For Immediate Release: September 14, 2026

Garments with a Message: Art Gallery of Regina Premieres *The Fashion Show* on September 25 And Fashions A New Understanding of Clothing As Communication

AGR's latest exhibition boldly proposes fashion by Saskatchewan artists and designers as a force for self-expression, cultural dialogue and positivity.



image: Jason Baerg, *Rainbow, Illuminosity and the Dream* collection, 2026 Photo: courtesy of the artist.

Regina, SK: On Friday, September 25, the Art Gallery of Regina will unveil an unexpected new exhibition—*The Fashion Show*, an exhibition of garments by Saskatchewan artists and fashion designers Jason Baerg (Prince Albert/Toronto), David Le (Regina/Toronto), Geanna Rae (Regina), and Lisa Wicklund (Regina). This groundbreaking exhibition overturns longstanding prejudices that have kept fashion out of art galleries; it invites viewers to appreciate fashion as meaningful contemporary art rather than dismissing it as frivolous or merely a commodity.

Artists whose work is included in *The Fashion Show* represent a diversity of backgrounds and approaches: Lisa Wicklund is an established fashion designer whose elegant designs and luxurious details have garnered acclaim; Jason Baerg, internationally recognized for visual art that merges abstract painting with new media, seamlessly translates his visual language into garments, allowing for a dynamic exchange of ideas and approaches between canvas and cloth; Geanna Rae, a self-taught artist, disrupts expectations with subversive, playfully political pieces; and David Le, a printmaker and emerging fashion design student, creates size-inclusive, hand-printed garments that blend gender and cultural signifiers.

What makes *The Fashion Show* unique is its insistence that clothing is more than mere adornment, but a vital, expressive art form—our second skin, a vessel for autobiography and activism, a site where personal and collective narratives unfold. Unlike mass-produced fast fashion, the handcrafted garments on display are imbued with care and intention. In each garment and carefully staged installation, artists invite us to imagine being surrounded by comfort, shelter, and healing beauty, and to craft an authentic self through fashion.

Thoughtful, provocative and surprising works populate this exhibition. Geanna Rae's inversion and perversion of the iconic MAGA trucker hat brazenly challenges political symbols, transforming them into objects of commentary and critique. Lisa Wicklund's high-fashion ensembles, ingeniously constructed from repurposed comfort items such as bedspreads, blur the line between the familiar and the aspirational. David Le's garments, hand-printed and tailored for all bodies, expand the language of fashion to include everyone while also echoing the impacts of colonization for those of Vietnamese heritage. Meanwhile, Jason Baerg's designs propose fashion as a way to intimately activate the space of our bodies as a place for ceremony. As Baerg states, "By weaving Cree Métis cosmology into contemporary art and fashion, my work exists as a bridge between ancestral memory and the infinite possibilities of Indigenous futurities. Culture is a dynamic dialogue, where the conversation between the artist and the observer presents an opportunity for change. My intention in every production is to leave viewers with new ideas to consider relating to art's formal aspects and conceptual impact."

More than an exhibition, *The Fashion Show* is an invitation—to consider how what we wear communicates not only who we are, but who we hope to become. It foregrounds fashion's communicative power as contemporary art, repositioning clothing as a vector for autobiography, activism, and aspiration. In an era dominated by disposable trends, this exhibition champions garments as living works of self-expression. To put on clothing is to be embraced within beauty and care.

Get into fashion this fall with the AGR! In addition to free admission to view *The Fashion Show* from September 25 to November 14, 2026, we have a range of free, artist-led and staff-led Culture Days events exploring themes of intimacy,

cultural identity, consumer culture, and costume, sponsored by SaskCulture and funded by SaskLotteries.

Register for Culture Days events taking place at the Art Gallery of Regina (2420 Elphinstone Street), on our website (https://www.artgalleryofregina.ca/culture-days-2026) and unravel the complex ways we communicate and take comfort from fashion through creation and collective experiences:

Friday, Sept. 18, 5 - 8 PM PUNK PATCH WORKSHOP
Create wearable slogan patches rooted in DIY and punk aesthetics and personal storytelling with Geanna Rae.

Saturday, Sept. 26, 2 - 4 PM FASHION SKETCHING FOR YOUTH
Artist David Le will guide youth through sketching and photomontage to create designs that reflect their perspectives and to see fashion as a tool for self-discovery, cultural appreciation, and emotional well-being.

Saturday, Sept. 26, 5 - 8 PM RUNWAY RESONANCE
Learn how to create immersive soundscapes that elevate the mood, narrative, and energy of a fashion show, transforming it into a multisensory celebration with Jason Baerg and Patrick Moon Bird.

Sunday, Sept. 27, 2 - 5 PM ECO-DYED ACCESSORIES
In this hands-on workshop, youth will forage for natural materials and use eco-printing and natural dyeing techniques to transform garments with vibrant, one-of-a-kind patterns, strengthening their connection to nature through wearable art.

Sunday, Oct. 4, 2 - 4 PM SUNDAY AFTERNOON FASHION SHOW
In the spirit of inclusivity, everyone is invited to walk the runway, supported by peers and the sounds of cheers as well as a thoughtfully crafted soundscape, before striking a pose for our event paparazzo. Whether wearing their workshop creations or simply dressing up for fun, the Sunday Afternoon Fashion Show celebrates individuality, community and stories.

Experience *The Fashion Show* firsthand—join us for a free public reception on Friday, September 25—meet the artists, connect with our vibrant community, and celebrate fashion as art. Enjoy complimentary non-alcoholic drinks and snacks, and take part in exciting, all-ages fashion events (September 18 to October 4) sponsored by Culture Days. Don’t miss *The Fashion Show* at the Art Gallery of Regina!

Media contact:

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Contact Ms. Moore to arrange English-language interviews with the artists and/or curator in person, by phone or by email.

Links:

artists' bios:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BuejfmGNbPfHMB4q-nXTP-03AyjOHeDEJO-iJAASb6k/edit?usp=sharing

reproduction-ready images:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13Bx088FP8TCcSNNOfA9l_kikqmFO6_Nr?usp=sharing

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

Visitors can engage further through free resources such as exhibition audio tours sponsored by SaskTel and Indigenous Perspectives events sponsored by Casino Regina.

For Calendar Listings

Exhibition title: *The Fashion Show*

Artists: Jason Baerg, David Le, Geanna Rae, Lisa Wicklund

Curator: Sandee Moore

Dates: September 25 – November 14, 2026

Opening reception: Friday, September 25, 2026, 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Cost: Free Admission

Website: https://www.artgalleryofregina.ca/upcoming-exhibition

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images (top to bottom): *Ghost* collection, Lisa Wicklund, 2017. Photo: Saskatchewan Fashion Week; *My Roots*, David Le, Cotton twill, embroidery, intaglio, 2022-2024. Photo: courtesy the artist; installation view including *Geanna Squaw*, *ancestry*, *half bred and well fed*, *Make Canada Indigenous Again*, and *The overseerer/Officer*, Geanna Rae, 2026. Photo: AGR staff.

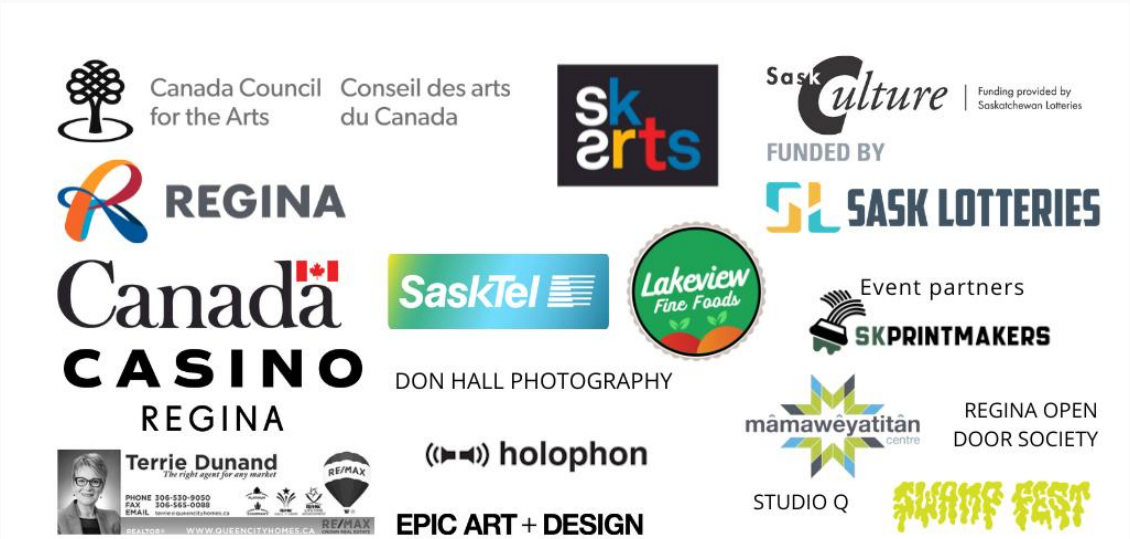
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AGR

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2026
FIFTY YEARS OF ENGAGING CONTEMPORARY ART

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:



The Canada Council for the Arts is Canada's national public arts funder, with a mandate to foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of works in, the arts. Through its grants, services, prizes, initiatives, and payments, the Canada Council supports a dynamic and diverse arts and literary scene. These activities generate a meaningful economic, cultural and social impact for over 2,000 communities in all parts of the country and beyond. The investments and leadership of the Council help advance public engagement in the arts from coast to coast to coast while also contributing to the international recognition of artists and arts organizations from Canada.

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