
Annual Report

MediaNet / FLUX media gallery

October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022



Poster by Leechtown Design

Introduction

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.

2021-2022 Annual Report of Activities

MediaNet began the 2021-22 year with a workshop and screening by Calgary artist Kyle Whitehead on October 5. The workshop was on creating generative soundtracks in film, while the screening Immanent Union showcased his experimental Super 8 films.



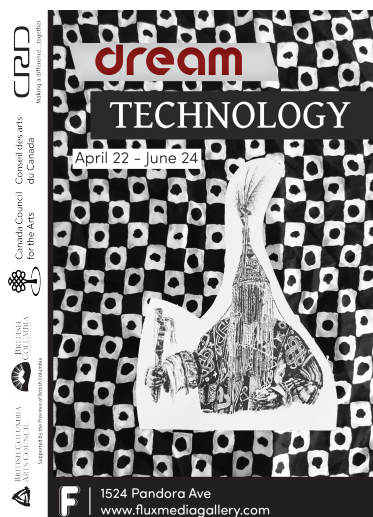
Written in My Blood by Steven Davies. Made with support from MediaNet's Greenlight grant and presented as part of MediaNet's 40th Anniversary.

In 2021 MediaNet celebrated its 40 anniversary (MediaNet was founded December 16, 1981) with a series of exhibitions in our FLUX Gallery by members past and present. We began October 21 to November 5 with a show by Richard and Susy Raxlen. From November 30 to December 10, we presented works by Kristina Campbell, Scott Amos and Steven Davies, and from December 14 to 23, we exhibited videos by Farheen HaQ and Lindsay Delaronde. Each exhibition had an opening reception with the artists and guests, and on December 16 we held a party in honour of MediaNet's 40th Anniversary.

Between February 3 and April 1, 2024 FLUX presented *Collector*, new works by Libby Oliver. Libby also spoke about the work during a live and recorded interview over Zoom, which we posted to our website.

April 1 marked a big change for MediaNet, as long-time Executive Director Peter Sandmark left the organization to pursue his individual art practices, and Cat Lewis was hired as MediaNet's new ED.

Joshua Ngenda was also hired in April 2024 as Assistant Curator, and he began this work by curating *Dream Technology*, and exhibition of audio and collage works by 13 Black artists and community members celebrating Black futurities. MediaNet partnered with Uvic's Department of Social Work for this exhibition. *Dream Technology* included a collage workshop for the participants by artist Kemi Craig, and music by DJ Baraka Iwakila.



MediaNet held a number of new media workshops in our 2021-22 year. With funding from the Government of Canada, administered by the Independent Media Arts Alliance (IMAA), MediaNet hired Nodin Cutfeet as a New Media Intern, and Nodin helped to support workshops in the use of Arduinos and Raspberry Pi microcontrollers. We held new media workshops led by former MediaNet President Justin Love on October 30, November 27 and April 23, and a workshop on Shock Art - technology for artists on March 19, led by former MediaNet staff member and President Scott Amos.



Image from Kemi Craig's Augmented Reality project, *Rerooting*

With a project grant from Canada Council, In July 2022 MediaNet began a creation program for works in Augmented Reality. Led by Nodin Cutfeet with support from MediaNet staff, artists Kemi Craig, Lindsay Delaronde, Colton Hash, Eli Hirtle and France Trepanier created new works over a period of 4 months. Entitled *Revealing Presence*, the completed works were presented in November 2022, and information about the works can be found on MediaNet's website.

During the summer of 2022, MediaNet also began a collaboration with the Victoria Arts Council and Xchanges Gallery called *Physical Intersections, Digital Collaborations (PIDC)*, a year-and-a-half long project involving 11 artists who blend in-person and digital elements in their practices.

In September 2022, MediaNet once again presented works by long-time partner the Pacific Peoples Partnership as a part of their One Wave Festival. The exhibition included videos made by Indigenous youth from the West Coast and the South Pacific.

Summary - Our 2021-22 fiscal year was a period of many changes for MediaNet, with Peter Sandmark leaving as Executive Director, and Cat Lewis and Joshua Ngenda being hired in new positions. We also increased the number of new media workshops, teaching skills in the use of Arduinos, Raspberry Pi and Augmented Reality, providing exciting possibilities in the creation of new works for our membership.

This report was prepared by Cat Lewis, Executive Director, for the MediaNet Board of Directors: Jason Lei, President, Carol-Lynne Michaels, Vice-President, Michelle Frey, Secretary-Treasurer, Gabby Odowichuk and Sarah Drake.

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