

FORT GANSEVOORT

ELLE

8 Canadian Artists to Check Out This Fall

Canada has a rich creative history and boasts some of the most exciting artists in the world today.

By Robb Jamieson - September 26, 2023



Untitled (2019) by Shuvina Ashoona; coloured pencil and ink on paper (58 x 76 cm); collection of Galerie Hugues Charbonneau; photography, courtesy of Doorset Fine Art.

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Shuvinai Ashoona

Based in Kinngait, Nunavut, Shuvinai Ashoona comes from an extensive family of artists, most notably her grandmother Pitseolak Ashoona and her cousin Annie Pootoogook. Shuvinai has shown extensively in Canada and internationally and most recently was included in the 2022 Venice Biennale's Milk of Dreams group exhibition. Her unique pencil and ink drawings, which are often very large, captivate the viewer with intricate textures and colours. Some of her pictorial spaces depict contemporary Arctic life, and with some of her work, she transports us into a dreamlike outer space where humans, real and mythical beasts and hybrids of the two frolic with and twist into one another. Tentacles wrap, connect and capture, and planet earth is often used as a character's head. These depictions are so playful that you'll want to jump in, but they still have ominous undertones.