

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 Accademia di Belle Arti 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, USA, and Europe. 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 international collections. 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 storytelling, 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. 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:

2019

August 7 - September 7
"Five and Under - invitational group exhibition
Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles, California, USA

July 5, 2019 - July 5, 2020
"Impact" - group exhibition from the permanent collections
Robert MacLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

March 4 - 7
Philadelphia Art Fair - art fair
with Arcadia Contemporary, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

March 1 - 30
"Mondo Tondo" - invitational group exhibition
Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles, California, USA

January 12 - August 25
"Taxonomy Kingdom" - group exhibition of represented artists
Ingram Gallery, Toronto, Canada

2018

July 12 - August 25
"Summer Series XI" - group exhibition of represented artists
Ingram Gallery, Toronto, Canada

May 10 - 13
"Affordable Art Fair" - art fair
with Lustre Contemporary, London Hampstead, England

March 17 -24
Noir Dessin/Drawing in Gallery - invitational group exhibition
Galerie ALB, Paris, France

March 7 - 11
"Affordable Art Fair" - art fair
with Lustre Contemporary, London Hampstead, England

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March 21 - 25

"Affordable Art Fair" - art fair
with Lustre Contemporary, New York, NY, USA

2017

November 18 to December 16

"Toni Hamel and Peony Yip" - two-person exhibition
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, Quebec, Canada

April 22 to April 24

"Papier 2016" - art fair
with Galerie Youn, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

February 26 to February 28

"Room Art Fair" - art fair
with Galerie Youn, Madrid, Spain

March 3 to March 6

"Art on Paper" - art fair
with Galerie Youn, New York, USA

2015

November 22 to November 25

"Art on Paper" - art fair
with Galerie Youn, Miami, USA

October 30 to December 6

"The Lingering" - solo exhibition
Touring exhibition circulated by the Robert McLaughlin Gallery
Grimsby Public Art Gallery, Grimsby, Ontario, Canada

October 23 to October 26

"Art Toronto 2015" - art fair
with Galerie Youn, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

June 18 to July 19

"Stories of the familiar transformed" - invitational group exhibition
Galerie Youn, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

March 1 to April 1

"The Land of Id" - solo exhibition
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

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February 4 to February 28
"Drawing 2015" - juried exhibition
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - 3rd Prize

2014

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

February 4 to February 28
"Drawing 2014" - juried exhibition
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

2013

September 14 to November 24
"The Lingering" - solo exhibition curated by Sonya Jones
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

June 6 to July 20
"Home: stories from here and away" - invitational group exhibition curated by Chai Duncan
Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario, Canada

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

2012

October 20 to December 2
"Reading the image" - invitational group exhibition curated by Olexander Wlasenko
Station Gallery, Whitby, Ontario, Canada

March 11 to April 29
"Triennial 2012" - invitational group exhibition curated by Carla Garnet
Art Gallery of Peterborough, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

February 7 to March 2
"Drawing 2012" - juried exhibition
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Canada

2011

"Annual Juried Exhibition 2011" - juried exhibition
Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario, Canada

"Desmond Juried Art Exhibition 2011" - juried exhibition
University of Guelph, Ridgetown, Ontario, Canada - 2nd Prize

2010

Oshawa City Hall Public Art Competition - 1 of 3 finalists
Oshawa Civic Center, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

"OAA 42nd Annual Juried Exhibition" - juried exhibition
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada - 1st and 3rd Prizes

"Annual Juried Exhibition 2010 " - juried exhibition
Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario, Canada - 2nd Prize

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"Drawing 2010" - juried group exhibition
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - 1st Prize

2009

"Desmond Juried Exhibition 2009" - juried exhibition
University of Guelph, Ridgetown, Ontario, Canada - 1st Prize

"First National Juried Drawing Exhibition" - juried exhibition
White Water Gallery, North Bay, Ontario - Finalist

1983, 1982

"ExpoArte", Milan, Italy - Premio Lubiam
"International ExpoArte", Bari, Italy

Selected Reviews, Features and Interview:

2018

CBC Arts, Exhibitionists series, Season 3, Episode 20 "Driven" - short documentary

"The Affair", monthly Arts & Culture magazine, Taiwan

"American Art Collector" magazine, May 2018 Issue - USA
Collector's Focus - "Habitats of the world", article by John O'Hearn

Banzaii Le Review (Collector Edition IX) - 9-page spread
Mad Series Publishers, Montpellier, France

"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/>

2015

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

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"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

"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

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

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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

Accademia di Belle Arti (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