

CAMROSE DUCOTE

ARTIST STATEMENT:

As a visual artist I view my work as the result of an organic process, pursuing some ultimate truth which always seems to be elusive and just beyond my grasp. Therefore, I find it difficult to talk about my work in any definitive way. This is not made easier by the fact that the language I use is that of abstraction which relies upon sense impressions over the narrative. That being said, it seems that my work is a reflection of my ongoing preoccupation with the transient nature of life.

The result of this personal exploration has resulted in a developing iconography which has a history truly of its own making. It is a history which seeks to take into account both heart and spirit. I find that certain forms which carry some intrinsic meaning for me have, over the years, repeatedly asserted themselves upon the picture plane, but in different guises from one body of work to the next. For example, the more or less rectilinear shape which I find myself drawn to over and over again might, at one time, have symbolized for me a portal to the unknown. At another point in time it stood in for the figure. Perhaps now I am using it in a more abstract and less literal way, alluding to the notion of shielding, of becoming inviolable.

In the same vein, it seems that the juxtaposition of certain forms I have used repeatedly within the framework of each piece (for example dark vs. light, fragility vs. invulnerability, hidden vs. exposed) all acknowledge the paradoxical nature of life in its physical, emotional and spiritual manifestations. The work shows that structure eventually decays and what is left is a visceral quality, alluding to the idea that all is in transition.....a seeping out from.....a splitting up between.....a breaking away from.....all serving to remind one of the nature of life in its cycle of birth, decay, death and metamorphosis.

Finally, it is important to mention that the physical process by which I create each piece involves that of transformation which is the theme I am attempting to address subjectively. I begin with paper on to which I apply a spackle compound. The surface is then hand rubbed and several layers of acrylic medium and washes of paint are applied, later to be rubbed away, leaving only a residue of marks. These become the ground upon which I build further experience. Bits of paper are culled from the studio drawer, relics of their former incarnations often used unsuccessfully in earlier pieces but which now find new life. Shapes emerge, only later to be submerged, in part or altogether, all in the service of satisfying some newly formed impulse. And so it goes.

In the final analysis, it is as if there is a certain inevitability, a certain rightness, being played out within the confines of each individual piece. It is an expression of the personal within the universal, the cycle further completed when the viewer brings his or her piece of history to add to the heap.

EDUCATION

1974 University of Northern Colorado (B.A.)

RESIDENCIES

1988 Banff Centre Leighton Artist Colony (scholarship)

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 New Work, Wallace Galleries, Calgary, AB (2 person)
 2013 NEW WORK, Elissa Cristall Gallery, Vancouver BC
 2011 Larger than Life, Wallace Galleries, Calgary, AB (group)
 2011 Barrister's Lounge, B.C Law Society, Vancouver, BC (solo)
 2010 New Work, Wallace Galleries, Calgary, Alta. (2 person)
 2010 Time Passages, Sopa Fine Arts, Kelowna, B.C. (2 person)
 2009 Marking the Void, Sopa Fine Arts, Kelowna, B.C. (2 person)
 2009 New Work, Wallace Galleries, Calgary, Alta. (2 person)
 2008 Storyline, SOPA Fine Arts, Kelowna, B.C. (2 person)
 2008 New Work, Atelier Gallery, Vancouver, B.C.
 2008 New Work, Galerie St. Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, Ontario
 2007 Acts of Light, Wallace Gallery, Calgary, Alta. (2 person)
 2007 Galerie St. Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, Ontario (3 person)
 2006 New Work, Galerie St. Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, Ontario
 2006 New Work, Atelier Gallery, Vancouver, B.C.
 2004 Split, Atelier Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 2004 Wallace Gallery, Calgary, Alberta (2 person)
 2002 Traces, Vancouver, BC
 2001 Thin-skinned, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 2000 Thinly-veiled, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1999 New Works, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1998 Transience, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1997 Departure, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC.
 1996 Recent Works, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1996 Palimpsest, Richmond Art Gallery, Richmond, BC
 1995 Capilano College Gallery, North Vancouver BC
 1994 Crossing, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1993 John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1991 Sanctum, Patrick Doheny Gallery, Vancouver BC
 1989 Progressions, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, BC
 1989 Retreat, Simon Fraser Gallery, Burnaby, BC
 Diane Farris Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1988 Diane Farris Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1987 Diane Farris Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1985 Diane Farris Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 Lynn McAllister Fine Arts Gallery, Seattle, Washington
 1984 Blackfish Gallery, Portland, Oregon
 1983 Burnaby Art Gallery, Burnaby, BC

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2002 Wallace Gallery, Calgary AB
 2002 Abstract, Seattle Art Museum Rental, Seattle, WA
 2001 Agnes Bugera Gallery, Edmonton AB
 1998 Introductions >98, Newzones Gallery, Calgary, AB
 1997 Gallery Artists, John Ramsay Gallery, Vancouver, BC
 1996 Surfaces, Evergreen Cultural Arts Centre, Coquitlam, BC
 1993 Earthly Embraces, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, BC
 Artropolis, Vancouver, BC
 1988 Zoo Zone, Grand Forks Art Gallery and Castlegar National Exhibition Centre
 1987 Artropolis, Vancouver, BC
 Profiles of a Heritage,@ Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, BC
 1985 12th International Biennial of Tapestry, Lausanne, Switzerland
 Meanwhile....Back at the Ranch, Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops, BC
 Third Annual Wild West Show, Alberta College of Art Gallery, BC
 1984 The Warehouse Show, Vancouver, BC

SELECTED BIOGRAPHY

- Johnson, Mia. Camrose Ducote, Preview, February/March 2008
 MacLean, Douglas, "Abstraction's Bold New Face; Seven Western Canadian artists are leading a resurgence in abstract ideas," Galleries West, Summer 2006
 Bjornson, Harrill, Paintings that take a mental toll, The Vancouver Sun, February 12, 1993
 Different Techniques at Evergreen Show, Now News, January 5, 1997
 Constantine, Mildred and Reuter, Laurel, Whole Cloth, The Monacelli Press, 1997
 Growth and decay theme of new show, Time Out, The Richmond News, , 1996
 Ambiguous intentions show, Time Out, The Richmond News, March 6, 1996
 Gustafson, Paula. Camrose Ducote at John Ramsay, Asian Art News, May/June 1999
 Johnson, Mia. Camrose Ducote, Preview, February/March 2000
 Neave, Dorinda. Reverie and Reality: The Art of Camrose Ducote, Artpost/35/36 1990
 Rosenberg, Ann. Images of changing speeds and bare essentials, The Vancouver Sun, April 13, 1991
 Perry, Art. Two shows build on architecture, The Province, April 16, 1991
 Perry, Art. Emotions on line, The Province, June 19, 1998
 Godley, Elizabeth, Positive tone to visions of horror, The Vancouver Sun, Jan. 22, 1987
 Grace, Sherrill, Camrose Ducote at Diane Farris Gallery, Vanguard, April/May 1987
 Godley, Elizabeth, Two dimensions reflect artists new approach, The Vancouver Sun, November 15, 1989
 Kaplan, Joel. Judith Brackman-Sharp, Dale Dunning, Camrose Ducote at the Diane Farris Gallery, Vanguard, November 1985
 Godley, Elizabeth. Sculpture breaks out of stolid mould at SFU show, The Vancouver Sun, November 24, 1987
 Johnson, Eve. Images of birth and rebirth, The Vancouver Sun, Sept. 13, 1985

SELECTED PUBLIC AND CORPORATE COLLECTIONS

B.C. Pavilion. Expo 86, Vancouver, B.C.
Canada Council Art Bank
Citibank, Vancouver, B.C.
Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, B.C.
Delta Hotels, Vancouver, B.C.
Jewish Community Centre, Vancouver, B.C.
Marcorp Development Corporation, Vancouver, B.C.
Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C.
Vancouver Museum, Vancouver, B.C.
Vancouver General Hospital, Vancouver, B.C.
St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, B.C.
Senvest Collection of New Canadian Art, Montreal, QC
Fairmont Hotel, Montreal, Que.
Douglas Symes and Brissiden, Vancouver, B.C.
Clear Holdings, Calgary, B.C.
Cenovus Energy, Calgary, Alta.
Sid Dickens, Vancouver, B.C.
Westin Hotel, Whistler, B.C.
Broughton Peterson Yang Anderson, Vancouver, B.C.
Innoventure Holdings, Vancouver, B.C.
Star Boetticher Dallas, Vancouver, B.C.
Legacy, Vancouver, B.C.
KBSH Capitol Management