PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

ARTsPLACE Gallery hosting its first online exhibition : Brad Necyk's *Beyond Here Lies Nothing*

ARTsPLACE Gallery in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia presents *Beyond Here Lies Nothing*, an online exhibition of video work from Brad Necyk. The exhibition spans eight years of explorations into illness and healing. Much of the work focuses on Necyk's doctoral research in Psychiatry, which was awarded the Governor General's Gold Medal. The focus of his artistic-research was on mental illness, storytelling, and healing. He expressed this through auto-ethnographic storytelling about trauma, living with mental illness, and, recently, 3D-rendered videos exploring healing and wellbeing.

When the COVID-19 pandemic closed off the opportunity for a physical exhibition, we took that as an opportunity to curate an exhibition that told a larger, longer story of illness and healing. We included 3.5 hours of content that can be viewed over multiple visits. Further, as we all experience these unbelievable times, there is a growing sense of individual and collective grief, isolation, anxiety, and much more as people, many for the first significant time in their lives, are experiencing mental health strains. This exhibition attempts to present an honest expression of the journey from illness to healing, hopefully creating safe, inclusive spaces for others' experiences to be honoured and validated, especially in times like these.

The exhibition and downloadable essay, can be found here: <u>https://artsplaceexhibits.weebly.com/</u>

Two central works to view: Alberta #3: https://vimeo.com/263189911 Joshua Tree and All of Everything: https://vimeo.com/385904228

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.

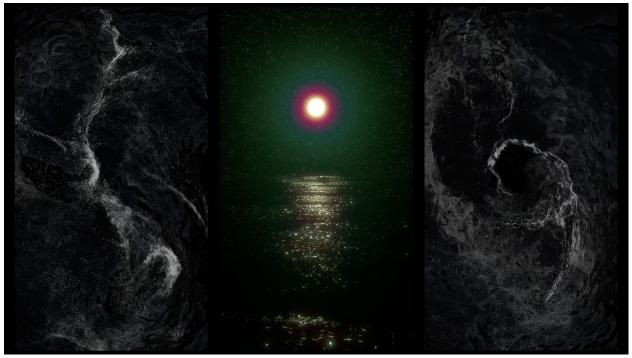
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ARTsPLACE Gallery / 396 St George Street, Annapolis Royal, NS https://arcac-artsplace.weebly.com/ Instagram: arcac.artsplace Facebook: @ARTsPLACEGallery email: arcac@ns.aliantzinc.ca



Caption: Joshua Tree and All of Everything. Created with Gary James Joynes



Caption: At the Edge of the World. Created with Gary James Joynes



Caption: Of Mom.