

# Activity Report

## 2023

Winnipeg Architecture Foundation

101-177 Lombard Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba

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# About

## Mission

Advance the awareness and appreciation of Winnipeg's built environment through public education.

## Mandate

- Conduct research relating to Winnipeg's built environment and disseminate the results of this research to the public.
- Develop and provide educational programmes promoting the understanding of architecture and design and its impact on everyday life.
- Foster the development and exchange of ideas about architecture and design through public programming and community events.
- Collect and preserve historical and contemporary records related to Manitoba's built environment.

## Values

**Design Matters** – WAF recognizes the importance of architecture and design in everyday life.

**Research Integrity** – WAF is committed to wide-ranging inquiry, evidence-based argumentation, and research excellence.

**Meaningful Public Engagement** - WAF endeavors to create opportunities for people to be inspired by architecture and design and is committed to facilitating occasions for knowledge exchange.

**Accessibility** - WAF strives to make its research outputs and programmes accessible.

**Commitment to Diversity** – WAF works on a continuous basis to be welcoming and inclusive in order to ensure diversity in its research initiatives, public programming, and organisational operations.

# 2023 Updates

## New Space

The Winnipeg Architecture Foundation is thrilled to announce that we have signed a sublease with the Manitoba Association of Architects! You can now find us at 101-177 Lombard Avenue.

We are excited to enter this new partnership and greatly appreciate the support of the MAA. The Foundation has held one talk, two film screenings, and a pop-up First Friday exhibition in the space. We look forward to welcoming more people as part of our 2024 programming schedule.

## Staff

The Winnipeg Architecture Foundation was fortunate to receive funding to provide valuable employment and training to four students and early career professionals!

**Laura-Elsie Garinger** acted as WAF's Archivist. In this role, she worked closely with the team to arrange, describe, and digitise several fonds as part of our archival collection. Garinger also assisted in increasing access to WAF's collections and contributed to our oral history projects. Her role was funded through a grant from Library and Archives Canada. Garinger was recently hired by the Provincial Archives of Manitoba and we wish her all the best in her new role!

**Catherine Acebo** is WAF's Researcher and Archival Assistant. She curated two digital exhibitions, assisted Garinger on archival projects, and is developing two new tours: one for Chinatown and another for Silver Heights. Her position has been funded by Young Canada Works, ICOMOS, and the Province of Manitoba.

**Mackenzie Martens** was WAF's Young Canada Works summer student. They assisted Garinger in arranging, describing, and digitising the Arthur Cubbage fonds and worked on our oral history project. Martens also put together a new digital tour, in collaboration with University of Winnipeg Art History

students and Dr. Serena Keshavjee. They are now working at the University of Winnipeg's Oral History Centre and finishing their undergraduate degree in Art History.

**Devin Slippert** is WAF's new Programming and Outreach Coordinator! Their position is funded by a Young Canada Works internship. Slippert is working on making WAF's programming more accessible, researching possible new collaborations, and assisting in the ArchiShorts film competition. They are also developing a Winnipeg Queer History Tour!

In the autumn, **Marieke Gruwel** was appointed as WAF's new Executive Director. She is being trained by WAF's long-time volunteer Executive Director Susan Algie. Gruwel oversees WAF's staff, projects, and administration with support from Algie. Gruwel is finishing up her book, *Manitoba Women in Design*, which will be released in 2024. She has an M.A. in Art History from Concordia University and is a Contract Academic Staff at the University of Winnipeg. Gruwel has published with WAF, *Border Crossings*, the *Inuit Art Quarterly*, and Routledge.

# Public Programming

## Public Tours

This year, the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation offered 20 public tours that reached over 470 attendees! The Foundation collaborated with other organisations to offer tours, including Trees Winnipeg and the Winnipeg Public Library. We offered the first WAF tour with ASL interpretation and a kid's tour!

- Skywalk Tour – February 11
- Skywalk Tour – February 25
- Holy Trinity Church – March 18
- Tour of the Royal Canadian Mint – April 1
- Arlington Bridge Tour– May 7
- The Highs and Lows of Portage and Main Tour – June 14
- Osborne Village Kids Tour – June 17
- Tour of the Manitoba Hydro Building – June 21
- Tyndall Stone in the City Tour – July 6
- Lions and their Prey Tour – July 12
- Tour of Jacob Penner Park (with Trees Winnipeg) – July 26
- Tour of Central Park (with Trees Winnipeg) – August 3
- West Kildonan Library Tour (with the Winnipeg Public Library) – August 14
- Kildonan Park Tour with ASL (with Trees Winnipeg) – August 16
- Tour of RMTC – August 21
- St John's Park Walk (with Trees Winnipeg) – August 24
- St Vital Library Tour (with the Winnipeg Public Library) – August 28
- 240 Tache Tour with Stephen Borys – August 31
- Tour of the Arlington Bridge – September 17
- Tour of Gillies Quarry – September 20



The tour programme was produced with support from the Province of Manitoba, The Winnipeg Foundation, the City of Winnipeg, and the Manitoba Association of Architects.



Figure 1: Osborne Village Kids Tour

## Public Talks

- Manitoba Women in Design presented by Marieke Gruwel at an Assisted Living Home
- Max Blankstein Panel Discussion co-presented with the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada

- John D. Atchison Architect: An Illustrated Talk presented by Gail Perry
- The Winnipeg Architecture Foundation's Oral History Program presented by Marieke Gruwel at the University of Winnipeg Oral History Center's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Winnipeg Christmas Traditions presented by Christian Cassidy

**Presented with support from the Province of Manitoba, The Winnipeg Foundation, the City of Winnipeg, and the Manitoba Association of Architects.**

## Film Screenings

- Jacques Tati (Best of A+DFF) – May 21
- You Are in Bear Country – June 10
- Fellinopolis (Best of A+DFF) – June 11
- 8 ½ - June 11
- Contempt/Le Mepris – September 16
- Spaces+Places Winnipeg – November 9
- Writing on the Wall - 12
- Pictures of Ghosts – December 14

**Film Screenings were offered with support from the Province of Manitoba, The Winnipeg Foundation, the City of Winnipeg, and the Manitoba Association of Architects.**

## Exhibits

### Queen Elizabeth II & Winnipeg: A Modern Elizabethan Era La reine Elizabeth II et Winnipeg: Une ère élisabéthaine modern

Curated by Daniel Guenther, M.Arch Student U of M

This bilingual exhibit was a decade-by-decade retrospective featuring important landmarks and examines Queen Elizabeth's legacy in Winnipeg. It travelled to three venues in Winnipeg:

- Royal Aviation Museum (4 February – 1 June 2023)
- Union Station (19 December 2022 – 8 January 2023)
- Royal Canadian Mint (15 March 2023 – 30 June 2023)

**Produced with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage.**



Figure 2 - Queen Elizabeth II & Winnipeg on display at Union Station. Photo: Global News.

## The Architecture of Max Blankstein

Curated by the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation

Max Blankstein was one of the first Jewish architects in Canada. This exhibit was on display at the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada (30 January 2023 – 30 July 2023).

**Produced with support from the Province of Manitoba.**

## Roy Sellors, Modernism, and Building Religious Spaces in Postwar Manitoba

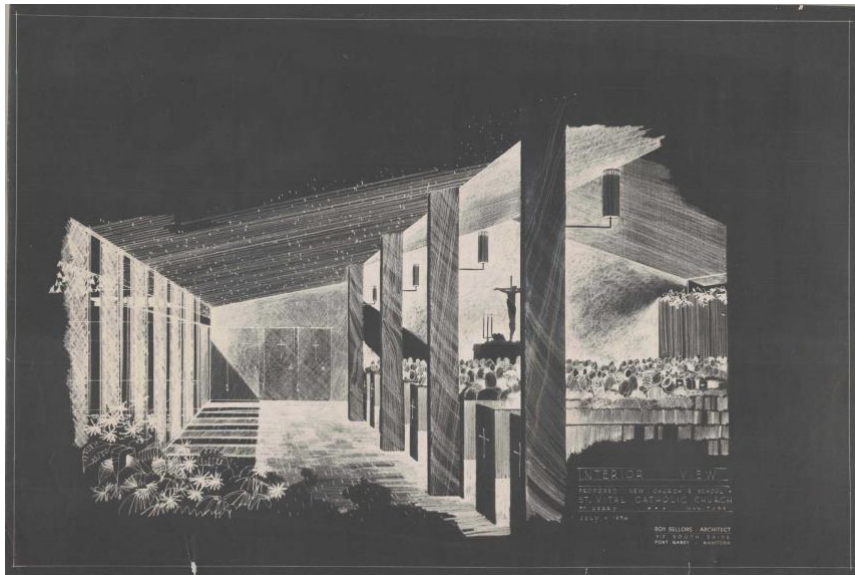


Figure 3: “Interior View – Proposed New Church and School (St. Vital Catholic Church, Pembina Highway at Manahan Avenue, Fort Garry, Manitoba, August 6, 1959).” Unnumbered. Roll 781 St. Vital Church. Roy Sellors fonds, Winnipeg Architecture Foundation.

Curated by Catherine Acebo

[winnipegarchitecture.ca/exhibits](http://winnipegarchitecture.ca/exhibits)



This digital exhibit explores Sellors's church designs to examine the relationship between changing liturgical practices and modernist architecture in the mid-twentieth century. All architectural drawings in this exhibit were sources from WAF's Roy Sellors fonds.

**Produced with support from the Province of Manitoba.**

## Japanese Canadian Architects, Builders, and Designers in Manitoba

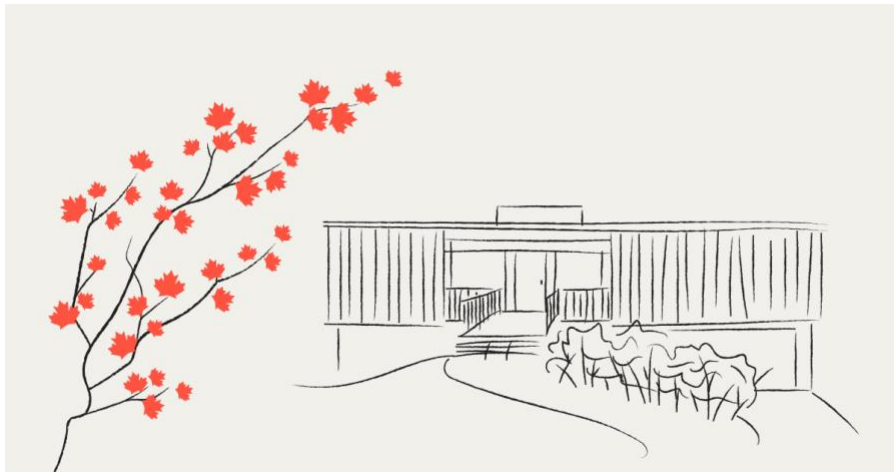


Figure 4: Cover image illustrated by Burdocks Design Studio

Curated by Catherine Acebo with research contributions from Alexander Gowriluk and a foreword by Ryan Takatsu

[winnipegarchitecture.ca/exhibits](http://winnipegarchitecture.ca/exhibits)

This digital exhibit provides a brief history about Japanese Canadians and profiles notable Japanese Canadian architects, builders, and designers in Manitoba.

# Architecture+Design Film Festival

Nine hundred and fifty people enjoyed the 2023 edition of the Architecture+Design Film Festival ([adff.ca](http://adff.ca)), presented by the Winnipeg Architecture Foundation, Dave Barber Cinematheque, and Urban Idea.

The annual Architecture+Design Film Festival presents critically acclaimed films focusing on the importance of architecture and design in everyday life. The films cover a range of design-oriented topics from architecture and urban design to graphics and product design. A+DFF is the only festival in Canada devoted solely to architecture and design.

The 2023 Architecture+Design Film Festival was generously supported by Telefilm Canada, The Winnipeg Foundation, The Manitoba Association of Architects, and the Faculty of Architecture Endowment Fund (University of Manitoba).

## **Individual film screenings were sponsored by:**

1x1 architecture • 5468796 architecture • May Chow & Alvin Yee • Cibinel Architects • Crosier Kilgour & Partners • Design Onscreen • Harlyn Thompson • HTFC Planning & Design • JRWagner Architect • Ken King, Ottawa • Monteyne Architecture Works • Oksana Ulisko, Ethos Realty • Scatliff+Miller+Murray • Stantec • Winnipeg Public Library • Wolfrom Engineering

# Publications

## Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre

Published November 2023



Figure 5: Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre book cover.

Designed by Winnipeg's Number Ten Architectural Group, the Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre is a beloved Winnipeg cultural institution. Completed for Manitoba's centennial, the award winning Brutalist building houses Canada's longest-running English regional theatre company.

This new book contains a foreword by Laurie Lam and essays by Alison Gillmor, Jeffrey Thorsteinson, and Susan Algie.

**Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre was produced with support from Number Ten Architectural Group, the Province of Manitoba, the City of Winnipeg, and the Faculty of Architecture Endowment Fund (University of Manitoba).**

## Upcoming Publications

Work has been underway on three exciting new publications for 2024! Stay tuned for:

- Henry Kalen: Photographer
- Manitoba Women in Design
- Winnipeg: Spaces and Places – An Architecture Guidebook

## Research Initiatives

### Winnipeg Architecture Foundation Archives

In 2023, WAF has arranged, described, and digitised the following fonds:

- Arthur Cubbidge fonds



- Peter Tittenberger fonds
- George Stewart fonds

Finding aids to these fonds, among others, are available on the [Manitoba Archival Information Network](#).

**This archival project is made possible by Library and Archives Canada.**

## The WAF / The PIDIM Oral History Project

Marieke Gruwel has been working with Elizabeth Sellors (The Professional Interior Designers Institute of Manitoba) on an oral history project. The project serves to document the important members of The PIDIM as well as the legacy of Interior Design in Manitoba.

Interviews have been conducted with:

- Lee Finch
- George Fuller
- Michael Cox
- Alacoe MacTavish, on behalf of her mother Hope Mackenzie
- Micah, Jill, and Chip Lexier on behalf of their mother Debby Lexier
- Bruce and Laurie Wardrope
- Margaret Stinson
- Ted Maciurzynski
- Jennifer Veitch, on behalf of her father Ronald Veitch
- Maureen Doyle
- Elizabeth Sellors
- Brian Everton
- Jennifer Yeo on behalf of Donna Mae and Frederick Cecil Yeo

**This project is made possible with support from The PIDIM and the Faculty of Architecture Endowment Fund (University of Manitoba).**