



BABA'S HOUSE

Lucien Durey and Katie Kozak

Childhood memories of visits to Baba's house invoke images of drawers and shelves sometimes filled to overflowing with countless treasures and keepsakes, all holding a story of some kind. Our mothers and babas were the original collectors and the original recyclers. Seemingly insignificant items had an immeasurable intrinsic value and one just never knew when you would need such a thing. The keeper of tradition, culture and pretty much everything else lives on in the tangible and intangible memories left behind. Everyday items become like objects found in an archaeological dig and are as relevant and valuable in the tales they tell. The Ukrainian Museum of Canada is proud to host this exhibition and invites and welcomes the viewer to explore Baba's House.

In the fall of 2012, artists Lucien Durey and Katie Kozak moved to the town of Creighton, Saskatchewan (population: 1,500), to take up a self-directed residency in the home of Kozak's Ukrainian Canadian grandmother, Sophie Ostrowski (1932-2014). During this time, they produced scanned compositions from materials found in Ostrowski's home, producing works with surprising depth and formal restraint. Thoughtful, emotionally resonant, and quietly funny, the resulting collection of works forms a loving portrait of this specific individual. Ostrowski's story, however, evokes commonly-shared Saskatchewan experiences of rural prairie life and homesteading, the hybridization of second-generation Canadian identities, family history, and intergenerational friendship and exchange.

Lucien Durey (Regina and Vancouver) holds a BFA from Emily Carr University of Art and Design and is an MFA candidate in Interdisciplinary Studies at Simon Fraser University School for the Contemporary Arts. Durey has exhibited in Saskatchewan, Vancouver, Portland and New York.

Katie Kozak (Creighton) is of Métis and Ukrainian descent and holds a Bachelor of Science In Biology from the University of Victoria. Kozak attended Emily Carr University of Art and Design and has exhibited artworks in the Prairies and Western Canada.

Curated by Blair Fornwald
Organized by Dunlop Art Gallery
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