

**THE WRITING ON THE WALL:
The Work of Joane Cardinal-Schubert**
Edited by Lindsey V. Sharman

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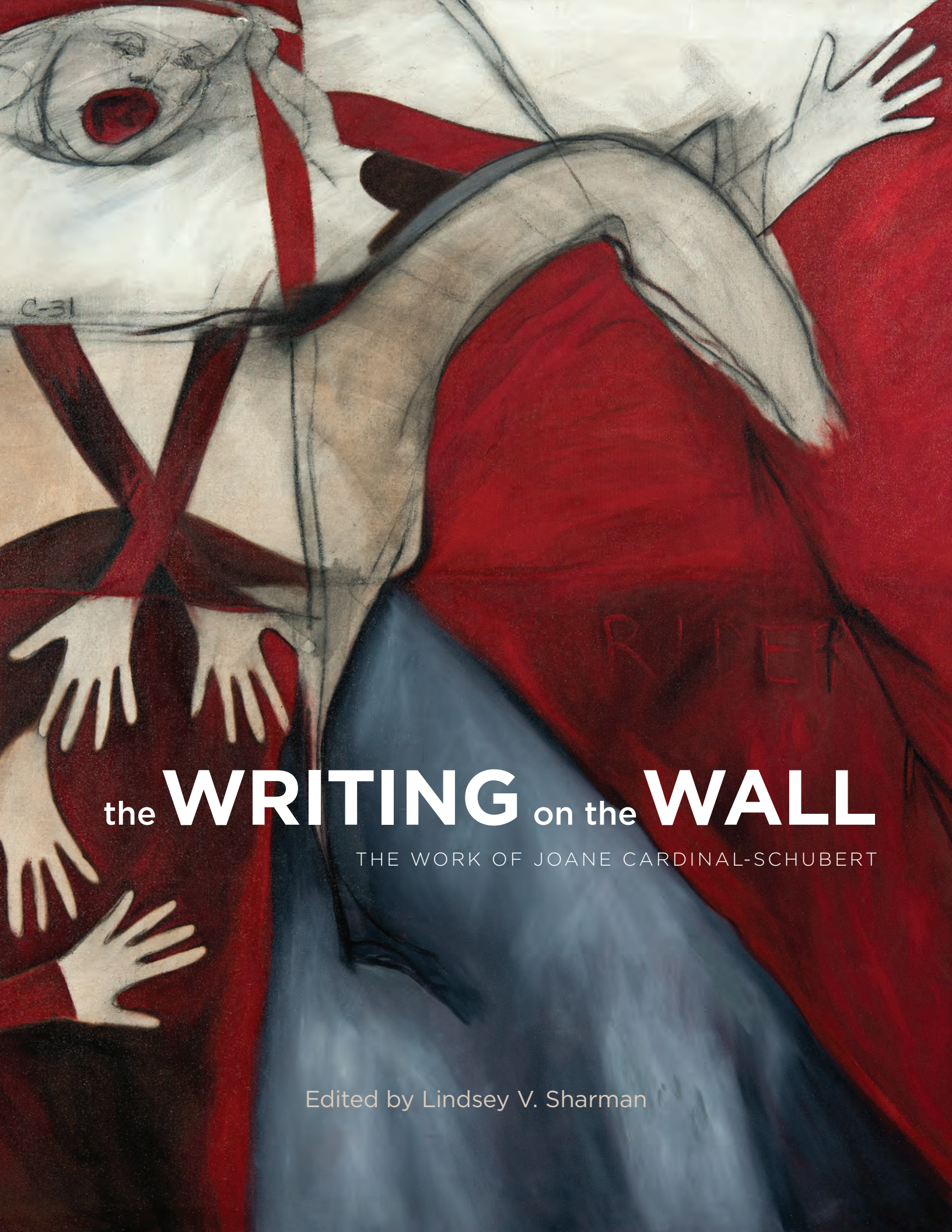
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Michele Hardy, Curator, Nickle Galleries, University of Calgary
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THE WORK OF JOANE CARDINAL-SCHUBERT



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Front cover art: Joane Cardinal-Schubert, *Rider*, 1986.

Courtesy of the Estate of Joane Cardinal-Schubert

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1. *Rider*, 1986
152 x 213 cm
60" x 84"
Oil and graphite on canvas
From the Estate of Joane Cardinal-Schubert

This work is a reaction to Bill C-31, a bill to amend sections of the Indian Act that legally affiliated a married woman not with her own heritage but with either the Indigenous membership or settler heritage of her husband.

"Since I was a small child I had tried to equal the skills of my brothers and my father – perhaps I noticed a type of inequality – perhaps I didn't realize that to be a girl meant that I couldn't do as well, or wasn't as strong. People had a description for girls like me then, I was called a Tom-boy. I figured out this was not a good moniker to have and when my father presented me a gift on my 5th birthday of a statue of a little girl one sock up and one sock down with a definite pout on her face, I yelled that I was going to smash it with a hammer. Besides, the statue was one of a girl with blond hair and blue eyes – I knew I didn't look that way. After all these years I still have that statue and guard it. It is precious to me because it is symbolic of the time in my life when I had absolute freedom. Looking at it (I keep it in my wardrobe on the hat shelf – just at eye level) it recalls the lake with the water lilies, the Canadian Geese, the ducks, and other water birds, the muskrats and beaver, the wind, the flood waters, the trees and all the smells, and textures of the earth, my parents the way they were then, and my brothers and sister, my grandmother and grandfather.

I am my mother and my father and my sister and my brothers, I am my grandmothers and my grandfathers and I am an Indian..."

Joane Cardinal-Schubert, RCA
"Song Transforming to Revenge Walker" from the artist's personal documents





2. *Self Portrait Warshirt*, n.d.
152.4 x 101.6 cm
60" x 40"
Mixed media on paper
From the Estate of Joane Cardinal-Schubert