

**Wil Aballe**

1375 RAILSPUR ALLEY  
VANCOUVER, BC CANADA  
V6H 4G9  
+ 1 (778) 229 3458  
WWW.WILABALLE.COM

**DION SMITH-DOKKIE**

*Wind-Eye*

Opening: Thurs, Apr 3, 2025, 6-8PM

Exhibition: Apr 3 - Apr 26, 2025

Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Through the window, 2023*

Acrylic and sand on canvas



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**DION SMITH-DOKKIE** (he, they) is a painter by trade and is interested in location and place, infrastructure, communication, materiality and erotics. He holds an MFA from the University of British Columbia. Dion was one of five finalists for the 2024 Phillip B. Lind Prize for Emerging Artists at the Polygon Gallery in North Vancouver, participating in The Inaugural Lind Biennial. Other recent exhibitions include *Mirrors*, a duo exhibition with Michael Morris, at SUM Gallery; *it hides in the light* at The Bows in Calgary; *Land Breaths* at the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie; and *This Will Be the First of a Thousand Worlds We Give Life To* at Gallery Gachet. His work has been supported by the BC Arts Council and Canada Arts Council and he has participated in residencies at the Banff Centre, New Media Gallery, and Griffin Art Projects. Dion has received awards like the Kwi Am Choi Scholarship Prize and a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Master's Program Scholarship for research on landscape painting, along with numerous other scholarships. He has published writing in *Galleries West*, *SAD Magazine*, *Relssue*, and other venues. Dion is a shy gay man and a member of West Moberly First Nations.

Taking the window as a point of departure—at once a structure for seeing and an old trope in painting—the works in *Wind-Eye* invoke painting as a technology of location. They document summertime meanderings, queer moments reflected in a pane of glass, rain on the skin and rivulets of cloud and light, cascading out from waves.

Bringing together works in acrylic, oil and mixed-media, the variety of techniques demonstrate an ongoing inquiry into the juncture of the sensual, formal, and environmental. Multiple works incorporate sand and other materials, in the quest for a vibrant surface. The use of internal subdivision and abutting passages refracts multiple places into the frame of each work while the palette, predominantly pastel with sections of deep blue and violet, conjures the uncertainty of dusk, when the world beckons through the window. Throughout *Wind-Eye*, wind-swept gestures caress and flow like garlands or fingers.

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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Wind tang*, 2024

Acrylic and sand on canvas

24 x 20 x 1.5 in (61 x 50.8 x 3.8 cm)





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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Cassatt's Garden*, 2022

Oil on panel

30 x 24 x 1.5 in (76.2 x 61 x 3.8 cm)





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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Collioure, invert*, 2023

Acrylic, oil and oil stick on canvas

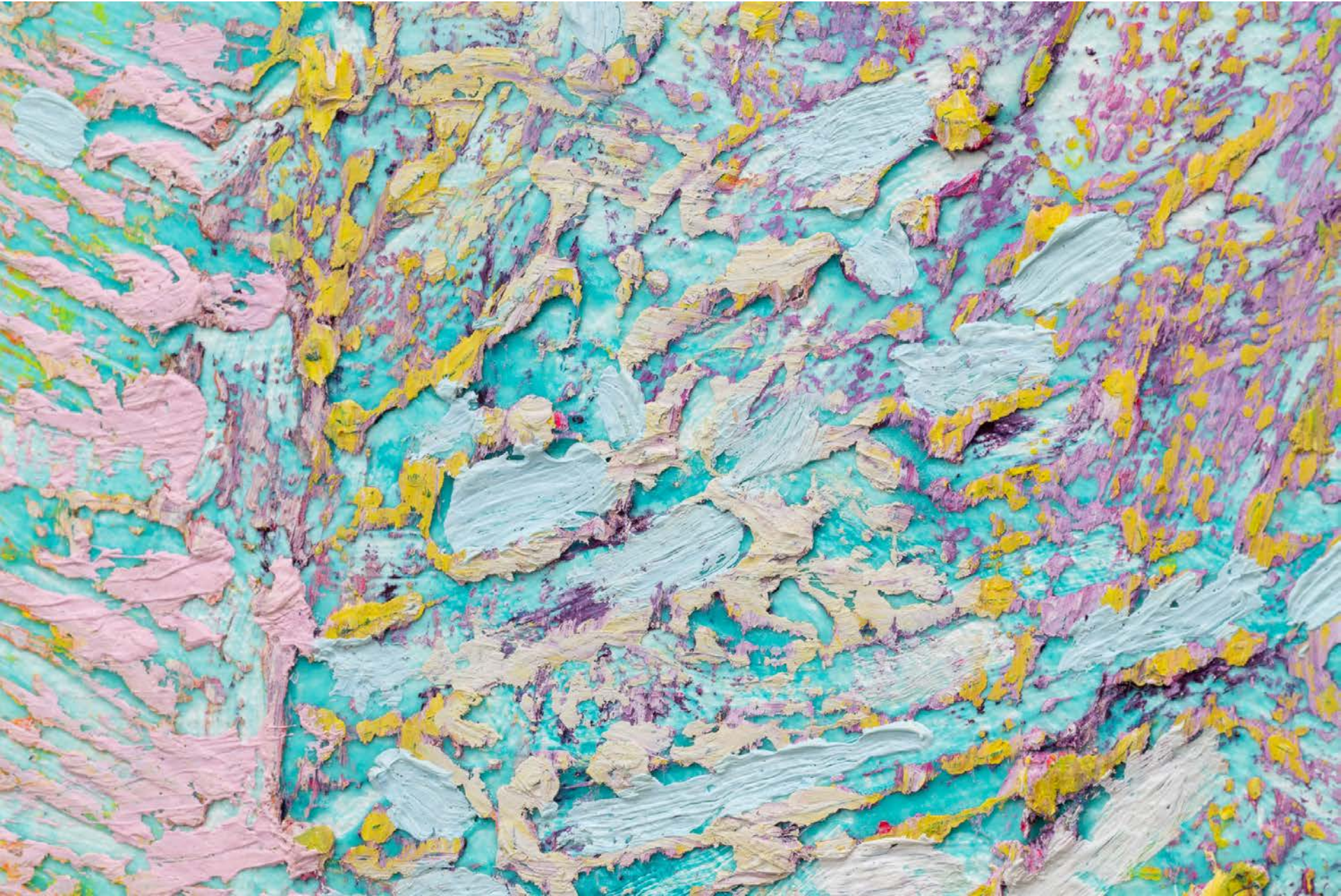
26 x 20 x 1.5 in (66 x 50.8 x 3.8 cm)





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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Rainbow on the water, 2023*

Acrylic and sand on canvas

26 x 20 x 1.5 in (66 x 50.8 x 3.8 cm)





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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Midnight at Trout Lake, 2021*

Oil on panel

30 x 22 x 1.5 in (76.2 x 55.9 x 3.8 cm)





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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Lares II*, 2021

Acrylic, false gems, false pearls,  
glass beads on cotton sheeting

20 x 18 x 1.5 in (50.8 x 45.7 x 3.8 cm)





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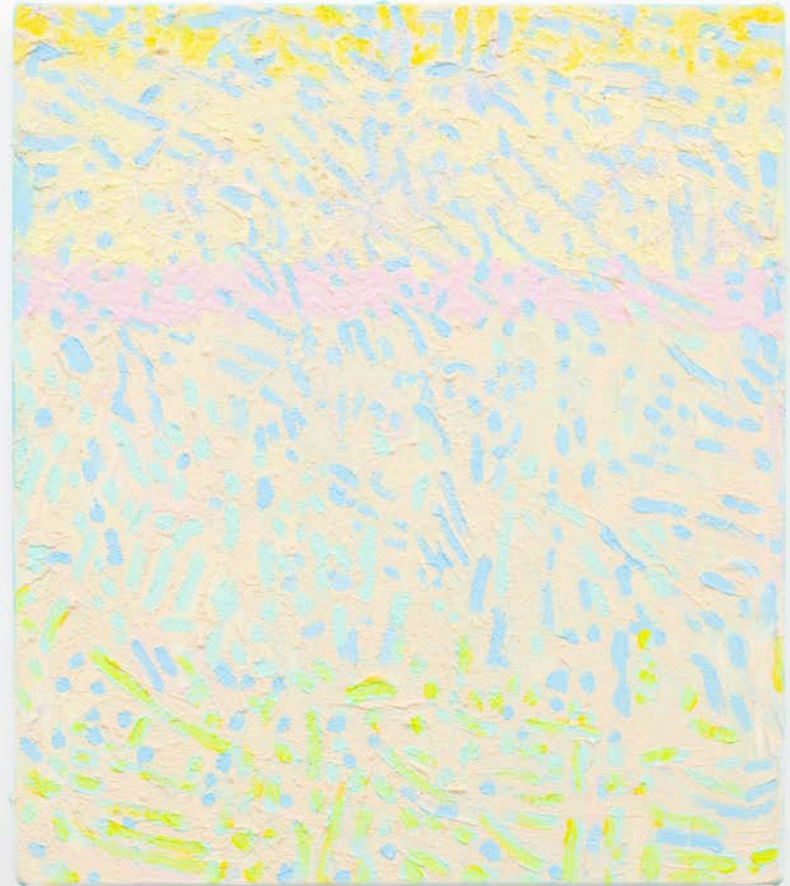
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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Wreck, horizon, 2023*

Acrylic and sand on canvas

16 x 14 x 1.5 in (40.6 x 35.6 x 3.8 cm)





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Dion Smith-Dokkie

*Through the window, 2023*

Acrylic and sand on canvas

40 x 30 x 1.5 in (101.6 x 76.2 x 3.8 cm)





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*Wind-Eye*



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## DION SMITH-DOKKIE

### CV

#### Education

2021 Master of Fine Arts in Visual Arts, University of British Columbia  
2019 Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Drawing, Concordia University  
2015 Bachelor of Arts in Humanities (Women's Studies), University of Victoria

#### Solo Exhibitions

2025 Wind-Eye, Wil Aballe, Vancouver  
2024 it hides in the light, The Bows, Calgary  
2023 This Will Be the First of a Thousand Worlds We Give Life To, Gallery Gachet, Vancouver  
2023 sunbeams softer forever, Fort Gallery and Swallowfield Farm, Fort Langley  
2022 Iris Atoll, PoMoArts, New Westminster

#### Group and Duo Exhibitions

2025 Mirrors, with Michael Morris, SUM Gallery, Vancouver  
2024 The Inaugural Lind Biennial, The Polygon Gallery, North Vancouver  
2024 Land Breaths: Treaty 8 Survey, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie  
2023 Salon Wall, Gallery 881, Vancouver  
2023 URP Painting, The Wrong Biennial, Online  
2022 Jelena and the Internet Celebrity Cat, CSA Space, Vancouver  
2022 Deviant Lingerings X Rainbow Lounge, Vancouver Pride Society, Vancouver  
2022 New and Emerging, Seymour Art Gallery, Deep Cove, North Vancouver  
2021 Small File Media Festival, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver  
2021 Fata Morgana, Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery, Vancouver  
2021 Squeegie Juicebox (Gushers), with Hannah Möller, Department of Art History, Visual Art and Theory, Vancouver  
2020 Coordination Complex (diagram enclosed), AHVA Gallery, Vancouver  
2020 Investigation of Things, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden, Vancouver  
2019 Braiding Our Stories, VAV Gallery, Montreal  
2018 Illustrating the Future Imaginary, Initiative for Indigenous Futures, Online / Montreal  
2018 Anthro(s)cene, VAV Gallery, Montreal  
2018 Two hands, touching, VAV Gallery, Montreal

#### Residencies

2023 Banff Artist in Residence – Spring 2023, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Banff  
2022 Griffin Art Projects X Queer Arts Festival, Griffin Art Projects, North Vancouver



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2022 Micro-residency, New Media Gallery, New Westminster  
2022 SUM Gallery Artist in Residence, SUM Gallery, Vancouver  
2021 BC CommA (Community Advocates), Health Initiative for Men & Centre for Community-Based Research, Vancouver

## Selected Press, Reviews, and Essays

2025 Watson, Scott. "Mirrors: Michael Morris and Dion Smith-Dokkie." Mirrors exhibition essay. *SUM Gallery*. Print.  
2025 Walker, Kate; Shier, Reid. "Polygon Gallery supports emerging artists with Lind Prize." *CityNews*. Television.  
2024 Johnson, Gail. "Stir 'Splainer: 5 artists at The Lind Biennial exhibition at the Polygon Gallery." *Stir*.  
2024 Derdeyn, Stuart; Gee, Dana; Wasserman, Jerry; Conner, David; Duke, David Gordon. "Get your tickets: 35 Vancouver concerts, plays, family events and more to catch this fall." *Vancouver Sun*.  
2024 Loose Leaf. "May's Belated Print". *Loose Leaf Print Distro* newsletter.  
2024 Boily, Jesse. "Latest AGGP exhibition explores Treaty 8". *Town and Country News / Local Journalism Initiative*.  
2024 Leblanc, Jacob. "Grande Prairie Art Gallery hosting new Treaty 8 based Exhibition 'Land Breaths'". *Raven Radio*.  
2024 Bair, Rebecca (Becky). "Outro". *Gallery Gachet*.  
2024 Peacock, Kitt. "Submerged Perspectives // Dion Smith-Dokkie at Gallery Gachet." *RelIssue*.  
2023 Aoki, Julia. "See How We Run! Art as Agency, Autonomy and Community – with Demi London and Moroti George." *Below the Radar*, SFU Vancity Office of Community Engagement. Podcast.  
2023 Smith, Chris. "West Moberly First Nations member Dion Smith-Dokkie investigates extraction industries in Gallery Gachet exhibition". *Pancouver*.  
2023 Seufert, George. "Dion Smith-Dokkie at Gallery Gachet: Diving deep into maps and their meaning." *The/La Source*.  
2023 Soji-George, Moroti; English, Sophia. "Dion Smith-Dokkie: This Will Be the First of a Thousand Worlds We Give Life To." *Gallery Gachet*.  
2023 West Coast Curated. "Dion Smith-Dokkie's New Show Explores the Beauty of Refracted Light." *West Coast Curated*.  
2023 Gibson, Alex. "The Opalescent Oracular Bubble." *Fort Gallery*. Exhibition text for *sunbeams softer forever*.  
2022 Gibson, Alex; Starling, Dan. "The Advanced Soul." *Jelena and the Internet Celebrity Cat* exhibition text. Print.  
2022 Cleugh, Janis. "Kwi Am Choi scholarship winner got 'dizzy' making art for Port Moody show." *Tri-City News*.  
2021 Prasad, Marcus. "Fata Morgana: Closing Reflections." *Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery*.  
2021 Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery. "Fata Morgana: Online Extensions." *Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery*.  
2021 Thériault, Richard. "Des oeuvres qui marquent la fin d'un parcours scolaire." *Le Téléjournal Colombie-Britannique*.  
2021 Stockbridge, Caroline. "The Whole Body Feels Light and Wants to Fly—Stretched Electric Painting Screens and the Teledioptric [eye]ris in the Sky." *Fata Morgana* exhibition catalogue. Morris and Helen Belkin Gallery.  
2021 Conner, Shawn. "Art Scene: From Van Gogh to nature to sci-fi." *Vancouver Sun*.  
2019 Li, Zizi. "Indigenous Futurity: Walking Into The Near Future." Online essay.  
2018 Dunk, Renée; Jezer-Morton, Kathryn. "Meet Milieux's 11 new undergraduate fellows." *Concordia News*.  
2018 Smith-Dokkie, Dion; Zuberic, Emily. "Water Futures." *The VOID Magazine*, no. 17. Print.

## Selected Publications

2023 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "It starts with a lullaby: Take Care, My Boy by KITE." *RelIssue Year 2 Anthology*, ed. Julia Prudhomme. RelIssue. Print.  
2022 Smith-Dokkie, Dion (as DSD). "The men who cruise with coyotes." Print essay. *SAD Magazine*.



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- 2022 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "It starts with a lullaby: Take Care, My Boy by Kite." *Relssue*.
- 2022 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "Natalie Purschwitz: An array of objects, prolific and fecund, make new connections." *Galleries West*.
- 2022 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "Hannah Möller prism-weaver" in Protean Lattice exhibition catalogue. *Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery*. University of British Columbia.
- 2021 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. *The Colour-machine: a partial translation and commentary on Francis Bacon: logique de la sensation*. Major Research Paper. Primary Supervisor: Gu Xiong. Secondary Supervisor: Phil McCrum. External examiner: Dr. Laura U. Marks. *University of British Columbia*.
- 2019 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "Tsi Tiotonhontsatáhsawe: The Creation Story Project." *Initiative for Indigenous Futures Blog*.
- 2017 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "Techno Mo'olelo: He Au Hou, Skins 5.0, and digital Indigenous community-making." *Pause Button*.
- 2017 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "Skawennati: Machinimagraphique!" *Initiative for Indigenous Futures Blog*.
- 2017 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "Tehatikonhsatatie: For the Faces That Are Yet to Come." *Initiative for Indigenous Futures Blog*.
- 2017 Smith-Dokkie, Dion. "Two-Spirit Sur-Thrивance and the Art of Interrupting Narratives at Never Apart." *Initiative for Indigenous Futures Blog*.

## **Selected Awards, Fellowships, Grants, and Scholarships**

- 2024 Finalist: The Phillip B. Lind Prize for Emerging Artists, The Polygon Gallery
- 2023 Gloria Josephine Sapena Scholarship Endowment, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
- 2023 Individual Artist Awards – Visual Artists, BC Arts Council
- 2022 Shortlisted: 2021/2022 Portfolio Prize Shortlist, 85-5 Visual Arts Foundation
- 2022 Project Assistance for Visual Artists, BC Arts Council
- 2022 Explore and Create, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2022 Kwi Am Choi Exhibition Scholarship, PoMoArts
- 2021 Andrew MacIntosh Memorial Book Prize in Visual Art (MFA), University of British Columbia
- 2021 Joan Wright Hassell Prize in Visual Arts, University of British Columbia
- 2020 B.C. Binning Memorial Fellowship, University of British Columbia
- 2020 SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarships-Master's Program, University of British Columbia
- 2020 Helen Pitt Graduate Award in Fine Arts at UBC, University of British Columbia
- 2019 Roloff Beny Scholarship, University of British Columbia
- 2019 Graduate Support Initiative (GSI) Scholarship, University of British Columbia
- 2019 Nominee: BMO 1st Art! Scholarship, Concordia University
- 2019 Chadha Family Scholarship, Concordia University
- 2019 Nominee: H el ene Couture Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Painting, Concordia University
- 2018 New Relationship Trust Post-Secondary Scholarship, New Relationship Trust
- 2017 Milieux Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Milieux Institute for Arts, Culture and Technology
- 2017 New Relationship Trust Post-Secondary Scholarship, New Relationship Trust
- 2016 New Relationship Trust Post-Secondary Scholarship, New Relationship Trust