

## The Power Family Program for Inuit Art

*Reflections: An Ordinary Day*

November 16, 2019–May 10, 2020

Intro Panel

[292 words]

*Reflections: An Ordinary Day* is designed to be a lyrical journey of the myriad spaces and routines within an Arctic landscape.

The twenty-seven evocative artworks, selected from an outpouring of artistic production spanning the 1950s to the early twenty-first century, explore the relationship of Inuit artists with the visuality of everyday experiences and bridge the mundane and the fantastic. The perspectives range from soaring gazes at the horizon to the depiction of daily chores, the patience and persistence required in hunting practices, and commonplace social interactions.

Collectively, these works of art reveal intimate connections among the artists, their communities, and their locale—a specific place and time composed of icy regions and vast seas and tundras. The installation is organized to celebrate the array of unique surface variations, color palettes, and material textures found in the prints and sculptures, which simultaneously display an overall optical harmony. They reveal a range of individual approaches and styles, while the various Inuit artistic techniques of inscription, carving, and drawing demonstrate their vibrant graphic heritage. Chosen for their portrayal of the thoughts and acts in the hours between “sleeps”—an Inuit measurement that determines both time and distance—these works transform the uniqueness of ordinary life in the far north into visual poetry.

This exhibition is the second installation to celebrate the extraordinary Power Family gift of Inuit art. Inspired by the generosity of Philip and Kathy Power, additional donors also contributed to this exhibition with gifts and loans that expand our conversation about Inuit art and culture.

Vera Grant

Deputy Director, Curatorial Affairs and Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art

This exhibition is made possible by the Power Family Program for Inuit Art, established in 2018 through the generosity of Philip and Kathy Power.

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