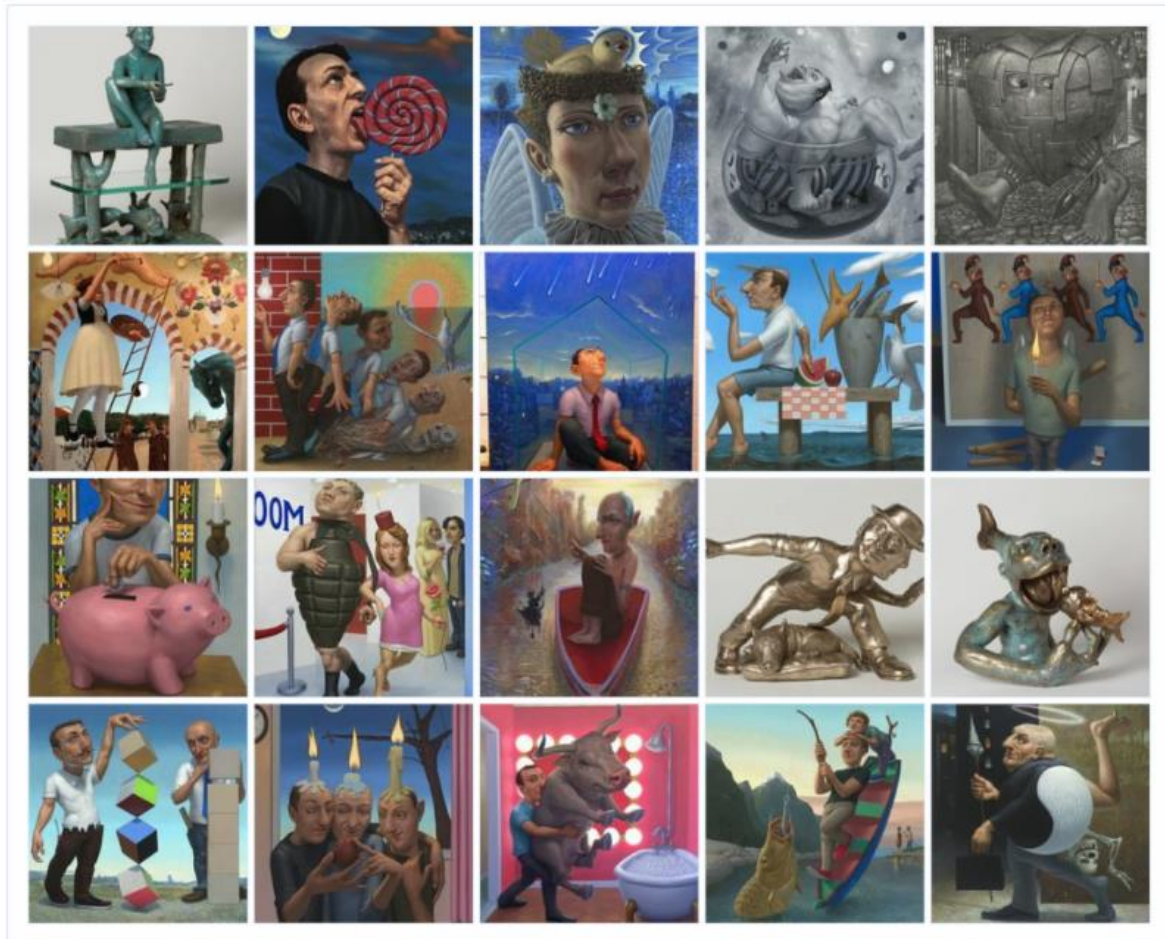


Michael Abraham CV/Biography



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SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2014 -The Lure, new oil paintings and bronzes, Gallery Jones, Vancouver.

2013 -Apologues, Art Gallery at Evergreen, Evergreen Cultural Centre, public retrospective, summer.

2011 -Inspiritus, Gallery Jones, Vancouver.

2010 -All That Glitters, Gallery Jones, Vancouver.

2008 -Water Works, (including Vancouver Opera commission), Gallery Jones, Vancouver.

2007 -Arena, oils on linen, Jan Baum Gallery Los Angeles.

2007 -Not Bound By Realism, oils on linen, Richmond Art Gallery at City Hall, Richmond, BC.

2006 -Bull Works, oils on linen, soapstone sculptures, Gallery Jones,

Vancouver BC

2006 -Retrospect, oils on linen, St George's Private School Gallery, Vancouver BC

2005 -The Other Side, oils on linen/canvas, gouache on paper, Gallery Jones, Vancouver.

2003 - Power Play, oils on linen, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

2001 - Play, oils on linen, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

1999 - Transience, oils on linen, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

1998 - push pull PoP, oils on linen, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

1996 - oPtic-Mystic, oils on linen, drawings, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

1995 - In Light of Things, oils on linen and original prints, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

1994 - New Works, oils on canvas, Unitarian Church, Vancouver.

1993 - The Promise, oils on canvas, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

1993 - New Works, oils on canvas, Unitarian Church, Vancouver.

1992 - Reverence and Reverie, Simon Patrich Gallery, Vancouver.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2015 -'Views from the Southbank I: Histories, Memories, Myths', Surrey Art Gallery, 17 January to end of March. 2014

2015 -'NEW@RAM", recent acquisitions to the Rockford Art Museum Permanent Collection, FEB 28-OCT 26, 2014. 2014

2015 -'Public dreams, Private Myths', Phantoms in the Front Yard group show, At Meccanica, Vancouver. 2014

2015 -Hong Kong - Affordable Art Fair, Represented by Gallery Jones, 21 – 23 March. 2013

2104 -Shed, HSBC Pendulum Gallery, Phantoms in the Front Yard group show, Vancouver.

2013 -Go Figure, an exhibition of figurative work at Gallery Jones, Vancouver.

2013 -LA ART SHOW, Los Angeles Convention Center, LA, USA.

2013 -Heartfelt, group print show, Vancouver Print Room, www.vancouverprintroom.com.

2012 -Singapore - Affordable Art Fair, Represented by Gallery Jones.

2012 -In Other Words, Phantoms in the Front Yard, Artists Collective, at Hot Art Wet City, Vancouver.

2012 -Muse, with Phantoms in the Front Yard, Gallery Fukai, Vancouver.

2011 -On Great Men, Phantoms in the Front Yard, Beatty Gate Pop-up Gallery, Curator - Pennylane Shen.

2010 -Unicef / Unite with Art, Unite for Children, Unite Against Aids, Vancouver, 2008 and 2010.

2009 -Vancouver DRAWN Festival. First Annual city-wide festival of drawing, www.drawnfestival.ca.

2007 -Figures and Forces, Jan Baum Gallery, Los Angeles.

2006 - Regeneration, Art house gallery at Auto One, Vancouver, Curated by Julie Lee.

- 2006 - Zeigt in Sommer, Galerie Art Mayence, Mainz, Germany.
- 2004 - International Art Expo New York, Imogene Editions, Jacob Javitz Center, New York.
- 2000 - Slices of Self, Delta Arts Council, Delta, B.C. Curated by Patti McGregor.
- 2000 - Splash, Arts Umbrella, visual and performing arts institute, Vancouver, (2001, 2010).
- 2000 - The Man Thing, Delta Arts Council, Delta, B.C.
- 1998 - Art International New York, Simon Patrich Gallery, Jacob Javitz Center, New York.
- 1997 - The Canadian Collection at APEC '97, Host: Government of Canada, Vancouver.
- 1997 - The Chair Show, Evergreen Cultural Centre, Coquitlam, B.C. Curated by Sarah Dobbs.
- 1997 - Sexuality Show, Salon de Refuse, Havana Gallery, Vancouver.
- 1995 - Canadians in the 1990's, Nancy Poole's Studio, Toronto.
- 1994 - The Artist's Inner Circle, Introducing Young Artists, Nancy Poole's Studio, Toronto.
- 1994 - Thirty Artists, winter and spring shows, Flux Studios, Vancouver.
- 1994 - Sexuality Show, Salon de Refuse, Pitt Gallery, Vancouver.
- 1993 - Flame of Hope, West End Community Centre, Vancouver.
- 1993 - Gallery Artists, Barton Leier Gallery, Victoria, B.C.
- 1993 - Sexuality Show, Pitt Gallery, Vancouver. Curators: T. Bowen, C. Hoflin, & M. Abraham.
- 1992 - Images and Objects X, Assembly of B.C. Arts Councils, B.C. Festival of the Arts.

EDUCATION

- 1990-91 - Ontario College of Art (O.C.A), fifth year Post Graduate studies, Florence, Italy, Honours, and Teacher's assistant.
- 1984-88 - Ontario College of Art - Fine Arts graduate.

AWARDS

- 2013 - Federation of Canadian Artists. Selected by the FCA Board of Governors to receive the status of SFCA. (Senior Signature Membership - one year)
- 2011 - Steveston Grandprix of Art", Steveston BC, 2nd place award winner.
- 2010 - People's choice award. "Steveston Grandprix of Art, Steveston BC.
- 1992 - Honorable mention "Images and Objects", B.C. Festival of the Arts.
- 1988 - Eric Freifeld Award for figure Draughtsmanship, top drawing award for 4th year studies, O.C.A. Fine Arts.

- 1988 - O.C.A. Fine Arts Department representative, Governor General Juried Medals Competition.
1988 - Honorary membership - Arts and Letters Club, Toronto.

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

- Vancouver Art Gallery, Canada.
- Rockford Museum of Art, Rockford, Illinois, USA.
 - Courtney Cox and David Arquette, actors, Los Angeles.
 - Vancouver General Hospital Collection.
- St George's Senior Boys School Collection, Vancouver, BC.
 - Gary Numan, pop star, Los Angeles.
 - Dr. Alan Goldstein, New York.
- Magenta Productions, Monique Prudhomme, (Academy Award nominee 2010).
- Michael O'Brien, Vancouver Art Gallery Board of Directors, and of Michael O'Brian Family Foundation.
- Craig D. Friedman MD, Philadelphia, PA. Otolaryngologist.
- John Evans, Hotelier, Opus Hotel, Vancouver. - Chris Dikeakos, Architect, Vancouver. - Haebler Construction, Vancouver.
- Eva Harrison, Singapore.
 - Dr. S. Scott Mayers, Los Angeles.
 - Telus Mobility Corporate Collection, Vancouver, BC.
- Koen and Annelies Lyppens, Holland.
- Joy Language School, Vancouver BC.
 - Tyron Leitso, actor, Vancouver/Los Angeles.
 - Fraser Mccoll, developer, and HRT International, Victoria, BC.
 - Robert Munoz and James Razzetti, New York City, New York.
 - Lee Hsu, and Shamim Din, Interiors By di'Zai'n, Hong Kong.
- Axemen Resource Capital Ltd., Cal Everett, Vancouver.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Phantoms in the Front yard, figurative artists collective, Member since 2011
- Vancouver Opera Society, Paintings for Salome, Onegin, Rigoletto, and Carmen, Commission.
- Guest Figure Drawing instructor - St. Georges School, 5- 10 days annually since 2006.
- Adjudicator for Painters on the Edge, Federation of Canadian Artists, July 2011.
- Adjudicator for Oil and Water show, South Delta Artists' Guild, June 2011.
- Orcas in the City, painted whale, BC Lions Society, 2004.
- MADDfest, Arts adjudicator, Delta Arts Council, 2004, 2002 and 1999.
- Vancouver Art Gallery fundraising, paintings donated periodically since 1994.
- Meningitis Research Foundation and B.C. Children's Hospital, donation of

prints, 2002.

- Diamond Centre for Living, Art For Life, featured artist: poster / catalogue cover / invitations, 1999, and frequent annual donations since 1995.
- Splash, Arts Umbrella, fundraising, 1995-2001.
- Main Dance, fundraising, donated painted "Love Seat", Hong Kong Bank, Vancouver, 1994.
- Sexuality Show, curator, Pitt Gallery, Vancouver, 1993.
- guest speaker, Art for life Arts week Richmond art gallery 2003, 2006.
- Lecturer, 'Arts Week', St George's Private Boys School, Vancouver, 2002, 2004, 2005.
- Lecturer, University of Victoria Continuing Education and School District No. 43, Coquitlam, BC, 2002.
- Interview, VTV evening news, Vancouver BC, Canada, 1998.
- Interview in French for RDI, francophone division, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, 1995.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (SELECTED)

- Mia, Johnson, "Michael Abraham: Apologues", Preview Magazine and [online](#) Preview Magazine. Summer issue, 2013.
- Elana Wolff, Startled Night, published by Guernica Press, book cover image, Toronto, Canada, 2012.
- Art News, full page advertisement, October, 2011.
- Matthew Hoekstra, "Freedom from the real", review, photos, South Delta Leader, March 2, 2007.
- Yvonne Zacharias, "Children of tiny port Simpson pack a big punch", photo Vancouver Sun, Oct. 2006.
- Dave Willis, "Return from New York prompts creation...", review/photo, Delta Optimist, Oct. 11, 2006.
- Lloyd Dykk, "Paintings Capture a Magic Realism," review/photos, The Vancouver Sun, May 28th 2005.
- Vancouver Province, Gallery Listings, caption/photo, May 12th 2005.
- John Mackie, Sarah Reeder; Vancouver: The Unknown City. ISBN 1551521474, pg.108, 1994.
- John Bryant, "This Reef's Viewers Stay Dry," review, The Times Colonist, Victoria, Feb.8th 2004.
- Michael Harris, "Social Criticism Expressed Like a Platter of Gumdrops," review/photo, Vancouver Sun, May 22nd, 2003.
- Michael Abraham, Sergio Patrich; Power Play: The Paintings of Michael Abraham, 2001-2003, ISBN 0-9732937-0-5, 2003.
- 'Star People', article, Star (the #1 celebrity news magazine), August 5th, 2003.
- Malcolm Parry, 'Town Talk', caption/photo, The Vancouver Sun, June 14th, 2003.
- Michael Scott, "Painter arrests with beyond Rockwellian fancy," review/photo, The Vancouver Sun, May 10th, 2001.
- Common Ground, cover/article, May 2001.

- 'Around Town', text/photo, Vancouver Magazine, summer 2001.
- Garden's Edge by Universal Freak, compact disc cover, Spark Records Inc., 2001.
- Adidas Vancouver International Marathon, posters/promotional material, May 6th, 2001.
- Common Ground, cover/article, April 2000.
- The Optimist, article/photo, Delta BC, 2000.
- Art for Life, signature artist; poster, catalogue cover and invitation cards, October 28th, 1999.
- Arts page header, text/photo, The Vancouver Sun, 1999.
- Illuminaires, poster image, Public Dreams Society, Vancouver BC, summer 1999.
- Modern Painters, advertisement, UK, 1999.
- Canadian Art, advertisement, 1999.
- Arts page header, text/photo, The Vancouver Sun, 1998.
- The Canadian Collection at APEC '97, ISBN 0-662-63236-2, Pg.15, November 1997.
- X-tra West, text/photo, October 16th, 1997.
- Michael Scott, "Optic Visions," review/photo, The Vancouver Sun, October 16th, 1996.
- Common Ground, cover/article, May 1996.
- Cozzzzmic review, Ubyssy, University of British Columbia student newspaper, October 1996.
- Peter Wilson, "A Gift From The Fire God," text/photo, The Vancouver Sun, Oct.31st, 1994.
- Angela Murrills, "Your Guests Could Meet Cupid..." text/photo, Georgia Straight, Oct.21st, 1994.
- 'Art Now', review, North Shore News, North Vancouver, BC, 1993.
- David Somers, "Tom La Pierre - Arena of the Heart and Mind," Art Gallery of Peel, pg.10, 1993.
- 'Images and Objects X', Assembly of B.C. Arts Councils; poster/catalogue cover/invites, 1992.
- Vancouver Symphony Orchestra's Allegro, cover, October 1992.

BIOGRAPHY

With sold out shows and shining reviews, Abraham has exhibited in numerous solo exhibitions, including at the prestigious Jan Baum Gallery in Los Angeles, and Gallery Jones in Vancouver, and has been described as "hip" in Star magazine.

Abraham's distinct style blends social commentary and playful imagery, works that navigate a full scope of content.

Commissioned work includes original paintings promoting the Vancouver Symphony and Vancouver Opera, as well as select private portraits and sculpture.

From London to Singapore, and Philadelphia to Amsterdam, Abrahams' paintings are featured in international corporate, private and public collections, including the Vancouver Art Gallery, Rockford Museum of Art, and the Courtney Cox & David Arquette Collection.

Born in Montreal (1965), Michael Abraham is an award winning graduate of the Ontario College of Art (OCADU). He was teacher's assistant during a year of postgraduate education in Florence, Italy (1990-91).

Abraham currently paints and sculpts, and runs the Michael Abraham Studio Gallery just south of Vancouver, B.C., and is a key member of the 'Phantoms in the Front Yard' figurative artists collective.

ARTIST STATEMENT

"The famous French Canadian painter Riopelle said that painting is a disease, and that once you catch it you have it for life. I caught it. I have been living breathing and eating art for many years. Being in the process of making art is very much feeling one's aliveness, insignificance, bravado, greatness, feebleness. I am a designer, a colourist, and a composer of ideas. I am not bound by realism. I like to give myself the freedom to think, probe, explore, play, as the process permits, and create the artifacts of the process. I am intrigued by both the narrative and abstract nature of painting. Artists I admire include Breughel, Picasso, Ingres, Fra Angelico, and Stanley Spencer, who are all formal composers in the visual realm. And the Master of the St. Bartholomew Altarpiece, to die for!

Motivation to create an image can come from any number of things, including art, literature, the media, politics, philosophy, religious studies, psychology, business world, family life, interpersonal relationships, feelings, by observing and involvement. Being a non-linear thinker, with a variety of personal circumstances, experiences, influences and mess-ups to draw from really helps! The work is both subjective, and based in reality, a melding of the inner and outer world. There are so many things to ponder and wrap one's head around... Art is a reflection of life: growing and dying, serious, funny, absurd, joyous, hard, paradoxical, sensuous, scary, communal, divisive... all things at once, and ever changing. Each painting is a snapshot of the mind in time."

Michael Abraham