



Thoughts of Love  
Meditations of Violence

KARL MATTSON

# Thoughts of Love Meditations of Violence

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Artist in Residence 2019  
Peace Liard Regional Arts Council  
Dawson Creek Art Gallery

## Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publications

Title: Thoughts of Love, Meditations on Violence

Artist: Karl Mattson

Exhibition catalogue

ISBN: 978-1-7771430-0-8

Published by the Dawson Creek Art Gallery

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Editor: Donna Kane

Photography: kit fast

Design: in.detox designs

Typefaces used: Flight, Trajan and Myriad Pro

Cover, *X marks the spot*, Photograph

Inside front cover, *porthole*, Photograph

## Acknowledgments

### Artist in Residence Program (AIR)

The Peace Liard Regional Arts Council (PLRAC) and the Dawson Creek Art Gallery would like to congratulate Karl Mattson for having been selected for the AIR program in 2019. We are honoured to present Karl's newly created exhibition *Thoughts of Love, Meditations of Violence* in the spiral exhibition space of the Dawson Creek Art Gallery.

The AIR program, administered by the PLRAC with support from the BC Arts Council, provides a northeast BC artist with concentrated time to work on their art in a studio setting along with mentorship from a professional artist/curator culminating in a solo exhibition.

The program, which the PLRAC hopes will become an annual opportunity, was developed to assist the region's artists in gaining time for their practice as well as furthering their exposure and professional status.

The 2019 submissions to the Artist in Residence program were adjudicated by Paul Crawford, curator of the Penticton Art Gallery, and nationally renowned artist Peter von Tiesenhausen from Demmit, Alberta.

Paul also participated as a mentor during the creative process, generously offering to share his experience and expertise with our local artists and arts organizations.



## Thoughts of Love. Meditations of Violence

Both love and violence are emotions that manifest in many forms. To sustain our personal psyche and the assumed world that we create for ourselves, we need to be aware of what constructs we cradle, and what places we destroy.

While rattling around my farm, sorting through the experience of middle age, I hope to engage the viewer on a visceral level as I explore my elusive migration toward finding meaning. My artistic explorations have taken me to the Arctic of Norway where I bore witness to the awe of calving glaciers, ancient ecospheres dissolving into the archipelagos of Spitsbergen.

Along with this are my constants that continually challenge me - a personal wrangling with thoughts of existence and the never ending push of industry around my farm. I have utilized the PLRAC residency to expand a focus on the interactions between the environment and its inhabitants to include the individuals who have stood beside me in the struggle to find inner peace within an ever-changing environment. This exhibition searches for a beauty within the nature of our world's low violent hum of climate change, the slow death march of humankind's complacency.

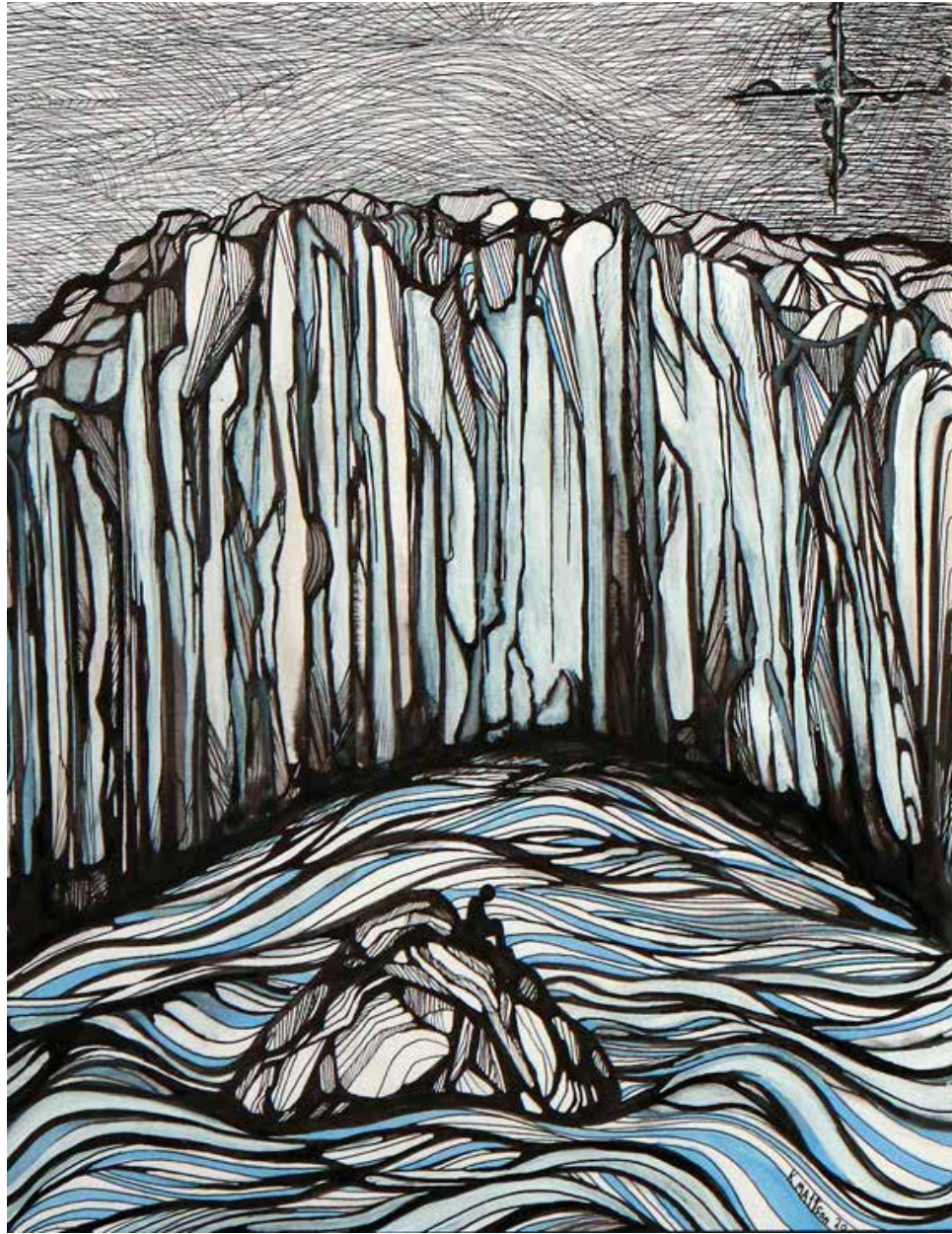
Karl Mattson

July 2020



*CHAMBER,*  
Interactive installation  
2020





*day 10,*  
Mixed media  
2020"

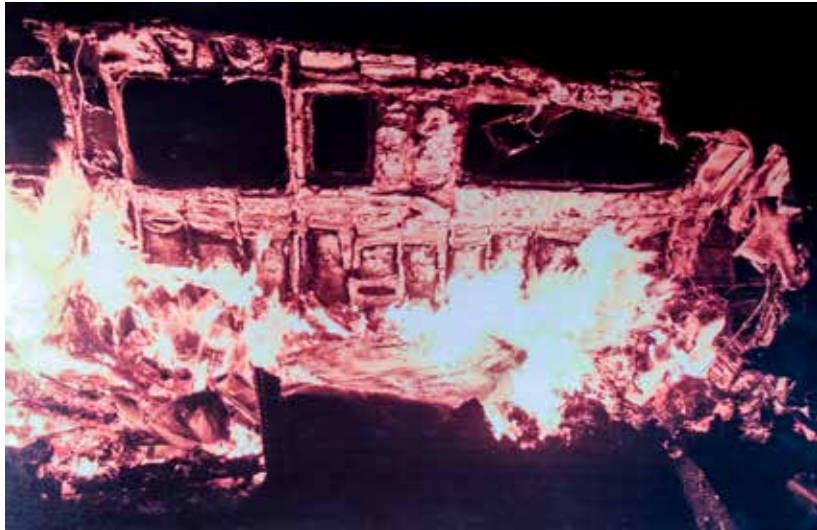


*solstice,*  
Mixed media  
2020"





*unfinished NFS,*  
Mixed media  
2020"



*processed,*  
Photograph  
2020



*catharsis,*  
Photograph  
2020



*expulsion,*  
Ink on photograph  
2020



## EXHIBITIONS, FILMS, AND COMMISSIONS

<i>Voices from the Sacrifice Zone</i> , mixed media exhibition. UBC Medical Student and Alumni Centre, Vancouver, BC	2020	<i>Life Pod</i> , sculpture unveiling at Scavenger Studio, Rolla, BC	2011
<i>Voices from the Sacrifice Zone</i> , mixed media exhibition. Arts Centre at Cedar Hill, Victoria BC	2020	<i>Industrial Evolution</i> official selection for Reel Earth film festival, New Zealand, NZ	2010
Artist in Residency exhibition, Penticton BC	2020	<i>Sweetwater to Saltwater</i> official selection for Reel Paddling film festival	2010
Peace Liard Regional Arts Council, Artist in Residency program. with exhibition in Dawson Creek Art Gallery, Dawson Creek, BC	2019/2020	<i>Keeping the Peace</i> , official selection for Waterwalker film festival officially selected for Reel Shorts film festival, April 24-26 2010. Grande Prairie, AB	2010
<i>Together</i> , collaboration sculpture. Minoru Park, Richmond BC	2018	<i>Sweetwater to Saltwater</i> northern cities tour	2007 - 2009
Selected to attend The Arctic Circle residency, Svalbard, Norway.	2018	<i>Muskwa</i> , online exhibition in partnership with Athabasca University and Writing on the Ridge	2008
<i>Emergence</i> , collaborative sculpture. Lead artist and manager. Located at the Dawson Creek Art Gallery, Dawson Creek, BC	2017	<i>Keepers of the Water IV</i> , Fort Chipewyan Cultural Centre, Fort Chipewyan , AB	2008
Robson Valley Music Festival, sculpture exhibition	2017	<i>Sweetwater to Saltwater</i> , Waterwalker Film Festival and North American Tour	2007
Arts Wells, Sculpture exhibition, Wells, BC	2017	<i>Muskwa-Kechika</i> , Dawson Creek Art Gallery, Dawson Creek, BC and Peace Gallery North, Fort St. John, BC and Northern Lights College, Fort Nelson	2007
<i>Maps and Dreams</i> , Audain Gallery, group show, Vancouver, BC <a href="https://www.sfu.ca/galleries/audain-gallery.html">https://www.sfu.ca/galleries/audain-gallery.html</a>	2017	<i>Keeping the Peace</i> , guest presenter at Keepers of the Water 2.	2007
<i>Hinterlands</i> , solo exhibition, Critical Mass Pop-up Gallery, 100 Mile House BC	2016	<i>The Expedition</i> , Dawson Creek Art Gallery , Dawson Creek , BC	2006
<i>Hinterlands</i> , solo exhibition, Williams Lake, BC	2016	<i>Arctic Journeys II</i> , Canfor Theatre, Prince George , BC, presentation of <i>Sweetwater to Saltwater</i> with two other arctic canoeing journeys.	2006
<i>The Expedition</i> , group show by the Mattson family, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie, AB	2016	Alaska Highway sculpture commission for the City of Dawson Creek	2004
Lantern Gallery, solo exhibition, Winnipeg, MB	2016	Nordic Art Exhibit and Sale , Scandinavian Community Centre, Burnaby, BC	2004
<i>Lost</i> , solo exhibition, Dawson Creek Art Gallery, Dawson Creek, BC	2014	Found, Two Rivers Gallery, Prince George , BC	2004
<i>Lost</i> , Arts Wells, sculpture exhibition, Wells, BC	2014	Workers' Memorial Sculpture for the City of Dawson Creek	2003
<i>Life Pod</i> , Two Rivers Art Gallery sculpture court, Prince George, BC	2015	<i>Sweetwater</i> , Two Rivers Gallery sculpture court, Prince George, BC	2003
<i>Life Pod - The Vessel</i> , Peace Gallery North, Fort St. John, BC	2014	Artropolis, CBC Building , Vancouver, BC	2003
Sweetwater905 arts and music festival, featured artist, , Rolla, BC	1998 – 2014	Night of Artists, Grande Prairie Inn, Grande Prairie, AB	2000
<i>Life Pod</i> , Arts Wells exhibition, Wells, BC	2013	<i>Images and Objects</i> , BC Festival of the Arts, Penticton, BC	1996
Sculpture unveiling at the rose garden, Pioneer Village, Dawson Creek, BC	2013	<i>Images and Objects</i> , BC Festival of the Arts, Kamloops, BC	1995
Sweetwater905 arts and music festival, featured artist, , Rolla, BC	2013	Received Award of Excellence for mixed media sculpture	
Mural at the Ken Borek Aquatic center and climbing wall, Dawson Creek, BC	2012	<i>Images and Objects</i> , BC Festival of the Arts, Campbell River, BC	1994
<i>Sisters of Karnataka</i> selected for distribution through indieflix.com winner of the short doc category Home Planet Film Festival ,NYC official selection Toronto Independent Film Festival, Toronto, ON official selection Reel Shorts Film Festival Grande Prairie, AB	2011	<i>The Mattsons</i> , Dawson Creek Art Gallery , Dawson Creek, BC and Peace Gallery North, Fort St. John , BC	1994
		<i>Sweetwater Road I</i> , Dawson Creek Art Gallery, Dawson Creek, BC and Peace Gallery North, Fort St. John, BC	1992





*harvesters,*  
Mixed media  
2020"