

September 2019
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C.V.

Lara Melnik *visual artist*

(colour diva)

Solo Exhibitions



Bean North Café & The Claim Café. Whitehorse, Yukon. 2014 – 2019.
Year-round showcase.

summer frenzy

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. July 2013.

LOFTwerk

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. May 2013.

SPRING
Fever!

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. May-June 2012.

PANDEMONIUM

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. August 2011.

the quiet hunt

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. August - September 2010.

collection of the artist

Yukon Artists @ Work Cooperative. Whitehorse, Yukon. August 2010.

polychrome

Yukon Arts Centre Public Gallery. Whitehorse, Yukon. January – March 2010.

FULL SUN ☀

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. July 2009.

the works!

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. December 2008.

berries

World Wide Web. November 2008.

BLOOM

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. July 2008.

CAPRICCIOSO

Yukon Arts Centre "Grotto" Gallery. Whitehorse, Yukon. March – April 2007.

HAPPY MEDIUM

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. March 2007.

a change of scene

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. July 2006.

one
WORD SAYS IT ALL

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. July 2005.

The New Clay: a Yukon perspective

Bank of Montreal. Whitehorse, Yukon. June-July 2005.

lara ✿

A Year in Polymer Clay	Cranberry Bistro. Whitehorse, Yukon. March 2005.
Off the Wall	Midnight Sun Coffee Roasters. Whitehorse, Yukon. November 2004.
Big at Heart	The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. May 2004.
SuperPolyFragilistic!	The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. May 2003.
From Bead to Z	Midnight Sun Coffee Roasters. Whitehorse, Yukon. Nov. – Dec., 2002.

Group Exhibitions



Colour Lust

704 Wood Street. Whitehorse, Yukon. June 2019. Georgi Pearson and Lara Melnik.
 Gallery 22, Triple J's Music, Whitehorse, Yukon. January – March 2014.



Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. December 2012 – January 2013.



Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. May 2012.

SCRAWL ON THE WALL

Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. February – March 2011.

Tall, Thin Two By Five

Yukon Artists @ Work Cooperative. Whitehorse, Yukon. July - August 2009. Member's exhibit.

Summertime

Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. July - August 2009. Member's exhibit.

What's going on Up There?

The Reach Museum Gallery. Abbotsford, BC. June - August 2009. Yukon Artists @ Work touring exhibit.

Arts Underground

Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. June - July 2008. Member's exhibit.

thirteen

The Old Firehall. Whitehorse, Yukon. July 2008. An exhibition of new acquisitions from the Yukon Permanent Art Collection.

Roots

Yukon Arts Centre. Whitehorse, Yukon. Summer 2008. Yukon Art Society juried member's exhibit.

POLARITY

Yukon Artists @ Work Cooperative. Whitehorse, Yukon. March 2008. Member's exhibit.

Visual Art Gallery

ATCO Place, Canada Winter Games Cultural Festival. Whitehorse, Yukon. February – March 2007.

The IDEA of NORTH

Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. February - March, 2007. Juried member's exhibit.

jupe!

The Chocolate Claim. Whitehorse, Yukon. May 2007. Georgi Pearson and Lara Melnik.

from these hands

Yukon Arts Centre. Whitehorse, Yukon. Summer 2006. Yukon Artists @ Work Co-operative juried exhibit.

Progress and Possibilities

National Polymer Clay Guild (US), Inaugural on-line juried gallery. March 2005.

The Community Grotto

Yukon Arts Centre. Whitehorse, Yukon. July 2004. Yukon Artists @ Work Society member's exhibit.

The Rave

Ravensdale 2003. Issaquah, Washington. August 2003.

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ENGAGE 2003 Yukon Arts Society & Friends of the Gallery. Whitehorse, Yukon. May 2003.

Beads and Bodies

Midnight Sun Coffee Roasters. Whitehorse, Yukon. March 2002. Marie-Hélène Comeau and Lara Melnik.

Annual Exhibitions & Shows

Arts Up Front Festival – Yukon Art Society. Whitehorse Yukon. Art exhibit, workshops and demonstrations over four days. July. 2016 – 2014.

Fireweed Community Market Society – Whitehorse, Yukon. Summer 2005 – 2019. Thursday outdoor market vendor and 12-Days of Christmas participant.

Cranberry Fair - Whitehorse, Yukon. December. 2009 - 2019. Juried Art and Fine Crafts Fair.

Yukon Riverside Arts Festival – Klondike Institute of Art & Culture. Dawson City, Yukon. Art exhibit, workshops and demonstrations over three days. 2001, 2003, 2005, 2006 & 2008.

Points of View - Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. Annual exhibition of new works. June. 2002 – 2006.

Dawson City Arts Society Members Exhibition - ODD Gallery. Dawson City, Yukon. February – March. 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009.

Arts in the Park - Yukon Arts Society. Whitehorse, Yukon. A week-long demonstration of polymer clay techniques. Includes a show of participating artists at the end of the summer program. July-August. 2002, 2005 and 2006.

Great Northern Arts Festival - Inuvik, NWT.

- July 2001. Exhibited artwork during the 10-day festival. Demonstrated artwork in the gallery. Instructed a workshop in polymer clay for artists and public, and one for children. Recipient of the *People's Choice Award - 1st for Jewellery*.
- July 2003. Exhibited artwork during the 10-day festival. Demonstrated artwork in the gallery. Recipient of the *People's Choice Award - 1st for Jewellery*.

Education

"I am self-taught in the medium of polymer clay. In 1989 I began jewellery-making using glass beads, found objects, gemstones and wood. I started using polymer clay in 1994 to create beads and from 1998 onward polymer clay became the focus of my jewellery work. Since 2000 I have been exploring the medium beyond making beads and have created landscapes, mosaics and sculpture. Access to polymer clay publications and online resources has been useful but has had its limitations. As a result, all of my work has been self-directed."

Workshops

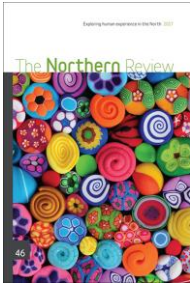
Lara has instructed one- and two-day workshops in polymer clay bead-making for youth and adults alike. These have been held as private and public groups in Whitehorse, Dawson City, Haines Junction, Atlin and Inuvik.

She completed an *Artist-in-the-School* special project at L'école Émilie-Tremblay in April 2005 providing instruction to all grades. Single day workshops were held in Teslin and Destruction Bay as part of the *Artist-in-the-School* program in 2006.

Lara has also demonstrated her art at several community events, including the Heart of Downtown celebrations in 2005, the Longest Days Street Festival in 2005 & 2006, Canada Winter Games in 2007 and several Art & Music Festivals in the last 10 years.

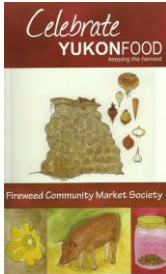
Lara 

Publications



The Northern Review, [S.I.], n. 46, Special Issue: Northern Literature: Poetry, Fiction & Creative Non-Fiction from the Yukon, Alaska, Northwest Territories, and Norway. Yukon College, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. December 2017. ISSN 1929-6657, 264p.,

Contributed image for front cover. "un petit bouchon"



Celebrate Yukon Food – keeping the harvest – Fireweed Community Market Society Publication, 2011. Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. ISBN 978-0-9780334-1-5, 197p.

Contributed two images of polymer clay work used in sectional title pages. "sweet boletes" and "cranberry afternoon".



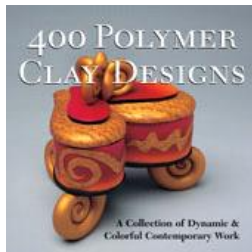
Art Adventures on Yukon Time – Yukon Department of Tourism & Culture, 2010 studio guide.

Contributed image for front cover. "flambeau"



Celebrate Yukon Food – seasonal recipes – Fireweed Community Market Society Publication, 2006. Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. ISBN 0-97803334-0-X, 164p.

Contributed four images of polymer clay work used in sectional title pages. "comin' out" for Spring, "once in a blue moon" for Summer, "autumn uplift" for Fall and "winter's hue" for Winter.



400 Polymer Clay Designs – A Collection of Dynamic & Colorful Contemporary Work – Lark Publications, 2004. Asheville, NC, USA. ISBN 1-57990-460-2, 352p.

Three works accepted. Polymer clay flatworks "my summer in the Yukon" and "comfort". Polymer clay sculpture "candy bowl heist".

Lara ✿

Bibliography

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- "Living in Wilderness", *Field Life*, Spring 2016. Pg.128-9. By Yoshie Kumagae.
- "#BestPlaceOnEarth", *North of Ordinary*, Spring 2016. Pg 95. By Kara Johancsik.
- "[North Of Ordinary: Ep 109 - Lara Melnik Artwork](#)", NorthwestelTV, January 20th, 2014.
- "[Creativity Born of Chaos](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, August 11th, 2011. Pg 11. By Glenda Koh.
- "Visual words get political at Arts Underground", *Yukon News*, February 25th, 2011. Pg 52. By Genesee Keevil.
- "Who do you love?", *ArtsNet Magazine 2010/2011*, September 2010. Pg 12. By Elaine Shiman.
- "[Lara's Candy-Coloured Mushrooms](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, August 12th, 2010. *From the Arts Column*. Pg 13. By Sarah Lindstein.
- "[Multivitamin Colour](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, February 11th, 2010. *From the Arts Column*. Pg 12. By Nicole Bauberger.
- "[Artwork that gets under your skin](#)", *Yukon News*, January 22nd, 2010. Pg 35. By Vivian Belik.
- "[Magnificent Mushrooms](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, January 19th, 2010. Photo by Vince Fedoroff
- "[An Explosion of Colour](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, January 15th, 2010. *Front Page*. Photo by Vince Fedoroff.
- "[Yukon Business, Macro and Micro](#)", *How's Business, Yukon!*, Winter 2009. *Artrepreneur Column*. By Nicole Bauberger.
- "[A Visual Art Lover's Extravaganza](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, September 10th, 2009. By Tara McCarthy.
- "[Tall, Thin and Prolific](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, August 13th, 2009. *From the Arts Column*. By Nicole Bauberger. artwork: *gathering daisies*
- "[Permanent Art Collection showing new acquisitions](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, July 14th, 2009.
- "[Spring is on the Move \(in Trunks\)](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, April 23rd, 2009. By Jo-Anne Holmes.
- "[From Abstract to Traditional: Local Artists Show Their Roots](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, July 28th, 2008. *Arts Imperative Column*. By Tara McCarthy.
- "[Artist in Full Bloom](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, July 18th, 2008. Pg 23. *Arts Imperative Column*. By Tara McCarthy.
- "[Technology and the Business of Art](#)", *How's Business, Yukon!*, July 18th, 2008. *Artrepreneur Column*. Pg 9. By Nicole Bauberger.
- "[Smell the Flowers](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, July 3rd, 2008. *Front page*. Photo by Vince Fedoroff.
- "[June Jupes](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, June 1st, 2007. *Front page*. Photo by Vince Fedoroff.
- "[A Day for Clay](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, February 1st, 2007. *Front page*. Photo by Vince Fedoroff.
- "[Lara Melnik's Polymer Passion](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, August 18th, 2006. Pg 13. By Jo-Anne Holmes.
- "[The Colour of Light](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, July 21st, 2006. *From the Arts Column*. Pg 15. By Nicole Bauberger.
- "[Artist at work](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, June 28th, 2006. Pg.13. Photo by Vince Fedoroff.
- "[Talent Demonstration](#)", *Whitehorse Star*, June 28th, 2006. *Living* Pg 12. Photo by Vince Fedoroff.
- "[Strength in Diversity](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, June 23rd, 2006. *From the Arts Column*. Pg 12. By Nicole Bauberger.
- "[Laura Prentice's Christmas: The Littlest Art and Craft Fair](#)", *What's Up Yukon!*, December 9th, 2005.

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From the Arts Column. Pg 17. By Nicole Bauberger.

- "Living with a Career in Art", *How's Business, Yukon!*, October 7th, 2005. *Artrepreneur* Column. Pg 10. By Nicole Bauberger.
- "Art Adventures a Few Blocks West", *What's Up Yukon!*, July 22nd, 2005. Longest Days Street Fair Column, Pg 20. By Nicole Bauberger.
- "What the heck is the Longest Days Street Fair", *What's Up Yukon!*, July 15th, 2005. Longest Days Street Fair Artist Focus, Pg 12. By Mark Prins.
- "Lara Melnik takes delight in her journey as an artist", *The Yukon News*, July 6th, 2005. Pg 25. By Chris Scherbarth.
- "New artistic medium has long heritage", *The Yukon News*, November 24th, 2004. *Arts&Entertainment* Pg 29. By Erling Friis-Baastad.
- "Artist collective announces independent gallery opening", *The Yukon News*, March 17th, 2004. *Arts&Entertainment* Pg 22. By Graeme McElheran.
- "Blending a colourful business", *The Yukon News*, May 28th, 2003. *Arts&Entertainment* Pg 36. By Chris Beacom.
- "Opening night at the Odd revealed Yukon talent", *The Yukon News*, February 28th, 2003. *Arts&Entertainment* Pg 36. By Palma Berger.
- "Displaying the wares", *Whitehorse Star*, August 5th, 2002. *Life Styles* Pg 16. Photo by Vince Fedoroff.
- "Artists haul home awards from Inuvik", *The Yukon News*, August 6th, 2001. *Arts&Entertainment* Pg 15. By Patricia Robertson.

Biography



There is a sunny cabin, nestled in the woods near the shore of Shallow Bay. This is the ideal home and studio for Yukon artist Lara Melnik. Primarily self taught, Lara has been making unique jewelry for many years. Her obsession with beads has driven her to create her own, using polymer clay and the ancient Italian technique of millefiori canework. She has a strong attraction to striking colours and this is evident in her recent exploration of the medium. Lara has been creating small landscapes and abstracts by blending and layering the clay. Texture, colour and relief play an important role in these scenes and three-dimensional wall sculptures. Tiny gardens and forests of whimsical mushrooms seem to "grow" right out of the wall. Lara is happy making art that puts a smile on someone's face.

She has twice received first prize, People's Choice Award for Jewellery, at the Great Northern Arts Festival in Inuvik, NWT. She has participated in many solo and group shows in the north including a solo exhibition in 2010 at the Yukon Art Centre public gallery in Whitehorse. She has been published in the fine art book *400 Polymer Clay Designs* and is a member of the Yukon Arts Society. Through teaching workshops, Lara shares her love of this colourful medium and exposes people to it's artistic strength.

Lara ✿

Memberships

Yukon Crafts Society

Fireweed Community Market Society

Collections



"wonder of the woods" – Yukon department of Tourism and Culture. July 2018



"delight" – Yukon Permanent Art Collection. March 2012