

# KELOWNA ART GALLERY

For Immediate Release

## ***Felted creations reflect artist's personal journey of healing***

*Simone King: Bloom*  
*November 27, 2023 to April 2024*

**November 30, 2023 – Kelowna, BC:** Pedestrians along Water Street will notice a new art installation at the Kelowna Art Gallery which is visible from the sidewalk day or night.

Simone King is the artist behind the new presentation titled *Bloom*, which utilizes needle-felted wool, assorted textiles, and clay to create an arresting narrative that unfolds across The Glass Gallery window space.

Visitors will see three fantastical creatures placed in concert with a mesmerizing “wool painting” in the background. A large green woolly creature, which King has named *Mossy*, is flanked by a small bird-like creature named *Babyface*, with fledgling wings and a long grey tail. Rounding out the trio is an arachnid-like creature named Debbie with eight fuzzy legs, a brown thorax, and two button eyes.

According to King, “Each of the monstrous creatures represented in the exhibition are meant to embody otherness and isolation, while reminding us that imperfections do not diminish our worthiness of care and peace.” The genesis of *Bloom* was the artist’s own journey and personal catharsis, with each artwork representing a distinct point in their healing process. *Bloom* reminds viewers that inspiration can be found in the beauty that emerges from even the most challenging chapters of life.

Simone King received a BFA from UBC Okanagan. Their work addresses contemporary textile art, with a primary focus on needle felting and wool, and explores themes of catharsis, healing, and identity.

*Bloom* can be seen until April 2024.

The Kelowna Art Gallery is located at 1315 Water Street in downtown Kelowna, B.C.

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### **Media Inquiries**

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