

Cardially yours,

Charles Romero Venzon



Galerie **G**
Bühler
Gallery

Cardially yours,

An exhibition by **Charles Romero Venzon**
featuring St. Boniface Hospital's Cardiac Sciences

24 January – 30 March 2025

Launch:
23 January, 6–9 pm

Artist talk:
13 March, 6:30 pm

Une exposition de **Charles Romero Venzon**
mettant en vedette le Programme des sciences
cardiaques de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface

Du 24 janvier au 30 mars 2025

Lancement :
23 janvier, de 18 h à 21 h

Conférence d'artistes :
18h30, le 13 mars 2025

Isang eksibisyon ni **Charles Romero Venzon**
itinatampok ang Cardiac Sciences ng St. Boniface Hospital

24 Enero – 30 Marso 2025

Paglulunsad:
23 Enero 6–9 pm

Talakayan kasama ng artist:
13 Marso, 6:30 pm

Commissioned by hannah_g for Galerie Buhler Gallery

A Note From Cardiac Sciences

A Note From Cardiac Sciences | English

From our perspective this initiative has been an excellent opportunity for Charles to work alongside the staff at St. Boniface Hospital in Cardiac Sciences Manitoba and all others who are involved in providing cardiac care to Manitoba, NWO and Nunavut patients. This truly is an opportunity to highlight the high quality innovative cardiac care that is provided in Manitoba and acknowledge the staff who provide this care and support Cardiac patients everyday 24 hours per day.

We are grateful everyday for our staff and want to thank Charles and Galerie Buhler Gallery along with the St. Boniface Hospital Foundation for their support in making this project a reality. This project has provided the ability to document the amazing cardiac care provided in Manitoba and those who provide it through photos capturing the real life experience. Everyday we use words to describe cardiac care and our committed staff and now we have photos and an exhibit that preserves and visually tells this story.

Reid Love RN MN

Director Health Services – Cardiac Sciences

Dr. Anita Soni
Medical Specialty Lead, Cardiac Sciences, SBH

A Note From Cardiac Sciences | French

De notre point de vue, cette initiative a été une excellente occasion pour Charles de travailler avec le personnel de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface au sein de Sciences cardiaques Manitoba et avec toutes les autres personnes qui participent à la prestation de soins cardiaques aux patients du Manitoba, des Territoires du Nord-Ouest et du Nunavut. Il s'agit vraiment d'une occasion de mettre en valeur les soins cardiaques novateurs de grande qualité qui sont offerts au Manitoba et de

reconnaître le personnel qui fournit ces soins et soutient les patients cardiaques tous les jours, 24 heures sur 24.

Nous sommes tous les jours reconnaissants envers notre personnel et nous tenons à remercier Charles et la Galerie Buhler Gallery, ainsi que la Fondation de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface, pour leur soutien à la réalisation de ce projet. Ce projet a permis de documenter les incroyables soins cardiaques prodigués au Manitoba et ceux qui les prodiguent, grâce à des photos qui capturent l'expérience réelle. Tous les jours, nous utilisons des mots pour décrire les soins cardiaques et notre personnel dévoué, et maintenant nous avons des photos et une exposition qui préservent et racontent visuellement cette histoire.

Reid Love IA MN

Directeur des services de santé – Sciences cardiaques

Dr^e Anita Soni

Responsable de la spécialité médicale, Sciences cardiaques, HSB

A Note From Cardiac Sciences | Tagalog

Sa aming pananaw, ang inisyatibang ito ay naging napakagandang pagkakataon para makapagtrabaho si Charles kasama ng mga kawani sa St. Boniface Hospital sa Cardiac Sciences Manitoba at lahat ng iba pang nauugnay sa pagbibigay ng pangangalaga sa puso sa mga pasyente sa Manitoba, NWO, at Nunavut. Tunay na isa itong pagkakataon para itampok ang de-kalidad na makabagong pangangalaga sa puso na ibinibigay sa Manitoba at kilalanin ang mga kawaning nagbibigay ng pangangalagang ito at sumusuporta sa mga pasyenteng may problema sa Puso araw-araw, 24 na oras kada araw.

Araw-araw naming ipinagpapasalamat ang aming mga kawani at gusto naming pasalamatan si Charles at ang Galerie Buhler Gallery kasama ang St. Boniface Hospital Foundation para sa kanilang suporta sa pagbibigay-buhay sa proyektong ito. Nagbigay ang proyektong ito ng kakayahang idokumento ang kahanga-hangang pangangalaga sa puso na ibinibigay sa Manitoba at ang mga nagbibigay nito sa pamamagitan ng mga larawang nagpapakita ng tunay na karanasan sa buhay. Araw-araw, gumagamit kami ng mga salita para ilarawan ang pangangalaga sa puso at ang aming mga nakatuong kawani, at ngayon ay mayroon na kaming mga larawan at eksibisyon na nagpapanatili at biswal na naglalahad sa kuwentong ito.

Reid Love RN MN

Director Health Services – Cardiac Sciences

Dr. Anita Soni

Medical Specialty Lead, Cardiac Sciences, SBH

Exhibition Essay

By hannah_g



Exhibition Essay | English

Located almost in the centre of our chests is a tough nugget of muscle—the heart. Just as it is the centre of our circulatory system, moving blood around the body, it is a metaphorical centre as well. This dense organ attracts stories—there is no other part of the body that has had as many songs sung and tales told about it. This exhibition is part of that tradition; its story is rooted in a place that strives to provide the best possible care for unwell hearts—the Cardiac Sciences of St. Boniface Hospital. Here, the lens-based artist Charles Romero Venzon documented staff and physicians performing a variety of tasks in service of people’s hearts. Through his work he also explores a personal connection to the department, and this expanded the project beyond documentation into the life of his own family.

In the spring of 2024, I invited Venzon to spend some time in the St. Boniface Hospital Cardiac Sciences to take photos of what he saw. The Program Director, Reid Love, and Medical Speciality Lead,

Dr. Anita Soni, had enthusiastically agreed to this project, so, in strict accordance with Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) guidelines to protect patients and staff, Venzon was given incredible access to almost all areas of the department.

Venzon took a series of pre- and post-surgery photographs of rooms and equipment, making the complex, meticulous nature of the work undertaken in these spaces startlingly clear. The restricted colour palette is dominated by the blue of surgical gowns and sterile whites of linens. These spaces are filled with the strange geometry of specialised equipment warped by layers of infection-control coverings; the distinction between person and machine can become a little blurred. Venzon contrasts these formal images with pictures of the people who work in the department, from the folks who make the beds to unit clerks to the person who administers the anaesthetic. These images are gathered together in a portrait projected onto the central wall in the gallery. Here we see images of staff out of their scrubs—smiling and cordial. It is remarkable. These are people we might see in the queue at the grocery store or laughing with friends at a ballgame. Healthcare does not stay in the hospital, the providers of treatment and those who receive it are present in all of our lives in many ways. This exhibition provides an extraordinary opportunity to think about the effects of heart healthcare on the lives of patients but also on the lives of the many nurses, doctors, administrators, and support staff that work with them.

When I first proposed the project to Venzon, he took a moment to gather his thoughts before speaking. His father, Claro, he told me, had his life saved in St. Boniface Hospital’s Cardiac Sciences after suffering a heart attack in 1995; he lived for another twenty-one years thanks to the care he received. Venzon still clearly recalls waiting for news of his father in one of the Hospital’s smoking rooms. This exhibition was initially intended to share the unseen work of Cardiac Sciences, but it grew to encompass Venzon’s familial experience with

heart health. This is an example of the extraordinary position Galerie Buhler Gallery occupies—we are honoured Venzon chose not only to apply his arts practice to this special project but also to share his personal connection, one which profoundly impacted him.

Venzon's relationship with his father was layered and complex, as are many child-parent bonds. In this exhibition you will see drawings that Venzon made with his children and his niece and nephew. They are of personal objects that were Claro's, such as his cuff links and watch. Objects can be potent links to those who have died and provide a form of physical connection, especially for those who may not have known their owner. These drawings are a very personal aspect of the exhibition and were a way for Venzon to explore his position as a son, father, and uncle while also contemplating his dad as the grandfather of his children. These drawings show us some of the connections running between generations, offering a poignant presentation of loss but also the strength of family connections.

Many things have changed since Claro's heart attack—there are no longer any smoking rooms in the Hospital for one thing. Research into heart health of different demographics has brought greater understanding of social, economic, and cultural indicators that effect how care is delivered to people with cardio vascular disease. Through this project, Venzon has become interested in understanding his father's heart health in the broader context of the Filipino community, which his family is part of. Venzon has included three photographs he took of himself undertaking a stress test, EKG, and echocardiogram—standard procedures for checking heart health. He printed them on semi-translucent fabric interrupting the expanse of the gallery with his own body. These pieces provide a touchstone within the exhibition: his body connects his father, Cardiac Sciences, and awareness of some of the factors that affect heart health—family history, getting regular health check-ups, and having a healthy lifestyle. An important indicator of increased risk of heart disease can be membership of a

racialised community. Heart disease rates for Indigenous people are as much as 50% higher than in the general Canadian population, and the death rate from stroke is twice as high. (Source: Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada). Black people and people with south Asian heritage also experience increased risk. Immigrants, such as Claro, can be at higher risk of cardio vascular disease because of the drastic changes they are subject to upon arrival in a new country including diet, physical activity, and increased stress.¹

Venzon has skillfully entangled documentary and memoir in this exhibition, inviting viewers into work that is vulnerable, intimate, and generous. We are given a rare view into spaces housing awesome technologies and treatments as well as the folks who underpin them, encountering them through Venzon's lens as an artist, son, and father. The exhibition is, in part, a record of the far-reaching effects Cardiac Sciences has on innumerable people's lives. *Cardially Yours* is one of the many beautiful legacies of its life-saving treatments.

Exhibition Essay | French

Situé presque au centre de notre poitrine se trouve un muscle dur à cuire : le cœur. En plus d'être le centre du système circulatoire, qui pompe le sang partout dans le corps, c'est aussi un centre métaphorique. Cet organe complexe attire les histoires – aucune autre partie du corps n'a engendré autant de chansons et de récits. Cette exposition s'inscrit dans cette tradition; son histoire est enracinée dans un endroit qui s'efforce de prodiguer les meilleurs soins possibles aux cœurs malades : Le Programme des sciences cardiaques de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface. Ici, l'artiste de la lentille, Charles Romero Venzon, a photographié des médecins et des membres du personnel en train

1. SOURCE: THE RISK OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE AMONG IMMIGRANTS IN CANADA. MONITORING EDITOR: ALEXANDER MUACEVIC AND JOHN R ADLER. NATIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION. [HTTPS://WWW.NCBI.NLM.NIH.GOV/PMC/ARTICLES/PMC8933291/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8933291/)

d'accomplir diverses tâches au service du cœur des gens. Dans son œuvre, il explore également le lien personnel qu'il entretient avec le département, ce qui propulse le projet au-delà du simple reportage pour l'étendre à la vie de sa propre famille.

Au printemps 2024, j'ai invité Venzon à passer du temps au Programme des sciences cardiaques de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface pour prendre des photos de ce qu'il voyait. Avec l'approbation enthousiaste du directeur du programme, Reid Love, et de la responsable des spécialités médicales, Dre Anita Soni, et en stricte conformité avec les lignes directrices de la Loi sur les renseignements médicaux personnels (LRMP) pour protéger les patients et le personnel, Venzon a obtenu un accès incroyable à presque toutes les parties du département.

Venzon a pris une série de photographies des chambres et de l'équipement avant et après les interventions chirurgicales, révélant avec éclat la nature complexe et méticuleuse du travail accompli dans ces lieux. La palette de couleurs restreinte est dominée par le bleu des blouses chirurgicales et les blancs stériles. Ces espaces sont remplis de l'étrange géométrie de l'équipement spécialisé. Avec toutes les couches de prévention contre les infections, la distinction entre personne et machine peut devenir un peu floue. Venzon met en contraste ces images austères avec des photos des gens qui travaillent dans le département, allant des gens qui font les lits des patients postopératoires aux commis d'unité en passant par la personne qui administre l'anesthésique. Ces images sont réunies dans un portrait projeté sur le mur central de la galerie. Ici, nous voyons des images des membres du personnel sans leur tenue médicale – souriants et aimables. C'est renversant. Ce sont des gens qu'on voit faire la file à l'épicerie ou rire entre amis à une partie de baseball. Les soins de santé ne restent pas à l'hôpital, les fournisseurs de soins et les personnes qui les reçoivent sont présents dans notre vie à bien des égards. Cette exposition offre une occasion extraordinaire de réfléchir aux effets des soins cardia-

ques sur la vie des patients, mais aussi sur la vie des nombreux infirmiers, médecins, administrateurs et membres du personnel de soutien qui travaillent avec eux.

Quand j'ai proposé le projet à Venzon, il a pris un moment pour rassembler ses idées avant de parler. Le Programme des sciences cardiaques de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface, m'a-t-il dit, a sauvé la vie de son père, Claro, après sa crise cardiaque en 1995; il a vécu 21 ans de plus grâce aux soins qu'il a reçus. Venzon se rappelle encore clairement avoir attendu des nouvelles de son père dans l'un des fumoirs de l'hôpital. À l'origine, cette exposition visait à lever le voile sur le travail invisible du Programme des sciences cardiaques, mais elle s'est étendue pour englober l'expérience familiale de Venzon en matière de santé cardiaque. C'est un exemple de la position extraordinaire qu'occupe la Galerie Buhler Gallery – nous sommes honorés que Venzon ait choisi non seulement de prêter sa pratique artistique à ce projet spécial, mais aussi de partager son lien personnel, un lien qui l'a profondément marqué.

La relation de Venzon avec son père était complexe et multidimensionnelle, tout comme de nombreuses relations enfants-parents. Dans cette exposition, vous verrez des dessins que Venzon a réalisés avec ses enfants, sa nièce et son neveu. Ils représentent des objets personnels qui appartenaient à Claro, comme sa montre et ses boutons de manchette. Les objets peuvent être des liens puissants avec les personnes décédées et fournir une forme de connexion physique, en particulier pour ceux qui n'ont peut-être pas connu leur propriétaire. Ces dessins sont un aspect très personnel de l'exposition et ont permis à Venzon d'explorer son rôle de fils, de père et d'oncle tout en considérant son père comme le grand-père de ses enfants. Ces dessins nous montrent certains des liens qui existent entre les générations, offrant une représentation touchante de la perte, mais aussi de la force des liens familiaux.

Bien des choses ont changé depuis la crise cardiaque de Claro. Tout d'abord, il n'y a plus de fumeur à l'hôpital. La recherche sur la santé cardiaque de différents groupes démographiques a permis de mieux comprendre les indicateurs sociaux, économiques et culturels qui influent sur la façon dont les soins sont prodigués aux personnes atteintes de maladies cardiovasculaires. Dans le cadre de ce projet, Venzon a voulu comprendre la santé cardiaque de son père dans le contexte plus large de la communauté philippine, dont sa famille fait partie. L'appartenance à une communauté racialisée peut être un indicateur important du risque accru de maladie cardiaque. Les taux de maladies cardiaques chez les Autochtones sont jusqu'à 50 % plus élevés que dans la population canadienne en général, et le taux de mortalité attribuable aux accidents vasculaires cérébraux est deux fois plus élevé (source : Fondation des maladies du cœur du Canada). Les Noirs et les personnes d'origine sud-asiatique sont également plus à risque. Les immigrants, comme Claro, peuvent être plus à risque de développer une maladie cardiovasculaire en raison des changements radicaux auxquels ils sont exposés à leur arrivée dans un nouveau pays, y compris le régime alimentaire, l'activité physique et l'augmentation du stress.¹

Venzon a inclus trois photos qu'il a prises de lui-même en train d'effectuer un test d'effort, un électrocardiogramme et un échocardiogramme – des procédures normales pour vérifier la santé cardiaque. Il les a imprimées sur un tissu semi-translucide, interrompant l'étendue de la galerie avec son propre corps. Ces œuvres constituent la pierre angulaire de l'exposition : son corps relie son père, le Programme des sciences cardiaques et la sensibilisation à certains des facteurs qui ont une incidence sur la santé cardiaque – les antécédents familiaux, les examens médicaux réguliers et un mode de vie sain.

1. RESPONSABLES ÉDITORIAUX : THE RISK OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE AMONG IMMIGRANTS IN CANADA. MONITORING EDITOR: ALEXANDER MUACEVIC AND JOHN R ADLER. NATIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION. [HTTPS://WWW.NCBI.NLM.NIH.GOV/PMC/ARTICLES/PMC6933291/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6933291/)

Venzon a habilement entrelacé reportage et mémoires dans cette exposition, invitant les visiteurs à contempler une œuvre vulnérable, intime et généreuse. Nous profitons d'un rare aperçu de lieux abritant des technologies et des traitements formidables aux côtés des gens qui les mettent en œuvre, tout en les voyant par la lentille de Venzon en tant qu'artiste, fils et père. L'exposition est, en partie, un compte rendu des effets profonds du Programme des sciences cardiaques sur la vie de nombreuses personnes. *Cardially Yours* est l'un des nombreux beaux héritages de ses traitements salvateurs.

Exhibition Essay | Tagalog

Matatagpuan sa halos gitna ng ating mga dibdib ang matatag na tipak ng kalamnan—ang puso. Tulad ng kung paanong ito ang sentro ng ating sistema ng sirkulasyon, na nagpapalipat-lipat ng dugo sa katawan, isa rin itong metaporikal na sentro. Nakakahikayat ng mga kuwento ang siksik na organ na ito—wala nang iba pang bahagi ng katawan na nagkaroon ng maraming kantang inawit at kuwentong ipinahayag tungkol dito. Ang eksibisyong ito ay bahagi ng tradisyong iyon; nakabatay ang kuwento nito sa isang lugar na nagsusumikap na magbigay ng pinakamahusay na posibleng pangangalaga para sa mga may sakit na puso—ang Cardiac Sciences ng St. Boniface Hospital. Dito, idinokumento ng lens-based artist na si Charles Romero Venzon ang mga kawani at doktor na nagsasagawa ng iba't ibang gawain bilang paglilingkod sa puso ng mga tao. Sa pamamagitan ng kanyang gawa, tinuklas din niya ang isang personal na koneksyon sa departamento, at pinalawig nito ang proyekto nang lampas sa dokumentasyon at hanggang sa buhay ng sarili niyang pamilya.

Noong tagsibol ng 2024, inimitahan ko si Venzon na gumugol ng ilang panahon sa Cardiac Sciences ng St. Boniface Hospital para kunan ng larawan ang makikita niya. Ang Program Director na si

Reid Love, at ang Medical Speciality Lead na si Dr. Anita Soni, ay masayang sumang-ayon sa proyektong ito, kaya, nang mahigpit na alinsunod sa mga alituntunin ng Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) para protektahan ang mga pasyente at kawani, binigyan si Venzon ng kamangha-mangha access sa halos lahat ng bahagi ng departamento.

Kumuha si Venzon ng isang serye ng mga larawan ng mga silid at kagamitan bago at pagkatapos ng operasyon, na ginagawang napakalinaw ang kumplikado at metikulosong katangian ng gawaing isinasagawa sa mga espasyong ito. Ang limitadong color palette ay pinapangibabawan ng asul ng mga surgical gown at mga sterile na puti ng mga linen. Puno ang mga espasyong ito ng kakaibang geometry ng mga espesyal na kagamitan na binago ang porma ng mga patong ng mga panakip para sa pagkontrol sa impeksyon; ang pagkakaiba sa pagitan ng tao at makina ay maaaring maging medyo malabo. Ipinakita ni Venzon bilang kaibahan sa mga pormal na larawang ito ang mga larawan ng mga taong nagtatrabaho sa departamento, mula sa mga taong nag-aayos ng mga kama, sa mga klerk ng unit, hanggang sa taong nagbibigay ng pampamanhid. Pinagsama-sama ang mga larawang ito sa isang portrait na naka-project sa gitnang pader sa gallery. Dito ay makikita natin ang mga larawan ng mga kawani nang hindi nakasuot ng kanilang scrubs—nakangiti at magiliw. Kahanga-hanga ito. Ito ang mga taong maaari nating makita sa pila sa grocery store o tumatawa kasama ng mga kaibigan sa isang ballgame. Hindi nananatili sa ospital ang pangangalagang pangkalusugan, ang mga tagapagbigay ng paggamot at ang mga tumatanggap nito ay nasa buong buhay natin sa maraming paraan. Ang eksibisyong ito ay nagbibigay ng isang pambihirang pagkakataon para pag-isipan ang mga epekto ng pangangalagang pangkalusugan kaugnay ng puso sa buhay ng mga pasyente at pati na rin sa buhay ng maraming nars, doktor, tagapangasiwa, at kawani ng suporta na nakikipagtulungan sa kanila.

Noong una kong iminungkahi ang proyekto kay Venzon, ilang sandali niyang pinag-isipan ang sasabihin bago siya nagsalita. Sinabi niya sa aking nailigtas ang buhay ng kanyang amang si Claro sa Cardiac Sciences ng St. Boniface Hospital matapos itong atakehin sa puso noong 1995; nabuhay si Claro nang dalawampu't isang taon pa dahil sa pangangalagang natanggap niya. Malinaw pa ring naaalala ni Venzon ang paghihintay niya ng balita tungkol sa kanyang ama sa isa sa mga smoking room ng Ospital. Ang eksibisyong ito ay unang inilaan para ibahagi ang hindi nakikitang gawain ng Cardiac Sciences, pero lumago ito para sumaklaw sa karanasang pampamilya ni Venzon sa kalusugan ng puso. Isa itong halimbawa ng kamangha-manghang posisyong inookupa ng Galerie Buhler Gallery—ikinararangal naming hindi lang pinili ni Venzon na ilapat ang kanyang kasanayan sa sining sa espesyal na proyektong ito kundi ay ibahagi rin ang kanyang personal na koneksyon, isang personal na koneksyong lubos na nakaapekto sa kanya.

Kumplikado at mahirap unawain ang relasyon ni Venzon sa kanyang ama, gaya ng maraming ugnayan ng anak at magulang. Sa eksibisyong ito, makikita ninyo ang mga drawing na ginawa ni Venzon kasama ng kanyang mga anak at kanyang pamangking babae at lalaki. Mga personal na bagay ito na pag-aari ni Claro, tulad ng kanyang mga cuff link at relo. Ang mga bagay ay maaaring mag-ing malakas na koneksyon sa mga pumanaw at magbigay ng isang paraan ng pisikal na koneksyon, lalo na para sa mga posibleng hindi kilala ang may-ari ng mga ito. Ang mga drawing na ito ay napakapersonal na aspeto ng eksibisyon at isang paraan para tuklasin ni Venzon ang kanyang posisyon bilang isang anak, ama, at tiyuhin habang iniisip din ang kanyang ama bilang lolo ng kanyang mga anak. Ipinapakita sa atin ng mga drawing na ito ang mga koneksyong dumadaloy sa pagitan ng mga henerasyon, na nagbibigay ng makabagbag-damdaming pagpapakita ng kawalan pero pati na rin nglakas ng mga koneksyon ng pamilya.

Maraming bagay na ang nagbago mula noong atakehin sa puso si Claro—isa na roon ang wala nang anumang smoking room sa Ospital. Ang pananaliksik sa kalusugan ng puso ng iba't ibang demograpiko ay nagdulot ng higit na pag-unawa sa mga panlipunan, pang-ekonomiya, at pangkulturang indicator na nakakaapekto sa kung paano inihahatid ang pangangalaga sa mga taong may cardio vascular disease. Sa pamamagitan ng proyektong ito, nag-ing interesado si Venzon sa pag-unawa sa kalusugan ng puso ng kanyang ama sa mas malawak na konteksto ng pamayanang Pilipino, kung saan bahagi ang kanyang pamilya. Nagsama si Venzon ng tatlong larawan niya na kinunan niya habang nagsasagawa siya ng stress test, EKG, at echocardiogram—mga karaniwang procedure para sa pagsusuri sa kalusugan ng puso. Inilimbag niya ang mga ito sa semi-translucent na tela na inaantala ang lawak ng gallery gamit ang sarili niyang katawan. Ang mga obrang ito ay nagbibigay ng pamantayan sa loob ng eksibisyon: ang kanyang katawan ay nag-uugnay sa kanyang ama, Cardiac Sciences, at kamalayan sa ilan sa mga salik na nakakaapekto sa kalusugan ng puso—history ng pamilya, regular na pagpapatingin ng kalusugan, at pagkakaroon ng malusog na pamumuhay. Ang isang mahalagang indicator ng mas mataas na panganib ng sakit sa puso ay maaaring pagiging miyembro ng isang komunidad na may lahi. Ang mga rate ng sakit sa puso para sa mga taong Katutubo ay hanggang 50% na mas mataas kaysa sa pangkalahatang populasyon ng Canada, at ang rate ng pagkamatay mula sa stroke ay dalawang beses na mas mataas. (Pinagmulan: Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada). Ang mga taong Black at mga taong may south Asian na pinagmulan ay nakakaranas din ng mas mataas na panganib. Ang mga imigrante, tulad ni Claro, ay maaaring nasa mas malaking panganib na magkaroon ng cardio vascular disease dahil sa matitinding pagbabagong nararanasan nila pagdating sa isang bagong bansa kabilang ang diyeta, pisikal na aktibidad, at pagtaas ng stress.¹

Mahusay na napag-uugnay ni Venzon ang dokumentaryo at memoir sa eksibisyong ito, na nag-aanyaya sa mga manonood sa gawa na mahina, maselan, at mapagbigay. Binigyan tayo ng bihirang pagtingin sa mga espasyong nagtataglay ng mga kahanga-hangang teknolohiya at paggamot pati na rin sa mga taong sumusuporta sa mga ito, na nakikita ang mga ito sa pamamagitan ng lens ni Venzon bilang artist, anak, at ama. Ang eksibisyon ay bahagyang isang talaan ng malalawak na epekto ng Cardiac Sciences sa buhay ng hindi mabilang na tao. Ang Cardially Yours ay isa sa maraming magagandang pamana ng mga paggamot nitong nagliligtas ng buhay.

1. PINAGMULAN: THE RISK OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE AMONG IMMIGRANTS IN CANADA. MONITORING EDITOR: ALEXANDER MUACEVIC AND JOHN R ADLER. NATIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION. [HTTPS://WWW.NCBI.NLM.NIH.GOV/PMC/ARTICLES/PMC8933291/](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8933291/)

Artist Statement

By Charles Romero Venzon



Artist Statement | English

Cardially yours, reflects a deeply personal and transformative chapter in my family's life. On December 15, 1995, my father, Claro, underwent a 14.5-hour open-heart surgery to repair an ascending aortic dissection. The procedure involved replacing his aortic valve, root, and ascending aorta, as well as performing a single-vessel bypass

to his right coronary artery. Thanks to the expertise of Dr. E. A. Pascoe and the dedication of his team of nurses and technicians at St. Boniface Hospital, the surgery was a success. At 56 years old, my father emerged from this ordeal, and we were blessed with 21 more cherished years with him.

Since his passing on June 6, 2016, countless moments have unfolded in my life that I wish I could have shared with him. I long for him to have witnessed how much his grandchildren—Sofia Horas Lopes-Venzon, Isla Vida Hazel Waller, and Beckett Carlos Waller—have grown. Most of all, I wish he could have met and loved the grandchild he never had the chance to know: Inèz Claro Danielle Venzon.

The illustrative work in this exhibition was inspired from the drawing exercises Inèz and I often do together. On the same sheet of paper, we each create our own versions of objects from her toy collection. I often imagine my dad and Inèz doing this activity together, their laughter filling the room as they compare their creations. To honor Claro's connection with all his grandchildren to him, I invited them to collaborate on drawings of his objects and articles of clothing that are cherished by me and other family members. These pieces weave together love, legacy, and the enduring bonds that link generations.

Cardially yours, is both a tribute and an expression of gratitude. It honors Dr. Pascoe, his team, and the ongoing work of St. Boniface Hospital and Cardiac Sciences, whose commitment continues to save lives every day.

This project aims to encourage people to prioritize heart health; to encourage them to visit their doctor and undergo any necessary diagnostic tests like EKGs, stress tests, or echocardiograms. These measures can be life-saving, preventing more severe measures involving invasive surgeries such as fitting pacemakers, stents, or valve replacements.

By inviting you into the spaces where life-saving procedures take place, sharing my personal experience with medical requisitions, and highlighting the invaluable contributions of nurses, doctors, clerks, management, and service workers. I hope to show the medical world here is welcoming, compassionate, and connects so many of us.

Artist Statement | French

Cardially yours, évoque un chapitre profondément personnel et transformateur dans la vie de ma famille. Le 15 décembre 1995, mon père, Claro, a subi une opération à cœur ouvert qui a duré 14 heures et demie pour réparer une dissection aortique ascendante. L'intervention chirurgicale consistait à remplacer la valve aortique, la racine et l'aorte ascendante, ainsi qu'à effectuer un pontage simple de l'artère coronaire droite. Grâce à l'expertise du Dr E. A. Pascoe et au dévouement de son équipe d'infirmières et de techniciens de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface, l'opération a été couronnée de succès. À 56 ans, mon père a surmonté cette épreuve, et nous avons eu la chance de vivre 21 autres belles années en sa compagnie.

Depuis son décès, le 6 juin 2016, d'innombrables moments sont survenus dans ma vie, moments que j'aurais voulu partager avec lui. J'aurais tant aimé qu'il puisse voir à quel point ses petits-enfants ont grandi, Sofia Horas Lopes-Venzon, Isla Vida Hazel Waller et Beckett Carlos Waller. Plus que tout, j'aurais aimé qu'il rencontre et entoure d'amour la petite-fille qu'il n'aura jamais eu la chance de connaître : Inèz Claro Danielle Venzon.

Les œuvres d'illustration présentées dans cette exposition s'inspirent des séances de dessin qu'Inèz et moi faisons souvent ensemble. Sur la même feuille de papier, nous créons chacune notre propre version d'objets de sa collection de jouets. J'imagine souvent mon père et Inèz qui s'adonnent à cette activité ensemble, leurs rires qui emplissent la pièce tout en comparant leurs œuvres. Pour honorer le lien qui unit Claro à tous ses petits-enfants, je les ai invités à collaborer à des dessins qui représentent ses objets et ses vêtements, qui nous sont chers, à moi et aux autres membres de la famille. Ces œuvres jettent un pont entre l'amour, l'héritage et les liens durables qui unissent les générations.

Cardially yours, est à la fois un hommage et une expression de gratitude, qui rend honneur au Dr Pascoe, à son équipe et au travail soutenu de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface et des Sciences cardiaques, dont l'engagement sauve des vies jour après jour.

Ce projet vise à inciter les gens à donner la priorité à la santé cardiaque, à les inciter à consulter leur médecin et à subir tous les tests de diagnostic nécessaires, comme les électrocardiogrammes, les épreuves à l'effort ou les échocardiogrammes. Ces mesures peuvent sauver des vies, car elles nous évitent de devoir passer à des mesures plus importantes qui prévoient des interventions chirurgicales invasives, notamment la pose d'un stimulateur cardiaque ou d'une endoprothèse ou le remplacement d'une valve.

En vous accueillant là où se déroulent des interventions qui sauvent des vies, en vous faisant part de mon expérience personnelle par rapport aux examens médicaux et en soulignant les contributions inestimables des infirmières, des médecins, des commis, des dirigeants et des préposés aux services, j'espère montrer qu'ici, le milieu médical est accueillant et compatissant et relie bon nombre d'entre nous.

Artist Statement | Tagalog

Ipinapakita ng **Cardially yours**, ang isang kabanata sa buhay ng aking pamilya na lubos na personal at nagdulot ng pagbabago. Noong Disyembre 15, 1995, ang aking ama na si Claro ay sumailalim sa isang 14.5-oras na open-heart surgery para ayusin ang isang ascending aortic dissection. Kasama sa procedure ang pagpapalit sa kanyang aortic valve, root, at ascending aorta, pati na rin ang pagsagawa ng single-vessel bypass sa kanyang kanang coronary artery. Salamat sa kadalubhasaan ni Dr. E. A. Pascoe at sa dedikasyon ng kanyang pangkat ng mga nars at technician sa St. Boniface Hospital, matagumpay ang operasyon. Sa edad na 56, nakabangon ang aking ama mula sa pagsubok na ito, at biniyayaan kami ng 21 itinatanging taon pa kasama siya.

Mula nang pumanaw siya noong Hunyo 6, 2016, hindi mabilang na sandali ang naganap sa aking buhay na nahiling kong sana ay nai-bahagi ko sa kanya. Inaasam kong nakita sana niya kung gaano na lumaki ang kanyang mga apo—sina Sofia Horas Lopes-Venzon, Isla Vida Hazel Waller, at Beckett Carlos Waller. Higit sa lahat, nahiling kong sana ay nakilala at minahal niya ang apong hindi na siya nagkaroon ng pagkakataong makilala: si Inèz Claro Danielle Venzon.

Ang nakaguhit na gawa sa eksibisyong ito ay hango sa mga pagsasanay sa pagguhit na madalas naming ginagawa ni Inèz nang magkasama. Sa iisang piraso ng papel, bawat isa sa amin ay gumagawa

ng sarili naming bersyon ng mga bagay mula sa kanyang koleksyon ng laruan. Madalas kong naiisip ang aking ama at si Inèz na ginagawa ang aktibidad na ito nang magkasama, at napupuno ng kanilang tawa ang silid habang inihahambing nila ang mga gawa nila. Para kilalanin ang koneksyon ni Claro sa lahat ng kanyang apo, inanyayahan ko silang magtulungan sa mga drawing ng kanyang mga gamit at piraso ng damit na itinatangi ko at ng iba pang miyembro ng pamilya. Pinagsasama-sama ng mga obrang ito ang pagmamahal, pamana, at ang mga nagtatagal na ugnayan na nagbubuklod sa mga henerasyon.

Ang **Cardially yours**, ay parehong pagpupugay at pagpapahayag ng pasasalamat. Pinaparangalan nito si Dr. Pascoe, ang kanyang pangkat, at ang patuloy na gawain ng St. Boniface Hospital at Cardiac Sciences, na ang pagtuon ay patuloy na nagliligtas ng mga buhay araw-araw.

Nilalayon ng proyektong ito na hikayatin ang mga tao na bigyang-prioridad ang kalusugan ng puso; na hikayatin silang bisitahin ang kanilang doktor at sumailalim sa anumang kinakailangang diagnostic na pagsusuri tulad ng mga EKG, stress test, o echocardiogram. Ang mga hakbang na ito ay maaaring makapagligtas ng buhay, na pumipigil sa mas matitinding hakbang na may mga nauugnay na invasive na operasyon tulad ng paglalagay ng mga pacemaker, mga stent, o mga pagpapalit ng valve.

Sa pamamagitan ng pag-anyaya sa inyo sa mga espasyo kung saan nagaganap ang mga procedure na nagliligtas ng buhay, pagbabahagi sa aking personal na karanasan sa mga medikal na kahilingan, at pagbibigay-atensyon sa mga napakahalagang kontribusyon ng mga nars, mga doktor, mga klerk, pangasiwaan, at mga gumagawa ng serbisyo. Umaasa akong ipakita na ang mundo ng medisina rito ay magiliw, maalalahanin, at pinag-uugnay ang napakarami sa atin.

This commission was generously funded
by the St. Boniface Hospital Foundation

Cette commission a été généreusement financée par
la Fondation de l'Hôpital Saint-Boniface.

Ang komisyong ito ay magandang-loob na pinondohan
ng St. Boniface Hospital Foundation



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