



Holly Enns

Holly Enns was born in Winnipeg in 1988. She has a business administration diploma from Red River Community College, and has worked as an auditor at the Canada Revenue Agency. She has also boxed, and managed a boxing club. In the wake of a boxing injury, she says, "I found that art literally helped bring me back to my senses – it heightens my hearing, sight, and tactile perception. It integrates the flow of information between my head and my body and helps relax my defences – which is easier said than done," she adds. Holly describes herself as friendly and energetic, with a good sense of humour. "Art has been, at times, my main reason for living; I see it as play, not work." While Holly has been creative all her life, she began painting seriously just before joining Artbeat. She is attracted to graffiti and other art that is accessible to all and community-minded in purpose. She uses acrylics, house paint, and oil-based markers on paper and on all types of hard surfaces: walls, furniture, and wood panelling. More recently, Holly has decorated leather boots and shoes, spontaneously using them as a cheap canvas and "for the stories they have to tell." The interior parallel lines characteristic of many of her forms – originally a type of shading – eventually came to convey different emotions depending on the directions in which they were oriented. The deliberately childlike style of the lettering is "approachable... a soft rebellion against convention that removes any suggestion of preachiness."