

Lauren Elkin

Internationally Acclaimed Author



On articulation

"Forces are manifested in poems that do not pass through the circuit of knowledge," wrote Gaston Bachelard in his Poetics of Space, attempting to understand why the poetic image works on us the way it does. In this talk I want to think about the power of the image: one that, for writers and artists, can serve as a unifying force, bringing together disparate ideas or images or references in one, imposing moment that somehow is outside of thought or language. I want to think about images that we apprehend immediately as a form of articulation, in the sense only secondarily of something being put into words but more urgently meaning something being divided into joints, potentially in order to move with more subtlety and control. What can and can't be said, in our art? What is better off posed but unexplained? What are the ethical and affective stakes raised by this relationship between articulation and the image?

image credit: Sophie Davidson

Friday, Oct 24 at 12:15 pm MT

in person in FAB 2-20

or online via Zoom

Please RSVP to

gallery@ualberta.ca for Zoom link



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