

GRAEME PATTERSON: *THE PUPPET COLLECTIVE*

JANUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 7, 2009

Please join us for the opening reception
on Friday, January 9 from 6 to 8 pm.
Artist in attendance.

TrépanierBaer is pleased to open the 2009 exhibition season with *The Puppet Collective*, a series of new sculptures by Graeme Patterson. Based on an obsession with creating and collecting figurines and puppets, Graeme Patterson has begun to develop a puppet collective for art collectors. The first edition of stop-motion animation figures available for purchase represents approximately 50 random people. The collective for art collectors begins when one of these first edition sculptures is purchased. Patterson will require a photo of each person who acquires a sculpture. He will then create a new figure of this collector to replace the acquired puppet. The collectors' names will not be attached to these representations. The new sculptures will then be available for purchase as a second edition and the collective will grow. Patterson's intention is to eventually create and catalogue a miniature representation of a community of national and international collectors.

Patterson, whose artistic practice focuses on stop-motion animation and multimedia sculptural installations, first made his mark on the scene with the 2007 installation *Woodrow*, a series of nine intermedia sculptural installations created between 2003 and 2006. *Woodrow* pays homage to the namesake title, a small hamlet in Saskatchewan where the artist's family homesteaded and where Patterson lived until recently. Consisting of nine component works, eight of which represent scale models of iconic buildings (grain elevator, barn, hockey rink, etc...) in the town of Woodrow, each is animated by human and animal figures. Collectively, *Woodrow* offers "a quirky profile of a quintessential prairie hamlet." It was while traveling with the exhibition that Patterson decided to begin work on *The Puppet Collective*.

Since graduating from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in 2002, Graeme Patterson has exhibited work in film and animation festivals, galleries and museums, and artist run centers in Canada and internationally. His works can be found at the National Gallery of Canada; the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia; the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and Glenbow Museum in Calgary, Alberta. Additionally, the artist was a participant in the 2007 Montréal Biennale where *Woodrow* was featured. His films have screened at the following renowned festivals: World Wide Short Film Festival, Toronto, Ontario; Toronto International Film Festival; Atlantic Film Festival, Halifax, Nova Scotia; International Festival of Animated Objects, Calgary, Alberta to name a few. His first major short animation titled *Don't Ride Shopping Carts* won Best Animation at the 2003 Garden State Film Festival and Most Promising New Director at the 2003 Atlantic Film Festival. Patterson recently exhibited a series of short animations titled *Ghosts of Woodrow* at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival. He is both a recipient of a Canada Council for the Arts grant and was a member of its selection jury for emerging artist's grants to film and video artists.

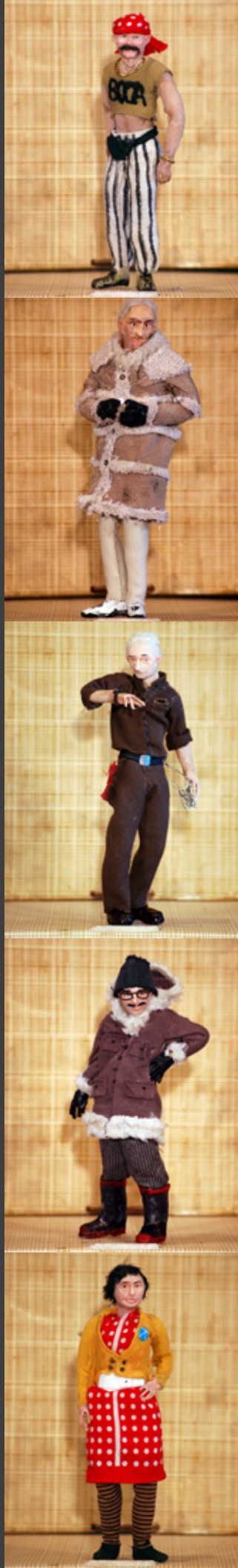
Graeme Patterson will present an artist's talk at the Alberta College of Art and Design on January 9 at 2:00 p.m.

■ ■ TrépanierBaer

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Tuesday - Saturday
10:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Graeme Patterson, *The Puppet Collective*; each sculpture is approximately 20.3 cm tall