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## **Mercury and The Hyacinth: A Collective Expression of Queer Artistry at ARTSPACE Gallery**

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, Nova Scotia (May 16, 2025) – ARTSPACE is pleased to present *Mercury and The Hyacinth*, an exhibition that brings together the voices of five queer artists, each expressing their unique experiences through diverse artistic practices. This collective, framed within the context of queer identity, offers a rich exploration of the challenges and triumphs faced by those who navigate a world often defined by its binaries and conventions.

Drawing on Greek mythology, the exhibition's title evokes the fluidity and transformation that resonate within queer experiences.

"In these ancient narratives, figures like Hyacinth and Mercury symbolize the complex interplay of love, loss, and metamorphosis—themes that remain deeply relevant to contemporary queer life," curator Lee Cripps explains.

Featuring a dynamic range of artists, the exhibition explores identity, resilience, and self-expression through the diverse voices of five queer creators. Brandt Eisner's bold visual narratives use drag and costuming to challenge gender norms, celebrating the multiplicity of identity while pushing back against conventional binaries. Claudia Legg, a sculptor and conceptual artist, transforms industrial materials into thought-provoking pieces that address isolation, community, and the well-being of queer and gender-nonconforming individuals. Interdisciplinary artist Lucas Morneau uses textiles, photography, and video to queer Newfoundland and Canadian cultural traditions, employing drag as a medium for both critique and exploration of gender norms. Drew Quon's multidisciplinary practice blends ecological awareness with queer identity, creating personal works that delve into connection, memory, and the fluid nature of the self. Meanwhile, Cyd Sparrow's ceramic sculptures draw inspiration from natural forms, reflecting the resilience and adaptability of queer lives as they navigate external challenges.

ARTSPACE Board Member Ted Lind adds, "The artists in this exhibition push against societal norms, creating works that map their personal journeys of masking, revealing, and thriving."

*"Mercury and The Hyacinth" opening reception Sat. May 31, 2025, 12-2 p.m. Artist Talk 1p.m. Light refreshments served, all welcome. Exhibition continues through July 19.*

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

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

For more information please contact:

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(902) 532-7069

[www.arcac.ca](http://www.arcac.ca)

Facebook: [ARTSPACEGallery](https://www.facebook.com/ARTSPACEGallery)

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Contact [admin@arcac.ca](mailto:admin@arcac.ca) to request images.



BRANDT EISNER · CLAUDIA LEGG · LUCAS MORNEAU · DREW QUON · CYD SPARROW

# Mercury and The Hyacinth

LEE CRIPPS (CURATOR)

May 31 / July 19, 2025

**ARTSP**LACE 396 St. George St. Annapolis Royal, NS - 902.532.7069



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