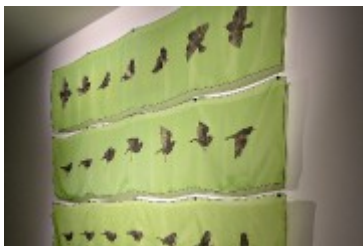


# Starling Cage : survival mechanism (with bonus )



Graeme Patterson shows the iron and wooden cage he created for his virtual starling, with which the visitor can interact.  
The Sun, Patrice Laroche



Selected times Video unfold frame by frame on green scarves as *green screens* .  
The Sun, Patrice Laroche



[Josianne Desloges](#)

Special Collaboration

The sun (Quebec) "I have a fascination with animals that have a bad reputation," says Graeme Patterson. His exhibition *Starling Cage* (in French, "The cage starling"), where a marginal bird is the star, now gives arcade tunes, and menagerie of disco dance floor in Gallery 3.

The artist born in Saskatoon and now established in New Brunswick draws our attention first of all to the articulating puppet that brought the animated bird to life. A little bigger than a real starling, this one is covered with real feathers, taken from bait for fishing. "It's a strange creation, to the Frankenstein," notes Patterson. I always had the impression that my puppets would die once captured on video, because after that, I knew exactly what they were going to do. But by adding an interactive dimension, they become unpredictable, more alive. "

The video is placed behind an iron and wooden cage. When one passes his hand in front of the bird, the bird reacts and screams and when it slips behind a sign, a virtual hand deposits Timbits or throws a tennis ball to the prisoner.

Why the starling? "Everyone has a personality of their own. They are all singular, replies the

artist. I'm allergic to most animals, I've never had a pet, but I'm mostly interested in the marginalized and the unloved. "

Suddenly, a lively music is heard in the gallery and a bright rainbow surges on the screen of the starling, which begins to jump for joy. " *The Bonus Round* " Patterson slides, face illuminated by a smile.

## Fantasy and reflection

There is a humorous side, a frank fantasy in the creations of Graeme Patterson. They are no less thoughtful. "There is always a certain echo with the human condition when I use animals. Especially with the starling, since it lives in the same environment as us, imitating the ambient sounds or other birds to create its own survival mechanism. "

The starlings are formidable survivors. "Around 1890, we brought all sorts of birds from Europe to Central Park, New York, to free them, thinking they would add something to the culture or I do not know. The starlings are so robust that they have dispersed from Canada to Central America, "says Patterson.

The artist used his own voice to give one to the nameless starling. "I almost wanted it to sound like words, onomatopoeias, like "no "or" hehe ", " says the one who also borrowed movements from the specimens he observed.

The video installation is accompanied by digital prints, selected moments of the video, such as screen shots that make *gamers* when they reach a particularly difficult level. Moments also unfold frame by frame on green scarves as *green screens* . "After the fashion of foxes and moose, it's interesting to put an unloved animal like a starling on a scarf," notes Patterson.

*Starling Cage* is the first step of a company that promises vast. The next animal in contention will be a raccoon, in a more imposing facility that will represent an office.

The exhibition is presented until November 29 at 247, rue Saint-Vallier East. Info: **lagalerie3.com** and 581 700-0130

### Poignant Gaspésie

Guillaume D. Cyr photographer behind the project *Gaspésie Human Less* for five years. Moving images of a depopulated Gaspésie, dead houses that whisper all sorts of stories, have been exposed and are now gathered in a three-part book. This one, which contains no fewer than 200 photographs, will be launched in February at the Michel Guimont Gallery for an exhibition. It is however already available in presale on the site of socio-financing INDIEGO. The project, which brings together photographs by D. Cyr and Yana Ouellet, is also presented as a photographic installation in Carleton-sur-Mer, center Vaste et Vague, until December 19th. Info: [vasteetvague.ca](http://vasteetvague.ca) (<http://vasteetvague.ca/fr/>) and [guillaume-dcyr.com](http://www.guillaumedcyr.com/) (<http://www.guillaumedcyr.com/>)

### The new gardens of Denis Pellerin

The gallery Lacerte presents recent and less recent works of Denis Pellerin, transforming its walls into gardens of accumulated paint, tattered and assembled in constructions of colors and textures. On *Singing tides* and *Garden swamp*, the orange surface, pale blue, white and cream evoke scales and cracked bark. The palette is ocean, spring, compared with more autumnal paintings of recent years, as *Garden extrovert* or *roughness Chant*, which are also on display at Lacerte. To see until November 29 at 1, coast Dinan. Info: 418-692-1566

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