

Toni Hamel

www.tonihamel.net

BIO:

Born (1961) in Italy. Lives and works in Oshawa, a suburb of Toronto, Canada.

Hamel holds a BFA from the Academy of Fine Arts of Lecce (Italy, 1983), a post-graduate Certificate in Computer Graphics from Sheridan College (Canada, 1991), the Golden Key National Honour Society Award from the University of Toronto (Specialist Programme in Psychology, 1997), and the Lubiam Prize (Milan, 1983). Hamel is the recipient of many awards and three Ontario Arts Council grants (2011, 2012, 2014).

Her work has been exhibited in public and commercial galleries in Canada and abroad. It is included in the permanent public collections of the Archives of Ontario/Government of Ontario, the Robert McLaughlin Gallery, the Omer DeSerres Corporation as well as many private collections in Canada, the US and Europe. Hamel's work has been featured in several Arts & Culture magazines both in print and online.

ARTIST STATEMENT:

I see my work as *"an illustrated commentary on human frailties"*. Rooted in story-telling, my art practice draws from personal experiences and outward observations to create thematic bodies of work that reflect on and interpret the psychological unease characteristic of our age. Virtues and vices, the holy and the profane, the good and the bad all share equal weight and supply an infinite source of material for my investigations. Such conceptual framework leads me to work across disciplines: drawings, paintings, sculptures and installations are rendered in both traditional and non-traditional materials, which are selected based on their ability to support the particular message I want to convey. Pointing to historical and psychological references while tackling issues of universal interest, my narratives question our behaviour to eventually alert us about the repercussions of our current thinking models.

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CURRICULUM VITAE:

Affiliations and memberships:

CARFAC Ontario

Grants:

Ontario Arts Council, Emerging Artist Grant 2014

Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Assistance Grant 2012

Ontario Arts Council, Emerging Artist Grant 2011

Artist Residency:

February 4 to March 29, 2015

Art Lab + Gallery A, Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa

Selected Exhibitions and Awards:

2018

March 17 -24

Noir Dessin/Drawing in Gallery - invitational group show

Galerie ALB

Paris, France

March 7 - 11

Affordable Art Fair - with Lustre Contemporary

London, UK

March 21 - 25

Affordable Art Fair - with Lustre Contemporary

New York, USA

2017

November 18 to December 16

"Toni Hamel and Peony Yip" - two-person show

Talon Gallery

Portland, Oregon USA

January 28 to April 2

"Durham Reach" - group exhibition

Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario

February 4 to 28

"National Sustainable Living Festival 2017" - digital screening

Various venues, Melbourne, Australia

2016

November 1 to November 29

"Happy hour" - solo exhibition, Galerie Youn, Montreal

April 22 to April 24

"Papier 2016" - with Galerie Youn, Montreal, Quebec

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February 26 to February 28
"Room Art Fair", Madrid, Spain - with Galerie Youn

March 3 to March 6
"Art on Paper", New York, USA - with Galerie Youn

2015

November 22 to November 25
Art on Paper - with Galerie Youn, Miami, USA

October 30 to December 6 - "The Lingering"
Touring exhibition circulated by the Robert McLaughlin Gallery
Solo Show, Grimsby Public Art Gallery, Grimsby, Ontario

October 23 to October 26
Art Toronto 2015, with Galerie Youn

June 18 to July 19 - "Stories of the familiar transformed"
Invitational Group Show, Galerie Youn, Montreal, Quebec

March 1 to April 1 - "Land of Id"
Solo Show, Gallery A - Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario

February 4 to February 28 - "Drawing 2015"
Group Show, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto - 3rd Prize

2014

March 6 to March 11, "No Barking Art - Biennial 2014"
Group Show, Truman Brewery Gallery 25, London, England

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February 4 to February 28 - "Drawing 2014"
Group Show, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto

2013

September 14 to November 24 - "The Lingering"
Solo Show, curated by Sonya Jones, Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario

June 6 to July 20 - "Home: stories from here and away"
Invitational Group Show, curated by Chai Duncan, Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario

January 8 to February 1 - "Drawing 2013"
Group Show, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto - Curry's Prize

2012

October 20 to December 2 - "Reading the image"
Invitational Group Show, curated by Olexander Wlasenko, Station Gallery, Whitby, Ontario

March 11 to April 29 - "Triennial 2012"
Invitational Group Show, curated by Carla Garnet, AGP, Peterborough, Ontario

February 7 to March 2 - "Drawing 2012"
Group Show, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto

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2011

"Annual Juried Exhibition 2011"

Group Show, curated by Chai Duncan, Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario

"Desmond Juried Art Exhibition 2011"

Group Show, University of Guelph, Ridgetown, Ontario - 2nd Prize

2010

Oshawa City Hall Public Art Competition - 1 of 3 finalists

Oshawa Civic Center, Oshawa, Ontario

"OAA 42nd Annual Juried Exhibition"

Group Show, Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario - 1st and 3rd Prizes

"Annual Juried Exhibition 2010 "

Group Show, curated by Chai Duncan, Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario - 2nd Prize

"Drawing 2010"

Group Show, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto - 1st Prize

2009

"Desmond Juried Exhibition 2009"

Group Show, University of Guelph, Ridgetown, Ontario - 1st Prize

"First National Juried Drawing Exhibition"

Group Show, curated by Clayton Wyndatt, White Water Gallery, North Bay, Ontario - Finalist

1983, 1982

"ExpoArte", Milan, Italy - Premio Lubiam

"International ExpoArte", Bari, Italy

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Selected Reviews, Features and Interview:

2018

"American Art Collector" magazine, April 2018 Issue - USA

Artwork featured in article by John O'Heard

"Marchand de feuilles" - Montreal

Publication containing 15 artworks selected by the publisher

2017

"High Times" Issue #98 (print publication by LowDown Magazine) - Berlin, Germany

Feature with interview

http://shop.lodownmagazine.com/product_info.php?products_id=560&cPath=1

"Hi-Fructose Magazine" - USA

Feature at <http://hifructose.com/2017/09/16/toni-hamels-paintings-reflect-human-impact-on-natural-world/>

"Mud Season Review" - USA

Feature of the "Land of Id" with interview by Mike Sweeney; Print and online

<http://mudseasonreview.com/2017/05/illustrated-commentary-on-human-frailties/>

2016

"Efflorescence Culturelle" - France

Featured artist with interview by Joffrey De Dios Miguel

<http://www.efflorescenceculturelle.com/2016/09/13/toni-hamel/>

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2015

"The Hamilton Spectator" - Hamilton, Ontario
Review of "The lingering" exhibition at the Grimsby Public Art Gallery by Regina Haggio

"Hi-Fructose Magazine" - USA

Feature of the "Land of Id" at <http://hifructose.com/2015/08/08/toni-hamel-expresses-environmental-concerns-in-subdued-illustrations/>

"PixelGray" - August 9

Feature of the "Land of Id" at <http://pixelgray.com/2015/08/09/toni-hamel/>

"Ink and Arrows" - Issue 8

Interview at http://issuu.com/inkandarrows/docs/issueeight_inkarrowsmag_sample

2014

"RIDDLE FENCE" - Issue #17 (artwork published: "The vanishing" from the *White Primer* body of work, "The quest", "Transference", and "Home maker" from *The remedy* collection, and "The rescue" from *Hic et Nunc* series)

"SLICE" - Spring/Summer Issue (artwork published: "The unearthing" from *The lingering* series and "The healing" from *The remedy* collection)

"ROOM - Canada's oldest literary journal by and about women" - Issue 37.1 (artwork published: "Departures" and "Wish I were my alter ego" from *The lingering* series)

2013

"Toni Hamel: the lingering" - Exhibition catalogue with essay by Sonya Jones - Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario

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"Oshawa this week" - Interview by Mike Ruta, Sunday, October 20, 2013

"Durham College Chronicle" - Interview by Will McGuirk, 2013-14 Issue 2

"Surfacing, Winter" - Tabloid showcasing Durham's artistic and creative people - Durham Region, Ontario

2012

"Platform, Fall" - Station Gallery Newsletter (cover and page 2) - Station Gallery, Whitby, Ontario

2009

"The First National Juried Drawing Exhibition" - Exhibition catalogue - White Water Gallery, North Bay, Ontario

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Speaking Engagements:

2013 - 2015

Artist Talks - Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa

2013

Artist Talk - The Latcham Gallery, Stouffville

2012

Artist Talk - Station Gallery, Whitby

1999, 2001, 2002

Panel Member, Annual Conference, Association of Women in Digital Media, Toronto

Lecturer - University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario

Education:

1994 - 1998

University of Toronto*

Psychology, Specialist Programme

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

1990 - 1991

Sheridan College

Computer Graphics, Post-Graduate Certificate

Oakville, Ontario, Canada

1979 - 1983

Academy of Fine Arts

Bachelor of Fine Arts (Painting/Studio Programme)**

Lecce, Italy

1978 - 1979

University of Rome "La Sapienza"

Faculty of Architecture***

Rome, Italy

1974 - 1978

High School of Fine Arts

Honours Graduation Diploma

Taranto, Italy

* Awarded Golden Key National Honour Society award for academic excellence

** Selected to represent the Academy at the International ExpoArte (1982, 1983).
Received Premio Lubiam (1983)

*** Completed four first-year level courses