

PRESS RELEASE

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April 20, 2023

***Qummut Qukiria!*, Edited by Anna Hudson, Heather Igloliorte, and Jan-Erik Lundström, Honored With the 2023 Melva J. Dwyer Award**

WESTFORD, Massachusetts – *Qummut Qukiria! Art, Culture, and Sovereignty Across Inuit Nunaat and Sápmi: Mobilizing the Circumpolar North* was presented with the 32nd annual Melva J. Dwyer Award by the Canada Chapter of the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA). The book was co-edited by Anna Hudson, Heather Igloliorte, and Jan-Erik Lundström, and published in 2022 by Goose Lane Editions, Fredericton. The Dwyer jurors selected *Qummut Qukiria!* out of 21 publications on art, architecture, and museum studies from across Canada.

Qummut Qukiria! Art, Culture, and Sovereignty Across Inuit Nunaat and Sápmi: Mobilizing the Circumpolar North brings Indigenous and non-Indigenous artists, writers, filmmakers, curators, students, and scholars together in an edited collection of thirty-eight essays organized into four thematic sections: Land and Language, Decolonial Practices, Community and Sovereignty, and Circumpolar Resistance. *Qummut Qukiria!*, “up like a bullet,” attests to the exponential rise of Inuit and Sámi voices and cultural worldviews at a time when the circumpolar Indigenous homelands are most vulnerable to climate change, resource extraction, and Arctic development.

The publication is an outstanding introduction to contemporary Inuit, Nunaat, and Sápmi contemporary art and culture. The compilation of scholarly articles, photo essays, artistic responses, and personal reflections covers a wide range of perspectives, providing depth and diversity to our understanding of Arctic art and culture. The rich and varied stories told by the artists themselves make this book an impressive and essential reference, further enhanced by a glossary of Inuktitut, Sámi, and English terms in use in circumpolar regions.

Anna Hudson, Ph.D./FRSC, is an art historian and curator specializing in nineteenth- and twentieth century art in Canada, in addition to modern and contemporary circumpolar Indigenous art and performance. Hudson is a professor of art history and visual culture in the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design at York University (Toronto).



Dr. **Heather Igloliorte** (Inuk and Newfoundlander, Nunatsiavut) is the University Research Chair in Circumpolar Indigenous Arts at Concordia University in Tiohtiá:ke/Montreal, where she leads the Inuit Futures in Arts Leadership, a Canada Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Partnership Grant, and co-directs the Indigenous Futures Research Centre.

Jan-Erik Lundström is a curator, critic, and historian of art and visual culture. He is the former director of the Sámi Center for Contemporary Art, Norrbottens Museum, Bildmuseet, and Fotografiska Museet. He is the chair of the art journal *Paletten* and former chair of the Centre for Photography in Stockholm.

Pierre B. Landry, Melva J. Dwyer Award Sub-Committee Chair, presented the Melva J. Dwyer Award. Jury members of the 2023 ARLIS/NA Melva J. Dwyer Award Sub-Committee were Gavin Goodwin, Tony White, and Joyce Wong.

The Melva J. Dwyer Award was established in recognition of the contribution made to the field of art librarianship by Melva Dwyer, former head of the Fine Arts Library, University of British Columbia. It is given to the creators of exceptional reference or research tools relating to Canadian art and architecture. Dwyer was a champion of the arts and of art librarianship who mentored a generation of ARLIS/NA colleagues.

About Melva J. Dwyer (October 29, 1919 - November 13, 2017)

With a diploma in piano and a master's degree in history, Dwyer joined the University of British Columbia Library after completing her MLIS at the University of Toronto. Dwyer quickly set to work building the first major art library in western Canada, relying on her expertise and helped considerably by a large monetary donation. In 1967, she became the first chair of CARLIS, the Canadian Art Libraries Section of the Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services Division. This group later migrated to ARLIS/NA to become the Canadian Chapter. Throughout her career, Dwyer was active in ARLIS and IFLA, and traveled extensively to further develop connections with colleagues and book dealers. She retired from the University of British Columbia in 1984.

About the Art Libraries Society of North America

Founded in 1972, the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) is a dynamic, international organization of close to 1,000 individuals devoted to fostering excellence in art and design librarianship and image management in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The membership includes architecture and art librarians, visual resources professionals, artists, curators, educators, publishers, students, and others interested in visual arts information. To serve this diverse constituency, the Society provides a wide range of programs



and services within an organizational structure that encourages participation at every level.

Contact:

Larry Eames

Media Editor

719.255.3929

media.relations@arlisna.org

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