

woodWord

Gloves, hats, on or off, the fog of culture stays on, fitting close as skin

woodWord is at the **Annex Gallery** for all of June

This work is a room installation that may well challenge viewers in their comfortable patterns. Finely crafted furniture is inscribed in various ways with text addressing experiences related to using them and to wider considerations of conventions and awareness. In his artist statement, David Ferguson says “I think we need to understand better how our minds and thinking actually work if we are to effectively deal with the immense challenges that our species is facing socially and environmentally.” He has a short poem on the lid of a modern looking hall bench that reads: gloves, hats on or off - the fog of culture stays on-fitting close as skin. There is an existential mirror and a coat tree of enlightenment and enough other pieces to fill the room. Local hardwoods have been sourced and skillfully used in a style that could be described as refined rustic and sometimes as contemporary. That is only the entry into the work. It is really musings and thoughts he has encountered when hearing and reading about how minds and brains might be working.

David Ferguson came out of the media studies at Ryerson University working in photography. That work was exhibited in public art galleries across Canada. Some of that photography is in major collections and he has his commissioned woodwork in a number of fine homes. He worked with and for galleries in Toronto and with the Art Gallery of Bancroft during an expansionary phase, as their president for a term and participated in the Bancroft and Area Studio tour for five years.

This show is opening in the beginning of June at APFTA , 23 Bridge St. W. Bancroft



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