

For Immediate Release: May 23, 2025

Art Gallery of Regina's newest exhibition is a dream: *Ten Years Dreaming* by Cindy Baker with Scott Smallwood opens June 5.

Cindy Baker's playful exhibition, *Ten Years Dreaming*, brings dreams to life as a way of overcoming trauma at the Art Gallery of Regina, June 5 - August 2, 2025.



Regina, SK:

Ten Years Dreaming, representing a decade of artwork reflecting on dreams, memory, and the subconscious by Western Canadian artist Cindy Baker in collaboration with sound artist Scott Smallwood, opens at the Art Gallery of Regina **on June 5, 2025**.

Baker's artwork begins with a dream; she has spent ten years recording her dreams. These nocturnal narratives inspire her sculpture, performance, electronics and sound works.

Even in sleep, Baker's thoughts centre around the art world and are tinged with chagrin. In her artwork *Dream Come True*, she recounts dreaming of a plastic coin imprinted with the image of a cartoon duck that she inexplicably purchased on layaway from a commercial gallery: "I went to pick it up and pay for it, and it was \$10," she writes, "I wondered why I hadn't been able to pay that amount years ago but realized that we didn't have PayPal that long ago, and that I'd never carry that kind of cash."

Seemingly inconsequential and whimsical, Baker's artwork captures the bittersweet nature of dreams and internalized obstacles to achieving our goals. The things that occupy the unconscious mind reveal the stressful preoccupations of our society: consumerism, FOMO, financial stability, and caring relationships. Baker's artworks raise broader questions about value, nostalgia, and the relationship between art and commerce, particularly in the age of scarcity.

Gallery visitors will encounter banal yet unworldly objects, ranging from a sink overflowing with ropes of jewels to an enormous inflatable duck-shaped chair. The exhibition also includes the contents of Baker's dream journal spelled out on an electronic ticker board and a sound component - a continuous, evolving tapestry of voices created by Smallwood - to accompany these surreal sculptures.

Intangible and elusive, sound is an analogue for the exhibition's themes, revealing the unpleasant and intractable connections between dreams, memory, and trauma.

The flip side of the delightful dream is the recurring nightmare of PTSD. The live performance of *Things I've Forgotten*, on Saturday, June 7 at 2 PM, is rooted in the artist's childhood memories of trauma. Baker must pedal an adult-sized Big Wheel tricycle for two hours, powering a speaker to broadcast the dream soundtrack. This physical exertion mimics the difficulty of moving beyond trauma and regret.

Absurd, disarming, and unsettling, *Ten Years Dreaming* illustrates how the illogical world of dreams can help us overcome burdens and guide us toward a positive future.

Join us to celebrate this exhibition at a public reception **on Friday, June 6, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM**. Enjoy refreshments, meet Baker and Smallwood, and immerse yourself in an exhibition that is literally a dream come true. Additionally, don't miss the live performance of *Things I've Forgotten* **on June 7 from 2-4 PM**. *Ten Years Dreaming* continues until August 2, 2025; admission to the Art Gallery of Regina (2420 Elphinstone Street) is free.

Media contact:

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Contact Moore to arrange interviews with the artists in English.

Artists' Bios: [PDF](#) | Google Drive
link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1O7oW00Mr2n6lvQYM6J7hF2fLtYQjBjIW?usp=sharing>
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link): <https://docs.google.com/document/d/167FpANHynvxp90Tmc9yysDwt8B7igVWTsKFBXcr0O5k/edit?usp=sharing>
Cindy Baker's website: <https://www.cindy-baker.ca/>

For more information and updates, please visit our website (www.artgalleryofregina.ca) or contact the Art Gallery Regina by calling 306-522-5940.

For Calendar Listings:

Exhibition title: *Ten Years Dreaming*

Artist(s): Cindy Baker with Scott Smallwood

Location: Art Gallery of Regina (2420 Elphinstone Street)

Exhibition Dates: June 5 – August 2, 2025

Opening Reception: Friday, June 6, 5-7 PM

Performance: Saturday, June 7, 2 PM

Webpage: <https://www.artgalleryofregina.ca/upcoming-exhibition>

Free Admission



images: *Dream Come True* (detail) & *Things I've Forgotten* (installation view), Cindy Baker.
All photos courtesy of the artist and previous exhibition venues.

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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) is a dynamic cultural hub, promoting the development and appreciation of contemporary art, primarily created by Saskatchewan artists. AGR provides opportunities for Regina's citizens and visitors to engage with contemporary art through free exhibitions, participatory events, performances, artists' talks, critical writing, and educational programming.



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



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