

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Textile Museum of Canada Announces Major Solo Exhibition of works by Anna Torma, Winner of a 2020 Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts**

#### *Anna Torma: Permanent Danger*

**Opening Celebration:** Saturday April 4, 2-5 pm. Artist will be present, free admission.

**Artist Talk:** Sunday April 5, 12-1:30 pm, free with admission.

**February 19, 2020 Toronto, Ontario** – The Textile Museum of Canada is pleased to announce a major solo exhibition of work by Anna Torma, winner of the prestigious 2020 Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts – Saidye Bronfman Award.

The exhibition will open in Toronto on April 4, 2020 and run until October 25, 2020. It will then tour throughout Canada with dates and locations to be announced.

The exhibition takes its title – *Permanent Danger* – from a 2017 artwork of the same name, making reference to human strife and vulnerability, threatened natural environments, and the highs and lows of daily life. Anna Torma's unique drawing style is an expression of her complex experiences of family, identity, joy, and artistic creation. The artist sources her materials from all over the world; linen, cotton, silk, thread, and found materials are selected for their distinct physical qualities as well as cultural references from popular culture to traditional Hungarian embroidery and thrift shop aesthetics.

"Anna Torma has dedicated her professional life to an astonishingly singular studio practice that has emerged from an early, deep understanding of embroidery traditions and their place in global, contemporary visual culture." – Sarah Quinton, exhibition curator and Curatorial Director, Textile Museum of Canada

The Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts – Saidye Bronfman Award recognizes exceptional artists who have shaped the field of craft in Canada. The Museum is thrilled to have nominated Anna Torma for this award, and to celebrate her 40-year commitment to an innovative practice in contemporary textiles with this exhibition.

*Anna Torma: Permanent Danger* is a key project of the Textile Museum of Canada's 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. It consists of a major solo exhibition, publication, tour, and a series of public programs that will run over a six-month period.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: BMO Financial Group | SUPPORTING PARTNER: The Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation |  
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## Programs

### **The Slow Approach: Looking, Drawing, and Stitching Together**

Wednesdays April 8, 22, 29, 6-7 pm

Wednesdays September 23, 30, October 7, 6-7 pm

### **Curator's Tour**

Wednesday June 10, 6-7:30 pm

Wednesday October 21, 6-7:30 pm

### **Grounds of Goodness: Workshop with Jumblies Theatre and Arts**

Saturday September 26, 1-4 pm

Saturday October 3, 1-4 pm

### **About Anna Torma**

Anna Torma was born in 1952 in Tarnaors, Hungary and graduated with a degree in Textile Art and Design from the Hungarian University of Applied Arts, Budapest, in 1979. She has been an exhibiting artist since that time, producing mainly large-scale hand embroidered wall hangings and collages. She immigrated to Canada in 1988 and now lives in Baie Verte, New Brunswick.

The recipient of many grants and awards in Canada and abroad, Torma is a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, a recipient of the New Brunswick Lieutenant-Governor's Award for High Achievement in Visual Arts, and the Strathbutler Award from the Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation. She is represented by Galerie Laroche/Joncas in Montreal.

Torma's work is held in public collections including the Owens Art Gallery, Sackville NB; Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY; Department of Foreign Affairs, Ottawa, ON; Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery, Halifax, NS; New Brunswick Art Bank, Fredericton, NB; and the Mint Museum of Craft and Design, Charlotte, NC.

### **About the Governor General's Awards in Visual and Media Arts – Saidye Bronfman Award**

The awards were created in 1999 by the Canada Council for the Arts and the Governor General of Canada in order to celebrate Canada's vibrant arts community and recognize remarkable careers in the visual and media arts. The Saidye Bronfman Award, originally created in 1977, recognizes excellence in the fine crafts and is part of the prestigious family of the Governor General's Awards in Visual and Media Arts.

### **About the Textile Museum of Canada**

The Textile Museum of Canada is a non-profit cultural and internationally renowned educational institution, which marks its 45th anniversary in 2020. A leader in the digitization of collections and interactive environments, the Museum has been recognized the world over for innovation in the development of landmark educational, research, and creative initiatives.

Open seven days a week, the Museum is located steps from the St. Patrick subway station. More information about the Museum and its exhibitions can be found at [textilemuseum.ca](http://textilemuseum.ca).

**For more information**, additional media materials and images, please contact:

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