

Pederson, Lawrence (Jan. 15, 1916 -)

Lawrence Pederson was born to Norwegian immigrants Peter Andreas and Alice Margaret Pederson on the family farm near Elbow, Sask., and attended the nearby one-room Harley School until he completed Grade 8. His father asked Lawrence to quit school and help on the farm. Peter, a blacksmith, taught Lawrence the trade, and the son eventually established his own farm south of Elbow, near Central Butte. Lawrence married Alberta Viola in 1960; they farmed together until her death in 1989. Pederson moved into Chez Nous Senior Citizens home in Moose Jaw shortly thereafter and began to create his woodworking art.

The models that Lawrence Pederson has created belong in the tradition of Saskatchewan prairie folk art. Pederson would usually use whatever was at hand as materials for his projects: “scrap wood, plastic eyes, and even a horsetail made of hair from a hair-dresser’s shop” (Leipert). These small pieces emerge from Pederson’s personal experiences during his time living and working in what was a very new land and a unique but demanding profession. Pederson personalizes his work by including the little details that he remembers from his early days; Leipert gives an example of the personal aspects that Pederson included in his model of a blacksmith’s shop: “Discussing the blacksmith’s shop, Mr. Pederson says, ‘The blacksmith always had a dog and the dog was always spoiled.’ He includes a lazy, slumbering dog because that is simply the way things were.”

Many of Pederson’s works depict farm equipment, machinery, and modes of transportation – some of them now obsolete. Many of the pieces include moveable and working parts. Leipert comments that “these models [...] serve a didactic and archival purpose as they record the past modes of production and the social life in rural Saskatchewan.”

QUOTES

“Community and personal histories are celebrated in each model as artefacts of the not-too-distant past are explored with sentiment, humour, nostalgia, and fascination.” (Leipert)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 1997 *Lawrence Pederson Folk Art*. Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, Moose Jaw, SK
- 1999 *Wooden Models by Lawrence Pederson*. Moose Museum & Art Gallery, Moose Jaw, SK
- 2003 *Mr. Pederson’s Models*. Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, Moose Jaw, SK
- 2004 *Mr. Pederson’s Models*. Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, Moose Jaw, SK

Lawrence Pederson also exhibited at the Moose Jaw Hometown Fair and the Central Butte & District Agricultural Society Fair a number of times. On numerous occasions he received ribbons for placing in the top of his category.

SELECTED WORKS IN COLLECTIONS

Titles in italics have those words written somewhere on the piece. The pieces without italics are descriptions, as the artist did not name his pieces.

Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, Moose Jaw, SK

Train Engine Model

Wood

10.8 x 45.5 x 14.0 cm

9.97.11.1

Wood Model of a Horse

Wood

23.0 x 26.0 x 6.8 cm

9.97.11.2

Waterwheel Model

Wood

25.0 x 17.0 x 20.0 cm

9.97.11.3

Blacksmith Shop Model

Wood

15.0 x 28.0 x 15.4 cm

9.97.11.4

Wagon and Team Model

Wood

26.7 x 53.0 x 18.0 cm

9.97.11.5

Wood Wheel with Chickens

Wood

23.5 x 23.0 x 23.0 cm

9.97.11.6

Plow and Oxen Model

Wood

12.0 x 12.7 x 63.0 cm

9.97.11.7

Wood Model of Car

Wood

19.3 x 34.0 x 16.8 cm

9.97.11.8

Stage Coach Model

Wood

26.2 x 50.5 x 20.0 cm

9.97.11.9

Tractor Model

Wood

17.8 x 30.0 x 20.0 cm

9.97.11.10

Tractor and Attachments Model

Wood

16.6 x 44.0 x 12.0 cm

9.97.11.11

Hay Wagon Model

Wood

19.3 x 35.0 x 16.0 cm

9.97.11.12

Wagon and Team Model

Wood

35.0 x 16.0 x 12.0 cm

9.97.11.13

Tractor and Thrasher/Combine Model

Wood and metal

a) 16.6 x 19.0 x 11.5 cm

b) 21.5 x 39.5 x 21.0 cm

9.97.11.14 a-b

Model of Cow Punchers and Cows

Wood and metal

30.3 x 20.0 x 20.0 cm

9.98.41.1

Model of Combine

Metal and wood

22.5 x 31.0 x 30.0 cm

9.98.41.2

Wheat Pool Elevator Model (with ramps)

Wood and metal

a) 45.1 x 28.7 x 24.7 cm

b) 6.8 x 16.9 x 10.8 cm

c) 6.8 x 16.9 x 10.8 cm

9.98.41.3a-c

Model of Horses and Wagon

Wood, plastic beads, string, and metal

8.7 x 8.3 x 21.0 cm

9.98.41.4

Wooden Box with Birds

Wood, metal, and felt

7.5 x 15.5 x 11.0
9.98.41.5

Model of Ox with Yoke
Wood
10.0 x 5.0 x 14.5 cm
9.98.41.6

Model of Horses with Hay Cutter
Wood, plastic, metal, and cloth
14.6 x 17.0 x 24.2 cm
9.98.41.7

Model of Horses with Hay Rake
Wood, metal, and cloth
15.3 x 17.2 x 28.0
9.98.41.8

Model of Horses with Seed Discers
Wood, metal, and cloth
18.3 x 24.0 x 28.0 cm
9.98.41.9

Model of Horses with Sleigh and Cab
Wood
14.0 x 10.0 x 41.0 cm
9.98.41.10

Folding Frame
Wood and metal
2.5 x 14.5 x 25.5 cm
20.01.4.1

Truck with Wire Wheels, 2000
Wood and wire
9.2 x 16.7 x 11.1 cm
20.01.4.2

Jenny the Mule (folding book), 2000
Wood and metal
4.2 x 15.5 x 15.5 cm
20.01.4.3

Chariot with Two Horses, 2000
Wood and metal
9.0 x 18.0 x 6.5 cm

20.01.4.4

Robins in a Tree, 2000

Wood

11.5 x 12.8 x 7.8 cm

20.01.4.5

Two Owls and Moon (wall hanging), 1999

Wood and metal

25.0 x 19.4 cm

20.01.4.6

Halloween Picture (wall hanging), 2000

Wood and metal

25.0 x 19.4 cm

20.01.4.7

Lathe and Operator, 2000

Wood and metal

18.5 x 19.2 x 14.8 cm

20.01.4.8

Horses on Wheel Model

Wood and metal

14.5 x 20.0 x 23.5 cm

20.02.6.1

WE II [Man and dog model]

Wood

18.7 x 10.1 x 14.5 cm

20.02.6.2

The Pee Wees [Ball team model]

Wood and metal

12.6 x 20.8 x 26.5 cm

20.02.6.3

Squirrel Model

Wood, metal, and plastic eyes

9.8 x 9.4 x 3.0 cm

20.02.6.4

A Single Twosome [Mounties on a horse model]

Wood and metal

18.4 x 14.2 x 11.4 cm

20.02.6.5

Male Head Model

Wood, plastic eyes, metal, and rubber band

14.0 x 9.5 x 4.9 cm

20.02.6.6

Dog Wood Model

Wood

6.0 x 9.0 x 3.3 cm

20.02.6.7

Woodpecker Model

Wood, plastic eyes, metal, and rubber band

15.7 x 13.2 x 8.3 cm

20.02.6.8

Covered Wagon and Team Model

Wood, plastic, metal, and leather

35.2 x 12.5 cm

20.02.6.9

Horse and Cart Model

Wood, plastic eyes, string, and metal

20.3 x 9.8 x 10.1 cm

20.02.6.10

Horse and Rider Model

Wood, string, leather, and metal

17.5 x 18.5 x 12.5 cm

20.02.6.11

Mule Team Stage Coach Model

Wood, metal, string, plastic, and plastic eyes

36.5 x 14.0 x 21.5 cm

20.02.6.12

Bull Rider

Wood, plastic eyes, and metal

16.5 x 13.5 x 5.0 cm

20.02.6.13

Bucking Bronco and Rider

Wood and metal

13.0 x 11.0 x 6.0 cm

20.02.6.14

Blue Car Model

Wood, glass beads, and metal

27.5 x 11.5 x 10.0 cm

20.02.6.15

L-J Sports [Red car model]

Wood, plastic, metal, and glass beads

28.6 x 10.2 x 11.0 cm

20.02.6.16

Snow Goose Model

Wood and metal

9.7 x 9.5 x 6.7 cm

20.02.6.17

Wagon and Team Model

Wood, metal, leather, and plastic

23.5 x 7.2 x 12.4 cm

20.02.6.18

Keep on Trucking [Lady on tricycle model]

Wood and metal

19.5 x 10.2 x 21.0 cm

20.02.6.19

Brown Dog Model

Wood and metal

12.0 x 3.8 x 11.0 cm

20.02.6.20

Mule and Wagon Model

Wood, metal, and leather

27.7 x 11.8 x 18.0 cm

20.02.6.21

Jeep Scrub Model

Wood, metal, and plastic

18.2 x 8.5 x 7.8 cm

20.02.6.22

Well's Drilling Co. Ltd

Wood, metal, and leather

a) 22.0 x 24.0 x 20.0 cm

b) 22.5 x 8.5 x 12.0 cm

20.02.6.23 a-b

Model of Two Chickens
Wood, metal, and leather
19.5 x 12.0 x 17.5 cm
20.02.6.24

Snow-blower Model
Wood, metal, and plastic
21.5 x 13.8 x 14.3 cm
20.02.6.25

Wheelchair and Nurse Model
Wood, metal, and cloth
16.0 x 7.5 x 14.6 cm
20.02.6.26

PFRA Pasture
Wood, metal, and plastic eyes
16.0 x 10.0 x 20.0 cm
20.02.6.27

Santa and Moose Model
Wood, metal, string, leather, and cotton
23.3 x 7.2 x 12.7 cm
20.02.6.28

Boxers and Boxing Ring Model
Wood, metal, and plastic
16.0 x 16.0 x 14.0 cm
20.02.6.29

Flowers in Pot Model
Wood, metal, and plastic
19.5 x 18.2 x 11.5 cm
20.02.6.30

WORKS CITED

Leipert, Trent. Lawrence Pederson. Exhibition pamphlet. Moose Jaw: Moose Jaw Museum & Art Gallery, c. 2003.