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PROFILE

T'uy't'tanat Cease Wyss is an indigenous ethnobotanist, traditionally trained over 3 decades, through mentorships with Indigenous ethnobotanists, and is a digital media artist who trained with several mentors over 3 decades of creating and presenting analogue and digital media formats. Experience

Public Art & Community Engaged Art Projects::

2021: Momenta Biennale - Montreal

Working with local Indigenous youth and adults in developing an urban indigenous garden for Montreal region Indigenous peoples - Namely the Mohawk people from Kahnawake and Kahnésatake communities, as well as Algonquian communities of the Anishnabemowin speaking peoples.

2021: Sanctuary/Stalkaya 360 VR Dome experience

This unique presentation of VR in a geodesic Dome is currently a 10 minute futurism presentation of the Dakota Bear Sanctuary, aka Stalkaya -An Ancient Forest Protection work in collaboration with Damien Gillis and Olivier LeRoux. This project is a work in progress that will be presented in various venues and is designed to be toured. The first stage of this work was self-funded and we are currently working on building it up to more interactive levels and capacities. In 2021 we have presented in these cities and venues:

PuSh Festival - February - Performance Works, Granville Island Vancouver / MOA - Haida House - June-September Vancouver / Cityscape Community Art Space - North Vancouver / ECUAD - October-November Vancouver

2018-2020: A Constellation of Remediation

A multi year public art commission in collaboration with Dene Artist, Anne Riley. Using indigenous plant and myco-remediation strategies to remediate sites where chemical and other toxic substances have damaged the earth and turned the soil to dirt. We also are addressing Colonial Toxins and other socio-toxic elements that affect Indigenous Peoples. We have done work on various sites with permaculture tactics and ceremonies to heal the earth.

2020: The Future Is Floating: Other Sights/SydFest2020

This 2 week residency in Sydney, Australia brought 12 indigenous artists from several worldwide communities together to share, develop, create performance works and Community Engaged public events about the utopian/dystopian futures, and the inevitable rising of the ocean waters.

2020-2021 : WE ARE OCEAN Vancouver : ARTPORT_MAKING_WAVES - IOC-UNESCO - Vancouver Biennale

I collaborated with Artist and Educator Olivier Salas and Curated by Anne Marie Mellster to develop an interactive app called WE ARE OCEAN Vancouver to reach 200+ students within grades 4-12 + adults interested in our app. We created this app as part of the UN Ocean Decade, World Ocean Literacy educational tools for school age children and youth to become more aware of the issues facing the ocean.

2019:Speaker A/B/C : Text based Public Art project:

Working w/Vanessa Kwan and Theatre Replacement, Participated in a text based work for a public art project.

2018-2019: Gallery 221a Fellowship: ɣáw's shewá'y New Growth

We transformed an empty lot into a wilded space that incorporates Coast Salish designs with Asian Motifs, to create a forest space between two buildings. I worked with a team of youth and trained them in permaculture philosophies and applications, ceremonial & land based art as well. This work is semi-permanent and set to stay here until at least 2025.

2018-Present: IM4: Indigenous Matriarchs 4

Working with a team of influential Indigenous Media Matriarchs, Training Indigenous people of multi-ages in AR/VR/MR/XR -creating opportunities for Indigenous Peoples who are interested in building on, or entering into, futurisms in digital media arts.

2016: #callresponse: Cultural and Audio presentation

SFU Audain Gallery/grunt gallery - Burnaby Mountain walk and talk w/Adam Gold & Valeen Jules. Developed a song w/Ursula Johnson and Cassandra Smith, presented as a community engagement.

2010-2011: Lead Artist – W2 Mural Project w/Soul Gardens at Astoria Hotel

I lead a series of community engagement feast events to gather digital data from each session with different cultural themes around food and community to gather inspiring stories for a mural that was painted on the Eastside of the Astoria Hotel.

PRESENTATIONS, RESIDENCIES and SHOWS:

2021: Finding Flowers - Mijiim

An artist talk in dialogue with colleagues Anne Riley and Joce Two Crows - decolonizing and indigenizing urban lands w/Lisa Myers at York U

2021: Canoe Cultures Exhibition - Maritime Museum Vancouver

A group exhibition of Salish artists- I created a triptych of felted panels with coast Salish forms, or pre-contact scenarios as a study towards creating stop motion animation backgrounds.

2021: The River Has Mouths

A group exhibition with Asian and Indigenous artists focussed on Rivers and the importance of the river to each culture.

2021: Ethnobotanist In Residence

A unique residency focussed on land based learning at an urban Wild Bird Sanctuary in North Vancouver through webinars and printed articles.

2021: EarthHand Gleaners Society

This year long/4 season plant fibres and natural dyes/ textiles based residency is a shared experience with Wit'su'wit'in Artist Jolene Andrew. We are collaborating throughout the various seasons through this society, to explore our traditional weaving and dying options that the natural world offers us.

2021: Vancouver Mural Festival-Winter fest- AR Hummingbird

A public presentation of AR- Augmented Reality works presented throughout Van for 2 weeks. - This will also be presented in Mexica in November for the Encuentros Indigenous Festival - AR Filter

2020-2022: Vaccinium Collective

An international collaboration between a London-based scientist and Indigenous digital media artists based in BC and working on XR/Futurisms.

2020: PuSH 2020 : Manifesto: Keynote Address for the Industry Series

I delivered a Keynote Address for this Performance Arts Festival and shared pre-contact stories with a group of artists as part of their walking and sharing tours

2019: Transits and Returns : Vancouver Art Gallery

The third iteration of a series co-curated by the same group of Indigenous curators as the Commute, that was presented at the Vancouver Art Gallery from September 2019 to February 2020.

2019: Li:lyaqetst : To Transform: Reach Gallery and Museum, Abbotsford

A group show with Indigenous Artists from the Fraser Valley region, responding to Indigenous films that we all presented at the gallery, we all created new works in response to these films. I produced a short digital work entitled "Haka Thriller" that was projected onto a weaving of a shawl that responded to the film "Boy" by Taiko Waititi, Maori filmmaker

2018: The Commute: IMA Brisbane

The Canada Council for the Arts supported work through the VAG and IMA to create new works for an international Indigenous art show that was shown in Brisbane for three months, that was later shown in Vancouver through the Vancouver Art Gallery in the fall of 2019.

2018: UBCO Artist Studio Residency

UBC Okanagan - I participated in public presentations, interventions and community engaged activities with local communities and arts centres, alongside a group of other Indigenous artists from around the world.

2018-Current: IM4: Indigenous Matriarchs 4

Working with an advisory team of influential Indigenous Matriarchs, Training Indigenous people of multi-ages in AR/VR/MR/XR Futurisms in digital media. We have an ongoing partnership with ECUAD.

2018: Current: Feminist Electronic Art Symposium

Panel speaker, at ECUAD

2018: VPL Indigenous Storyteller Residency

Work on new projects, as well as share cultural storytelling throughout Vancouver Libraries from March to June

2017: Studios: Studio Residency Griffin Art Projects

6 month Studio Residency to create new works : Weaving projects in Cedar and Wool / Working on various Projects

2017: Polygon Art Gallery: "Cultural Crossings" Commissioned work

I participated in a segment for the Polygon Gallery App "Artists Outside : "Cultural Crossings" : A series of short videos in storytelling format, about Art, Culture, Spirituality and Ethnobotany along the Spirit Trail in North and West Vancouver, a site specific series of short video stories about the land and the Skwxwu7mesh People

2016: thirstDays: Rematriate and Ruminations / 2016: thirstDays: Ceremonial Activism 101: The Gathering

ReciprociTea: A Cultural Presentation, co-curated by Jeneen Frei Njootli and Ashok Mathur @ VIVO Media Arts Ctr // VIVO and Jayce Saloumn: co-curated w/Aaron Rice:Lindsay Katsitsaksti Delaronde @ Native Education College as part of a year long series of presentations through VIVO Media Arts Ctr

2016: The Art of Reconciliation: Poetry reading and Audio presentation

Vancouver Public Library - National Aboriginal Day Celebration : Poetry Readings alongside indigenous womens' musician group M'Girl.

2016: AF3IRM Art Show: Recuerdo / Remembrance

Single Earring: [Cedar Rope/Cedar wood Paddles/Sinew/Gold Hoop] Honouring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women - Las Angeles CA - Group Show from international women artists

2016-2019: Weaving in Cedar and Wool

Training in traditional Coast Salish Weaving techniques with Master Weaver Tsawaysia Spukwus - Alice Guss

2015: Raven and Hummingbird Arts and Culture Workshop Series

Several artists, various disciplines - curatorial capacity- workshops, A small community group effort that created a community arts and culture space in a storefront gallery for a 6 month period.

2013-2015: Studio Residency City of Vancouver

I was awarded a city owned art studio for a short term to create new works and to work on the current projects.

2013: "Conversations about Vancouver, Crawling, Weeping, Betting"

Performance Art, Poetry Reading and Cultural Public Intervention - Commissioned to write a poem

2008-2010: Surrey Arts Centre: Talking Poles

Public Art project with Lorna Boschman & Vicki Moulder : we developed and delivered an interactive sculpture focussed project based on community engagements with diverse communities along the Serpentine Greenway in Surrey and Newton.

2009-2010: International Artists' Exchange - "My Homelessness on Coast Salish Lands" - lantern Sculpture - Pit House

A Residency between Vancouver Artists & Taiwanese Indigenous Artists -building a large lantern sculpture shown in Taiwan in November 2009 and shipped to Vancouver for present nation in the public for the 2010 Olympic Games

MENTORSHIPS

2018: 3 Mentorship Awards: Krista Belle Stewart/Mentorship: Heather Lamoureux/ Mentorship: Jay Cardinal Villeneuve

2 BC Arts Council mentorship grants. I assisted Krista Belle in her practice of decolonizing her MA degree through land based work. /Heather Lamoureux: to work with her with on decolonizing her curatorial practice. / Jay Cardinal Villeneuve: Canada Council for the Arts Mentorship award to work with Jay, an indigenous film maker with him on a developmental stage of his work.

2011-2021: Vancouver Biennale Artists in Schools Outreach

Artist in Residence & Mentorship: Public Schools : studying public art and creating installations for the schools I am chosen to work with.

PUBLICATIONS

2021: Where Are Our Supports?

I contributed text and poetry for this publication, which was part of a show series of this title. I contributed a poem and some text to accompany the work of Emily Neufield, curated by Joni Low.

2021: 2019-2020: The Story of the Squamish People from the 1800's to the 1900's

I contributed text and poetry for this publication, which was part of a show series of this title. I contributed a poem and some text to accompany the work of Emily Neufield, curated by Joni Low.

