

PHOTOS BY THE CHRONICLE-JOURNAL/BRENT LINTON

The sound and sculptural installation *The Circulation of Fluids*, by artists Catherine Bechard and Sabin Hudon, is set up at Definitely Superior Art Gallery in Thunder Bay.

Exhibits tingle senses in multiple mediums

BY JOLENE DAVIS

DEFINITELY Superior Art Gallery is currently set up as more than an exhibition space — it's really an experience.

First is *The Circulation of Fluids*, by Catherine Béchard and Sabin Hudon. Next is *Along The Way*, by Julie Cosgrove. And third is *Bullseye: A Painter On The Watch*, by Bruno Boulianne. These shows in Thunder Bay would be relevant to anyone interested in installations, sound, painting, filmmaking and art in general. They run until March 10.

The Circulation Of Fluids is an interactive multi-channel sound installation by Montreal-based Béchard and Hudon, who form an artistic duo interested in sound sculpture, kinetic sound installations, audio art, electronic art and performance.

"Sound is our sculpting material," says Béchard. "In 2008, we began field recording sub-aquatic sounds and now the viewer hears them through kinetic action."

The viewer sees an installation of paper horns of various sizes mounted on a structure by intersecting stems. Each horn is equipped with a loudspeaker, an amplifier channel and an ultrasound sensor. Wires run everywhere like veins. It looks chaotic, but the artists say it demonstrates chaos in harmony.

The sounds are dormant, waiting for the viewer/listener. Sounds come and go, shaped by human mobility. Hudon says, "You are the performer. Each experience is what you make it."

Movement initiates sound from recordings of water as source material. By wandering around the space, the participant activates and shapes the sounds he or she hears. The closer one is to the audio source the louder the sound level, and conversely the farther away, the lower the intensity.

As well as triggering the imagination, the watery sounds are meant to raise ethical, economic and political questions about the fluid we all require to live.

The collaborative works of Béchard and Hudon have been featured in exhibitions throughout Canada and internationally. New York is their next big show. For more on this exhibition see www.bechardhudon.com.

Gallery 2 features local artist Julie Cosgrove's new multimedia exhibition *Along the Way*. These pieces show a maturing in the artist's skill and life. After an arts degree from LU, Cosgrove earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Calgary. She has received numerous awards, including the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Master's Scholarship. She will be featured at the Esker Foundation Gallery in Calgary later in the year.

In Cosgrove's exhibit, we see photos of her time in Western Canada overlaid with paint on raw canvas and matched up with lazer-cut Plexiglas.

Explaining her technique, Cosgrove says, "I enjoy the



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layering process, and painting on raw canvas allows me to apply multiple layers that are beneath the surface, and consider how this is a reflection of the way we perceive things, through filters and through our own history. Also, the incidental marks that remain as a result of different amounts of layered paint become almost like 'ghost images,' and sometimes act as windows into another surface or space, adding depth. I cannot achieve this effect with primed canvas. I love the raw surface because of the way that light is absorbed into the canvas, often changing the colours as the light changes. My

work is about how light, environment and atmosphere affect our lives, so I think it is important to see how the painting also changes depending on setting and light."

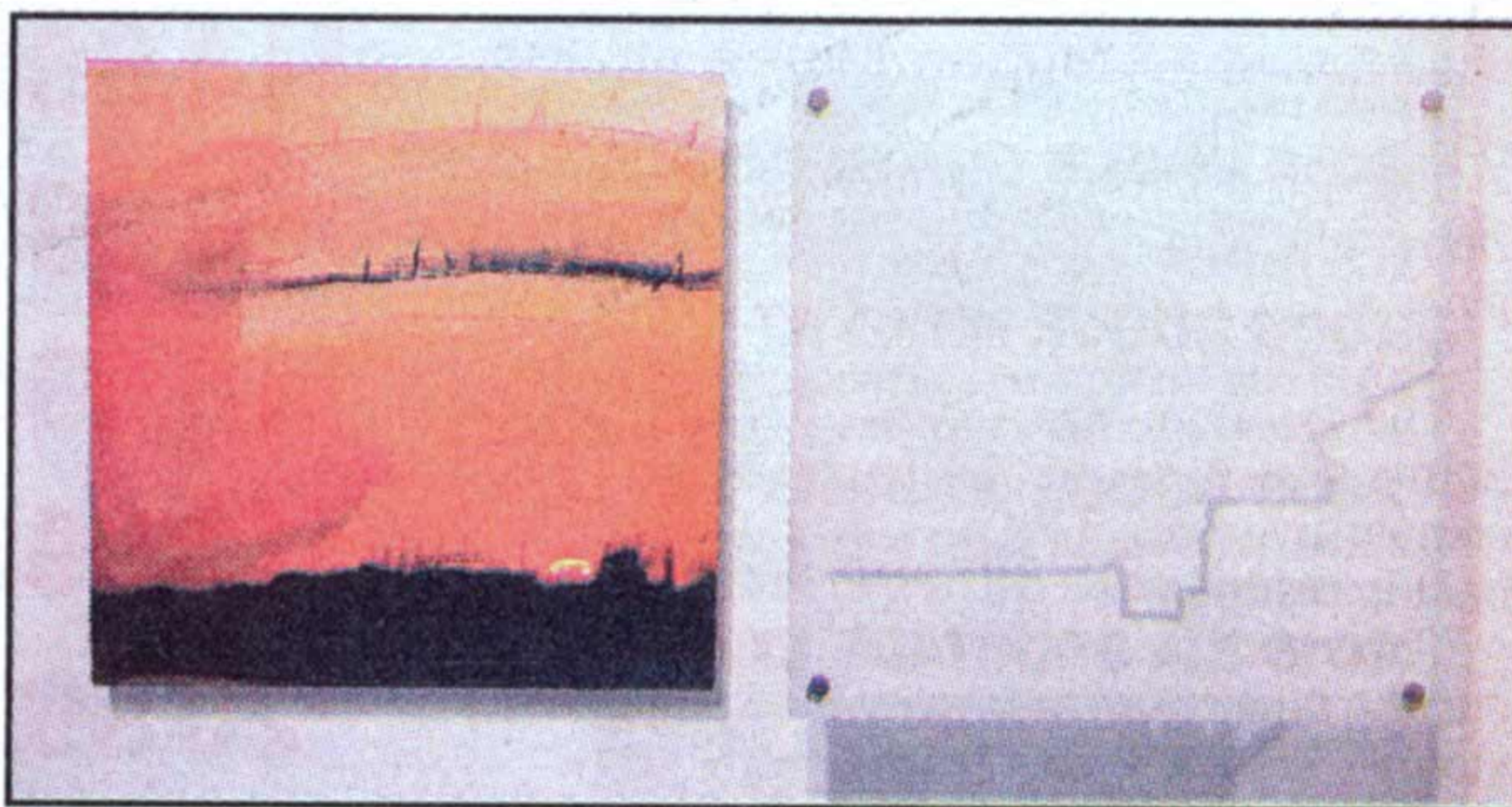
Gallery 3 has an award-winning documentary by Boulianne of Montreal on one of Canada's most important painters, Marc Seguin. This film offers a look into the world of an artist who paints like he hunts: with patience, faith and passion.

We see him hunting and painting and hear his political views on both. This film is currently touring internationally and has won the ARTV Award at the 2010 Montreal International Festival of Films on Art. It has been featured at Tate Modern in London, and the Musee du Louvre and Centre Pompidou in Paris.

Enjoy a superior experience at the gallery.

Based in Thunder Bay, Jolene Davis writes about regional arts and theatre topics.

definitelysuperior.com



A mixed media painting and photograph from *Along the Way*, by Thunder Bay artist Julie Cosgrove.



A still image from the Marc Seguin documentary film at Definitely Superior Art Gallery.