

Feheley Fine Arts

SHUVINAI ASHOONA (SUVINAI) (1961 -)

Born in 1961 in Cape Dorset, Nunavut in the Canadian Arctic, Shuvina Ashoona began to draw in the early 1990s. Although never formally trained, Ashoona was surrounded by her family of artists and the creative atmosphere of the Kinngait Studios in Cape Dorset. Her grandmother is the renowned artist Pitseolak Ashoona and her father is sculptor Kiawak Ashoona.

Shuvina has a reputation for being a private person, but her drawings function as links between her experiences, perceptions, and her audience. Blending a very contemporary style with objects and elements from her traditional Inuit heritage, Shuvina's drawings are rendered with meticulous detail and precision, depicting life in Cape Dorset.

Shuvina's work first appeared in the Cape Dorset annual print collection in 1997. Represented in numerous group and solo exhibitions in Canada, her work was included in two international exhibitions in 2008.

In the past Shuvina's work tended to focus on the Arctic landscape. Today, her work explores a new dynamism through compositions that depict human figures, with cleverly hidden imagery, and utilizes a wide colour spectrum.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

April 2009	Shuvina Ashoona Drawings Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2006/07	Shuvina Ashoona: Time Interrupted Feheley Fine Arts, Toronto, Ontario
2006/07	Ashoona: Third Wave Art Gallery of Alberta Edmonton, Alberta
2006/07	Shuvina Ashoona: Drawings 1993 – 2007 Marion Scott Gallery, Vancouver, BC

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

June – Aug 2009	Burning Cold The Ottawa Art Gallery Ottawa, ON
May 2009	Noise Ghost: Shary Boyle and Shuvina Ashoona Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House – University of Toronto

- 2008 The Basel Project, Shuvinai Ashoona and John Noestheden
Feheley Fine Arts, Toronto
- 2008 Burning Cold
Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square, Oakville
- 2008 Shuvinai Ashoona and Ohito Ashoona
Canadian Arctic Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
- 2007 Shapeshifters, Time Travellers and Storytellers
Institute for Contemporary Culture,
Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto
- 2007 3 Cousins: Annie Pootoogook, Shuvinai Ashoona, Siassie Kenneally
Feheley Fine Arts, Toronto
- 2006 Drawing Restraint
Saw Gallery
Ottawa, Ontario
- 2006 Landscape – Contemporary Inuit Drawings
Marion Scott Gallery, Vancouver
- 2006 Ashoona: Third Wave
Art Gallery of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
- 2005 Oye Canada, VIP Lounge, Canadian Pavilion
Expo2005
Aichi, Japan
- 2005 Unique Visions
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario
- 2004 Sanaasimasiatok: Fine Works
Feheley Fine Arts, Toronto
- 2002 The Unexpected
Feheley Fine Arts, Toronto
- 2001 Art by Women: An Investigation of Inuit Sculpture and Graphics
Feheley Fine Arts
Toronto, Ontario
- 1999 Three Women, Three Generations: Drawings by Pitseolak Ashoona, Napatchie Pootoogook and Shuvinai Ashoona
McMichael Canadian Art Collection
Kleinburg, Ontario

PUBLICATIONS

Ryan, Leslie Boyd, ed. *Cape Dorset Prints: A Retrospective*. (San Francisco: Pomegranate, 2007.)

COLLECTIONS

Canada Council Art Bank, Ottawa, Ontario