

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Unveiling the Beauty that Arises in Isolation

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, Nova Scotia April 23, 2021 – ARTSPLACE Gallery in Annapolis Royal opens the 2021 juried exhibition season with the poignant, timely and stunning work of artist Eva McCauley. A painter and printmaker known for her atmospheric, expressive paintings of sky, and shifting landscapes, McCauley divides her time between her studios in Bear River, Nova Scotia, and Elmira, Ontario, painting subjects steeped in personal significance.

The thirteen paintings in the “Splendid Isolation” series are a direct response to the pandemic.

“Over the course of this past year of COVID, I noticed the things most important to me have become amplified. I have responded by simplifying my life and spending time in the solitude of my studio. This isolation has been a time of rich contemplation and feelings of gratitude; it provided an opportunity for introspection and creativity.” explains McCauley.

“The paintings in the series embrace uncertainty and a feeling of fragmentation, while unveiling a beauty arising from creating in isolation. This is reflected through strangely lit environments of strongly contrasting light and colour, inhabited by solitary figures.” said Pat Lohrenz, Exhibition Committee Chair.

McCauley cites a passage from author Haruki Murakami as a source of inspiration for the series. *‘Once the storm is over you won’t remember how you made it through, how you managed to survive. You won’t even be sure, in fact, whether the storm is really over. But one thing is certain. When you come out of the storm you won’t be the same person who walked in.’*

“It was very important that we launch the juried season with work that we felt would connect with visitors and that reflected part of our shared experience of the past year.” said Gallery Director, Sophie Paskins. Contemplating the past year, McCauley remarks “Paradoxically, this calamitous and challenging year has offered me many more small and unexpected gifts than has any year I can recall.”

*Splendid Isolation opens April 24 and runs until June 6.*

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Eva McCauley has exhibited widely, both nationally and internationally, and her work is included in public and private collections worldwide. Eva is also an art educator, and has been a sessional professor of Fine Art at the University of Waterloo since 2002. Eva is also exhibiting at the Lucky Rabbit Artists’ House, in Annapolis Royal, with *Face-to-Face*, a collection of mixed-media paintings and prints, until May 1.

ARTSPLACE is a public Art Gallery that is operated by the Annapolis Region Community Arts Council a registered non-profit, charitable, community organization dedicated to encouraging and promoting the arts. Supported through the Province of Nova Scotia and the Canada Council for the Arts.

ARTSPLACE Gallery is located at 396 St. George Street in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia

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