

BREAKING THE SILENCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Group Exhibition

MHCGALLERY, 610 Shaftesbury Blvd.

November 19, 2021 to January 15, 2022

OPENING Friday, Nov. 19, 7pm and 8:30pm



Register here: <https://forms.office.com/r/a6iURKSuVf> or call Selenna Wolfe at 204 487-3300, ext. 344. Limit of 50 persons per showing.

"MANITOBA CONSISTENTLY RECORDED THE HIGHEST RATE OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN CANADA, WITH A POLICE-REPORTED RATE OF 896 VICTIMS PER 100,000 CITIZENS, NEARLY DOUBLE THE CANADIAN RATE OF 482 PER 100,000, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS CANADA'S FAMILY VIOLENCE IN CANADA REPORT." a 2019 statistical profile



From the gallery

If this edition of CANVASs looks familiar, you are right. We were ready to open this exhibition in March 2020 when COVID19 shut everything down. But we are happy to be up and running again, and at long last to offer this exhibition.

In November 2018 a one day exhibition event took place at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence was initiated by Dr. Zita Somakoko and Isabel Cheer. They, along with a group of other volunteers, made something happen that they had never imagined doing previously. The event was powerful and artists were keen to participate.

Eventually Zita came to Ray Dirks asking if the gallery would be interested in the art. He said yes, so long as it could be on display for an entire exhibition timeslot. It was to be shown March to May 2020.

In this edition of Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence, artists from the previous showing and new ones in addition are exhibiting their works. The exhibit is powerful, disturbing, honest and comes with the hope that more will be done to protect those of all ages dealing with domestic abuse.

Breaking the Silence

Dr. Deborah-Zita Somakoko founded the organization Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence in Manitoba

Can't see for looking, Jane Gateson

in 2015 after the senseless and horrible murders of two women in Winnipeg at the hands of their intimate partners (husband and common law) in October 2015. She then organized the very first religious forum on breaking the silence on domestic violence in Manitoba in November 2015, to begin a conversation with our religious and community leaders on breaking our silence on violence against women and girls in our province.

Since then Deborah-Zita has held numerous and various awareness events against violence against women and girls throughout Manitoba. She trains and speaks to a wide variety of audiences including junior and high school students, religious leaders, health care professionals and educators, as well as in business and community forums on the subject of domestic violence and on what each of us can do to make a difference within our own context to keep our families safe and potentially prevent a homicide.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS: The MHC Gallery relies almost entirely on donations from gallery supporters who undergird operating and project budgets — from office and exhibit supplies to salaries and everything between. To help keep the gallery growing, see the ways to donate at the bottom of the following page.



Dolls, Eveline Mangin Mauws

As a survivor of both childhood and adult domestic violence and abuse, Deborah-Zita strongly advocates for victims and survivors of domestic violence and abuse.

This exhibition of Breaking the Silence on Domestic Violence is a follow up to a powerful one day event held at the Winnipeg Art Gallery in 2018. The MHC Gallery exhibition is another opportunity initiated by Deborah-Zita to speak out against domestic violence and in support of those who suffer. Together with Isabel Cheer and other volunteers, the hope and prayer is that this exhibition makes a difference, is a step forward in breaking the silence.

Special thanks to exhibition organizers Dr. Deborah-Zita Somakoko, Isabel Cheer and all other volunteers; with assistance of the MHC GALLERY.

This exhibition will be accompanied by multi media BI-WEEKLY ART EVENTS with various performers. Contact Zita Somakoko breakingsilencedv@gmail.com for more information.

**BREAKING THE SILENCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
2021 FORUM CONVERSATION**

DOES THE ABUSE END WHEN THE RELATIONSHIP ENDS?



Launch Zoom meeting Tuesday November 2nd 2021 from 11am to 12:30pm

"The home is the most dangerous place for women and their children"
Canadian Femicide report – United Nation.

Guest: Jamie Carnegie, Executive Director
Manitoba Status of Women Secretariat.

Please RSVP to receive the Zoom login information via email:
Breakingsilencedv@gmail.com

Next: "Daily Diaries" by Winnipeg artist Jan Gateson, January 21 to March 5, 2022.

CELEBRATE WITH US AND HELP KEEP THE GALLERY THRIVING!

FRIDAY, NOV 12 AT 7:30PM is our annual fundraiser. Live music, verdant artworks, and a tribute to Ray Dirks. Register here to attend: <https://forms.office.com/r/3gZUpLeGLC>

If you can't be there in person, register to attend online by using the same link or contact Selenna Wolfe at swolfe@cmu.ca or 204 487-3300, ext. 344



MHC Gallery is following governmental and CMU health protocols. All are welcome to visit the Gallery during regular hours with masking and physical distancing. For public indoor events we require proof of vaccination.

Exhibitions

The gallery generally hosts six exhibition time slots per year — either one exhibition using both levels or, most often, different exhibitions on each level. Contact Ray Dirks at rdirks@cmu.ca for exhibition information.

Mailing list

To receive information on all upcoming exhibitions join our mailing list by contacting Selenna Wolfe at swolfe@cmu.ca or 204 487-3300, ext 344.

Thank you

To all who make donations, large and small, we thank you for helping this unique gallery continue to thrive and make a difference.

DONATIONS

The **MHC**Gallery is a program of Canadian Mennonite University. It is 100% funded, from hammers and nails to salaries, by donations. Your support is what keeps the gallery alive.

donation options:

- by cheques payable to Canadian Mennonite University, **MHC**Gallery on the memo line, mailed to 500 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg, MB R3P 2N2
- online at cmu.ca/donate (by credit or debit card) See drop down tab to designate the gallery.
- make a monthly commitment using the online portal or by contacting Selenna Wolfe at swolfe@cmu.ca or 204 487-3300, ext. 344
- bring a donation when you visit the gallery in person