



## VIRTUAL GALLERY

37907 Second Avenue, Squamish, BC  
<https://squamishlibrary.ca/foyer-gallery/>

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September 12 – November ??

# LAURENCE RAMSAY

*Unlicensed Optimism*

spray paint on canvas



**Title: GREEN DAWN**

Spray paint on canvas

Size: 12 x 24"

Price: \$120.



**Title: BEES [PINK]**

Spray paint on canvas

Size: 10 x 20"

Price: \$90.



**Title: CITY [BLUE]**

Spray paint on canvas

Size: 24 x 30"

Price: \$225.



**Title: URBAN GHOSTS**

Spray paint on canvas

Size: 20 x 10"

Price: \$90.



**Title: PACIFIC DREAM**

Spray paint on canvas

Size: 24 x 18"

Price: \$150.



**Title: ORCA [BLUE]**

Spray paint on canvas

Size: 10 x 20"

Price: \$90.

## LAURENCE RAMSAY, 'Unlicensed Optimism' – spray paint on canvas

### ARTIST STATEMENT

*BC born multi-disciplinary artist and author Laurence Ramsay, creates surrealist hopepunk, solar-punk, and neo-futurist inspired works that seek to blend the line between where the urban and natural meet. Believing as an artist that we as a society won't move forward until we can find a peaceful merger between technological advancement and living in rhythm with the natural cycles of our planet, his work is inspired by aspects drawn from the beauty of the natural world, geometry, urban cityscapes, street art and urban movement practices, pagan spirituality and witchcraft, death, fringe subcultures, and the queer experience of living on the edges of society. Ramsay uses spray paint, utilizing street art techniques drawn from graffiti and street art, as well as improvisational flow techniques, and general controlled chaos to bring his vibrantly coloured canvases to life.*

*Laurence Ramsay's debut novel KYN is on sale now wherever books are sold.*

### Q & A with LAURENCE RAMSAY

Q: Describe this exhibit? What was your creative stimulation for this particular series?

*A: A lot of the pieces in this series are inspired by trying to capture and reimagine the place where the urban and the natural worlds meet -- merging them.*

Q: What's your background? How long have you been doing art?

*A: I had a long background in performer arts, before picking up a spray can and doing anything in a visual medium. I went to post secondary school for contemporary dance, and spent my 20s working as a touring dancer with a bunch of Canada's most exciting contemporary companies, with dips into circus and film along the way. In 2021 I published my first book KYN, a queer-focused, post dystopian sci-fi novel, and it was around that time, inspired by the writing process (mid-pandemic) and looking for fun ways to decorate my condo, I picked up a spray can and started painting.*

Q: How has your work evolved over time?

*A: It has gone from very simplistic, minimalist and symbol heavy, to much more complex and layered and surrealistic.*

Q: What is most important to you in your art?

*A: A sense of fun.*

Q: What's something people would be surprised to learn about your process?

*A: Some of the best effects are purely accidental! Sometimes a can will drip or spray weird and it will create an effect that flows with something else, or the paint under a stencil wasn't dry enough and it peels away revealing other coloured layers underneath. Going with 'mistakes' has helped me make some of my favorite pieces.*

Q: How did you learn about the methods you use to make your work?

*A: Through pure experimentation. Seeing what works and then building on it.*

**For more information:** [ramsay.laurence@gmail.com](mailto:ramsay.laurence@gmail.com)

<https://www.instagram.com/launceramsay/>