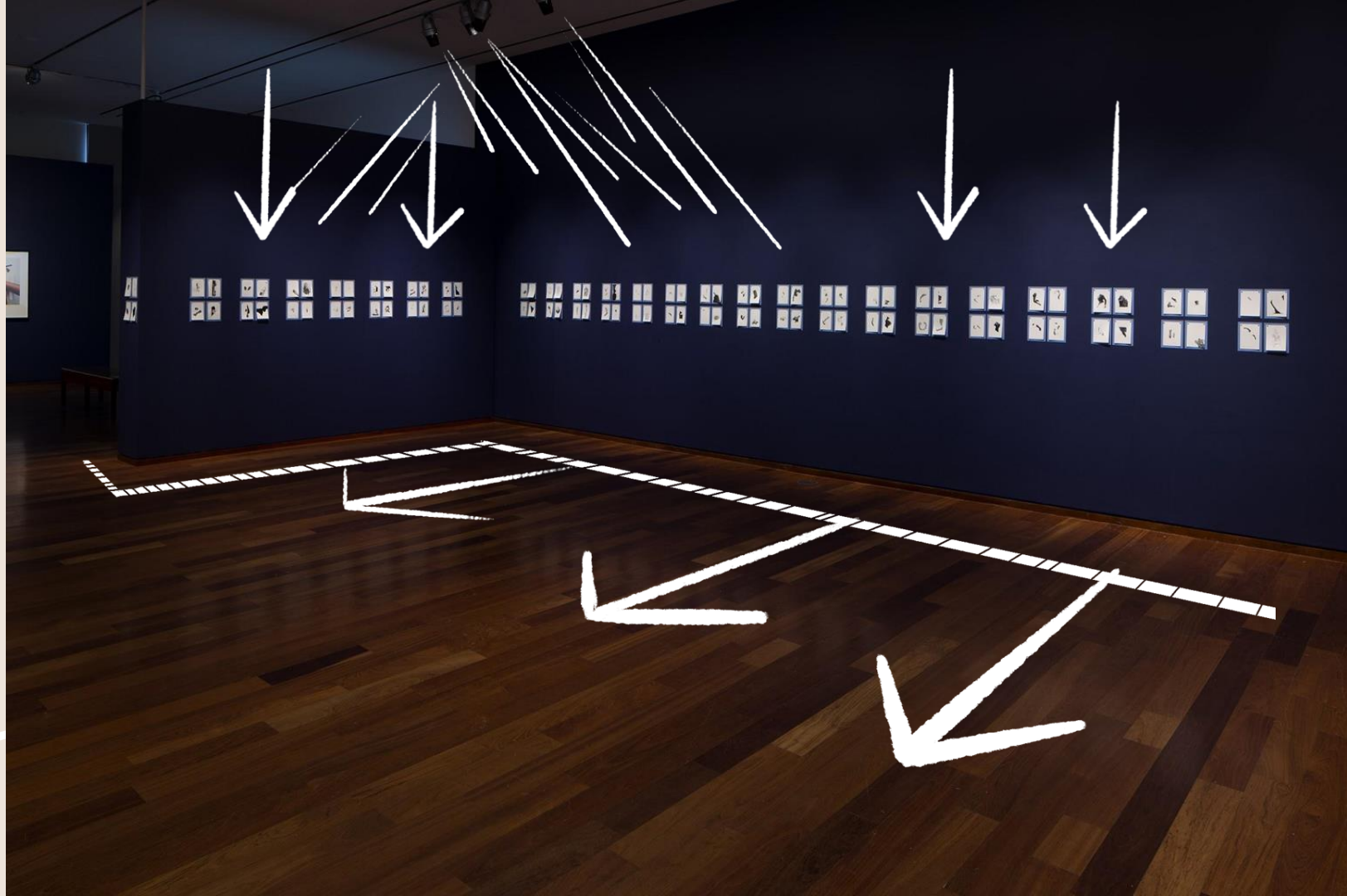
## Exhibition and Interpretation





again,  
again.







Erika Defreitas  
*everything she inspires remains, belongs to light*

"Even in the after she is subversive for not being 'fixed,'" artist Erika DeFreitas notes in the fifth image in the series *arriver avant moi devant moi* (which roughly translates to: "to arrive before me, in front of me"). Written in response to Gustave Courbet's *L'Atelier du peintre* (1854–1855), which DeFreitas viewed at the Musée D'Orsay in Paris while on an artist residency, this statement reflects the admiration and connection the artist holds for Jeanne Duval (ca. 1820 – ca. 1862).

Duval, a Haitian-born French actress and dancer, is just one of many Black women artists, muses and historical figures invoked in this presentation, from an unnamed subject featured in a painting by Frédéric Bazille in *she returns in the midst of echoes and in the pause and the mirrored peaks* to Edmonia Lewis, Senga Nengudi, Howardena Pindell and countless others in DeFreitas' *very strongly may be sincerely fainting*. The process of writing art history is one of amplification and repetition; here, DeFreitas' poetic gesture reimagine a canon in which Black women's artistic labour is as valued and commemorated as the work of their contemporaries.

This exhibition is complemented by a text by Daisy Desrosiers.

Erika DeFreitas is a Scarborough-based artist whose practice includes the use of performance, photography, video, installation, textiles, works on paper and writing. Placing an emphasis on process, gesture, the body, documentation, and paranormal phenomena, she works through attempts to understand concepts of loss, post-memory, inheritance, and objecthood. DeFreitas' work has been exhibited nationally and internationally. She was the recipient of the TFA 2016 Finalist Artist Prize, the 2016 John Hartman Award, and longlisted for the 2017 Sobey Art Award. DeFreitas holds a Master of Visual Studies from the University of Toronto.

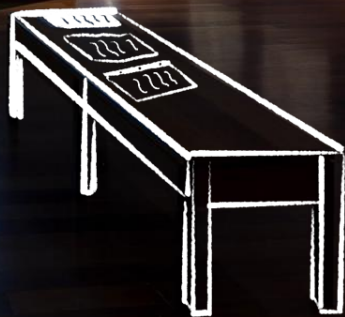


AD

AD)))



AD)))



Erika Defreitas  
everything she inspires remains, belongs to light

"Even in the after life I suffer from not being 'there,'" wrote Erika Defreitas in the 1970s in the series artist does not always feel response to Gustave Courbet's *L'Atelier du peintre* (1855-1856), which Defreitas viewed at the Musée d'Orsay in Paris while on an artist residency. This statement reflects the isolation and loneliness the artist feels for Jeanne Duvet (ca. 1820 - ca. 1862).

Duvet, a French-born French actress and dancer, is just one of many Black women artists, models and historical figures featured in this installation, from an unnamed subject featured in a painting by Frida Kahlo in a return to the world of fashion and in the painting and the current piece by Edmonde Lema, Sange Nangok, Hwa-Deok Kim and countless others in Defreitas' work through the 1970s and 1980s. The power of using art history to one of amplification and repetition, here, Defreitas asks people to imagine a world in which Black women's work is not only recognized but also celebrated as the work of their contemporaries.

This exhibition is complemented by a text by Defreitas, Erika Defreitas is a Brooklyn-based artist whose work includes performance, photography, video, installation, and writing. Her work is inspired by her parents, her experiences, and her relationships. Her work is a blend of her own experiences and those of her parents, her relationships, and her experiences. Her work is a blend of her own experiences and those of her parents, her relationships, and her experiences. Her work is a blend of her own experiences and those of her parents, her relationships, and her experiences.







Our grateful thanks to  
TD  
for their generous ongoing  
support of MacLaren  
Youth Programmes.





# Section 4

Feedback

A dark blue diagonal gradient bar that starts from the bottom left corner and extends towards the top right corner, covering the lower half of the slide.



# Thanks!

**Tyler Durbano**  
**Accessibility Coordinator**  
**MacLaren Art Centre**  
**37 Mulcaster Street**  
**Barrie, ON**

[tyler@maclarenart.com](mailto:tyler@maclarenart.com)  
[www.maclarenart.com](http://www.maclarenart.com)

