

McKenna Prather

B. CALGARY, ALBERTA
LIVES & WORKS IN
CALGARY

ABOUT

McKenna Prather is a contemporary Canadian painter whose work celebrates the beauty of the natural world through a distinctive fusion of painting and textile traditions. Living and working in Calgary, Alberta, Prather creates richly detailed acrylic paintings enhanced with hand-stitched embroidery, transforming landscapes, wildlife, and still-life subjects into tactile works that honour craftsmanship, memory, and a deep connection to place. Inspired by Alberta and Newfoundland, two provinces she considers home, her paintings reflect a profound appreciation for Canada's changing seasons and the quiet beauty found in everyday life.

Working with layers of acrylic paint before meticulously stitching embroidery thread directly into the canvas, Prather bridges the worlds of fine art and folk tradition. Her compositions balance realism with decorative pattern, creating surfaces rich in colour, texture, and thoughtful detail. Influenced by generations of makers within her own family, each painting is created with patience and care, celebrating handmade processes while inviting viewers to slow down and discover new details with every encounter.

A graduate of the Alberta University of the Arts, Prather has quickly established herself as one of Canada's emerging contemporary painters. Since beginning her full-time practice in 2019, she has exhibited throughout Alberta, completed public murals and artist residencies, and built a growing collector base across Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. Through her unique combination of paint and embroidery, she continues to create work that brings warmth, craftsmanship, and storytelling into the contemporary home.

EXHIBITIONS

2025

Autumnal, Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, SOLO

The Ranchman's Club Emerging Artist Show, Ranchman's Club,
Calgary, GROUP

2024

Featured Artist, Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, SOLO

Shades of Winter, Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, GROUP

2023

Tropical Beings, Avenue Health, Calgary, SOLO

Dream Home Exhibit, Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, GROUP

Homes by Avi Stampede Rotary Dream Home, Featured Exhibition,
Calgary Stampede Dream Home, Calgary, GROUP

EXHIBITIONS

(C O N T .)

2022*Tropical Beings*, Amanail Boutique, Calgary, SOLO*Canadiana Corporate Exhibition*, Spartan Controls, Calgary*Collaborative Design Group Installation*, Collaborative Design Group, Calgary, GROUP*The Curated Art Market*, PCBA, Calgary, GROUP*Hartell*, Red Door Home Living, Calgary, SOLO*Sparrow Artspace Residency Exhibition*, Sparrow Artspace, Calgary, GROUP*Beautiful Predators*, FivePoint Cannabis, Calgary, SOLO**2021***AB Flora & Fauna*, FivePoint Cannabis, Calgary, SOLO*Streamers & Wool*, Red Door Home Living, Calgary, SOLO**2020***Hazy Hooves + Blooms*, Red Door Home Living, Calgary, SOLO*Cozy Spring*, Red Door Home Living, Calgary, SOLO*Decorated Pasture*, Show Home Installation, Maillot Homes, Calgary, SOLO**2019***Northern Reflections Exhibition*, Northern Reflections, Calgary, GROUP*Dream Home Exhibit*, Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, GROUP*Homes by Avi Stampede Rotary Dream Home*, Featured Exhibition, Calgary Stampede, Calgary, GROUP**2018***Multiple student exhibitions*, Calgary, GROUP

AWARDS

2022	Hall of Fame Induction, Chestermere High School
2019	People's Choice Award, Northern Reflections Exhibition Celebrity Judge Award, Northern Reflections Exhibition

MEDIA COVERAGE

2023	Calgary Herald, Featured as the Homes by Avi Stampede Rotary Dream Home Artist.
2022	Western Horse Review, Window to the West feature (May issue).

COLLECTIONS

Spartan Controls , Calgary, Alberta.
Homes by Avi Stampede Rotary Dream Home Collection
Maillot Homes, Calgary, Alberta.