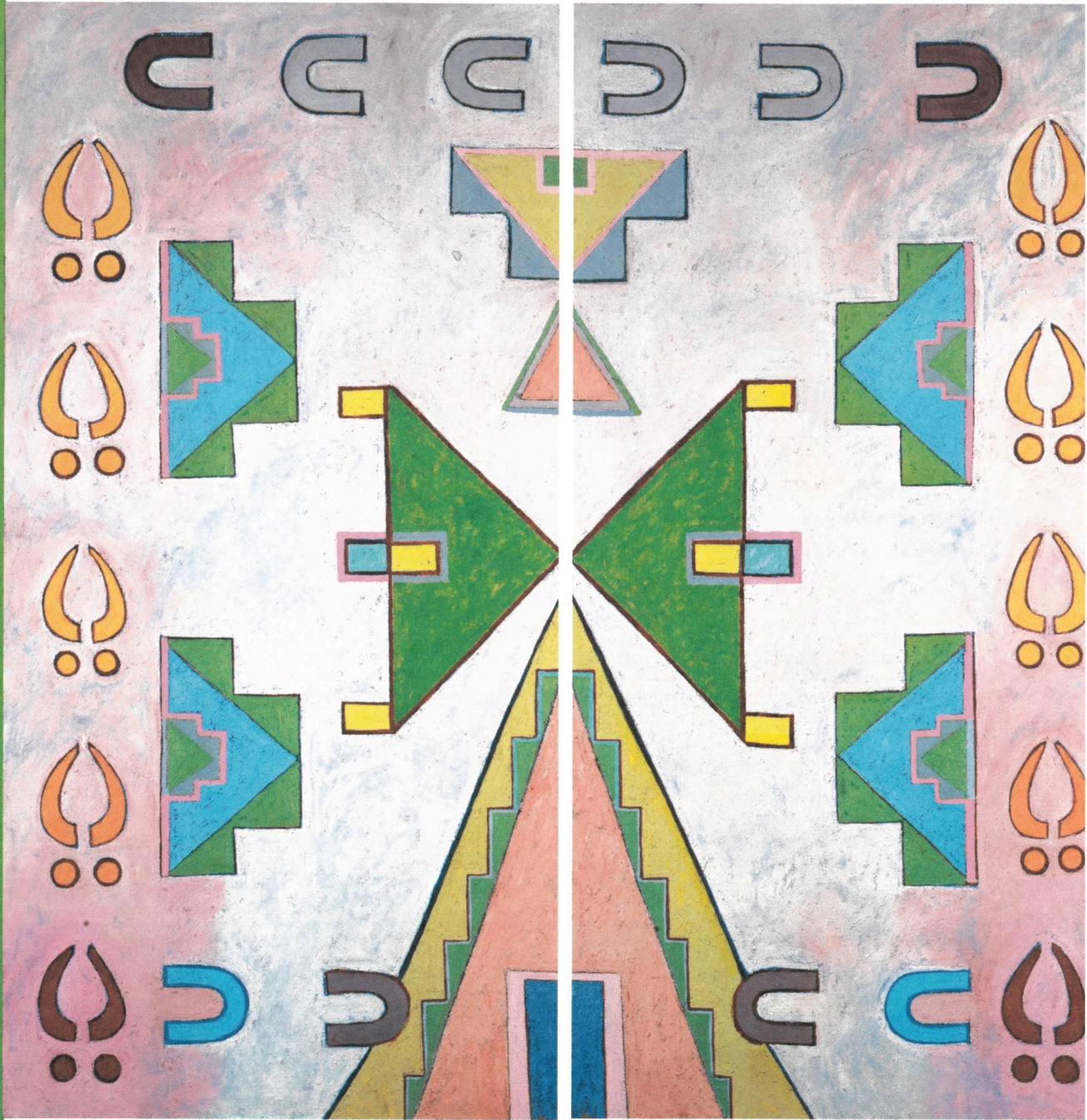


At the Mackenzie

The Magazine of the Mackenzie Art Gallery
September/October/November/December 2008

Inside
Farewell Kate
Powwow
Double Space
Douglas Gordon



Bob Boyer: His Life's Work

ART MATTERS



“Last Night a DJ Saved My Life”: Music as Contemporary Storytelling Practice

This Fall Dr. Charity Marsh, Canada Research Chair in Interactive Media and Performance in the Faculty of Fine Arts at the University of Regina will partner with MacKenzie Art Gallery, SaskMusic, Paved Arts, and Common Weal to present The Flatland Scratch Seminar and Workshop Series III.

In the initial Flatland Scratch Series the emphasis was placed on rave culture, electronic dance music, and the role of the DJ with events being held over three evenings in the Winter 2005. Last year the Flatland Scratch Series II focused primarily on hip-hop culture and the production and performance practices associated with the music of this genre. During the final segment of the Flatland Scratch Series II the new Interactive Media and Performance (IMP) Labs were launched at the University of Regina. As part of the celebrations Marsh introduced themes of her new research program on popular music cultures in western and northern Canada, facilitated a roundtable discussion on hip-hop in Saskatchewan with 10 local hip-hop artists, and led tours of the new labs, which house a multi-media interactive DJ studio and performance space, an electronic music and beat-making studio, an ethnomusicology field-research lab, and digital archives. The launch of the IMP Labs and the Flatland Scratch Series II concluded with performances by Saskatchewan’s hip-hop artists Eekwol and Mils with special guest Def3.

The Flatland Scratch Seminar and Workshop Series III is comprised of a combination of workshops, seminars, and performances by local, national and international musicians, artists, and scholars related to the various elements of hip-hop culture (graffiti, break, rap, DJ and beat-making), current manifestations of global electronic dance music cultures (psy-trance, silent raves), technologies associated with music production and performance, and the significance of music as

a contemporary storytelling practice. A brief description of all six events in The Flatland Scratch Series III follows:

Event #1: “Last night a DJ saved my life”

DJ Quartz and DJ Merky Waters will facilitate the first workshop presented by IMP and SaskMusic on Tuesday, September 16th from 7 to 10 p.m. in the IMP Labs (Riddell Centre 049 and 025). This event is comprised of two simultaneous workshops: DJ Quartz will offer beginner DJ workshops while DJ Merky Waters demonstrates how to use an MPC 1000 and MPC 2500 to create beats and produce tracks. At the end of the first hour, each group will switch labs in order to take in the complimentary workshop.

Event #2: “Up Against a Wall: Graffiti as Art”

The second event of the series, co-presented by the MAG and IMP, is a graffiti workshop led by graffiti artist Josh Goff aka Truthp held in conjunction with the *Powwow to Celebrate the Artwork of the Late Bob Boyer Sr.*, in the meadow behind the MacKenzie Art Gallery on Sunday, September 28th from 1 to 3 p.m. All materials will be supplied.

Event #3: “The Massive: Hip-Hop Canadian Style”

Presented by IMP, SaskMusic, and the Department of Media Production and Studies, on October 9th from 4 to 7 p.m. the third event of the series is a screening of Aleya May’s new film, *The Massive: A Canadian Hip-Hop Documentary* (2008). May will introduce the film, discuss the impetus for the project, and talk about her involvement with hip-hop in western Canada. Following the screening there will be a panel discussion focusing on the importance of hip-hop arts projects offered in communities and schools around the province. This event is co-sponsored by Paved Arts.

Event #4: “Lest We Forget: Music and Ideology at the Canadian War Museum”

Co-sponsored by IMP and MAG, on Monday, October 20th from 7 to 9 p.m. at the MacKenzie Art Gallery, Dr. Kip Pegley (Queen’s University), author of the newly released *Coming to you wherever you are: MuchMusic, MTV, and Youth Identities* (2008), will give a talk entitled “Lest We Forget: Music and Ideology at the Canadian War Museum,” wherein Pegley explores how sound contributes to a compelling and particular narrative of Canadian history designed to persuade visitors (to the museum) that we are singular and critically needed on the international scene, thus justifying the government’s decisions to send its military into dangerous conflict zones.

Event #5: “Roots to Routes: Music as Storytelling Practice”

Thursday Night Live held on November 6th from 7:30 to 10 p.m. will also be co-presented by MAG and IMP as part of The Flatland Series III. This event, held at MAG will include a hip hop/ break dance workshop, an emcee workshop, as well as performances by Regina’s Oye! Featuring Def3.

Event #6: “Dancing in Silence: the New Global Rave Culture”

On Thursday, November 27th from 7 to 10 p.m. in the IMP Labs (Riddell Centre 049), IMP and SaskMusic present a night of global rave culture with talks by Dr. Graham St. John, post-doctoral fellow in IMP (global psy-trance), and Dr. Charity Marsh (silent raves), a VJ demonstration by Saskatoon’s media artist Carrie Gates, with a silent rave to conclude the fall series.

All of the events of The Flatland Scratch Seminar and Workshop Series III are open to the public and free.

For more information contact Charity Marsh by email at charity.marsh@uregina.ca or go to the IMP website:

www.interactivemediaandperformance.com.

