

WINTER 2023  
FEBRUARY 3-MAY 14, 2023

# Family Guide

35  
YEARS  
OF

Power  
Kids

PLANT

© Harbourfront centre





## Winter 2023 Exhibitions

Brenda Draney:  
*Drink from the river*

Amartey Golding:  
*In the comfort of embers*

*in parallel*

Let's start our adventure at The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery. Follow along with this guide during your visit to find four artworks in the Winter 2023 exhibitions. Let's look, listen, feel, and learn about how these artworks communicate with us. At the fifth stop, you will find out why we call the gallery The Power Plant.

## OBSERVE TOGETHER

When you find the works of art listed in this guide, look at each one for sixty seconds in silence.

With your group, discuss two details that you notice while looking at each work.

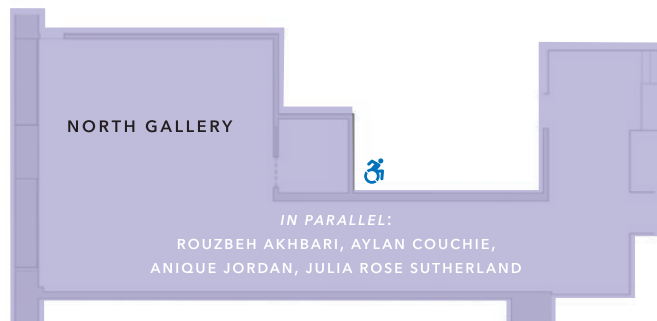
What questions would you ask the artist if they were here with you?

If you could change any part of the artwork, how would you change it? Why?

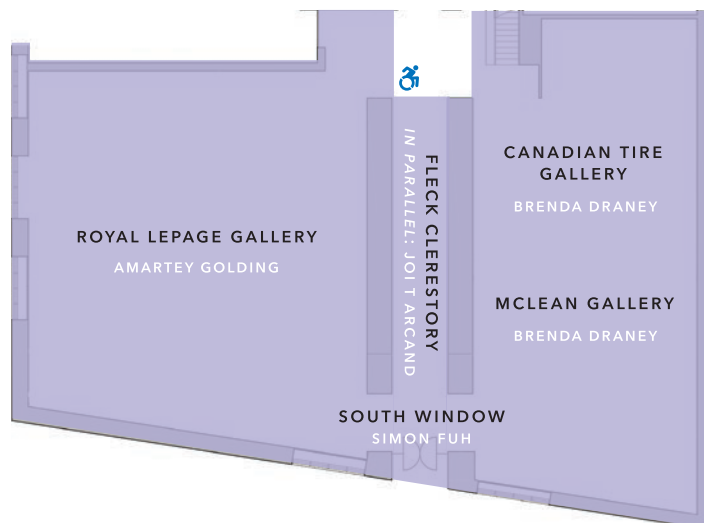
What do you want to remember about this artwork?

Read this guide online  
at [bit.ly/powerkids](http://bit.ly/powerkids)

### SECOND FLOOR



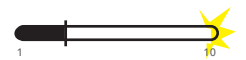
### GROUND FLOOR



### In the Galleries



Ask a Gallery Attendant if you have any questions about the artworks.



Remember to use your inside voice.



Most artworks in this exhibition are fragile. Please keep a little distance and do not touch them.

FRONT COVER AND  
INSIDE FRONT COVER  
Power Kids Images, Fall 2023.  
Photo: Hyerim Han.

# 1

## First Stop! Amartey Golding's *Chainmail Garment 3 (Puffer Jacket)* in the Royal LePage Gallery



### ASK YOUR GROUP

What are some examples of protection and kindness that you and your family use in daily life?

Some examples of kindness:

Helping my family, teaching my young siblings how to wear their jackets or how to tie their shoes, holding my sibling's hand while crossing the road, sharing with my friends, listening to my schoolmate when they feel sad, petting my cat or taking my dog for an extra-long walk.

**LEFT** Amartey Golding, still of *Chainmail 3*, 2018. Video projection, 17:15. Courtesy the artist.

#### Chain mail

.....  
is the protective material that knights wear as part of a suit of armour. Made of small metal circles, chain mail defends against slashing swords.

Unlike other works in the gallery, this work is interactive. That means you can touch it! The suit weighs 166 kilograms—almost as heavy as a panda. It's made of **chain mail** and filled with horsehair. It took Amartey and five assistants five months to complete. Amartey made this suit to include in his video *Chainmail 3*, 2018, which is inspired by his relationship with his younger brother, Kidane. As the older sibling, Amartey always wants to protect his younger brother. He experienced anxiety when Kidane went to Afghanistan as a British Army officer in 2011. You can watch the video in the same room where the suit is displayed.



## DID YOU KNOW ...

... some plants and animals have a protective covering that is similar to armour? For example, roses and cacti grow thorns to protect themselves.

Many animals have evolved some type of armour, ranging from hard shells to tough scales. Armour protects them from harm, helping them to survive in the wild and to avoid being eaten by predators.

Name three or more animals with armour.  
How does their armour protect them?



# 2

## Second Stop! Brenda Draney's *Theatre* in the McLean Gallery



**THIS PAGE**  
Brenda Draney, *Theatre*,  
2019. Oil on linen, 158 x 299  
cm. Courtesy the artist and  
Catriona Jeffries, Vancouver.  
Image courtesy Catriona  
Jeffries.

## ASK YOUR GROUP

What is the first thing you notice  
in *Theatre*, 2019? Where do you  
think the story is taking place?

What is the story that is being  
told? What do you think  
happened before this scene?

What emotions do you feel  
when you look at this painting?  
Even though there isn't anyone  
in the painting, what does the  
artwork tell you about the  
person who had been there?

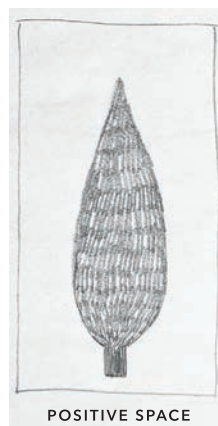
Brenda Draney is Cree from Sawridge First Nation, Treaty 8, and has a strong connection to Slave Lake, Alberta. She paints her personal memories and experiences of growing up in this small, northern town. Her memories are of people she cares about, places she has been, and feelings she has had about those people and places. Memories are fleeting; when we remember them, some parts are very clear and some parts are blurry. In her works, Brenda includes what she remembers and leaves space for other memories. Look at some of her other paintings. Do you see the blank spaces? Those areas are left empty for you to use your imagination.



## NEGATIVE POSITIVE

In art, when we look at images,  
we call the main subject the  
positive space and the area  
around the main subject the  
negative space.

For example, in the sketches here,  
the cedar tree is the main subject  
of the image; so, it's the positive  
space. The space around the cedar  
tree is the negative space.



Brenda Draney often leaves the negative space empty in  
her painting. Next time you paint from memory, what will  
you include and what will you leave out?

# 濃淡

## NŌTAN

A JAPANESE DESIGN CONCEPT THAT IS THE PLAY AND ARRANGING OF LIGHT AND DARK ELEMENTS AS THEY ARE PLACED NEXT TO EACH OTHER



### You will need:

Blank white paper  
Pencil  
Scissors  
Glue stick

### Step 1

Cut a 3 x 6 inch rectangle out of the white paper.

### Step 2

Begin by drawing simple shapes on the white rectangle, keeping the drawing on or as close to the long edge of the paper as possible.

### Step 3

Cut out the shapes using scissors.

### Step 4

Glue the white rectangle on the left side of the black square and glue the cut outs on the right side so they mirror each other, or you can assemble the cut-out shapes in any way you like.

See examples below the black box.



Take a photo of your creation and share it on social media, tagging #ThePowerPlantTO





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### Third Stop!

#### Simon Fuh's *The Don at Dawn, The Humber at Dusk* on the Fleck Clerestory's south windows



Simon Fuh traced the outline of two Toronto rivers from early nineteenth-century maps, before the rivers were rerouted. Looking at the tracings on the south windows, find out which one is a tracing of the Don River and which one is of the Humber River. In the late nineteenth century, the rivers were straightened to accommodate changes and developments in the city, especially the southern parts of the rivers. In the early twentieth century, a lot of wetlands were destroyed to build industrial and municipal **landfills**.

#### Landfill Site

Also known as a dumping ground, or dump, is a site for the disposal and repurposing of building materials.

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### Fourth Stop!

#### Julia Rose Sutherland's *P'twewi (Be'de'wey) "Tea"* in the North Gallery

Julia Rose Sutherland and her grandmother, great-grandmother, aunts, and sisters have their most meaningful conversations while drinking Red Rose tea around a table. During these conversations, they connect to one another. Together, they find ways to support each other and look at the world with fresh eyes. *P'twewi (Be'de'wey) "Tea"*, 2019, is made of tea bags sewn together in the shape of a blanket. Can you find one adjective to describe both tea and blankets? Why do you think Julia Rose made a blanket out of tea bags?

## ASK YOUR GROUP

Among the categories of river, stream, and creek, which one do you think is the largest waterway? The smallest?

Can you name two rivers and two creeks in Toronto?

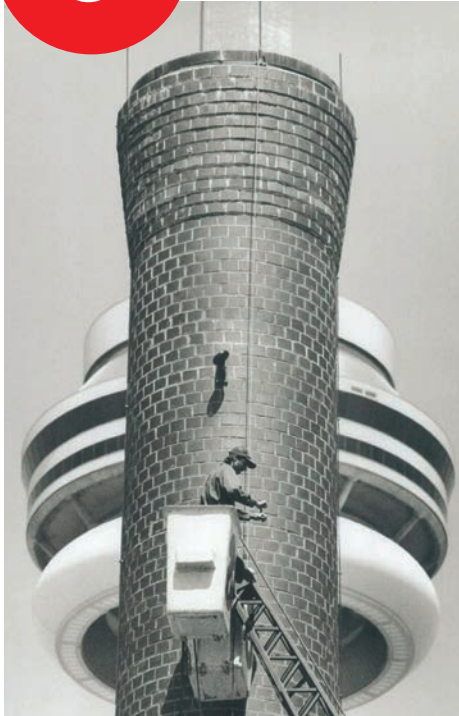
Rivers are important to the environment. They provide water to animals, they hydrate the land, and they provide a habitat to many species. They are also important to urban centres. They guide floods out of the cities, they are sites for leisure activities like swimming, and they sometimes provide travel routes.

**TOP** Simon Fuh, *The Don at Dawn, The Humber at Dusk* (Humber River view), 2022. Transparent vinyl on window. Courtesy the artist. Installation view: Ernst and Young Tower, 40th floor, Toronto, 2022. Photo: Toni Hafkenscheid.  
**BOTTOM** Julia Rose Sutherland. *P'twewi (Be'de'wey) "Tea"*, 2019. Red Rose tea and medical tape, 105 x 165 cm. Courtesy the artist.

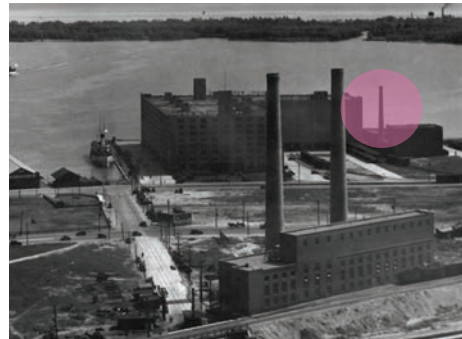


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## Last Stop! Smokestack in the front of house



Around 100 years ago, in the 1920s, the building where The Power Plant now stands was built as a power station. The power station needed a large smokestack that would produce power by burning coal for the massive Toronto warehouse terminal (now a commercial and residential building called Queen's Quay Terminal). The power station was in operation until 1980. Shortly after, a renovation began that transformed the space into a contemporary art gallery. Peter Smith of Lett/Smith Architects was chosen to design and renovate the building. He kept the structure of the smokestack in both the interior and exterior design. The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery opened its doors on May 1, 1987.



**TOP LEFT** The Power Plant Archives, 1980s. **BOTTOM LEFT** The Power Plant Images, 2022. Photo: Rebecca Moss. **ABOVE** City of Toronto Archives, 1930s. **ABOVE RIGHT** The Power Plant Images, 2022. Photo: Hyerim Han.



### FUN FACT:

The small metallic labels on the smokestack list the names of donors who have supported The Power Plant.

**BOTTOM** Power Kids Images, Fall 2022. Photo: Hyerim Han.



### JOIN US THIS SEASON FOR POWER KIDS

On Sunday, April 16, 2023, following a discussion about Joi T. Arcand's artwork in the Fleck Clerestory, *Decoded*, 2023, which uses Cree text and syllabics, families will learn about text art and create visual artworks by drawing, painting, and collaging.

For upcoming family programming, please see the back cover. For more information, email [powerkids@thepowerplant.org](mailto:powerkids@thepowerplant.org).



## ALL YEAR, ALL FREE

PRESENTED BY

BMO  Financial Group

### GALLERY HOURS

MONDAY - CLOSED\*

TUESDAY - 10AM-6PM

WEDNESDAY - 10AM-8 PM

THURSDAY - 10AM-6PM

FRIDAY - 10AM-6PM

SATURDAY - 10AM-6PM

SUNDAY - 10AM-6PM

\*ON HOLIDAY MONDAYS GALLERY OPEN 10AM-5 PM

### INFORMATION

+1.416.973.4949

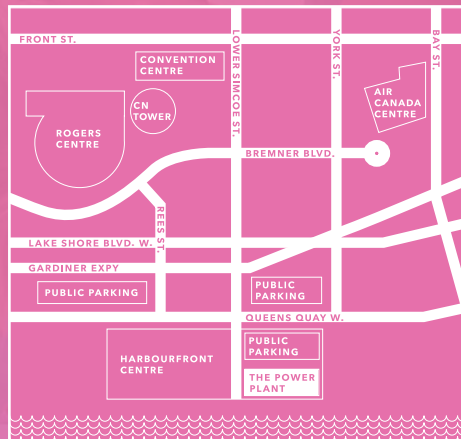
info@thepowerplant.org

thepowerplant.org



### LOCATION

231 Queens Quay West  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
M5J 2G8



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## Become a Member

As Canada's leading contemporary art gallery, The Power Plant provides you and your family with exceptional opportunities to access, engage with, and exchange ideas regarding the best artwork of our time by world-renowned artists.

Your membership directly supports artists and the opportunities they have to develop and present new work.

### ANNUAL FAMILY/DUAL MEMBERSHIP (\$100) INCLUDES:

Two membership e-cards

15% discount on publications, artist editions, and merchandise (in person and online)

Reciprocal admission to public galleries in Ontario (GOG) for two adults and up to four children

Reciprocal admission to North American institutions (NARM and ROAM) for two adults and up to four children

For more information about membership levels and benefits, please visit our website or ask one of our friendly and knowledgeable Gallery Attendants how you can join The Power Plant family today!

## Power Kids

THE POWER PLANT  
FREE

For children ages 7-12 years with parents or guardians (and younger siblings). Caregivers must remain with their children during these programs.

Tours and workshops are led by Nilou Salimi, Power Kids and Outreach Coordinator, with Rose Maagdenberg, Power Kids Teaching Assistant.

Visit [bit.ly/powerkids](https://bit.ly/powerkids) or email [powerkids@thepowerplant.org](mailto:powerkids@thepowerplant.org) for more information.

### Our Story

Sunday, February 19, 2023, 3 PM

### Bright and Dark

Sunday, March 5, 2023, 3 PM

### Rivers of Tkaronto

Sunday, March 19, 2023, 3 PM

### Clay House

Sunday, April 2, 2023, 3 PM

### Letters and Words

Sunday, April 16, 2023, 3 PM

### Remembering You

Sunday, May 7, 2023, 3 PM

### Special Event: Power Kids at the Junior Festival

Harbourfront Centre

Saturday, May 20, 2023, 11 AM-6 PM

Sunday, May 21, 2023, 11 AM-6 PM

Monday, May 22, 2023, 11 AM-5 PM