

NORMAN

TAKEUCHI

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Biography

Born in Vancouver, some of his earliest memories are of the interior of BC where his parents were forced to relocate during World War II. Ultimately graduating from the Vancouver School of Art in 1961, he went to London, England in 1962 to concentrate on painting, and again in 1967 with a Canada Council grant. In 1996, he left a design career to focus on art. He has since participated in many solo and group exhibitions. His work is represented in permanent collections of the Royal Ontario Museum, Canadian War Museum, Ottawa Art Gallery, Canada Council Art Bank, City of Ottawa, Carleton University Art Gallery, and in private collections in Canada and abroad.

Artist Statement

Certain events can have a major impact that will last a lifetime. The forced removal of the Japanese Canadians - my family was among them - from the west coast into the B.C. interior in 1942 is one of those events. My troubled feelings regarding that traumatic time have remained unfaded along with my ambivalent attitude towards being Canadian of Japanese origin.

Some years ago, as a way of coming to terms with my ethnicity, I began integrating into my predominantly abstract paintings images from traditional Japanese woodblock prints to illustrate the concept of duality - of being Japanese and Canadian. This became, and continues to be, the focus of my work. I still make references to the "camps" because it is never far from my mind - a period that has shaped who I am - but I also now incorporate familiar Canadian images. I have learned to embrace the two cultures.

The paintings represent an uneasy search for harmony and balance between the two worlds but ultimately they are a celebration of my Asian heritage.

January 2022

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Curriculum Vitae

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Solo exhibition, January 28 - July 9, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa ON
2022 Solo exhibition, *Long Division*, September 8 - November 4, Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa ON

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Scrolling*, Studio Sixty Six, Ottawa ON
2020 *Equal Time*, Studio Sixty Six, Ottawa ON
2020 *New Beginnings*, Studio 22, Kingston ON
2018 *Equal Terms*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
2016 *Hard Street*, Ottawa School of Art
2013 *On the Edges of Noh*, General Fine Craft, Art & Design, Almonte ON
2013 *Balancing. Act II*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
2012 *Balancing Act*, Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa ON
2011 *A Measured Act*, The Military Museums, Calgary AB
2011 *On the Edges of Noh*, Art Rental and Sales Gallery, the Ottawa Art Gallery
2010 *Cross Currents*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
2009 *A Measured Act*, Leaf Rapids National Exhibition Centre, Leaf Rapids MA
2008 *Active Ingredients*, Galerie McKenzie Marcotte, Wakefield QC
2007 *A Measured Act*, Japanese Canadian National Museum, Burnaby BC
2005 *Conflict of Interest*, Art Rental and Sales Service, The Ottawa Art Gallery
2004 *New Works*, Galerie d'art Jean-Claude Bergeron, Ottawa ON
2003 *From the Ground Up*, Philip K. Wood Gallery, Almonte ON
2002 *Kimono Alterations*, Sans Souci Gallery, Merrickville ON
2000 *Still Alive*, Seymour Art Gallery, North Vancouver BC
2000 *Displaced Specimens*, The Atrium Gallery, Nepean ON
1998 *Farm Works*, The Atrium Gallery, Nepean ON
(Art practice interrupted for career as graphic and exhibition designer)
1968 Lofthouse Gallery, Ottawa ON
1967 Lofthouse Gallery, Ottawa ON
1963 Thames Gallery, Windsor, England

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 - 2020 *Signal, Recent Purchases*, City of Ottawa Fine Art Collection, City Hall Art Gallery, Ottawa ON
2019 - 2020 *Sites of Memory*, with Emma Nishimura and Cindy Mochizuki, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa ON
2019 *Being Japanese Canadian, Reflections on a Broken World*, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto
2019 *Blended*, with Miya Turnbull, Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, Toronto ON

2019 *Compendium*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2018 *Fuel for Hibernation*, Studio 22, Kingston, ON
 2017-2018 *We'll all become stories*, Inaugural Exhibition, Ottawa Art Gallery
 2017 *Ten*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2016 *Truth of the Matter*, Ottawa Art Gallery, with Rachel Kalpana James, Cindy Stelmackowich, Howie Tsui
 2016 *Of Two Minds* with Katherine McNenly, October, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2015 *10th Anniversary Exhibition*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2014 *Additions to the City of Ottawa Art Collection*, Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2014 *Black and White*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2014 *Le pARTy*, Annual Art Auction, Ottawa Art Gallery
 2014 *Duo*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON, (with Sue Ukkola)
 2013 *Great Big Smalls IX*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2013 *Stephen Harper : The Portrait Gallery*, Arts Court's Studio, Ottawa ON
 2012 *Hair Lines*, Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte ON (with Karen Jordon)
 2011 *Great Big Smalls VII*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2011 *Winter Group Exhibition*, Art Rental & Sales Gallery, The Ottawa Art Gallery
 2010 *Great Big Smalls*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2010 *Re-fresh*, The Ottawa Art Gallery Annual Art Auction
 2009 *Available Light*, National Art Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan
 2009 *Available Light*, Alhamra Art Gallery, Lahore, Pakistan
 2009 *The Collection's Cabinet*, City of Ottawa Fine Art Collection, City Hall Art Gallery
 2009 *Water*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2009 *A Measured Act*, Comox Valley Art Gallery, Comox BC (three-person show)
 2009 *Stimulus*, The Ottawa Art Gallery Annual Art Auction
 2008 *Strange Encounters*, Centre d'exposition l'Imagier, Aylmer QC
 2008 *Black and White*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2008 *XX Celebrating 20 Years*, The Ottawa Art Gallery Annual Art Auction
 2007 *Cochonailles/Piggy Tales*, Centre d'exposition l'Imagier, Aylmer QC
 2007 *Splash*, The Ottawa Art Gallery Annual Art Auction
 2007 *Mixed Messages*, Centre d'exposition l'Imagier, Aylmer QC (with Ingo Hessel)
 2006 *Lumber*, Cube Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2006 *Without a Passport*, Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa ON
 2005 *Juxtapose*, The Ottawa Art Gallery Annual Art Auction
 2003 *Progressions*, Art Rental and Sales Service, The Ottawa Art Gallery
 2003 *Japanese-Canadian Artists' Exhibition*, Japanese Embassy, Ottawa ON
 2003 *Through the Looking Glass*, The Ottawa Art Gallery Annual Art Auction
 2002 *The Spirit of Drawing*, The Ottawa Art Gallery Annual Art Auction
 2001 *Scarborough Arts Council Juried Exhibition*, Scarborough ON - Honourable Mention
 1995 *History of Art and Artists of Ottawa and Surroundings*, The Ottawa Art Gallery
 1975 *Survey Exhibition No. 1*, Visual Arts Ottawa
 1966 University of Western Ontario, London ON (with Chris Wells)
 1965 *Sixth Biennial of Canadian Art*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa ON
 1964 Carleton University, Ottawa ON
 1962 Young Contemporaries, London, England

COLLECTIONS

Royal Ontario Museum
Ottawa Art Gallery
Canadian War Museum
Canada Council Art Bank
City of Ottawa Fine Art Collection
Carleton University Art Gallery
Confederation Gallery, Charlottetown PEI
Mitel Corporation
Private collections in Canada and abroad

COMMISSIONS

2007 Street banner designs for the City of Vancouver

ARTICLES and REVIEWS

2021 *New Acquisition Explores How Identity Is Shaped By Experience*, ROM Magazine, Summer 2021 issue
2021 *War Art in Canada, A Critical History* by Laura Brandon, Art Canada Institute (entry on page 110)
2020 *Fifty-five Plus* magazine, November/December 2020 issue, by Paul Gessell
2019 *ROM Magazine*, Winter 2019 issue, Being Japanese Canadian - Reflections on a Broken World
2019 *Diplomat & International Canada* magazine, Fall 2019 Oct-Dec issue, by Peter Simpson
2018 *Ottawa Magazine - The Fall Interiors Edition 2018*, by Paul Gessell
2013 *Hair Lines*, Border Crossings, Issue No. 125, by Petra Halkes
2010 *Ancient & Modern*, The Ottawa Citizen, May 4, by Paul Gessell
2008 *Les nouvelles du soir selon Takeuchi*, LeDroit, 24 et 25 Mai, by Claude Bouchard
2007 *Norman Takeuchi, A Banner Year*, The Bulletin, A journal of Japanese Canadian Community, History & Culture, May issue,
2004 *Norman Takeuchi - Abstract by Design*, The Humm, February issue

CATALOGUES

2020 *Equal time*, Studio Sixty Six, Ottawa ON
2017 *We'll All Become Stories*, A Survey of Art in the Ottawa-Gatineau Region, Ottawa Art Gallery
2012 *Balancing Act*, Karsh-Masson Gallery
2010 *Cross Currents* (Curator: Don Monet)
2009 *Available Light* (Curator: Maureen Korp. Ph.D.)
2006 *Without a Passport* (Curator: Maureen Korp. Ph.D.)
1995 *History of Art and Artists of Ottawa and Surroundings, 1790 - 1970: Part III, 1946 - 1970*
(Curators: Melanie Scott and Jim Burant for the Ottawa Art Gallery)
1975 *Visual Arts Ottawa Survey Exhibition No. 1*
1969 *Confederation Centre Gallery and Museum*, Charlottetown P.E.I.
1968 *Carleton University Art Collection*
1968 *The Eleventh Winnipeg Show*
1965 *Sixth Biennial Exhibition of Canadian Painting*; organized and circulated by the National Gallery of Canada

AWARDS

The Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation
Canada Council
Ontario Arts Council