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Rotary Centre for the Arts Launches Three New Exhibitions of Okanagan Art for Winter

(Kelowna, BC) - The Rotary Centre for the Arts (RCA) invites the community to enjoy three new exhibitions this winter, featuring the work of four distinguished Okanagan artists.

S.C. Jean's *Through the Window* will be on display in the RCA Mezzanine from February 1 to April 27; **Judith A. Frigon's *Vines and Vistas*** will be installed in the RCA South Atrium from February 11 to April 27; and **Allanah Weston and Elaine Hatch's *Secret Garden*** will show in the Alex Fong Galleria from February 15 to April 27.

Says Colleen Fitzpatrick, Executive Director of the RCA, "It is always a delight to see our galleries filled with the work of our local artistic community. We're extremely proud to showcase Okanagan talent, and to offer our building as a space where our friends and neighbours can gather to enjoy world-class art. We're also proud to offer these works for sale, with proceeds going to support both the artist and the RCA."

Andrew Stauffer, the RCA's Community and Educational Programming Specialist, says, "Inspired as much by the splendour of the Okanagan Valley as by the strife of the COVID-19 pandemic, these new exhibitions capture a range of poignant experiences. Working across multiple media, Frigon, Jean, Weston, and Hatch convey both the beauty and the complexity of our world."

S.C. Jean's *Through The Window* ruminates on feelings of disconnection and isolation, reflecting the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic through the striking use of texture and depth. Weston and Hatch's *Secret Garden*, meanwhile, celebrates the beauty and abundance of the natural world, blending mixed-media canvases with dramatic landscape compositions. Frigon's *Vines and Vistas* strikes a similar note, showcasing the natural wonder of the Okanagan Valley in a manner that evokes the Group of Seven.

Stauffer adds, "We warmly invite our entire community to enjoy these compelling works, and look forward to welcoming art lovers of all ages and backgrounds to the RCA this winter." RCA's galleries are free and open to the public during regular building hours: Monday-Friday, 9 AM-9 PM; Weekends and Holidays, 10 AM-4 PM

High-Res Press Photos Available on Request: Please contact Tyler Morgenstern at marketing@rotarycentreforthearts.com

About S.C. Jean: S.C. Jean is a self-taught painter whose impressionistic paintings are drawn from sights, sounds, and emotions, and are centred on deeply held experiences and memories. When Jean approaches a new work, she looks towards her inner child, and paints to recollect another time; another place; and other circumstances through an abundance of textures, lines, colors to create vibrant portraits, landscapes, and scenes.

About Judith A. Frigon: Judith Frigon is a Kelowna-based artist whose work is inspired by the unique Canadian landscapes of the Okanagan. Like the Group of Seven, she believes that direct contact with nature results in a distinctly Canadian style of art. Judith works primarily with acrylics on large canvases and tries to capture the diverse landscapes that surround those who are fortunate to call British Columbia their home. After graduating from the Alberta College of Art, Judith enjoyed working as a graphic designer and illustrator. She continued her studies in fine arts and education and loved teaching art. Judith was always passionate about painting portraits and landscapes, and upon retirement, she moved to Kelowna where she currently spends her days following her dreams. Judith has exhibited her works in community galleries in Vancouver and hopes to show her works in the Okanagan.

About Allanah Weston: Allanah Weston is a mixed media artist currently living and working in Kelowna, BC. Although mostly self-taught, in order to further develop and expand her knowledge, she has taken several mixed media courses and workshops and, as well, has participated in many classes and demonstrations using a variety of mediums. She has been a participant in Lake Country Art Walk (2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019). She has previously exhibited at the Penticton Art Gallery, Peachland Art Gallery (Artists of the Okanagan, Mindscapes, 2018; Bohemian Muse, 2020), Lake Country Art Gallery, and the Rotary Centre for the Arts (Discarded Lives, 2016; Bringing the Darkness into the Light, 2017). Allanah is currently an active member of the Federation of Canadian Artists, as well as a member of the Lake Country Art Gallery, Rotary Centre for the Arts, and the Peachland Art Gallery. She is also an active member of 'On the Edge Collective.' For more information, visit <https://allanahweston.wixsite.com/s3-art>

About Elaine Hatch: Elaine Hatch is a Kelowna-based mixed media artist. Her art is process-driven and focuses on texture and unique colour combinations. Her creations typically encompass ten or more layers of medium. The intent is to reflect and induce emotion. Elaine's inspiration comes from nature, travel and experimentation. She is a member of the Federation of Canadian Artists, the Arts Council of the Central Okanagan, the Kelowna Art Gallery, the Peachland Art Gallery, the Rotary Centre for the Arts, Gallery 97 and On the Edge Collective. Elaine has displayed throughout the Okanagan. Her paintings can be found in private collections throughout Western Canada and as far away as California and New York.

About the Rotary Centre for the Arts

Located in the heart of Kelowna's Cultural District, the [Rotary Centre for the Arts](#) is a multidisciplinary visual and performing arts centre. The RCA continually strives to improve the economic, cultural, and social quality of life in the community by fostering participation in, and appreciation of the arts. As a world-class venue celebrating creative expression through diverse art forms and disciplines, the Rotary Centre for the Arts is a unique City of Kelowna facility in which individuals of all ages and backgrounds come together to share in the excitement of strengthening art and culture in the Okanagan. The Rotary Centre for the Arts respectfully acknowledges that it is located on the unceded, traditional territory of the Syilx (Okanagan) people.

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