



# AETANI CENTRE

Art Making • Life Shaping

## ***Residencies for Creative and Cultural Explorations***

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May 28th, 2015

Public Service Announcement  
For Immediate Release

### **Artists in the Okanagan are gearing up for a busy summer**

Along with ushering in the summer months, June also welcomes some new artistic energy and activity to Vernon.

The Caetani Cultural Centre is welcoming two artists to Vernon; one into its Fresh! AiR Residency Program, in partnership with the Allan Brooks Nature Centre, and the other into a new ceramics program, CERAM-AiR, in partnership with the Vernon Community Art Centre.

Destanne Norris, a local resident artist, will be heading up to the Allan Brooks Nature Centre for June in the Fresh! AiR program to take in all the weather phenomenon the one-time weather station can offer.

Her project “Whether from the Centre” comes from her fascination with the weather formations and light in the sky and translating them into paintings that depict both the inner and outer experiences of the land - both ‘inscape and landscape’ simultaneously. Her project will take the form which will take the form of a multi-paneled 6’ X 8’ painting, will explore “weathering” and “whethering” directly as metaphor for inner and outer life.

The Caetani Cultural Centre’s newest artist in residence program, CERAM-AiR, in partnership with the Vernon Community Art Centre, welcomes Vancouver based artist Gabrielle Strong. Strong will be working in the VCAC ceramic studio facilities for 4 months, June - Sept.

Having spent 5 years at sea, Strong is coming to the Okanagan to reconnect to the land; to search for the same kind of connection she has cultivated to water and reflections. Working both in painting and ceramics, Strong is a recent graduate of Emily Carr University of Art and Design.

Both artists will kick off their residencies with a public welcome reception at the Vernon Community Art Centre from 4 - 6pm on Thursday, June 4th. This event is free and open to the public.

In conjunction with this reception, the Vernon Community Art Centre also welcomes the artists exhibiting in “Source of Inspiration”, on for the month of June at VCAC. This show depicts the journey that each artist has made since participating in the two day workshops at Lake Country Art Gallery and

Vernon Community Art Centre this past year. Artists included in this exhibition are: Chris Clayton, Patricia Doyle, Laurel Fredin, Heide Hirschhorn, Angelika Jaeger, Noreen Jodoin Sheri Kunzli, Denise Patrick, Nancy Vince, and workshop instructor Gale Woodhouse.

All artists will be in attendance for the reception from 4 - 6pm at the Vernon Community Art Centre. Opening remarks and short artists talks from "Source of Inspiration" artists will commence at 5pm.

Later this month, Gabrielle Strong will give a presentation on her work on Saturday, June 20th at 3pm at the Vernon Community Art Centre. And Destanne Norris will give a presentation on the work she's completed during her residence on Wednesday, June 24th at 7pm at the Allan Brooks Nature Centre. Both talks are free and open to the public.

For information on the Caetani Cultural Centre artists in residence, please visit [caetaniculturalcentre.org](http://caetaniculturalcentre.org)

### **MORE ABOUT THE FRESH! Air (Artist in Residence) partnership between the Caetani Cultural Centre and the Allan Brook Nature Centre:**

The Allan Brooks Nature Centre and the Caetani Centre are pleased to partner for another for another great year of visiting artists with a national and international flavor in partnership with the Allan Brooks Nature Centre. Now in it's third year of operation, both organizations have hosted artists from Japan, Australia, South Africa, the USA, and Canada.

The program combines art and the environment, focusing on bringing awareness to environmental issues by presenting different ways of seeing using innovative and "out of the box" approaches. The goal of the Fresh! AiR program is to encourage artists to approach creativity, exploration and research on habitat conservation in different ways and present the community with new ways of seeing, experiencing and interpreting art and the environment around us.

The residencies consist of a 4 – 6 week stay at the Caetani Centre, and the artist draws upon the ample resources provided by the Allan Brooks Nature Centre, giving visiting artists the opportunity to live and work in the Greater Vernon community, and interacting with local artists and residents.

### **CONTACT INFO:**

For more information about the artist, artwork and the 2015 Artist-in-Residence project please contact the artist:

**Destanne Norris** please visit her website at [destannenorris.com](http://destannenorris.com)

**Gabrielle Strong** - please visit her website at [gabriellestrong.com](http://gabriellestrong.com)

For additional information about the Allan Brooks Nature Centre, the Vernon Community Art Centre and the Caetani Cultural Centre partnerships or programs please contact:

**Keyanna Burgher** - Vernon Community Art Centre - 250-542-6243

**Kaitlyn Richards**- Allan Brooks Nature Centre - 250-260-4227

or **Katie Brennan** - Artist-in-Residence Coordinator/Caetani Centre 250-550-9869

### **ABOUT THE CAETANI CULTURAL CENTRE**

#### ***Residencies for Creative and Cultural Explorations***

The Caetani Cultural Centre is a registered charitable organization dedicated to providing creative spaces, projects and opportunities for local, national, and international artists, writers, and creative individuals, and to providing educational and interactive opportunities for the Greater Vernon cultural community.

The Caetani Cultural Centre is funded in part by the British Columbia Arts Council, the Regional District of the North Okanagan, memberships, donations, sponsorships and foundation grants.

Please visit our website [www.caetaniculturalcentre.org](http://www.caetaniculturalcentre.org) for additional information or call the Caetani Cultural Centre (C3) at 250-275-1525.

IMAGE Caption: (ABNCtour.jpg) Janice Buick, Destanne Norris and Katie Brennan on tour at the Allan Brooks Nature Centre.

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