

Richard Watts

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Lives and works on the edge of the Canadian Shield near Havelock, Ontario, and in Toronto, Ontario, since 1987. Previously Kansas and Chicago.

Exhibitions

- 2020** *“Human Writing:Nature’s Writing”* Robert Langen Gallery, Laurier University, Waterloo, ON
- 2019** *Tom Thomson Gallery Memorial Museum*, Owen Sound, ON. Solo survey show “Earth Etchings”
- 2018** “Illuminated Manuscripts”. *Brian Liss Gallery*, Toronto, January/February 2018.
- 2015** “Place2B”, Paris, France. Group exhibition, art and environmental issues as part of COP21 G20 Summit (Paris Climate Accords) (G21ConferenceonthePlanet), with Swarm international art collective.
- 2014** *Two Rivers Gallery (Museum)*, Prince George B.C., curated George Harris, solo show. Royal Botanical Gardens International Earth Art Exhibition, Hamilton, Ontario, curated by John K. Grande.
- 2012** “The Three Seasons”. *MacLaren Art Centre*, Barrie Ontario, solo show. Curated by Ben Portis.
- 2011** “Green: A Color and a Cause”. Juried group show, The Textile Museum, Washington D.C.
“The Weather”, juried group show, Greater Toronto Airport Authority (GTAA).
“Canoe People”, Nuit Blanche Independent Project as part of “Futurism (or NOT!)” curated by Thom Sokoloski.
- 2010** “Canadian Landscape Juried Exhibition”. Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden, ON
“Cause and Effect”, The Ontario Society of Artists Annual Juried Exhibition. John B. Aird Gallery, April 2010. Engine Gallery, Toronto Distillery, February 2010.
- 2009** *WaterLine* prototype exhibition, Crowe River Studios, August 09.
“Peterborough Lakeside” site-specific work for Peterborough Artsweek Sept. 09.
“Skins” in Engine Gallery, Toronto, Distillery District July/Aug. ’09, Dec./Jan. ’10.
- 2008** Artist-in-Residence with new work at *The Works Art and Design Festival*, Edmonton, Alberta.
Residency with Mark Dion/JMorgan Puett, New York, May 2008, to create the *Mildred’s Lane Museum*. Collaborative project which showed at Alexander Gray Gallery, NYC.
Crowe River Studios “New Works”, October ’08.
- 2007** *Ark in DUMBO*, July/August 2007, Brooklyn Bridge City Park, under the Manhattan Bridge, Brooklyn, New York.
- 2005** *Ark* at DeLeon White Gallery, Toronto. February/March ’05. Solo show.
Camp in *XXX*, Visual Art Ontario’s 30th Anniversary Exhibition. Art Gallery of Thunder Bay, Ontario; Art Gallery of Algoma, Sudbury, Ontario; Queen West

- Toronto site-specific at the Center for Addiction and Mental Health.
Herd and **Plan** site-specific installation at Ontario Ministry of the Environment.
2002 Scadding Court Community Sculpture Garden Project. Artist/facilitator.
 Toronto Arts Council Community Development Grant.
Camp, in Rogue Wave. Site-specific installation, Toronto Islands.
2000 **Camp**, in Near Blighted: A Study in Urban Decay. Open Space Gallery,
 Allentown, Pennsylvania.
The Tent Project, in Mayworks Labor Arts Festival. Toronto City Hall, Nathan
 Phillips Square. Site-specific installation.
1998-99 **Expressway**, in Art for Earth's Sake. The Millenium Project/Modern Fuel
 Gallery, Kingston, Ontario. Site-specific installation, Cataraqui Cons. Area.
1997 **Couch Paintings**. Site-specific house installation, Toronto.
1996 **Architectural Sculptures** in Art Metropole, Toronto.
1994 **Expropriations**. Gallery 76, Toronto.

Commissions

- 2021** Canadian Canoe Museum, Peterborough, ON in discussion.
2016 Shortlisted, CAMH public art call, Toronto
2010 Stage 1 Prequalified Artist, Toronto Transit Commission.
2008 **Lock**. The Works Art and Design Festival, July 2008, Edmonton, Alberta: six
 boat forms reconfigured with an environmental theme in front of City Hall.
 Interviewed for Calgary Emergency Operations Center, July 2008.
2006 **Run**. Mission Creek Greenway Public Art Commission, City of Kelowna, B.C.
 Three 20' installations involving skeletal steel boat forms beside a salmon river.

Developing Projects

- 2013-** **Mobile Art Circus**. A mobile outdoor museum with the recent Earth Skin
 artworks shown inside 5 seacontainers with murals of endangered species on the
 outside, and a performance 'courtyard' . . .
2009- **Pine: the Trudeau Project**. Site-specific performance/installation work
 involving pieces made from historic canoes, old growth trees, on site in Ontario
 where the Group of Seven painted and Trudeau, canoed.
2007- **Water/Line** project involving boat sculptures beneath Gardiner Expressway,
 Toronto

Awards

- 2017** Ontario Arts Council Midcareer Artist Grant
2012 Ontario Arts Council Midcareer Artist Grant
2010 MacLaren Art Centre Annual Bursary
2003 Ontario Arts Council Emerging Artist Grant
2001 Canada Council Travel Grant
2000 Ontario Arts Council Emerging Artist Grant
1998 Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance Grant
1993 OCAD Sully Corth Memorial Scholarship, Sculpture/Installation
1986 Loyola University of Chicago Predoctoral Fellowship

Education

- 2006** Admitted to MFA Sculpture Program, York University, Toronto
Also University of Windsor Sculpture Program, Windsor, ON
- 1997** BEd OISE/UT, secondary level/OAC.
- 1996** MA Diploma Program, Toronto Art Therapy Institute; BEd, OISE/UT
- 1995** Scholarship to MFA Sculpture Program, University of Guelph
- 1994** BFA Sculpture/Installation, Ontario College of Art and Design
- 1987** Predoctoral studies, Loyola University of Chicago
- 1985** Honors BA, University of Kansas

Reviews and Publications

- 2019** **Art Institute of Canada**, Survey catalogue.
- 2014** **Galleries West, Canada**. Review of The Three Seasons exhibition at Two Rivers Gallery, Prince George, print and online, John K. Grande.
- 2014** **Es Arte (Spain)** International Earth Art Exhibition at RBG, Hamilton, reviewed by John K Grande.
- 2013** **Think on Change: Contemporary Sculpture from Millennium**. Formosa Sculpture Symposium, National Taiwan University. Work included in publication/lecture on Canadian Art since 2000, John K Grande, January 2014.

For "Ark" in Brooklyn:

Brooklyn Daily Eagle, half a dozen Brooklyn arts reviews.

The Globe and Mail, Simon Houpt and Elizabeth Renzetti, July 21, 2007: "New York vs. London: The 24 Hour Culture Crawl"

Peter Goddard, feature in the Toronto Star ("Exhibit a Boatload of Trouble"), Aug. 12, 2007

CBC/Radio Canada radio interview, "les artes et les autres", Aug. '07, with Philippe Burnet

CBC/Radio Canada television interview, French Television Network with Luce Gauthier:

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CBC coverage of installation in New York

For the Kelowna commission, five regional print articles, two cable interviews and one cable program, also cited in Sculpture Magazine, April 07, Commissions-in-Brief.

For "Lock", The Works project in Edmonton:

City TV, July 2, 2008

CBC Mainstage presentation, June 25

Edmonton Journal, Gilbert Bouchard, "Works Artist Doesn't Just Rock the Boat, He Builds It".

June 25, July 1 2008.

For "Peterborough Lakeside", Peterborough Ontario

CHEX TV, Peterborough Examiner, others.

For other shows, small catalogues, regional paper reviews.

Work in public and private collections, including video work with Christo and Jeanne-Claude.