



VIDEOS

Charlene Vickers

Anishinaabe artist gestures towards ancestral lands and practices in her latest work.

by Mark Mushet

October 4, 2021 5:00 PM

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Charlene Vickers, an Anishinaabe artist based in Vancouver, explores memory, healing and embodied connections to ancestral lands through painting, sculpture, installation and performance. Her exhibition, *Ancestor Gesture*, at the Contemporary Art Gallery in Vancouver until Jan. 2, brings together works from the last decade, including an eight-foot-long sculptural cedar bead and abstract drawings inspired in part by traditional quillwork embroidery. "I take that idea of sewing, and reclamation of quillwork and

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From the Editor - January 25, 2022 Issue



beading, and translate that into a painting." Vickers tells Mark Mushet in this video commissioned by Galleries West. "I kind of see that as an ancestral gesture." Vickers, from Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, near Kenora in northwestern Ontario, graduated from what is now the Emily Carr University of Art and Design in 1994 and earned an MFA from Simon Fraser University in 2013. She received a VIVA Award, which recognizes outstanding achievement by mid-career artists in British Columbia, in 2018. Vickers has been included in significant shows, such as *Where Do We Go From Here?* and *Ambivalent Pleasures*, both at the Vancouver Art Gallery, as well as international group shows in New Zealand and the United States.

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Mark Mushet

Mark Mushet is a photographer, video producer and the creative director of Vancouver Review Media, an online publication featuring videos of interest to British Columbia's arts and cultural community.

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