

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DOWNTOWN RIDEAU EXPANDS AWARD-WINNING ART EXHIBIT WITH 23 NEW INSTALLATIONS

The Downtown Rideau Business Improvement Area (D.R.B.I.A), in partnership with the City of Ottawa, has expanded the award-winning **Downtown Rideau Mural Box** program, a commemorative 2017 Legacy Project celebrating Canada’s sesquicentennial. The art exhibit features works by **local artists, Drew Mandigo** and **Glynn Brothers Art**.



Drew Mandigo created the first seventeen **Downtown Rideau Mural Boxes** installed in late 2016, from his **Auntie Mame Series**. Stunning in their originality, Drew’s works feature digital collages of ladies dressed in 1950’s and 60’s fashions, and are inspired by the spirit of the 1958 film of the same name. Several new pieces were released as part of the 2017 mural box expansion project, including one featuring a lady trapped in a glass dome, surrounded by butterflies, and a unique piece dubbed ‘the upside-down lady’.

The **Glynn Brothers Art** is inspired through the genres of graffiti, street and pop art, and through the use of bold color, stencils and spray paint they are able to create each unique and powerful piece. The images are both bold in color and content, blending nature and the human form.

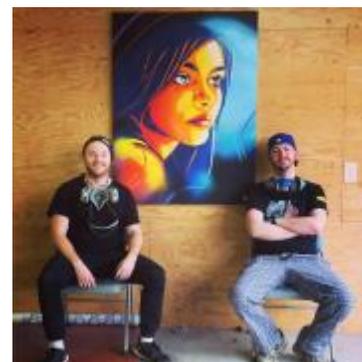
The DRBIA follows many artists as research for its public art projects. Local artist **Drew Mandigo’s Auntie Mame** series was selected for Rideau West for their stunning originality featuring vintage, high-fashion ladies that embody **Downtown Rideau** as the “*Arts, Fashion & Theatre District*”. The **Glynn Brothers Art** was selected for Rideau East because theirs is a family collaboration of creative process generating bold images of humans and nature that is well-matched to a neighborhood rich in history and home to multicultural families, embassies and restaurants offering cuisine from exotic lands—the series personifies—“*where culture lives!*”.



Each wrapped electrical box features **QR codes** directing viewers to **Downtown Rideau’s** website, downtownrideau.com, and to the B.I.A.s Culture Walk APP, a **free self-guided walking tour**. Several of the electrical boxes also contain **Rideau Lore**, high-lighting historical facts that speak to the district’s rich heritage.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Ottawa native, **Drew Mandigo** has enjoyed an international career spanning 25 years in the commercial animation industry and worked on the Daytime Emmy-winning children’s series "Arthur", produced in Montreal. He is a graphic designer, web designer, photographer, animator, artist and furniture designer and has been involved with the Ottawa Arts Council (OAC) for the past ten years on their board and currently as a volunteer. He also has a passion for the arts, architecture, design and 'Green' building techniques. Drew’s art can be viewed at drewmandigo.blogspot.ca and drewmandigoportfolio.blog.ca.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT Peggy DuCharme, Executive Director, Downtown Rideau B.I.A., 613-241-6211

Glynn Brothers Art is a joint collaboration between two brothers, Aiden and Nick from Milton, Ontario. Their street-art inspired work uses bold color, stencils and spray paint to create unique and powerful pieces. Aiden Glynn, the eldest brother, is a Toronto-based Classical Animation alumni from Sheridan College now leads a successful career as a Senior Animator and Character Designer for Corus Entertainment. Nick, the youngest Glynn brother, is a Wilfred Laurier University graduate who currently resides in Ottawa. They design from their family art studio in Campbellville, Ontario and work to collectively create their own brand of unique and bold contemporary art. The Glynn brothers work can be viewed at www.glynnbrothersart.com, or on their Instagram page @glynnbrothersart.

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