

In the Fireweed, 2016

WolfPack Productions: Naomi Kennedy & Lindsay Delorande

In the Fireweed speaks to community initiative and partnership, for sustainable growth and healing for all.

In the Fireweed is a mixed-media artwork, with elements of paint, glass mosaic, terracotta, rocks and pennies. The pennies used in this artwork were originally used on a Vancity billboard and have been repurposed as the fur of the animals. Copper is a sacred, symbolic material to many cultures, including the First Nations people of Vancouver Island.

The painterly background references a Langford Lake fire (circa 1960). The glass mosaic flowers are fireweed, the first plants to grow and rejuvenate the soil after devastation. The eagle form is a commission by First Nations artist Jesse Campbell and recreated in glass mosaic. The terracotta deer and other animals emerging from the fireweed are symbolic and speak to hope, resilience, and regeneration of the environment. The presence of the animals and fireweed symbolizes the healing of a community and the ability to step forward with grace.