

AMANDA PIERCE is a Cree Métis artist and citizen of Métis Nation Ontario. Originally from Saskatoon Saskatchewan, she now resides in Gatineau Quebec where she creates art and teaches full-time. Amanda is a self-taught artist, honing her skills by attending workshops and conferences with professional artists.

Amanda's work comes from an intuitive subconscious process, often expressing an interpretation – a feeling or emotion from the past and or the present – a distillation of memories from paths traveled. Her paintings and sculptures have been shown and collected nationally and internationally.

Art is my story and my medicine. She writes: *“In my encaustic paintings and sculpture; beads, image transfers, fibers, paper, metal and natural materials like feather, shells and twigs are used to create stories connected to mind, body and spirit. Unearthing these stories ultimately becomes part of the healing journey.”* Amanda strongly believes that in order to understand the present, you must learn from the past, and her work weaves both past and present to reflect and remember *“where we came from and celebrate who we are today.”*



Amanda plans on using the grant to create large scale paintings and sculptures as part of her "Un-Earthed" series which deal with the dark realities of the isolation and pain of the numbers of Indigenous children who were sent to residential schools, many of whom never returned to their families. These children were abused and mistreated; they lost their families, their dignity, their culture and language, and their voices.

The Un-Earthed Collection will be a body of work *that “will be a visual commentary on our “throw away society” that was okay with throwing away these precious children. My artwork contains many recycled or reclaimed materials (old fabric, feathers, sticks, beads) and deliberate mark making. Each bundle or item represents a child gone.”*

Amanda continues: *“My sculptures and paintings tell a story of many layers, hidden over time; things we cherish and those we’d love to forget. Through my art, I want to give these children a visual voice. I wish to honor them. I want to create a collection of sculpture and paintings that will tell the story of truth and reconciliation through an Indigenous Artist’s lens.”*



This collection will be featured as a solo exhibit at La Fab Cultural Center in Chelsea, Quebec, curated by Paul Gilbert.

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