



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

- 2025-26 "Passages" with the People's Climate Collective at MA Rouyn-Noranda, Quebec, TBC
Additional show support from THEMUSEUM, Kitchener, Ontario.
- 2020 "Reconnection" Robert Langen Art Gallery, Wilfrid Laurier University
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
- 2021 Tom Thomson exhibition invited to Germany for Canada in Germany by
Galerie Wild (Eva Wild) in Zurich, venue TBD, probably Frankfurt.
- 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 Forever 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 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 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.
- 2000 **Camp**, in *Rogue Wave*. Site-specific installation, Toronto Islands.
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

- 2022 Shortlisted. City of Toronto. West North York Community and Cultural Centre.
- 2021 Wasp Nest, others. Bronze Wasp Nest series, (Joanne Tod,).
- 2016 Shortlisted CAMH Public Art Call
- 2010 Shortlisted. 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 sea containers 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

- 2023 CCA Project Grant/Peoples Climate Collective(*Ghost Forest-Passages*)
- 2022 OAC Artist/Presenter grant, *People's Climate Collective*
- 2021 Ontario Arts Council Established Grant
- 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

- 2020 Wilfrid Laurier University Press,*** Survey catalogue, in process pending funding.
- 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.

Mark Dion

Prominent American Artist

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