

WAAP
WIL ABALLE ART PROJECTS

1129 EAST HASTINGS
VANCOUVER, BC CANADA
V6A 1S3
+ 1 (778) 229 3458
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HANK BULL
LANDscape: Storm Bay Paintings
2024

These pictures were made with respect on the swiya territory of the shísháhlh Nation. They were painted outdoors, mostly during the summer months, over a period of 35 years. The artist thanks Wil Aballe, Isabella Casey, Rath Art Supplies and Storm Bay people for their support and collaboration.





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Isabella Casey

DEATH AND THE KILLER WHALE

The Skookumchuck Myth

In Sechelt Legend, there is a burial ground beneath the skookumchuck rapids in Egmont, BC. In the original myth of the killer whale, the spirit of a great warrior, just killed in battle, is asked by a killer whale if the man would like to join him hunting. The warrior replies in the affirmative, and his spirit disappears. Suddenly, two killer whales are seen leaving the shore.

Here is my modern version.

“I have been waiting for this day for a very long time.”

My grandfather’s ghost sat comfortably at the foot of my bed.

“How long, grandpa?”

He pursed his lips. “65 years...so it did feel long. Of course, you grew much too fast for my liking.” He placed a hand on my shin, hidden under my blanket. When he moved, the air around him seemed to quiver, almost like a heat wave, but faster.

“I was already an old man when you were born,” he said. ‘But if there is anything I’d like to stick around for, it’s you.”

“Are you going to stick around?” I asked him. It might be cool to have a ghost haunting the house. Especially one that I knew. We could scare my friends together.

“You’ll see me tomorrow at the funeral,” he said, shaking his head. “But I can’t be sure when I will next see you after that.”

“Maybe when I die,” I said.

My grandpa shook his head again. “It’ll be before then,” he said.

“Well, that’s good. I’m only fifteen.”

“Yes, you’re already fifteen.”

I could see that his figure was starting to shimmer, the edges of his body starting to blend into his surroundings.

“Grandpa, why have you been waiting 65 years for this day?”

His edges thickened, as if I had taken a sharpie and traced over a pencil sketch. He smiled at me, and his dark eyes seemed very far away, like he was receding in on himself. It was like the detached start I get when I see my lone figure reflected in the TV screen. Somewhere, a story is happening, and I am a faded image in the background. My grandpa’s edges thickened, and then he disappeared.

I dreamt I was my grandfather. It was the kind of dream where you know. You know the setting, even if you’ve never been there in real life. You know your name, and how old you are. Leonard Harry George King, 19 years old. You know the general plot of the dream as soon as you land in it. You know the other characters, even if you don’t actually know them. I was racing my best friend, my favourite friend in the world, Tyrell Cody Dixon, in our stupid little skiffs that we were way too proud to own. And as soon as I knew the first scene, I guessed the last. Maybe your intuition is strongest in you’re asleep. Mine is, anyways.



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I watched, frozen (you know how dreams really slow your body down), as Tyrell and I moved too recklessly. We were 19. I watched, helpless, as Tyrell capsized into the skookumchuck, the s-tl'-kwu. He was 19.

After I watched, I looked. That was the longest part of the dream. I looked and looked and looked. I circled the rapids. I even went through them. By the time I was finally turning around to rush home and call the police, he was already gone. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw killer whales playing.

We gave my grandfather a rather odd burial. My mother explained that legend has it there is an ancient burial ground beneath the s-tl'i-kwu. Sihl'-layk, it's called. And I thought, yeah, that makes sense. We grabbed gentle handfuls of his ashes and let them fly on the wind into the rapids and whirlpools below. I thought, yeah, this makes sense. I swear I almost glimpsed the island below, with green grass and headstones and bouquets of long since dried flowers.

Then, I saw my grandpa. His spirit sat on the edge of the cliff, beyond the chain link fences, where nobody is supposed to go. He turned to look at my mom and me and my grandmother, and he smiled. One last time.

"Look!" My mom said.

A killer whale was swimming towards my grandpa. He inclined his head, and I knew, like how I knew in my dream last night, that the two were exchanging words.

"Would you like to come hunt seals with me?" I imagined the killer whale asked my grandfather.

"Yes," I imagined my grandfather replied, "I have been waiting 65 years to come hunting with you."

What we saw from our point behind the fence was this, my grandfather's edges thickened, and then he disappeared. Beneath the cliff side, two killer whales dove into the rapids and swam away together.

Isabella Casey is a writer and cedar weaver from the Sunshine Coast. She is of mixed shíshálh and european descent. "Revenge Song & Other Stories" is her first short story collection. She lives in Vancouver and is currently working on her second book.

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Hank Bull

Storm Bay Cliff
1988

Oil on wood

22 7/8" x 12 3/4"



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Hank Bull

After Fan Kuan
1989

Oil on wood

22 7/8" x 12 3/4"



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Hank Bull

Weather 1
2022

Oil on wood

17 1/4" x 11 1/2"



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Hank Bull

Weather 2
2022

Oil on wood

15 5/8" x 11 5/8"



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Hank Bull

skwùpa (Up Salmon) #2
2023

Oil on wood

10 7/8" x 20 3/4"



Hank Bull

stl'kwu (Skookumchuck) #2
2023

Oil on canvas

13" x 25"



Hank Bull

Sturgeon Moon
2023

Oil on canvas

10 5/8" x 12 3/4"



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Hank Bull

After Ni Tsan 2
2009

Oil on canvas

24 7/8" x 12 3/4"



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Hank Bull

Tetrahedron 1
2010

Oil on canvas

24 7/8" x 12 7/8"



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Hank Bull

Tetrahedron 2
2010

Oil on canvas

24 7/8" x 18 3/4"



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Hank Bull

Maple
1993

Oil on wood

11" x 6 3/8"



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Hank Bull

Patch
2008

Oil on canvas

13 1/4" x 10 1/4"



Hank Bull

Cougar Rock
2023

Oil on wood

11 3/4" x 14 3/4"



Hank Bull

lekw'emin
2023

Oil on wood

11 3/4" x 15 3/4"



Hank Bull

Cascara
2023

Oil on wood

11 3/4" x 14 3/4"



Hank Bull

Nightfall
1991

Oil on wood

11 1/4" x 15 1/2"



Hank Bull

Looking North
2023

Oil on wood

8 3/4" x 12 1/2"



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Arbutus
2023

Oil on wood

15 3/3" x 11 3/4"



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Hank Bull

Sichuan Sketch
2023

Oil on canvas

12 3/4" x 6 3/4"



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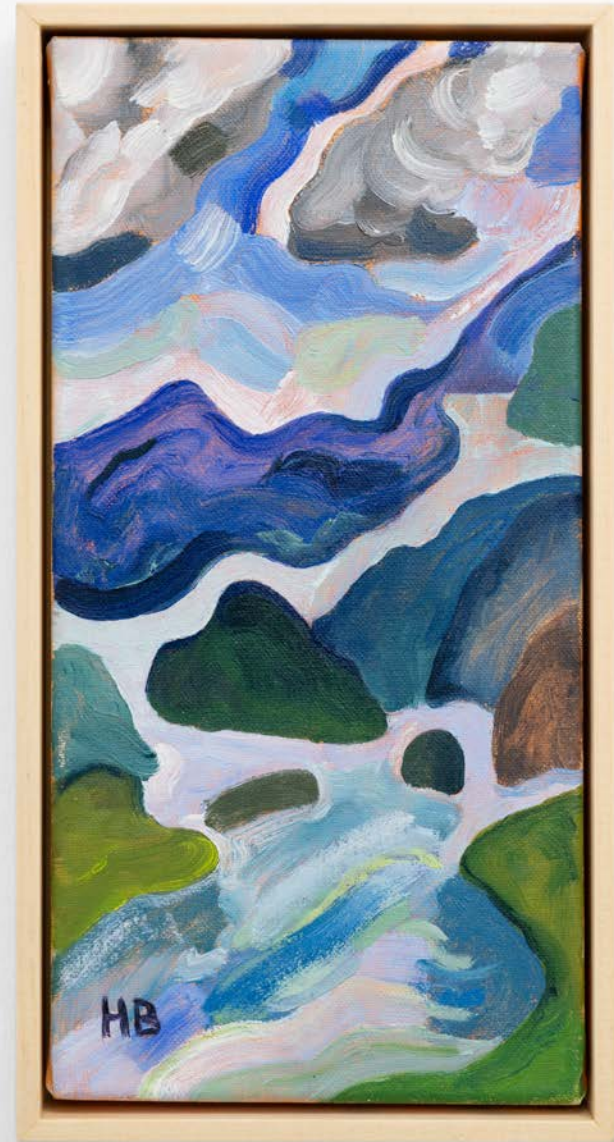
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Hank Bull

swiya 1
2023

Oil on wood

12 3/4" x 6 3/4"

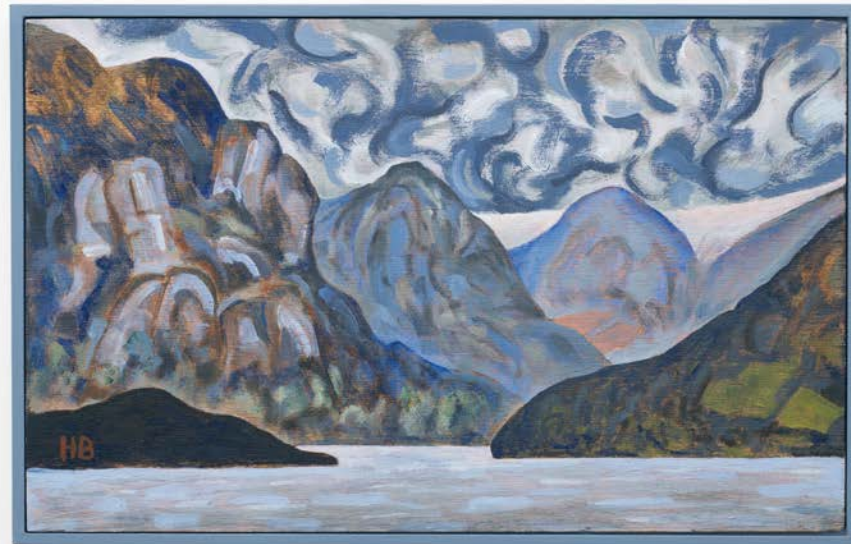


Hank Bull

stl'ixwim Narrows
2023

Oil on wood

11 3/4 x 18 3/8"



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Hank Bull

After Ni Tsan 3
2023

Oil on wood

17 7/8" x 10 1/8"

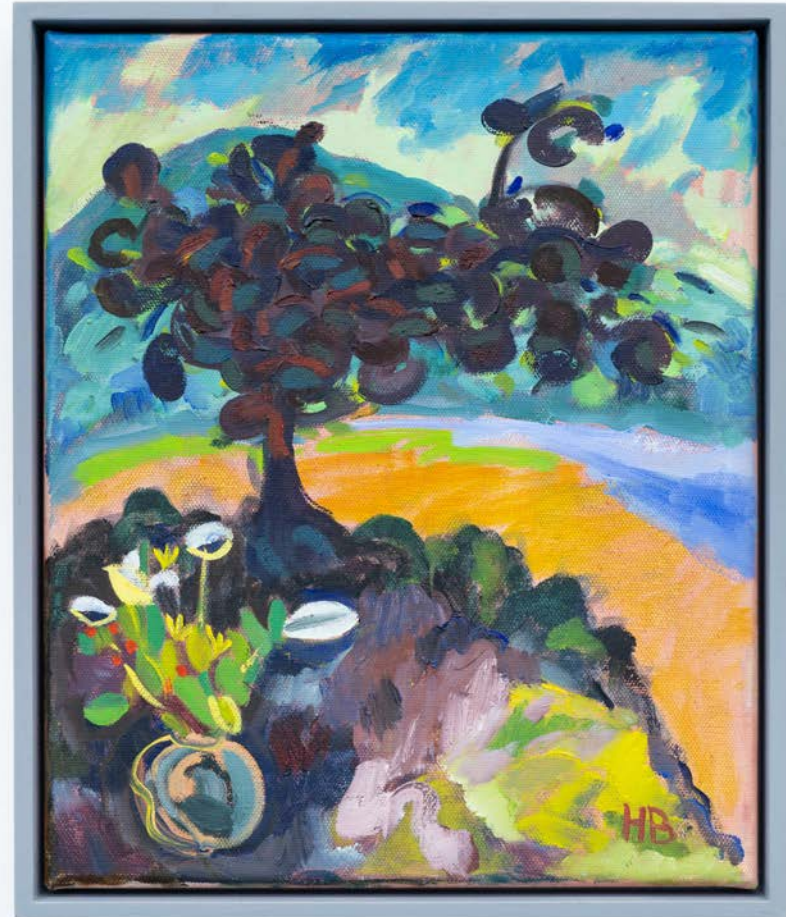


Hank Bull

Flower Arrangement
2012

Oil on canvas

12 3/4" x 10 3/4"



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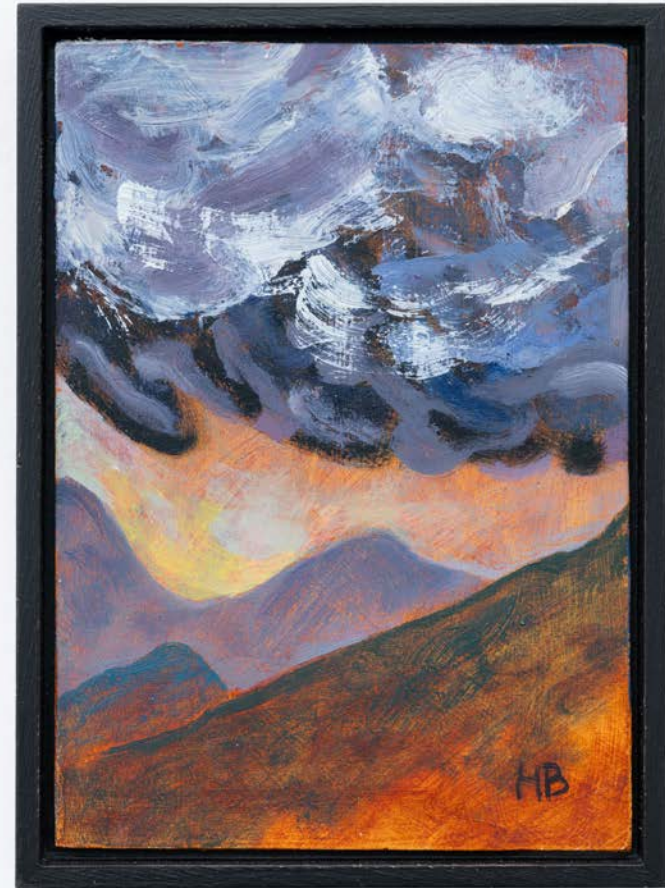
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Hank Bull

Weather Sketch
2022

Oil on wood

9" x 6 5/8"



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Hank Bull

Dark Wood #3
2021

Oil on wood

17 3/4" x 14 1/2"



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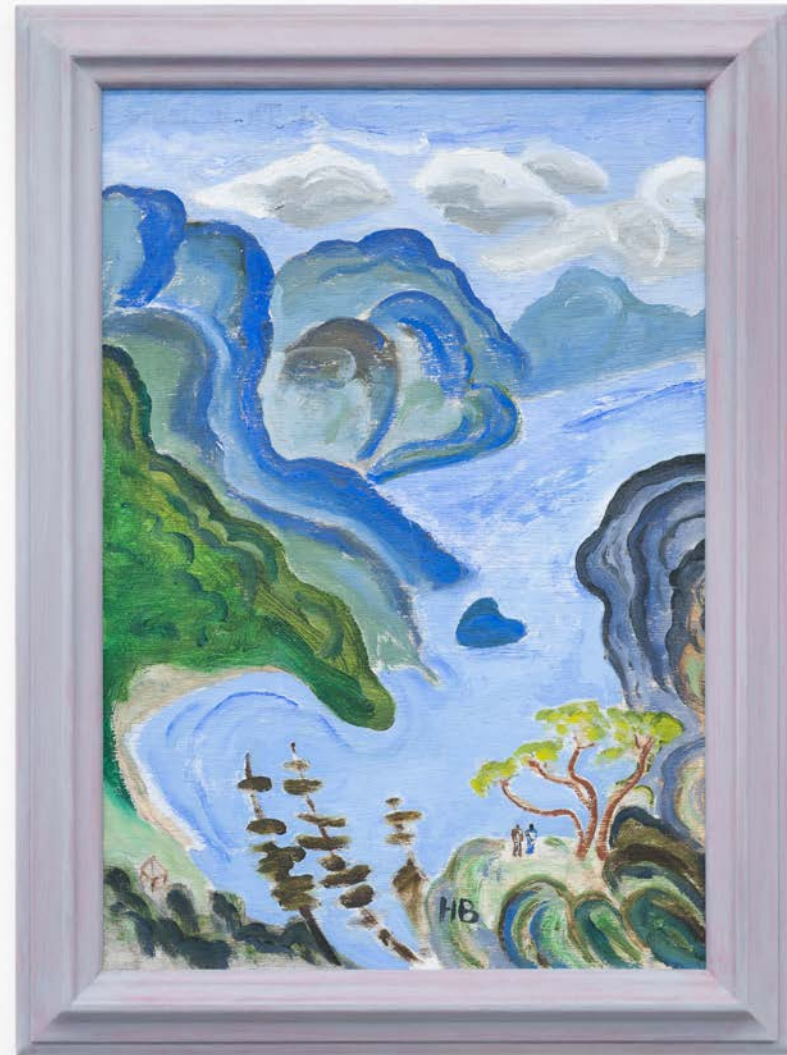
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Hank Bull

View from the Bluff
2001

Oil on wood

18 1/4" x 13 1/2"



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Hank Bull

Summer Day
2023

Oil on wood

7 3/4" x 9 3/4"



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Hank Bull

Bear on the Beach
2023

Oil on wood

19" x 25"



Hank Bull

Tooznie Sketch
2023

Oil on canvas

9 1/2" x 11 3/8"



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Hank Bull

Birdsnest
1994

Oil on canvas

12 14" x 10"



Hank Bull

Windy
2016

Oil on canvas

5.25 x 7.25 in (13.3 x 18.4 cm)



Hank Bull

Wine Dark Sea
2012

Oil on canvas

23.5 x 31.5 in (59.7 x 80 cm)



Hank Bull

Hazy Bright
2011

Oil on canvas

8 x 10 in (20.3 x 25.4 cm)



Hank Bull

Open Sea #2
2011

Oil on canvas

8 x 10 in (20.3 x 25.4 cm)

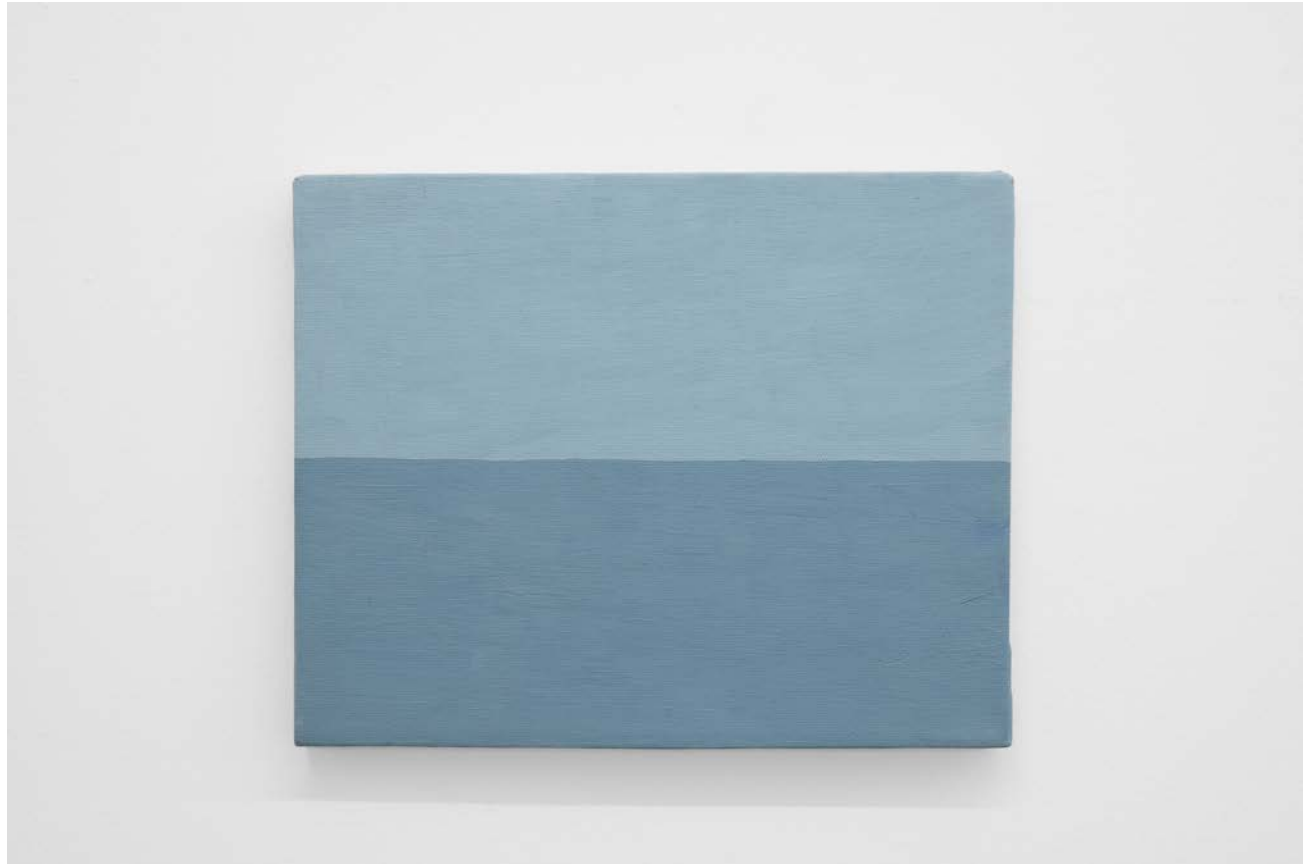


Hank Bull

Open Sea #3
2011

Oil on canvas

8 x 10 in (20.3 x 25.4 cm)



Hank Bull

Fundy Shore
2012

Oil on canvas

11 x 14 in (27.9 x 35.6 cm)



Hank Bull

Open Sea X
2016

Oil on canvas

4 x 6 in (10.2 x 15.2 cm)



Hank Bull

Grey Atlantic
2011

Oil on canvas

4 x 6 in (10.2 x 15.2 cm)



Hank Bull

Cobalt
2012

Oil on canvas

23.5 x 31.5 in (59.7 x 80 cm)



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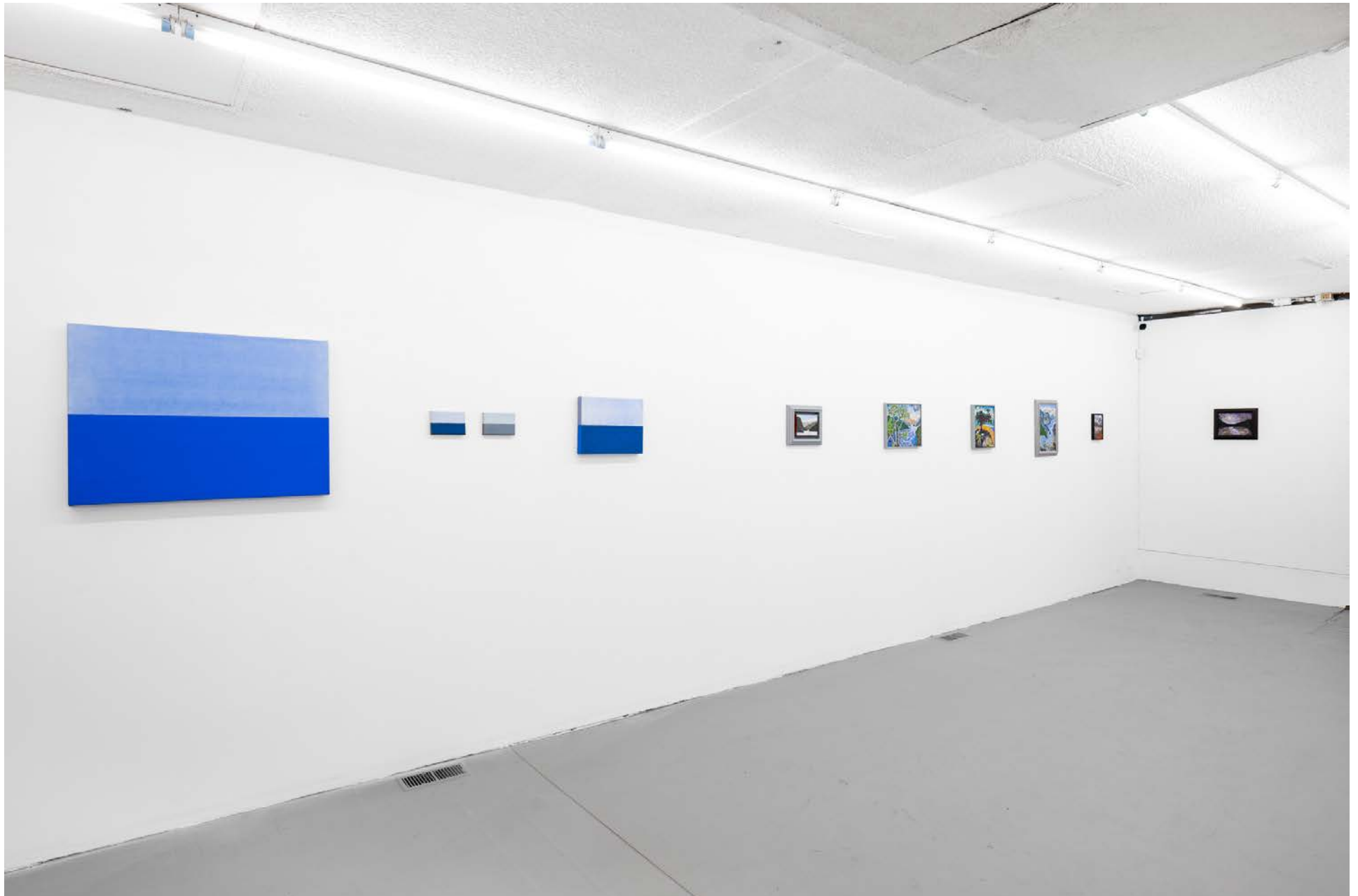
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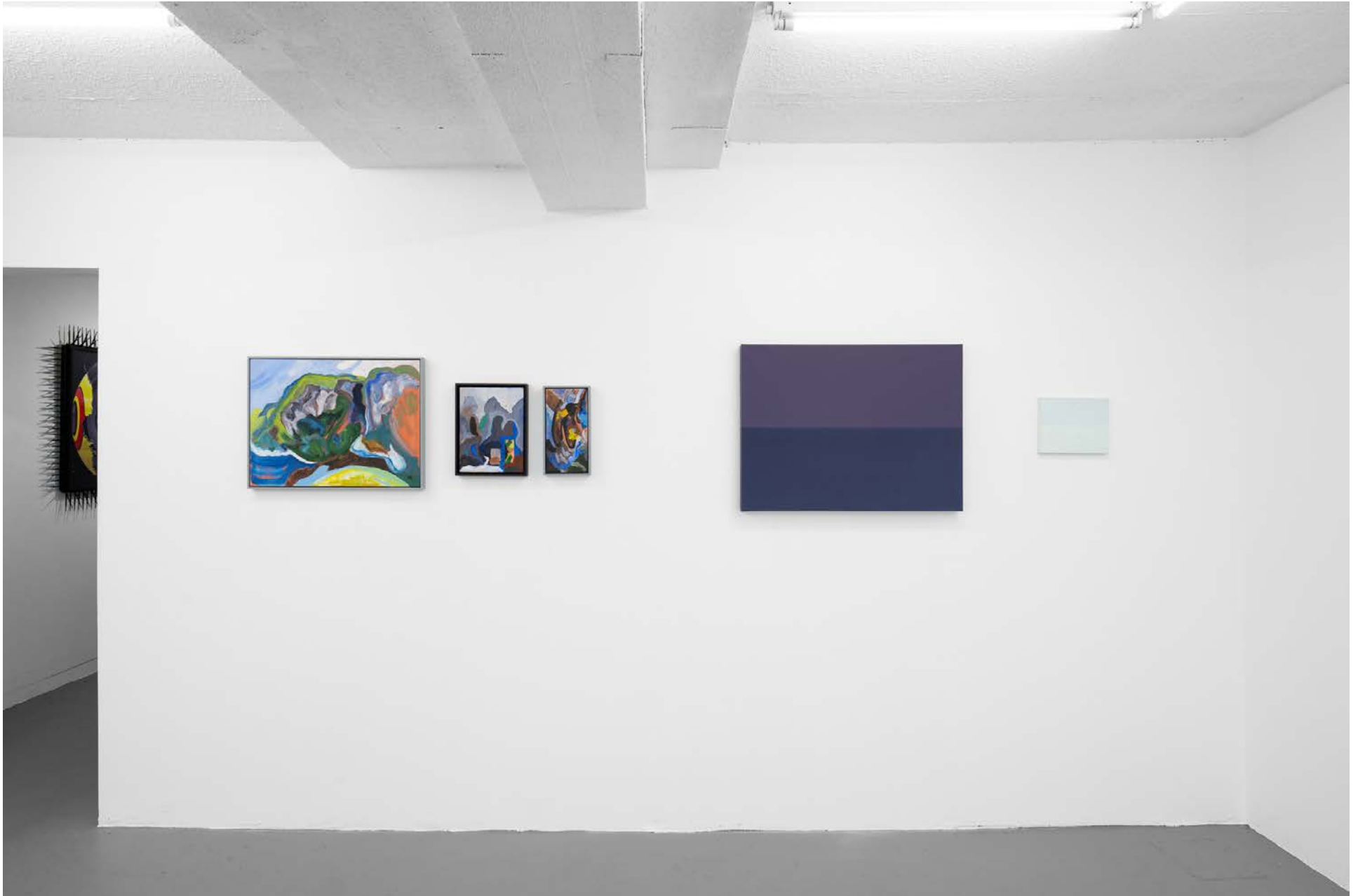
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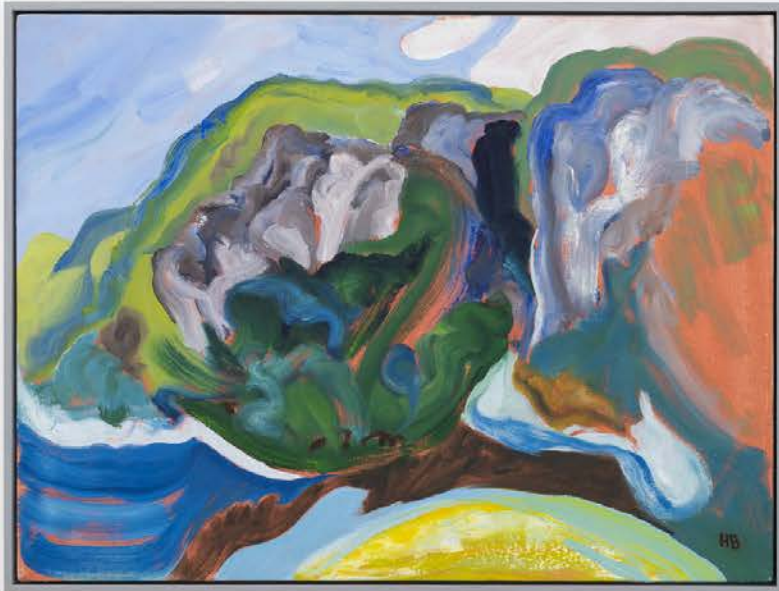
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HANK BULL BIO

Hank Bull was born at Moh'kins'tsis, Calgary and lives in Vancouver, on the traditional and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəyəm Musqueam, Skwxwú7mesh Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. His work combines various media, including painting, sculpture, photography, performance, music, video, publishing and curating. He has contributed to the development of artist-directed economies of exchange and produced numerous international projects.

CV

Solo Exhibitions

- 1976 A Space, Toronto, "HP at A Space", with Patrick Ready
- 1981 Modern Art Galerie, Vienna, "South North", with Kate Craig
- 1981 Canadian Cultural Centre, Paris, "South North", with Kate Craig
- 1989 Oboro, Montreal, "The Wind", video installation
- 1989 Gallery T.O.O., Vancouver, "Lumen Cinerium", video installation
- 2012 Wakayama Museum, Tokyo, "Open Sea", paintings and video
- 2012 The Apartment, Vancouver, with Glenn Lewis
- 2015 Confederation Centre Art gallery, Charlottetown, "Connexion"
Galerie de l'UQAM, Montreal, "Connexion"
- 2016 St Mary's University Art Gallery, Halifax, "Connexion"
School of Art Gallery, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, "Connexion"
- 2017 Burnaby Art Gallery, Burnaby BC, "Connexion"
Franc Gallery, Vancouver
- 2019 Franc Gallery, Vancouver
- 2023 Gallery 881, Vancouver, "Standing Forms"
- 2024 (upcoming)
WAAP, Wil Aballe Art Projects, Vancouver, "LANDscape"
Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto



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Group Exhibitions

- 1979 Moderne Art Galerie, Vienna, Austria, "Audio Scene '79"
- 1983 The October Show, Vancouver, curated by Daina Augaitis
Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris, "Electra"
- 1983 Akademie der Kunst, Berlin, "OKanada"
- 1984 Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany
Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, Canadian Video, "Sax Island"
- 1985 Biennale of Peace, Hamburg, "The Last Words of Gertrude Stein"
- 1986 Venice Biennale, "Planetary Network," telecommunications project
- 1987 dokumenta 8, Kassel, "Snowball Project," with Eric Metcalfe et al.
- 1989 Ars Electronica, Linz, Austria, "Radio Painting"
- 1991 Museum of Modern Art, New York, New Canadian Video, "Sax Island"
- 1992 Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff Centre, "Radio Rethink"
- 1993 Media Galleria, Turku, Finland
- 1994 Leipzig Medienbiennale, Germany
- 1996 Yokohama Citizen's Gallery, Japan
- 1999 Littoral, Lancashire, England, exhibition on Kurt Schwitters, "MerzMuseum"
- 2006 Emergency Biennale in Chechnya, traveling, curated by Evelyne Jouanno
- 2013 Confederation Art Centre, Charlottetown, "Autumn Colours, after Zhao Mengfu"
- 2017 Griffin Projects, North Vancouver, artist as collector
- 2021 Pendulum Gallery, Vancouver, "Suspended Time"
- 2022 Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, "Theatre of Painting"
- 2023 MKG127, Toronto, "Supply Chain Issues"

Performance

- 1974 Hollywood, "The DeccaDance", musical director, mail art and performance festival
Peanut for Mayor, Vancouver, musical director
- 1978 Musée des beaux arts de Montréal, International Festival of Performance Art, "Vis-à-Vis"
- 1983 Europe Tour, with Kate Craig, Martin Bartlett et al, Canada Shadows
- 1984 Europe Tour, with Eric Metcalfe, performance
- 1985 Europe Tour, with Craig, Bartlett et al, Canada Shadows



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- 1988 Japan Tour, with Kate Craig
- 1995 Tokyo Art Conference, "Passage of Death" telematic performance
- 1996 Tokyo International Dance Festival, "Distanz", telematic performance
- 2005 Interakcje 7, Piotrkow-Trybunalski, Poland festival of performance art
- 2015 LIVE Performance Biennale, Vancouver, shadow play
- 2018 7a*11d Performance Festival, Toronto, shadow play, keynote residency

Festivals & Symposia

- 1986 Berlin Film Festival, premiere INFERMENTAL VI, Vancouver edition.
Strategies for Survival, international artists' conference, Vancouver
- 1987 Biennale des Arts Visuels de l'Est du Québec, Matane
- 1991 Images Festival, Toronto
- 1994 Free Idea Zone, symposium, San Francisco,
Next Wave Festival, Melbourne, Australia, keynote speaker
Littoral, symposium, Manchester, "New Zones for Artist-Initiated Activity"
- 1998 C'est Tous les Jours Robert, Périgueux, France, symposium on Robert Filliou
- 2001 Para/Site, Hong Kong, "Space Traffic," symposium on artists' initiatives
- 2007 Sâkêwêwak, Regina, "Transpose," symposium, Candice Hopkins, Narendra Pachkhede
- 2009 Nam June Paik Art Centre, Seoul, Korea, symposium
- 2012 Reel Asian Film Festival, Toronto, "Autumn Colours after Zhao Mengfu"
- 2013 Festival international de filmes sur art, Montreal, "Autumn Colours after Zhao Mengfu"
- 2013 Centre for Art Tapes, Halifax, "Acoustic Networks"
- 2014 Zentrum fur Kunstlerpublikationen, Weserburg, Bremen, "Radio as Art," keynote speaker

Curating

- 1981 Western Front, exhibitions ('81-'83), music ('84-86), telemedia ('81-'93), publishing ('85-'88)
- 1986 INFERMENTAL VI, international magazine on videotape, Vancouver edition
Strategies for Survival, international artists' conference, Vancouver
- 1988 William S. Burroughs, exhibitions and readings in Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal
- 1991 Tari Ito and Haruo Higuma, Canadian tour by Japanese performance artists
- 1993 Building with Water, international symposium on art and ecology



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- 1996 Shanghai Fax, international fax exhibition, Hua Shan College of Art, Shanghai
- 1998 Jiangnan, Modern and Contemporary Art from South of the Yangzi River, Vancouver
- 1999 - 2010 Centre A, Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art, co-founder, director

Canada Council Grants

- 1978 Arts Awards Project Grant, "HP Radio Show" with Patrick Ready
- 1980 Arts Awards "B" Grant, production, "World Tour" with Kate Craig
- 1987 Arts Awards Travel Grant, "MacBooty at dokumenta" with Eric Metcalfe
- 1987 Arts Awards "B" Grant, production, "Research on Hearing"
- 1990 Media Arts Production Grant, "Duster", with Rebecca Belmore, Corry Wyngaarden et al
- 1994 Media Arts "A" Grant research and production in Japan, Philippines, Taiwan and China.
- 1997 Media Arts Production Grant, "Autumn Colours", with travel to China
- 2005 Interarts Travel Grant, Festival Interacje, Poland
- 2012 Visual Arts Travel Grant, "Open Sea", Wakayama Museum, Japan

Selected Public Collections

- National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
- Confederation Centre Art Gallery, Charlottetown
- Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax
- Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal
- MoMA, New York
- Ludwig Museum, Köln
- OCAT, Shanghai