

## SAMUEL ROY-BOIS

*It's not me, it's my central nervous system.*

Nov 13 – Dec 18, 2021



Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Bucket and Red Mesh), 2021*

Wood, paint, found objects and stone

It's not me, it's my central nervous system.

Assumption #1

All the sculptures in this exhibition have existed well before I even started to make them. I showed up and moved some of the aggregated particles that had formed the matter. I moved particles around, removed chunks, displaced dust and dirt. I pushed stuff out of the way. All these sculptures existed before I showed up to the studio: all materials were already floating around, the colors were already inhabiting the world, the required skills already in use, the forms and ideas already recognized and circulating. I facilitated the emergence of a tangible manifestation of what would otherwise only have been a fleeting mental model.

Assumption #2

We disagree with the trajectory that matter is taking, and realise that the only form our disagreement can have is the transformation of that said matter.

Assumption #3

The objects I created are meaningful from the mere fact of their existence. I am an agent exclusively motivated by the purpose to bring a certain information into the future. I concluded, for some vague reason, that art-making was the best strategy to bring that little bit of information further down.

Assumption #4

Sculptures must portray the performing of their own making. The gestures leading to the emergence of a form are visible, the choices made in their conception must be manifest. That clarity is however only there to conceal the unadulterated darkness of the unknown, and entertain the obscurity associated to travelling through the unidentified.

Assumption #5

All fabricated objects are the manifestation of a form of anticipation. We build things because we expect something specific to happen. We make because we fear. Most of the fabricated objects surrounding us are tools created in anticipation of changes. The pieces in this exhibition are an attempt to repress a reflex of anticipation. There is a minimal amount of fear involved in the making of these sculptures.

Assumption #6

The only relationship with reality that we are aware of is a simulation. Objects have the potential to provide the narratives that can explain, justify and reassert the model inside which each of us is living.

Assumption #7

Any object has the potential to carry meaning unrelated to its initial purpose.

Samuel Roy-Bois

Left to right:

*It's Not Me (Baby Blue Corner)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
23 x 10 x 10 in (58.4 x 25.4 x 25.4 cm)

*It's Not Me (Chili Red Corner)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
42 x 18.5 x 14.5 in (106.7 x 47 x 36.8 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

Left to right:

*It's Not Me (Silver Panel)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
17 x 12 x 12 in (43.2 x 30.5 x 30.5 cm)

*It's Not Me (Creamy Pink Corner and Printer)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found object  
31.5 x 12 x 12 in (80 x 30.5 x 30.5 cm)

*It's Not Me (Off White Perforated Panel)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
20 x 9.5 x 9.75 in (50.8 x 24.1 x 24.8 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

Foreground:

*It's Not Me (Off White Perforated Panel)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
20 x 9.5 x 9.75 in (50.8 x 24.1 x 24.8 cm)





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*It's Not Me (Salmon Mesh)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found objects  
47.5 x 19 x 8 in (120.7 x 48.3 x 20.3 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

Foreground:

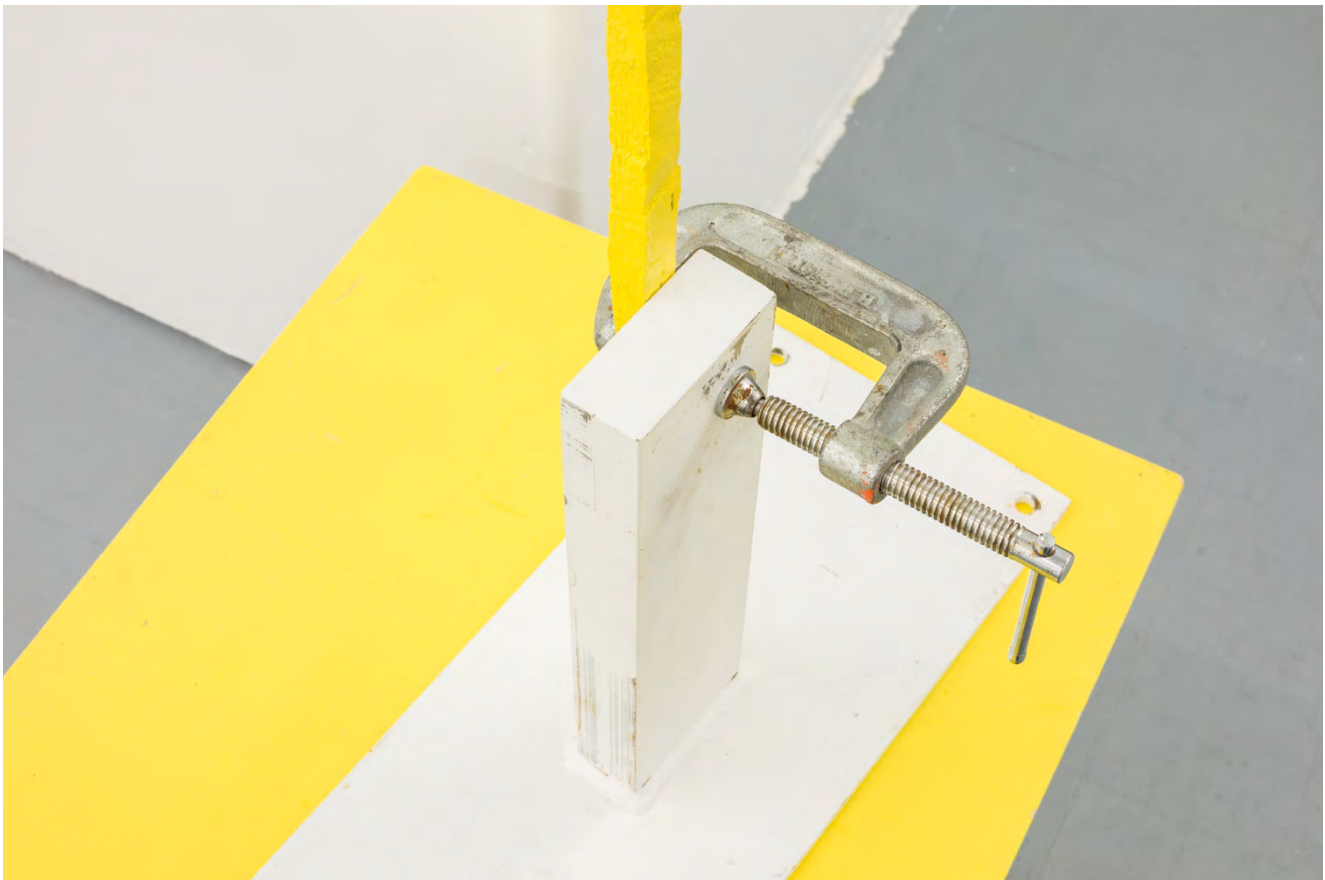
*It's Not Me (Yellow Stick)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found objects

44 x 23 x 19.5 in (111.8 x 58.4 x 49.5 cm)



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*It's Not Me (Yellow Stick)* (detail), 2021, Wood, paint and found objects  
44 x 23 x 19.5 in (111.8 x 58.4 x 49.5 cm)





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*It's Not Me (Bin and Yellow Stick)*, 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and stone  
23.5 x 11 x 7.5 in (59.7 x 27.9 x 19.1 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Bin and Yellow Stick)*, 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and stone  
23.5 x 11 x 7.5 in (59.7 x 27.9 x 19.1 cm)



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Foreground:

*It's Not Me (Dark Green Panel)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found object  
35 x 21 x 12 in (88.9 x 53.3 x 30.5 cm)

Background:

*It's Not Me (Yellow Panel)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
19.5 x 11.75 x 3.25 in (49.5 x 29.8 x 8.3 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

Left to right:

*It's Not Me (Misty Rose Panel)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found object  
32 x 12.5 x 12 in (81.3 x 31.8 x 30.5 cm)

*It's Not Me (Light Pink Corner)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
70.5 x 30.5 x 30.5 in (179.1 x 77.5 x 77.5 cm)

*It's Not Me (Red Corner, Wall)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
25 x 11.5 x 11.25 in (63.5 x 29.2 x 28.6 cm)





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*It's Not Me (Light Pink Corner)* (detail), 2021, Wood and paint  
70.5 x 30.5 x 30.5 in (179.1 x 77.5 x 77.5 cm)





Samuel Roy-Bois  
*It's Not Me (Red Corner, Wall)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
25 x 11.5 x 11.25 in (63.5 x 29.2 x 28.6 cm)



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Left to right:

*It's Not Me (Black Corner)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found object  
50 x 15 x 14 in (127 x 38.1 x 35.6 cm)

*It's Not Me (Orange Glow Panel)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
25 x 11.5 x 11.75 in (63.5 x 29.2 x 29.8 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Black Corner)* (detail), 2021, Wood, paint and found object  
50 x 15 x 14 in (127 x 38.1 x 35.6 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois  
*It's Not Me (Royal Blue Nook)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
19.5 x 11 x 10.5 in (49.5 x 27.9 x 26.7 cm)





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*It's Not Me (Lime Green Corner)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
11.5 x 5 x 3.5 in (29.2 x 12.7 x 8.9 cm)





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Foreground:

*It's Not Me (Locker, Bucket and Blue Mesh)*, 2007, 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and hardware, 79 x 32 x 20 in (200.7 x 81.3 x 50.8 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Locker, Bucket and Blue Mesh)* (detail), 2007, 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and hardware, 79 x 32 x 20 in (200.7 x 81.3 x 50.8 cm)



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*It's Not Me (Silver Corner)*, 2021, Wood and paint

65 x 18 x 15 in (165.1 x 45.7 x 38.1 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois  
*It's Not Me (Silver Corner)* (detail), 2021, Wood and paint  
65 x 18 x 15 in (165.1 x 45.7 x 38.1 cm)





Samuel Roy-Bois

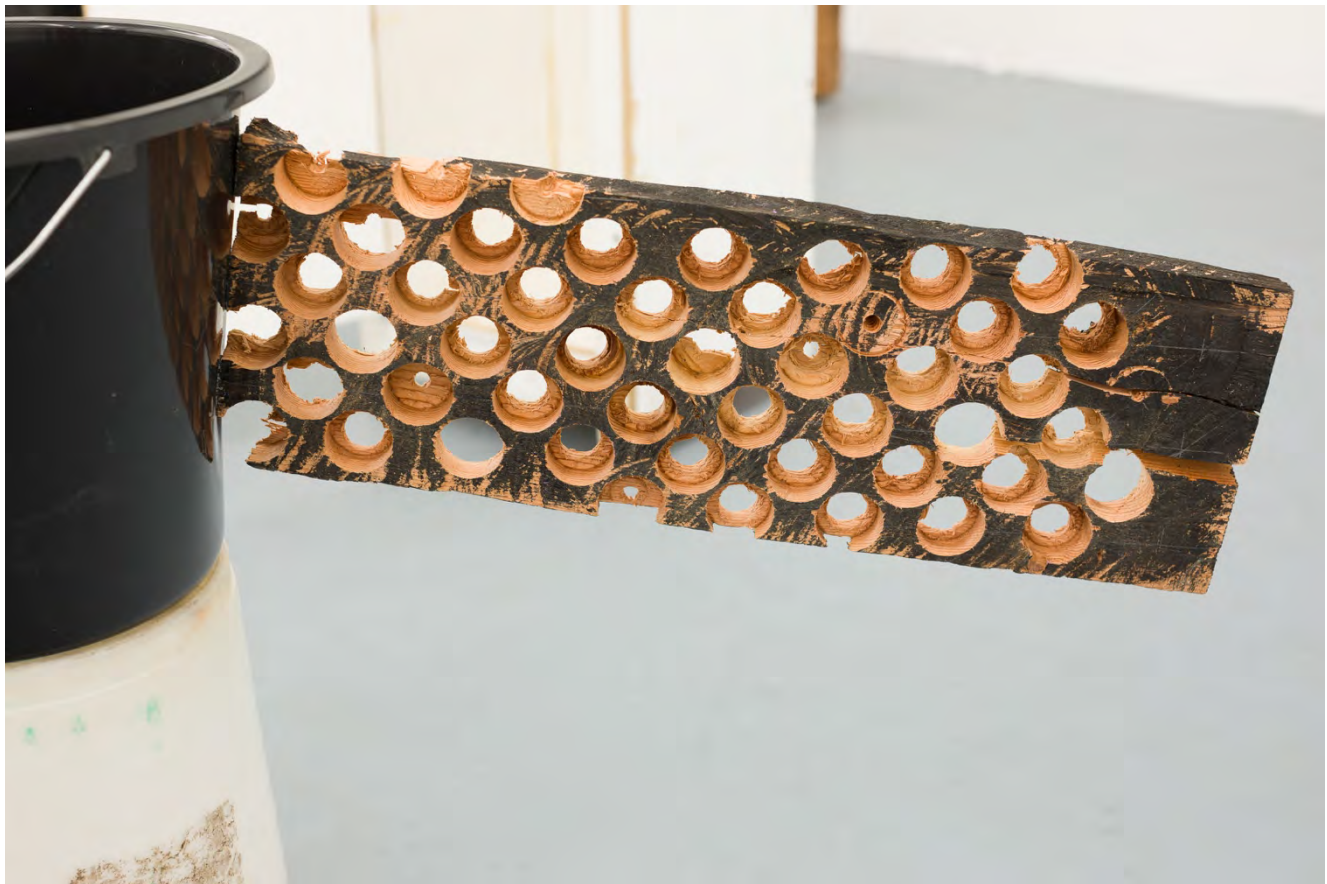
*It's Not Me (Buckets and Black Mesh)*, 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and stone  
21 x 30.5 x 23 in (53.3 x 77.5 x 58.4 cm)





Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Buckets and Black Mesh)* (detail), 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and stone  
21 x 30.5 x 23 in (53.3 x 77.5 x 58.4 cm)



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Foreground:

*It's Not Me (Bucket and Red Mesh)*, 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and stone  
20 x 24 x 13 in (50.8 x 61 x 33 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

Foreground:

*It's Not Me (Bucket and Red Mesh)*, 2021, Wood, paint, found objects and stone  
20 x 24 x 13 in (50.8 x 61 x 33 cm)



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*It's Not Me (Pink Lavender Mesh)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found objects  
49 x 22 x 19.5 in (124.5 x 55.9 x 49.5 cm)





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*It's Not Me (Pink Lavender Mesh)* (detail), 2021, Wood, paint and found objects  
49 x 22 x 19.5 in (124.5 x 55.9 x 49.5 cm)





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*It's Not Me (Pink Board)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found object  
25.5 x 19 x 8 in (64.8 x 48.3 x 20.3 cm)



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Foreground:

*It's Not Me (Light Blue and Lemonade Pink Panels)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
71 x 18 x 20 in (180.3 x 45.7 x 50.8 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Light Blue and Lemonade Pink Panels) (detail), 2021, Wood and paint*  
71 x 18 x 20 in (180.3 x 45.7 x 50.8 cm)



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*It's Not Me (Forest Green Perforated Corner and Clear Cabinet)*, 2005, 2021

Wood, paint, clear acrylic and hardware, 36 x 12.5 x 7.5 in (91.4 x 31.8 x 19.1 cm)





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Left to right:

*It's Not Me (Forest Green Perforated Corner and Clear Cabinet)*, 2005, 2021

Wood, paint, clear acrylic and hardware, 36 x 12.5 x 7.5 in (91.4 x 31.8 x 19.1 cm)

*It's Not Me (African Violet Nook)*, 2021, Wood and paint

26 x 11.5 x 11.5 in (66 x 29.2 x 29.2 cm)

*It's Not Me (Mulberry Corner)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found object

48 x 18 x 15 in (121.9 x 45.7 x 38.1 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Mulberry Corner)*, 2021, Wood, paint and found object  
48 x 18 x 15 in (121.9 x 45.7 x 38.1 cm)



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Left to right:

*It's Not Me (Salmon and Jade Corner)*, 2021, Wood and paint  
18.25 x 6.5 x 5.75 in (46.4 x 16.5 x 14.6 cm)

*It's Not Me (Yellow Mesh)*, 2021, Wood, paint, found object and stone  
16 x 24.5 x 13 in (40.6 x 62.2 x 33 cm)



Samuel Roy-Bois

*It's Not Me (Yellow Mesh)* (detail), 2021, Wood, paint, found object and stone  
16 x 24.5 x 13 in (40.6 x 62.2 x 33 cm)





Samuel Roy-Bois, *It's not me, it's my central nervous system.*  
Exhibition view, Wil Aballe Art Projects I WAAP, 2021



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Exhibition view, Wil Aballe Art Projects I WAAP, 2021





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Samuel Roy-Bois, *It's not me, it's my central nervous system.*  
Exhibition view, Wil Aballe Art Projects I WAAP, 2021



Samuel Roy-Bois, *It's not me, it's my central nervous system.*  
Street view, Wil Aballe Art Projects | WAAP, 2021





## ABOUT THE ARTIST

SAMUEL ROY-BOIS (Quebec City, 1973) is an award-winning artist and Associate Professor in Sculpture at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. He is widely recognized for his large-scale installations and interdisciplinary practice exploring the complex dynamics defining our relationships to the built environment. His work, which includes sculpture, installation, performance, photography, drawing and writing, explores the role of objects in sensemaking. His practice is broad, and finds inspiration in the everyday, the critique of modes of cultural production and the pure pleasure of making. Roy-Bois has an MFA Degree in Studio Arts from Concordia University (Montréal) and a BFA from Université Laval, (Quebec city). His work has been presented at The Esker Foundation, Calgary; The Polygon Gallery, North Vancouver; Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa; Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal; Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver; Musée National des Beaux Arts du Québec, Québec city; SFU Art Gallery, Burnaby; Oakville Art Galleries, Oakville; Kamloops Art Gallery; Vancouver Art Gallery and Point éphémère, Paris.

## CV

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021 WAAP, Vancouver  
Presences, Musée d'art de Joliette  
2020 Presences, Esker Foundation, Calgary  
2019 Presences, Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops  
2016 Steam Donkey, Campbell River Art Gallery, Campbell River 2015 La pyramide, Galerie L'oeil de poisson, Quebec  
Not a new world, just an old trick, Oakville Galleries, Oakville  
2014 Not a new world, just an old trick, Carleton University Art Gallery, Ottawa  
2013 Not a new world, just an old trick, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby  
J'ai moonwalké, sans cesse, jusqu'à l'épuisement, Parisian Laundry, Montreal  
Nothing blank forever, Fina Gallery, UBC Okanagan, Kelowna  
2012 I had a great trip despite a brutal feeling of cognitive dissonance, Artspeak, Vancouver  
Nothing Blank Forever, Langara College Center for Art in Public Spaces, Vancouver  
2011 Polarizer, Rodman Hall, Brock University, St. Catherines  
2010 Candid, Republic Gallery, Vancouver  
2009 Polarizer, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge Polarizer, Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa

2008 Let us, then be up and doing, with a heart for any fate, still achieving, still pursuing,  
learn to labor and to wait, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver  
Almost, Diaz Contemporary, Toronto  
2007 Divertissements, Point éphémère, Paris  
"It's a big machine!", Republic Gallery, Vancouver  
2006 Improbable and ridiculous, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, Montreal  
2005 Faire l'indépendance, Quartier éphémère, Montreal  
The Monologue (Contempt and seduction), Eyelevel Gallery, Halifax  
2004 Fractures mortelles, Galerie de l'École des arts visuels, Université Laval, Quebec  
2003 Le monologue, Galerie Articule, Montreal  
J'ai entendu un bruit, je me suis sauvé, Or Gallery, Vancouver  
1999 L'espace qu'il y a, Galerie L'oeil de poisson, Quebec

## **GROUP EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)**

2021 SFU Art Galleries, Vancouver  
Audain Museum, Whistler  
2019 3 Sculptors, Trapp Projects, Vancouver  
Art in the Open, Confederation Centre Art Gallery, Charlottetown  
2017 A perte de vue / Endless Landscape, Axe Neo 7, Gatineau  
Goods, Living Things Festival, Kelowna  
2016 What it means to be the problem? Alternator Gallery, Kelowna  
2014 It Should Always be this Way, CAFKA, Kitchener  
Here, to there, Access Gallery, Vancouver  
2013 Vendu/Sold, Esse auction, Montreal Fine Arts Museum, Montreal  
2012 Another look: 20 years of art auction, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Montreal  
2010 Manif Internationale d'Art de Québec / Architecsonic, Québec  
2009 Flyvefisken, Sølyst, Denmark  
How Soon is Now, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver  
Blue like an orange, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa  
2008 C'est arrivé près de chez vous, Musée national des beaux arts du Québec, Quebec  
Burrow, Musée d'art de Joliette  
Stop, Leonard and Bina Ellen Gallery, Montreal  
Burrow, Saint-Mary's University Art Gallery, Halifax  
2007 Artefact-Montréal 2007, Montréal Collector, Point Ephemère (FIAC), Paris  
Burrow, Oakville Galleries, Oakville  
2006 Nuit Blanche, Toronto  
2004 I've done this for you, Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver  
2003 Bonheur et simulacre, Manifestation Internationale d'Art de Québec, Quebec.

## RESIDENCIES

- 2016 Künstlerhaüs Wrospwede, Wrospwede, Germany
- 2015 L'oeil de poisson, Quebec City
- 2012 Langara College Centre for Art in Public Spaces, Vancouver
- 2010 Avatar, Architecsonic, Québec
- 2009 SAIR, Sølyst, Denmark
- 2007 Point éphémère, Paris

## LECTURES + PANELS

- 2020 Esker Foundation, Calgary  
Emily Carr University, Vancouver
- 2018 Emily Carr University, Vancouver  
Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops  
Thompson River University, Kamloops
- 2017 Axeneosept, Gatineau  
Emily Carr University, Vancouver
- 2016 Campbell River Art Gallery, Campbell River  
Künstlerhaüs Wrospwede, Wrospwede, Germany
- 2015 Oakville Galleries, Oakville
- 2014 Emily Carr University, Vancouver  
Carleton University, Ottawa
- 2013 Not a new world, just an old trick: Narrative, Architecture and art, SFU, Vancouver
- 2012 Conversations in contemporary art, Concordia University Artspeak, Vancouver
- 2011 Other Sights / Langara College Centre for Art in Public Spaces, Vancouver
- 2009 Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa Lethbridge University, Lethbridge  
Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver
- 2008 Visiting artist program, Concordia University, Montreal Contemporary Art Gallery,  
Vancouver  
SFU, School for the Contemporary Arts, Vancouver
- 2006 Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, Montreal 2005      Centre d'art Skoll,  
Montreal  
École des arts visuels, Université Laval, Quebec City
- 2003 Articule, Montreal Manif d'art 2, Quebec City

## RECORDINGS

- 2010 Égarement, Quebec City Biennial

2003 Motocross: L'amour est un sentiment, C.D., Mégawatt  
2001 Fonderie Darling: Cinema, Espaces Emergents, Montreal, Radio-Canada Nager-  
Noyer, music at St-Michel's Pool, Radio-Canada  
1996 Kung-fu / Motocross: Main d'oeuvre, C.D., Independant

## **AWARDS**

2021 VIVA award, The Jack and Doris Shadbolt Foundation for the Visual Arts, Vancouver  
2015 Ontario Association of Art Galleries, Innovation in collection-based exhibition 2012  
Vancouver Mayor's Award for Public Art  
Ontario Association of Art Galleries, exhibition design and installation award

## **GRANTS**

2021 Canada Council for the Arts, research grant  
2016 Canada Council for the Arts, travel grant  
2014 John R Evans Leaders Fund, Canadian Funding for Innovation (CFI)  
British Columbia Knowledge Fund (BCKDF) 2013 British Columbia Arts Council  
Canada Council for the Arts, research grant  
2011 British Columbia Arts Council  
Canada Council for the Arts, research grant  
2009 British Columbia Arts Council  
Canada Council for the Arts, research grant Danish Art Council  
2007 Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec, travel grant  
2006 Canada Council for the Arts, research grant  
2005 Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec, research grant Canada Council for the Arts,  
research grant  
Canada Council for the Arts, travel grant  
2004 Chashama, artist-in-residence, subsidized space grant, New York Conseil des arts et  
lettres du Québec, research grant  
Canada Council for the Arts, research grant  
2003 Canada Council for the Arts, research grant  
Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec, research grant

## **CATALOGUES**

Samuel Roy-Bois: Presences, KAG, Esker Foundation, upcoming  
Samuel Roy-Bois: Not a new world, just an old trick, Simon Fraser University Gallery,  
Carleton University Art Gallery, Oakville Galleries, 106 p, 2015.



Samuel Roy-Bois: Polarizer, Doherty, Ryan, Roy-Bois, Samuel, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, 80 p, 2009

How soon is now, Ritter, Kathleen, Vancouver Art Gallery, 2009.

Burrow, Anderson, Shannon. Oakville Galleries, 2007.

Samuel Roy-Bois: Improbable and ridiculous, Godmer Gilles, exhibition catalogue, , Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, Montreal, 24 p, 2006.

## **COLLECTIONS**

Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal

SFU Art Galleries

Collection d'oeuvres d'art de l'Université Laval

Westbank Corporation

City of North Vancouver

Kamloops Art Gallery