

DAKOTALAND BY CHAR-MARIE FLOOD
ON EXHIBIT AT CITY HALL THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

After relocating to North Dakota in 2011, fine art photographer Char-Marie Flood embarked on a several-year visual exploration of the state she now calls home. The photographs included in the *Dakotaland* series are the stunning result, now on exhibit at City Hall.

Dakotaland focuses on how we can see the history of North Dakota in the land, from the Badland's pre-historic rock formations to the remnants of early homesteads that remind us of spirit and courage of the state's first pioneers. North Dakotans are rightly proud of this state's often stark, sometimes desolate countryside – and perhaps more so of the courage and determination of our ancestors who withstood harsh conditions to build lives for themselves and future generations.

Flood adeptly captures the vast and horizontal quiet of the northern prairie. The lure of the distance and the pure vastness of being able to see to the edge seem to hold a special intrigue for the artist. Although a cohesive exhibit, the individual photographs are enormously varied, representing different aspects of our state, different seasons, even different times of day. Returning viewers will find something new to explore each time they visit.

The 23 works are original photographs, printed on canvas with the giclee process and archival inks. The artist made the very calculated decision to use canvas, which allows the textures inherent in Flood's photographs to truly "pop," whether the stubble of a harvested field or the crystals of hoar frost on a tree. It also enhances the almost painterly touch the photographer often demonstrates when capturing the North Dakota vistas.

In conjunction with the exhibit, there will be several opportunities for the public to engage in discussion around the artworks, including an artist talk and a discussion by a local historian. The Artist Talk & Brown Bag Lunch will be held Tuesday, June 6, 11:45 am–12:30 pm in the City Commission Chambers, Fargo City Hall. Additional related events will be scheduled in the fall; bookmark this page for announcements about the events.

The artist received an Individual Arts Partnership Grant from The Arts Partnership to complete the series Dakotaland.

This exhibit is a program of the City of Fargo's Arts & Culture Commission. The Commission, established in 2015, explores and promotes the intersection between art, creative place making and community, as well as the role and installation of public art. Since 2016, the Commission has supported the curation of visual art exhibits installed in the hallway between the City Commission Chambers and the City Commission Offices.

