

# CHRISTINA PARKER

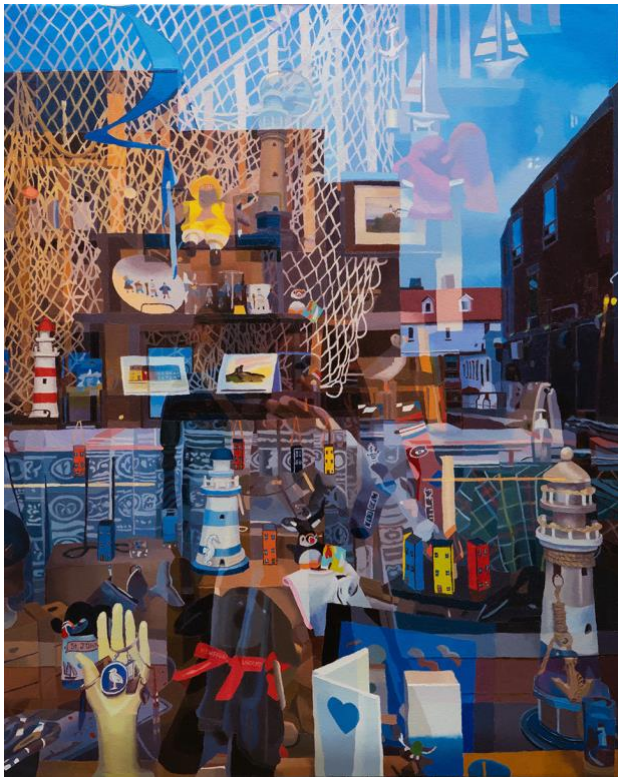
GALLERY

## EMILIE FANTUZ PLACES WE ARE FOUND

*I am a part of all that I have met*  
—Tennyson, *Ulysses*

A sense of place resonates as more than mere background. A hillside, a river, the ocean, an iconic building, even the traditions, customs, and relationships within a community all contribute its identity. The exploration of places inspires us to seek what is beyond our sights, to expand our personal growth and fulfilment, even finding new meaning in the familiar.

In this exhibition, Emilie and Mike Fantuz use a variety of artistic techniques to illustrate the impact of the experience of place, showing how different perceptions of St. John's have singularly affected them.



**Irene's Souvenir Shop**, Oil on canvas, 60 × 48", 2023

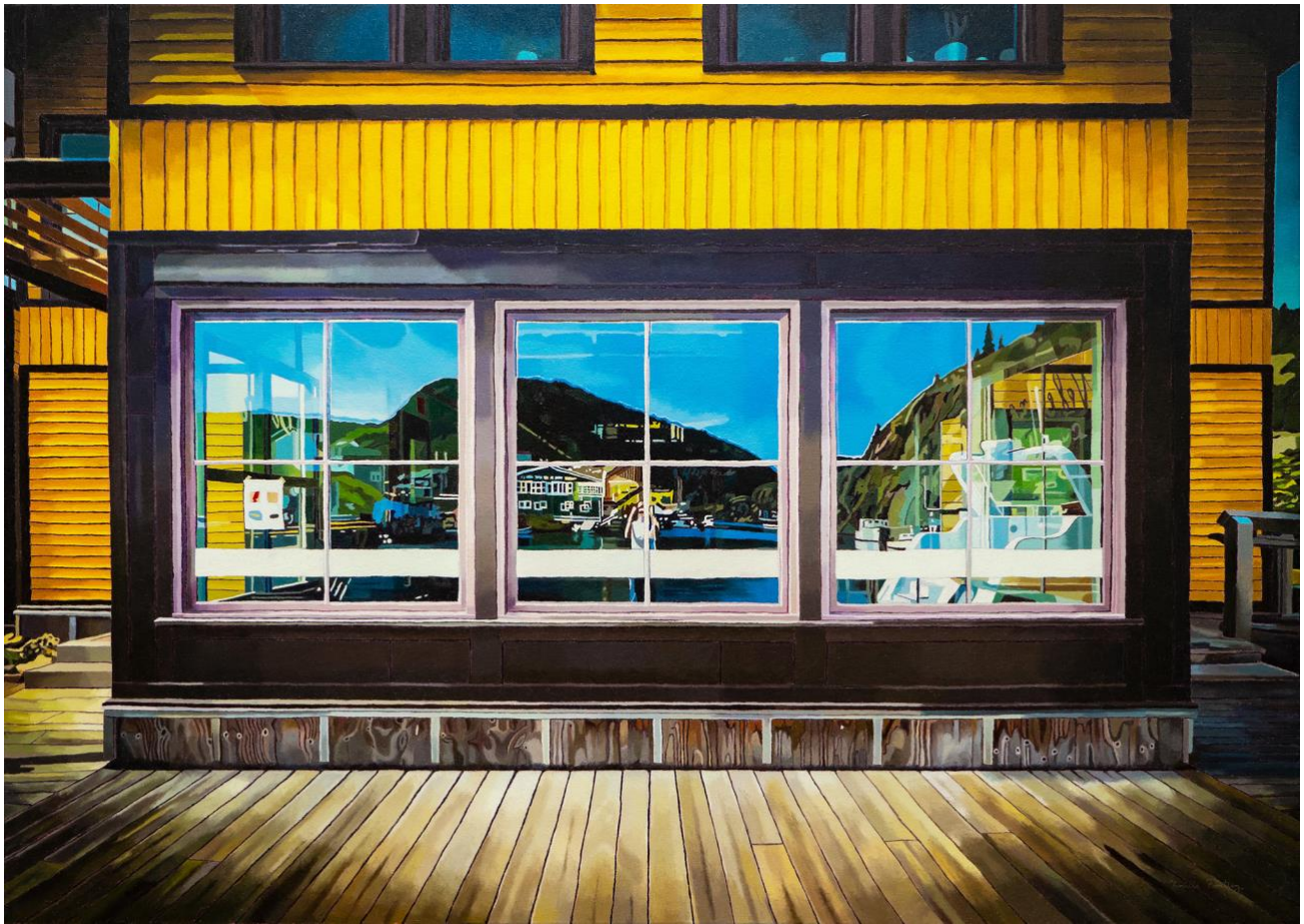


**Caines Grocery**, Oil on canvas, 30 × 40", 2022

Emilie transforms the reality of intimate and unexpected scenes into a tableaux of detailed forms. By evoking a reflection and immersion of self in the landscape through window scenes and urban street corners, she pictorially slows down the rapid pace of a changing world by giving permanence to a mutable urban environment.

Both Emilie and Mike fully respond to the life altering aspects of place, seemingly static but always changing. Emilie, enlivened by the sense of a new and promising environment, seizes the opportunity to portray the varied features of a new place in a new land.

In this exhibition, intense colour and intricate division of space testify to the transformative role of place that the artists have realized anew in the city of St. John's. Through the exploration of place, it is often the unexpected things we find within that contribute to the incremental path of growth.



**Quidi Vidi**, Oil on canvas, 60 × 84", 2023

**EMILIE FANTUZ** is an American-Canadian artist known for her large-scale paintings depicting reflections and nocturnal urban landscapes. Her palette knife paintings combine technical elements of hyperrealism with an abstracted stylization that is distinctly her own. Through reflected imagery and complex compositions, Fantuz investigates the perception of colour and light inspired by the beauty of everyday scenes.

Fantuz's work has been featured in exhibitions throughout Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom and can be found in public collections including Bucci Developments Vancouver, Henry Ford Hospital and The Bank of Ann Arbor, and in private collections around the world including Canada, the United States, France, China, Caymen Islands, Switzerland and the Netherlands.