



## NEWS RELEASE

*Celebration of Zyp Art Gallery's first birthday with the unveiling of an original Alex Janvier artwork*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### **Original Artwork by Alex Janvier Displayed in Zyp Art Gallery**

**Calmar, Alberta** – The Calmar Art Society is pleased to announce the first birthday of Zyp Art Gallery and the unveiling of Alex Janvier's *The Old One*, a never before seen artwork held in private hands.

We invite all press to the celebration and unveiling of the original Janvier which will be held at Zyp Art Gallery on May 15<sup>th</sup> from 630 – 830pm. This is a temporary display, after which the artwork will be returned to private hands.

The Zyp Art Gallery is named after Hank and Tillie Zyp, in honour of their role in Dr. Nhung Tran-Davies life. The Zyp Art Gallery is a non-profit gallery space that offers a home to local artists and develops exhibitions that generates dialogue and inspires understanding about social issues, locally and around the world.

A Photo of the Artwork is located on [Google Drive](#)

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#### **About the Artist**

**Alex Janvier CM, AOE, RCA, LLD (Hon)** a Denesuline from Cold Lake First Nations on Treaty 6 Territory is considered the 'first Canadian native modernist'. He is renowned for his unique abstract curved lines and use of bright colour combinations. Janvier's murals adorn many public buildings in Canada, most famously in the Grand Hall of the Canadian Museum of History. Numerous national and international galleries have exhibited Janvier's paintings. Most recently, he has had two notable public commissions in Edmonton – *Tsa Tsa Ke K'e* or *Iron Foot Place*, the mosaic in Roger's Place and the diptych titled *Sunrise* and *Sunset* at the Legislative Assembly of Alberta – the first permanent aboriginal representation in the Speaker's House.

Janvier is the recipient of many accolades and awards. Most significantly he is a recipient of the Order of Canada (2007) and the Alberta Order of Excellence (2010) and the Distinguished Artist Award from the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta (2017).

## About the Gallery

The Zyp Art Gallery has been a long-time passion project for Dr. Nhung Tran-Davies. Dr. Tran-Davies is a physician, children's book author and advocate for social justice through education. Her family came to Canada as refugees from Vietnam in 1979, sponsored by members of Enoch's Our Lady of Mercy Parish, which included Hank and Tillie Zyp. The Zyps played a large part in Dr. Tran-Davies life. She was privileged in seeing firsthand Hank's amazing artwork, but also witnessed the important work Hank and Tillie did to help children around the world through their two NGOs.

"This little gallery is my way of honouring the life and legacy of Hank & Tillie Zyp, two very special people who continue to live on in terms of inspiring me," says Dr. Tran-Davies. "I wanted to do this to honour them and what they've done for our family and for children around the world."

Hank and Tillie Zyp's many accolades include: The Alberta Achievement Award for Outstanding Contribution to Humanity (1987), the Celebration 20/20 Award for NGO International Development (1998), Stars of the Millennium Volunteer Award from the Wild Rose Foundation (2004), the Sage Award for Social Justice and Peace (2011) and the RISE Lifetime Achievement Award (2012).

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## Note to Editors:

**Building Address:** Zyp Gallery, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 4715 – 50 Ave, Calmar Alberta, T0C 0V0  
20 minutes from Edmonton South, on Hwy 39

**Opening Times:** Monday – Friday 09.00 -17.00; Saturday & Sunday – Closed

Admission Free, Donations Appreciated

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## Media Contact

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## Media Availability for Interviews

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