

# Marlena Wyman

## BIO

Marlena Wyman is an Edmonton artist and third generation Alberta prairie woman, raised on her family's farm near Rockyford, AB. She studied Visual Art, History and Education at the University of Calgary and the University of Alberta and has been an exhibiting artist for over 25 years.

Marlena is co-founder of Urban Sketchers Edmonton, a recipient of the Edmonton Historical Board's Recognition Award in archives and visual arts, served on the board of the Women's Art Museum Society of Canada and was Edmonton's 5th Historian Laureate which she interpreted through her art practice. She has attended artist's residencies and art retreats at Yorath House in Edmonton AB, Wallace Stegner House in Eastend SK, Val Marie, SK and Bellevue/Brigus NL.

Marlena worked at the Provincial Archives of Alberta for many years, responsible for the historic photograph, film and sound collections. Her art practice incorporates the concepts of history, memory, and storytelling with a focus on prairie women's history.

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT

My art practice is informed by archival research, and my focus is on the domestic realm and the first immigrant women who came to the prairies. In my former work as an archivist, I found that one of the significant gaps in archival collections is that of women's stories. In particular, the voice of early prairie women is largely excluded from mainstream history. As an artist, I honour these women's many contributions and advocate for their rightful place in history.

## CV

### *Solo Exhibits (selected):*

2022	<i>Home</i>	Metro Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2018	<i>Regarding Mary</i>	Bleeding Heart Art Space, Edmonton, AB
2018, 2016	<i>Illuminating the Diary of Alda Dale Randall</i>	Okotoks Art Gallery, Okotoks, AB 2018 Provincial Archives of Alberta, 2016
2017	<i>Headwind</i>	Ortona Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2016, 2013	<i>The Effect of Collected Memory on the Adorned Body</i>	Mile Zero Spazio Performativo, Edmonton, 2016 The Works Art & Design Festival, Edmonton, 2013
2014	<i>Landing Hard</i>	Prairie Wind & Silver Sage Gallery, Val Marie, SK

2014	<i>The Sisterhood of Longing</i>	Jackson Power Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2006	<i>The Tablets of Memory</i>	Ortona Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2005	<i>Ortona Gallery 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibit – Marlena Wyman Retrospective</i>	Ortona Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2004	<i>Hothouse Heart</i>	Ortona Gallery, Edmonton, AB

**Group Exhibits (selected):**

2020	<i>You Are Not Alone</i>	Penticton Art Gallery, Penticton, BC
2019 – 2021	<i>Real Women</i>	TREX: Art Gallery of Alberta/Alberta Foundation for Arts
2018	<i>Archived Land : Terrain Archivé</i>	Jackson Power Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2017	<i>In/Hospitable</i>	SkirtsAfire Festival, Nina Haggerty Gallery, Edmonton
2016	<i>Voices for the Vote</i>	Borealis Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2015	<i>Women Portraying Women</i>	Visual Arts Studio Assoc., St. Albert, AB
2013	<i>InSight 2: Engaging the Health Humanities</i>	Fine Arts Building Gallery, Univ of Alberta
2012	<i>InSight: Visualizing Health Humanities</i>	Fine Arts Building Gallery, Univ of Alberta
2010	<i>For Gilbert</i>	The Works Festival, Edmonton, AB
2010	<i>The Boxn't T-Shirt Project</i>	The Works Festival, Edmonton, AB
2008	<i>The Useful Lessons of Plants</i>	Glenrose Hospital Gallery, Edmonton, AB
2006	<i>September's Work</i>	St. George's Church Cultural Centre, Brigus, Newfoundland
2004	<i>Have a heART</i>	The Works Festival, Edmonton, AB
2002	<i>The Print Farm Show</i>	University of Alberta Extension Gallery, Edmonton, Milner Art Gallery, Stanley A. Milner Library
2002	<i>Anatomical Gardens</i>	Ironworks Gallery, Vancouver, BC

***Publications and Other Projects (selected):***

- 2022 Yorath House artist in residence talk with Adriana Davies for Edmonton Historic Festival:  
*Art & Time: Yorath House and Edmonton's Westerly Parks*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dX3PnhDeyPI&t=3410s>
- 2021 Article: *Urban Sketchers Edmonton: The Sense of Place & Art*, *Drawing Attention* magazine, Dec 2021
- 2021 *Mentorship as Social Sculpture* by Megan Klak in *Galleries West* magazine, 28 June 2021:  
<https://www.gallerieswest.ca/magazine/stories/mentorship-as-social-sculpture/>
- 2021 Edmonton Historic Festival talk with Adriana Davies: *Ring Houses: The Sense of Place and Art*:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yA8PQ6drayY>
- 2020 Article: *Urban Sketchers Edmonton Capture Civic Heritage*, *Drawing Attention* magazine, April 2020
- 2019 - 2020 Curator of physical and online exhibit and catalogue for Edmonton Historian Laureate project:  
*Sketching History: Rediscovering Edmonton's Architectural Heritage through Urban Sketching*,  
Prince of Wales Armouries Heritage Centre, Edmonton AB  
[https://www.edmonton.ca/city\\_government/edmonton\\_archives/sketching-history.aspx](https://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/edmonton_archives/sketching-history.aspx)
- 2016 - 2018 Artist Mentor, Visual Arts Alberta Association/Edmonton Arts Council
- 2016 Artist member for panel presentation at The Works Art & Design Festival
- 2016 Artist member for panel discussion for *Voices for the Vote* exhibit
- 2014 Curator, *The Memory Rooms* exhibit, Jackson Power Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2014 Section Editor, Women's Art Museum Society of Canada  
*Sharing Her Experience* publication
- 2011 Co-founder: Urban Sketchers Edmonton
- 2008 Exhibitor/Nominee: Audience Choice Arts Award  
*Edmonton Mayor's Celebration of the Arts Event*
- 2004 Illustration for magazine article: *Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research*
- 2002 Illustration for book: *Museum Mannequins: A Guide for Creating the Perfect Fit*  
Published by the Alberta Regional Group of Conservators

**Awards:**

2022	Artist in Residence, Yorath House, Edmonton, AB
2018-2020	City of Edmonton Historian Laureate
2013	Artist in Residence, Wallace Stegner House, Eastend, SK
2011	Edmonton Historical Board Historical Recognition Award in archives and visual arts
2006	Artist in Residence, Bellevue/Brigus, NL
2001	Alberta Foundation for the Arts - Art Acquisition