
Richard Toszczak

Richard Toszczak is a Belgian-born Canadian artist dividing his studio time between Edmonton and Sicily. He studied philosophy and modernist steel sculpture at the University of Alberta where many of his professors and peers carried affiliation and association with famed British sculptor Sir Anthony Caro and the eminent critic Clement Greenberg. Richard pursued further artistic training in the Loire Valley with Martine Vaugel, first director of figurative sculpture at the New York Academy of Art.

Over the years Richard has pursued other creative endeavours and recreational interests relating to the body and performance. These include Capoeira, yoga, amateur theatre and contact improvisation. His work is rooted in the expressiveness of the living form and the working of material where he combines the rigorous formalism of his early training, observation, and a figurative vocabulary he continues to develop.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Gli Spiriti & Gli elefanti del mago Eliodoro* - per papà, Scott Gallery, Canada
- 2020 *Hands of Protest*, Libreria Plinio il Vecchio, Como, Italy
- 2016 *Open Works*, Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2014 *Beneath the Sun*, Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2012 *Bodyscapes*, Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2011 *New Drawings from Brazil*, Open Studio & Sale, Edmonton, AB
- 2009 Studio Preview & Sale, artist's studio, Edmonton, AB
- 2008 *Drawing Into Sculpture*, Harcourt House Arts Centre, Edmonton, AB
- 2007 Studio Preview & Sale, artist's 104th Street studio, Edmonton, AB
- 2004 *Daily Practice: Exhibition & Sale*, Commerce Place, Edmonton, AB
- 2003 *Daily Drawings: Brazil & Edmonton*, Wolf & Associates, Edmonton, AB
- 2002 *New Capoeira Drawings*, The Works Art & Design Festival, Edmonton, AB
- 1998 *Capoeira Drawings*, Largo Dois do Julho, Salvador, Brazil
- 1997 *Figurative Drawings & Sculpture*, Manifesto, Edmonton, AB

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2023 *Synaesthesia & Morphosyntax of Myths*, Edmonton, AB
- 2022 *Tout est Possible*, Oeno Gallery, Bloomfield, ON
- 2021 *Poteva Andare Anche Peggio (?!?!)*, Libreria Plinio il Vecchio, Como, Italy
- 2017 *The Human Face*, Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
Oasis, Oeno Gallery, Bloomfield, ON
- 2015 *Stargazing*, Oeno Gallery, Bloomfield, ON

- 2014 *Christmas Salon*, Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2014 Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
- 2013 *Decibel*, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
'Figurativas '13 - 7º Concurso de pintura y escultura', MEAM - Museo Europeo de Arte Moderno, Barcelona, Spain
Salty or Sweet: Figure As Muse, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
"Steam: A Winter Intermission", Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2012 *Contemporary Methods*, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
'Breathless', Art Gallery of Alberta Theater Lobby, Edmonton, AB
'Transitions Towards Fall', Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
Spring Group Exhibition, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
May Group Exhibition, Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
3rd Anniversary Exhibition, Oeno Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
- 2011 *Celebrating 25 Years of Canadian Art*, Scott Gallery, Edmonton, AB
Fashion on Fire, Art Auction, Shaw Conference Centre, Edmonton, AB
RE: CHARGED, Harcourt House Arts Centre, Edmonton, AB
Art on the Block, Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, AB
- 2010 *For Gilbert*, The Works Art & Design Festival, Edmonton, AB
Elemental Titanium, Harcourt House Artist Run Centre, Edmonton, AB
Art After the Hanger X, The Brewery, Edmonton, AB
Hope for Haiti Fundraiser, Enterprise Square, Edmonton, AB
- 2005 *Landlives & Stillscapes*, Arts Habitat Studio Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2004 *Art in the Hanger IV*, Hanger 11, Municipal Airport, Edmonton, AB
- 2003 *Portraiture: Classic to Contemporary*, The Fringe Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2002 *Bust of Dr. Violet Archer at the CIFES Italian Music Festival*, Edmonton, AB
- 2000 *Salon #3: Capoeira Drawings*, Integration, Edmonton, AB
- 1998 *Artist Model Direct*, Profiles Public Gallery, St. Albert, AB
- 1996 *Sculpture By Invitation*, the Works, Law Courts Plaza, Edmonton, AB
- 1995 *40°Celsius...Survey of the Visual Arts*, Aggregate, Commerce Place, Edmonton, AB
Sculpture By Invitation, the Works, Law Courts Plaza, Edmonton, AB
- 1994 The Works Art & Design Festival, Rath Gallery, Edmonton, AB
My Dog Has No Nose, Latitude 53 Gallery, Edmonton, AB
Dangerous Liaisons, Latitude 53 Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 1993 *Sculpture By Invitation*, Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, AB
Au Natural, Harcourt House Gallery, Edmonton, AB
Rath Gallery Opening, Edmonton, AB
Fringe Benefits, The Fringe Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 1991 *Art for All*, Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, AB
BFA Graduate Show, UofA, 6th Floor Manulife Place, Edmonton, AB
- 1990 *Les Sculptures*, Les Cerqueux Sous Passavant, Loire Valley, France

Commissions

- 2018 Alberta Teachers Association Centennial, 'The Garden', Collaboration with Jacob Dutton & Rollie Pemberton, Alberta Legislature, Edmonton
- 2008 William Hawrelak Park Sculpture, 'New Life... New Beginnings', City of Edmonton

2003 Canadian Music Centre Library, bronze portrait of Dr. Violet Archer, University of Calgary

Public Collections

- 2018 Alberta Teachers Association, 'The Garden', Collaboration with Jacob Dutton & Rollie Pemberton, Alberta Legislature, Edmonton
- 2013 MEAM- Museo Europeo de Arte Moderno, Barcelona, Spain
- 2009 City of Edmonton, artist's proof of maquette-sized *New Life...New Beginnings*
- 2008 City of Edmonton, *New Life... New Beginnings*, William Hawrelak Park
- 2003 Canadian Music Centre Library, *bronze of Dr. Violet Archer*, University of Calgary
- 1999 University of Alberta Collections, bronze of Dr. Violet Archer Edmonton, AB
- 1995 City of Red Deer, steel sculpture *Be-Bop*, extended loan from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts
- 1993 Alberta Foundation for the Arts, *concrete sculpture Marrakech*, Edmonton, AB

Awards and Residencies

- 2021 3 month Self-directed Artist's Residency, Catania, Italy
- 2019 3 month Self-directed Artist's Residency, Como, Italy
- 2017 3 month Self-directed Artist's Residency, Leeuwarden, the Netherlands
- 2013 Travel Grant to attend *Figurativas '13*, Edmonton Arts Council, AB
Microgrant to re-patina bust of Dr. Violet Archer, Edmonton Arts Council, AB
- 2009 Nominated for the TELUS Courage to Innovate Award, Mayor's Celebration of the Arts, City of Edmonton
- 2005 Finalist William Hawrelak Park Sculpture Competition, City of Edmonton
Visual Arts Project Grant to cast two life-size sculptures into plaster, Alberta Foundation for the Arts
- 1997 Finalist Francis Winspear Concert Hall Sculpture Competition, City of Edmonton
- 1994 Award for Career Development to study stone carving, Alberta Foundation for the Arts
- 1983 Rutherford Scholarship, Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund

Media and Publications

- 2020 'Mani Ribelli, inchiostro nero di Richard Tosczak in mostra Como', Lorenzo Canali, CiaoComo.it, July 1,
'Arte/ Black lives, black ink', Fabio Cani, ecoinformazioni.com, June 23
- 2018 'Sculpture Dedication Caps Year of Anniversary Celebrations', Cory Hare, The ATA News, October 16
- 2017 'Statue Embodies the City's Spirit', Leanne Brownoff, Edmonton Journal, August 5, 2017
'Meet the Artist of the Month', by Scott Hayes, St. Albert Gazette, July 2017
- 2014 'VASA Literally Gets Figurative', by Scott Hayes, St. Albert Gazette, September 3,
- 2008 'Moving Bodies - Nudes Anything But Still at Harcourt', review by Mary Christa O'Keefe for Vue Weekly, Issue #667, July 31

'Richard Troszak & Jaques Clément', review by Kirsten McCrea for praireartsters.com, Harcourt House Gallery, August 18

'New "family theme" sculpture unveiled in Hawrelak Park', Edmonton Journal, September 27

Community Service

- 2010-2013 Board of Directors, Edmonton Arts Council
- 2009-2010 Vice-Chair, Association of Traditional Capoeira Regional
- 2000-2009 Co-founder & Chair, Association of Traditional Capoeira Regional
- 1996-1997 Director of Fundraising & Chair, Aggregate Society of Visual Arts
- 1995-1996 Co-founder & Chair, Aggregate Society of Visual Arts

Education and Workshops

- 2007 Modelagem do Corpo Humano with Israel Kislansky, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2006 Business of Art, Richard MacDonald Studio, Monterey, CA
Sculpting the Figure, Richard MacDonald Studio, Monterey, CA
- 2001 Contact Improvisation with Alice Harkness, Edmonton, Alberta
- 2000 Creating Physical Theatre with Neil Cadger, University of Alberta
Introduction to Acting with Kevin Sutley, Citadel Theatre, Edmonton, Alberta
Capoeira at the Associação de Capoeira Mestre Bimba, Salvador, Brazil
- 1994 Stone Carving at Vaugel Sculpture Studio, Loire Valley, France
- 1992 Mold Making & Bronze Casting at Red Deer College, Red Deer, Alberta
- 1991 Bachelor of Arts studying mostly philosophy & sculpture, University of Alberta
- 1990 Figurative Fundamentals at Vaugel Sculptu