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2013-2

Mark Vajcner Material

on Ted Godwin: *The days were kinda like that*

*The nights I don't remember*

January 2013

By ELIZABETH SEITZ

**Biographical Sketch:** Visual artist Ted Godwin was born in Calgary, Alberta in 1933. He attended the Southern Institute of Technology and Art from 1951 to 1955. He attended several Emma Lake Artists Workshops, including those led by Barnett Newman (1959), John Ferren (1960), Jules Olitski (1964), and Lawrence Alloway (1965). From 1955 to 1964 he worked in the commercial art field as Art Director for CJLH Channel 7 in Lethbridge, and a neon designer, winning 2nd prize at an international neon design competition, N.E.S.A. in 1958 before joining the School of Art at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus in 1964.

During this time in Regina, he became part of a group of young artists who were producing significant and exciting art. When their works were exhibited together at the National Art Gallery in 1961 they became known as the "Regina Five". The members of the group, including Ken Lochhead, Art McKay, Ron Bloore, Godwin and Doug Morton, eventually went their separate ways, but their early association was vital to the development of their art and to prairie art. Ted Godwin remained at what became the Visual Arts Department at the University of Regina for the rest of his teaching career. Following the "Regina Five" era, he became known for his large "Tartan" paintings. A heart condition (which eventually forced him to retire in 1985) produced the "Dying Orchids" series in 1974.

From the mid-1970's to the present, Godwin produced several series of large and vivid landscape paintings, including "The Lower Bow" series. His work has appeared in solo and group exhibitions at public and private galleries across Canada and is represented in the collections of several major institutions.

Ted Godwin was elected to the Royal Canadian Academy in 1974, and was awarded the Queens Silver Jubilee Medal 1978. For his *Messages from the Real World: A Handbook for the Emerging Artist*, (1999) Ted won the Sask. Book Award for best new publication (Educational). He was awarded the Alberta College of Art and Design Board of Governors Award of Excellence and was also awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Regina in 2001. In 2004, for his excellence in the field of visual arts, Ted was made an Officer of the Order of Canada and in 2010, he was chosen Artist of the Year by Trout Unlimited.

Ted Godwin has been exhibiting his work since 1955 and has had more than 60 solo exhibitions and resides in Calgary with his wife, Phyllis Wanda Goota, (also an artist) whom he married in 1956. The Godwins have two daughters, Teddi Ruth Driediger and Tammi Lynn Shanahan.

Ted Godwin passed away in January 2013.

**Scope and content:** This accession contains one printed copy of Godwin's writing *The Days were kinda like that The nights I don't remember*.

**Custodial history:** The material was created by Ted Godwin and transferred to the University Archives and Special Collections in January 2013 by Mark Vajcner.

**Legal Agreement:** The legal agreement is pending.

**Note on Arrangement:** The material was contained within a duo-tang, which was removed.

**Restrictions:** There are no access restrictions in this collection.

**Related Accessions:** 87-41, 99-1, 2000-36, 2006-46, 2010-3, 2011-16, 2012-5 and 2012-29

This small accession is comprised of one duo-tang of Ted Godwin's writing: *The days  
were kinda like that The nights I don't remember*