

For Immediate Release: February 27, 2023

***Memories of the Sun* at the Art Gallery of Regina proposes delightful, disembodied sightseeing in an exhibition that highlights memory and imagination.**

Sylvia Matas and Anne Brochu Lambert underscore the profound loneliness and alienation of far-off sites they have visited only through found photographs and online video, sometimes layering images and dreaming up new landscapes and at other times extending this break from reality until tedium becomes a transcendent escape.

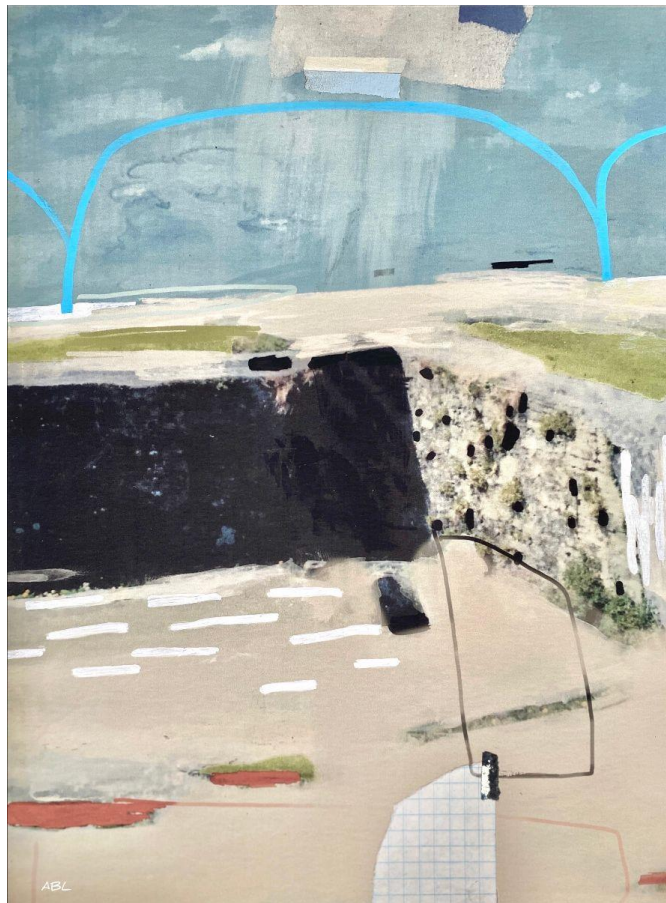


image: Anne Brochu Lambert, *Fort*, mixed media on Arches paper, 11 x 9 inches, 2023.

Regina, SK:

In a two-person exhibition, *Memories of the Sun*, opening at the Art Gallery of Regina on Friday, March 10, artists Anne Brochu Lambert (Regina) and Sylvia Matas (Winnipeg) re-enchanted the banal rhythms of travel in their ethereal transformations of thrifted snapshots and online security camera feeds.

The exhibition title, *Memories of the Sun*, acknowledges the importance of photography to both artists' work and the camera's reliance on light to create an image while prompting consideration that photography and streaming video have replaced remembering and experiencing. The title also alludes to the cherished wish for a sunny holiday at this time of year. Instead, Brochu Lambert and Matas have crafted immersive experiences of another time and place from found images.

Brochu Lambert uses discarded amateur photographs of holiday spots she has never visited as the basis for her mixed media works on paper. She obscures, reveals and annotates landmarks with layers of vinyl gouache, markers, graphite, inks, spray paint and gold leaf, replicating the process of memory and mixing the empirical with the emotional. Notably, Brochu Lambert has created an interactive projection that reinvents the vacation snap slideshow, a mid-century rumpus room staple, for this exhibition. She invites viewers to insert their bodies into projected landscapes as they trace the artist's digital and analog interventions on her source material.

Sylvia Matas' photographs, videos and bookworks describe a sentimental longing to be a wanderer elsewhere. Just as the holiday exists outside our daily lives and thus outside of time, Matas stretches time by creating an expectation that is never satisfied in her appropriated security camera footage. The artist obsessively combs the internet for live-streamed footage from surveillance

cams, capturing and reframing the most absurd — a close-up view of leaves obscuring the lens or a parking lot in which nothing happens — as absurdly beautiful.

Matas doesn't limit her travelling through space and time to the spooky magic of the internet. Her bookwork *Reversal of Winds*, exhibited as a grid of single pages, reminds us of the vastness of time and our insignificance as humans. Poetic lists alluding to arcane knowledge — the vocalizations of extinct bird species (bell-like, dismal shrieks) or methods of divination (by the howling of dogs, by dreams) — are sequestered on one edge of vast white pages. Interleaved with these texts are photographs that locate the improbable in the crumbling and deserted architecture of the everyday.

Join the Art Gallery of Regina in celebrating Matas and Brochu Lambert's eccentric, evocative and aching portraits of lonely places visited through mid-century snapshots and web-streamed video at the opening reception for *Memories of the Sun* from 7-9 PM on Friday, March 10.

Sylvia Matas will speak about her work at the University of Regina on Friday, March 10, at noon; Anne Brochu Lambert will speak in French about her work the week of March 13 (date to be confirmed) at the Art Gallery of Regina.

Get-away from the drudgery of reality and re-imagine the banal in the ethereal artworks of Matas and Brochu Lambert. *Memories of the Sun* is free to view daily from March 11 – April 30, 2023. Admission to the Art Gallery of Regina is always free; we request that visitors wear medical masks.

Media contact:

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Contact the gallery to arrange interviews with Anne Brochu Lambert in English or French and with Sylvia Matas in English.

Please note that this email contains a link to a GoogleDrive folder of images that may be reproduced.

Links:

Reproducible images:
[reproducible images](#)

Video:

Sylvia Matas, *Houseplant*: <https://youtu.be/PFyH5trdnxE>
Sylvia Matas, *Looming*: <https://youtu.be/2Ak5ylcfN-U>

Websites:

[exhibition webpage](#)
[Anne Brochu Lambert website](#)
[Sylvia Matas website](#)

Artist's bios:

Sylvia Matas is an artist living on Treaty One Territory in Winnipeg. Her practice combines images and language resulting in videos, books, texts, and drawings. She received her MFA from the Chelsea College of Art in London, England. Her work has been exhibited at the Art Museum at the University of Toronto, Gallery 44, YYZ Artist's Outlet, Mercer Union (Toronto), the Maclaren Art Centre (Barrie, ON), The Winnipeg Art Gallery, Plug In ICA (Winnipeg), Truck Contemporary Art

(Calgary), and Útúrdúr (Reykjavik). Her videos have been screened at Smart Projects Space (Amsterdam), Harvestworks DMAC (New York), Helen Pitt Gallery (Vancouver), Gallery Homeland (Portland, OR), Eyelevel Gallery (Halifax).

Anne Brochu Lambert lives on Treaty four territory in Regina. Her art practice focuses on drawing and painting through analog and digital techniques, incorporating collage, photography, printmaking, textile assemblage and multimedia art installation. Her visual language draws on symbolism and abstraction to explore the landscape as a motif in our complex relationship with our surroundings.

Originally from Lévis (QC), she has a diploma in the arts (DEC in Arts et Lettres, CEGEP Lévis-Lauzon QC) and has continued to enrich her practice by participating in residencies and professional workshops.

Brochu Lambert has exhibited in solo and group exhibitions and juried shows in Canada and the USA. Represented by Nouveau Gallery in Regina, her works have been acquired for private and public collections in Canada and the USA.

For Calendar Listings

Exhibition title: *Memories of the Sun*

Artists: Anne Brochu Lambert, Sylvia Matas

Curator: Sandee Moore

Dates: March 10 – April 30, 2023

Opening reception: Friday, March 10, from 7-9 PM

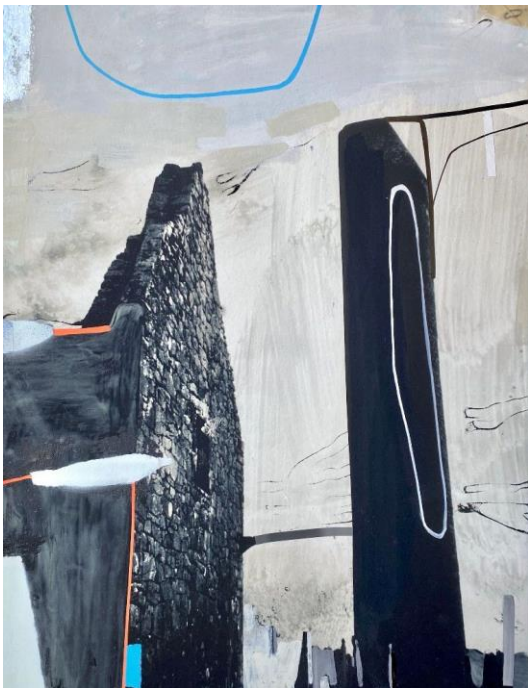
Cost: FREE

Sylvia Matas Artist talk: Friday, March 10, from 12:00 – 12:50 over Zoom

Anne Brochu Lambert Artist talk: week of March 13 [DATE TBA], 2-4 PM at the Art Gallery of Regina (in French)

Short description: Sylvia Matas and Anne Brochu Lambert underscore the profound loneliness and alienation of far-off sites they have visited only through found photographs

and online video, sometimes layering images and dreaming up new landscapes and at other times extending this break from reality until tedium becomes a transcendent escape.





images (top to bottom): Sylvia Matas, *Houseplant*, 2022, 3min 17sec, single-channel video, silent; Anne Brochu Lambert, *Campus*, mixed media on Arches paper, 20 x 16 inches, 2022; Sylvia Matas, *Reversal of Winds* (detail), 2018, 6 x 7 in/ 20 page, bookwork; Sylvia Matas, *Reversal of Winds* (detail), 2018, 6 x 7 in/ 20 page, bookwork; Sylvia Matas, *Looming*, 2021, 35 min, single-channel video loop, silent; Sylvia Matas, *Houseplant*, 2022, 3min 17sec, single-channel video, silent.

AGR

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Located on Treaty 4, the traditional territory of the Cree, Saulteaux, Nakota, Lakota and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Métis people, the Art Gallery of Regina (AGR) promotes the development and appreciation of contemporary art, with an emphasis on Saskatchewan artists. Our programming focuses on the voices and experiences of Saskatchewan artists and visitors. AGR programming encompasses exhibitions (featuring established, emerging and recreational artists), education, publishing, workshops and artists talks. Through free public exhibitions and dedicated support for artists and innovation, the AGR has over 45 years as a supportive and creative cultural hub connecting artists and our communities.

The Art Gallery of Regina is an autonomous, independent public art gallery with non-profit and charitable status. We are a tenant in the Neil Balkwill Civic Arts Centre located within the vibrant Cathedral Village neighbourhood in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.



The Art Gallery of Regina gratefully acknowledges the support of its core funders, project funders, partners and sponsors:



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