

For Immediate Release: January 15, 2026

Ideas of Weaving and Prairie Perspectives Unravelling in *The Thread of the Wish*, Opening January 30th, at the Art Gallery of Regina

The Art Gallery of Regina invites everyone to discover how weaving becomes a method for interlacing cultures and sharing lived experience in its latest exhibition.



image: *Afterburn I*, 2025, acrylic on panel, "24" x 18".

Regina, SK: The Art Gallery of Regina (2420 Elphinstone Street) presents *The Thread of the Wish*, an exhibition exploring unconventional approaches to weaving as storytelling. The show runs from January 30 to March 28, 2026; curated by the Art Gallery of Regina's own Sandee Moore, it features works by Negar Devine-Tajgardan, Adrian Golban, Lara Felsing, and David Garneau. Moore titled the exhibition after a passage from Sigmund Freud's 1908 essay on writers and creativity, "Past, present and future are strung together [...] by the thread of the wish that runs through them." The thread of desire that connects past and future includes the desire for a better world, suggests Moore.

The Thread of the Wish is notable for the artists' approach to weaving—not only as a craft, but as a metaphor for connection, storytelling, and the creation of social fabric. Each artist weaves together memory, cultural heritage, and relationships to nature in artworks spanning photography, painting, and sculpture. Textiles are often closely connected with our bodies, providing shelter, comfort, and warmth, while also telegraphing our identities through the woven designs that adorn bodies and living spaces. Fingers weave together strands, speaking of the intertwined nature of our lives and the labour of expressing an identity.

Devine-Tajgardan (Saskatoon) transforms a photograph of her murdered uncle, which was long kept hidden behind another photograph in a family album. She slices the image into strips or separates it into threads, which she then weaves into textiles with patterns inspired by her family's daily life in Iran. Through this intimate process, she forges a renewed connection with her uncle and reclaims Persian design, healing from the trauma of Iran's oppressive regime.

Golban's (Saskatoon) constructions draw on memories of Romanian weaving traditions. *For Knotted Vestiges (Vestigii Inodate)*, the artist built a replica Neolithic loom, like one he remembers his grandmother using, from salvaged branches to support a tapestry of clay squares. Devoid of the soft comfort of a traditional textile, the tapestry, which incorporates pieces of ceramic self-portraits, embodies Golban's notion that "we in our lives will be fragmented by daily life and trauma."

Felsing's (Edson, AB) practice exists in close relationship to the land of Northern Alberta and Métis traditions passed down through generations. An array of foraged, found, and repurposed materials in the artists' blankets and baskets captures the complex story of her local landscape, shaped by climate extremes, natural cycles, and human impact.

Garneau (Regina) depicts the woven-arrow sash, a key symbol of Métis identity, in bold slashes of paint, distilling its rich symbolism and flattening it into a text. In his allegorical paintings, he transforms the sash and juxtaposes it with other objects, expanding the story woven into the interlaced wool threads. He depicts the sash looped into a noose, swaddling a length of charred wood, or with its tasseled ends knotted in a code-like arrangement, prompting reflection on the unique challenges of a hybrid identity—one that bridges past and present, and exists within both Indigenous and settler cultures.

The Thread of the Wish transforms our understanding of weaving and expectations of prairie life. The four prairie artists in the exhibition weave together strands of thought and lived experiences of newcomers and Indigenous peoples to create a strong social fabric.

The Art Gallery of Regina is committed to accessibility and inclusion—admission to all exhibitions, including *The Thread of the Wish*, is always free. Everyone is invited to the opening reception on Friday, January 30, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM to meet and celebrate the artists. Visitors can engage further through free resources such as exhibition audio tours sponsored by SaskTel and Indigenous Perspectives events sponsored by Casino Regina.

Media contact:

Sandee Moore
Director/Curator, Art Gallery of Regina
306-522-5940
curator@artgalleryofregina.ca

Contact Moore to arrange English-language interviews with the artists:

- Négar Devine-Tajgardan via email or video conference
- Adrian Golban via email
- David Garnea via telephone, email, video conference or in person
- Lara Felsing via email

Links:

artist's bios and curriculum vitae: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-Zb6_Rsoqv92lg4WTU3txOwDCtl3BVcb?usp=sharing

reproduction-ready images:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18esnh3foluagbBbkqcCjRNJctsRQ79F?usp=sharing> (files are named with photo caption information)

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: The Thread of the Wish

Artist(s): Négar Devine-Tajgardan, Adrian Golban, Lara Felsing, and David Garneau

Dates: January 30 to March 28, 2026

Opening reception: Friday, January 30, 5:00 to 8:00 PM

Location: Art Gallery of Regina, 2420 Elphinstone St.

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



images (top to bottom): *Sedigheh, Mahmood and Najmeh* (detail), Négar Devine-Tajgardan, 2023, digital print on canvas, thread, 15" x 18"; *Knotted Vestiges (Vestigii Inodate)* (in-process), Adrian Golban, 2026, recycled earthenware clay mixed with paper fibre, rope, found branches, clay objects imprinted with found objects and fragments of self-portrait; *Blanket Ceremony for the Forest*, Lara Felsing, 2023, second-hand cotton thread, linen, canvas and floral broadcloth dyed with spruce cones, saskatoon berries, sweetgrass, tobacco, cedar, sage, chaga, strawberries, dandelion and bee pollen. All photos courtesy of the artists.

###

- END -

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.