

## Annual Report 2018-2019

MediaNet supports artists with the creation and presentation of media art works. We work and offer our services in the Greater Victoria region on Vancouver Island, on the ancestral and un-ceded territories of the Lekwungen peoples, the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations, and also the Wsanec speaking peoples of the Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tseycum and Tsawout First Nations.



*(Resonant Disintegration, by Colton Hash)*

MediaNet is a non-profit media arts centre supporting the creative uses of film, video and new media. MediaNet provides access to video, film and new media equipment, sound gear, lighting and accessories, to support the creation and presentation of personal works of self-expression. MediaNet also provides a resource pool of information, contacts, equipment, and training opportunities for skills development, to assist the creation of media art with professional craftsmanship combined with artistic integrity.

MediaNet was formed in Victoria, in 1981, with a mandate to provide a pool of resources promoting “creative collaboration and mutual support among independent media producers.”

*Penelope Joy, founding Director*

(clockwise from top right:  
Wax Collective; PennyMcCann;  
Marilyn Brakhage;  
window gallery.



## Mandate

- To preserve and promote the practice of the media arts in Greater Victoria and Vancouver Island and maintain high standards in that artistic field, by making available to artists the specialized tools or facilities needed to practice their craft.
- To advance education by providing structured learning activities such as courses, instructional seminars, and workshops about media arts.
- To advance the public’s appreciation of the arts by producing public art exhibitions, presentations, and art events, and by providing a forum for qualified artists to exhibit, present, or perform their artistic works through participation in such events.

MediaNet's programming reflects the three aspects of our Mandate: access to equipment, training opportunities and public outreach.

MediaNet’s Equipment Access program provides direct support to artists by providing specialized tools, offering the use of our 14 digital video cameras, or 5 film cameras, as well as sound recording and lighting equipment, and accessories. We also provide technical support, ensuring people know how to use the equipment, teaching video editing on 3 computers we have in MediaNet’s office. We also offer the use of 3 Apple laptops for those who know how to edit and wish to work at home.

A highlight of this past year's production support was a collective of nine women media artists of differing ages and backgrounds who were invited to participate in the "greenlight" production residency program, to create new works using our equipment, technical support and creation space. The artists included Lindsay Delaronde, Kemi Craig, Farheen HaQ, Libby Oliver, and others. Most of these artists were exploring media art installations, often with projection mapping or interactive components. Over 60 artists used our gear coproduce 146 media art works in 2018-2019.

In terms of training and workshops, MediaNet regularly runs skill development programs where people can learn to use technologies or tools, while creating their own works. This year, we focused on new and old technologies: interactive technology workshops for creating interactive media art works, including the use of Arduinos, led by Steeve Bjornson. For film technology, our Handmade and Analogue film program offered support for the creation of works in celluloid, shot with a 16 mm camera, or done by direct painting and drawing on film. Participants in the Handmade and Analogue program will be exchanging works with the Handmade Film Collective in Halifax in 2020.

We developed the FLUX media gallery in 2014 because we had found in the past that presenting screenings and occasional exhibitions had served as an outreach strategy to bring new audiences to the centre, and to help people find out about our other services and development programs. Another outreach strategy has been our advertising of programming in the IMAGES program, the local magazine FOCUS, the regional gallery listings magazine PREVIEW (covering BC, Alberta, Washington State and Oregon) and of course the local ANTIMATTER media art festival program, all serve to increase awareness of our organization and the services we offer.

As part of our most recent strategic plan we created a new website design, done by Board member Tinka Robev, and we set up Instagram to broaden awareness of MediaNet's programming. Many people who enrolled in our intensive programs like Handmade & Analogue, or new media workshops, became members and used our equipment and services to create media art works, so those programs have been effective outreach mechanisms.

Programming highlights of 2018-2019 include the "IndigeVision: Water and Land Tour" of indigenous films, curated by Eli Hirtle, which began touring to arts centres in Western Canada on September 13, 2019, with films by artists including Caroline Monnet, Marjorie Beaucage, Conor McNally and Jesse Ray Short. This tour was an extension of our IndigeVision Film Showcase, which was held over three days in 2018.

In 2018-2019 we showed a series of works by BC artists - that had been created with MediaNet support - in our Window Galleries: 14 short film and video works by artists including Richard and Susy Raxlen, Steven Davies, Kristina Campbell, Dennis Reid, Marlene Jess, Steeve Bjornson, Trace Nelson, Scott Amos, Pamela Miller and Judith Price. The works played in the evenings, and sometimes in the daytime, and were seen by more than 60,000 people. The Window galleries have served as a form of public art, and as an outreach strategy to raise the profile of MediaNet/FLUX locally.

Artists presented in the FLUX media gallery in the past year include:

Colton Hash, October 2018; Penny McCann, April 2019; The Wax Collective, May 2019; Bisia Belina and Anna Malkin, June 2019; Grace Salez, July 2019; Judith Price, August 2019; BC and South Pacific Indigenous artists as a part of the Pacific Peoples Partnership's One Wave Exhibition, September 2019.

MediaNet / FLUX media gallery  
821 Fort Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 1H6  
tel: 250-381-4428  
[www.fluxmediagallery.org](http://www.fluxmediagallery.org)  
[cat@fluxmediagallery.org](mailto:cat@fluxmediagallery.org)