

Maskull Lasserre

www.maskulllasserre.com

BIOGRAPHY

Maskull Lasserre (born Calgary, 1978) spent his formative years in South Africa before returning to Canada. He holds a BFA in Visual Art and Philosophy from Mount Allison University (NB), and an MFA in Studio Art from Concordia University (QC).

Maskull's work has been exhibited at Banksy's Dismaland, and at the Museum of Art and Design in New York. He has held visiting artist positions at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, at Kohler Art/Industry and with the Canadian Armed Forces in Afghanistan. His work appears on Canadian numismatic coinage and is represented in collections in Canada, the US, and Europe including those of the Montreal Museum of Fine Art, the Musée National des Beaux-arts du Québec and the Canadian War Museum. He has completed several public art commissions, and taught sessionally at Concordia, York, and Emily Carr Universities, as well as at the California College of Art.

ARTIST STATEMENT

I never make anything that I readily understand. My work is designed to project me beyond the comfort of what I already know. This approach demands that I grow through the challenge of each piece, to be delivered at the feet of the next. The relation of my practice to the nascent edge of understanding places it more in the service of research than of expression – an undertaking not of craft or illustration but of conceptual exploration mediated through process based physical discovery.

Shaped by experience, I navigate obscure approaches to what is taken for granted and seek out the unexpected matter from which the familiar is made. Instances of meaning and matter that have an affinity but no way to coalesce await the right language to reveal their logic and claim them for the real. This articulation, written in the script of material, process, matter, and metaphor is the subject of my practice.

Most accurately, I conceive of my undertakings as a scientist might understand their assay and my objects as a researcher might regard their models. Though my work's syntax is more nuanced, it occupies a similar rule-based relationship with its subject which abides both material logic and conceptual necessity. While material and likeness provide the scaffolding, the real subject of my work resides in its process, and on symbolic and conceptual plains. I make tools and diagrams; instruments that probe ambivalence and mechanisms that graft mind onto matter and matter into mind.

These objects are designed to pause at the brink of completion; to preserve a mystery, to hold a choice, and in so doing avert the stagnation that belongs to the fully-real. Like a tool waiting for an operator or a data set for a theory, these pieces anticipate the viewer's presence to catalyze their resolution. Reconciled in the medium of thought, my work is offered in a perpetual state of becoming, held open for a viewer to inhabit and explore.

SELECTED
EXHIBITIONS

Center Space (Pierre-François Ouellette), Toronto, ON. Omen (Solo), 2017.
Junior Projects, New York, NY. Pushing Paper, 2016.
Pierre-François Ouellette Art Contemporain, Montreal, QC, 2016.
Dismaland (Banksy curatorial project), Weston-super-Mare, UK., 2015.
Arsenal Contemporary Art, Montreal, QC. (Featured for Musée d'art contemporain de Montreal Fundraising Gala), Pieta, 2015.
McClure Gallery, Montreal, QC. Pendulum (Solo, accompanying monograph), 2015.
Contemporary Art Museum, Lentos, Linz, Austria. Love and Loss, 2015.
Chicago Academy of Sciences/Peggy Notebaert Museum, Chicago, IL.
City Creatures, 2015.
Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax, NS. Anatomica, 2015.
Pierre-François Ouellette Art Contemporain, Montreal, QC. Perimeter, (Solo), 2014.
Aksioma Institute Contemporary Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Eternal September, 2014.
Junior Projects, New York, NY. Regular John, 2014.
Museum Villa Rot, Burgrieden, Germany. Auf Schritt und Tritt (At Every Turn), 2014.
Third Space, St. John, NB. Outliers (Solo), 2013.
The Painting Center, New York, NY. Working it Out, 2013.
GRASSI Museum, Leipzig, Germany. Step into the Limelight, 2013.
DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL. Climate of Uncertainty, 2013.
Museum of Art and Design, New York, NY. Swept Away, 2012.
Center Space (Pierre-François Ouellette), Toronto, ON. Fable (Solo), 2012.
Articule, Montreal, QC. Outliers (Solo), 2012.
Galerie Musée Quebecor, Montreal, QC. Coriolis (Solo), 2012.
Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC. Paperless, 2012.
Pierre-François Ouellette Art Contemporain, Montreal, QC. Vertigo (Solo), 2011.
(e)merge Art Fair, Washington, DC (Solo presentation with PFOAC), 2011.
City Hall Art Gallery, Ottawa, ON. Place and Circumstance, 2011.
Toronto International Art Fair, (Pierre-François Ouellette Art Contemporain), 2011 through 2016.
Estevan Art Gallery, Estevan, SK. Volume (Solo), 2010.
La Maison de la Culture Rivière-des Prairies, Rivière-des Prairies, QC. Les Objets Secrets de l'Atelier, 2010.
Miami International Art Fair, (Solo presentation with PFOAC), 2010.
Toronto International Artfair, (Pierre-François Ouellette Art Contemporain), 2010.
Galerie Lilian Rodriguez, Montreal, QC. Requiem (Solo), 2009.
Maison de Culture, Cote des Neiges, QC. Rubric (Solo), 2009.
Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, Brandon MB. Aircraft, Arms, Art, 2009.
Toronto International Artfair, (Pierre-François Ouellette Art Contemporain), 2009.
FOFA Gallery, Montreal, QC.(Vitrines). Recital (Solo), 2008.
Karsh Masson Gallery, Ottawa, ON. Contingencies (Solo), 2008.

PUBLICLY
COMMISSIONED
WORKS

Royal Canadian Mint, Commissioned Coin Design, Landing at Juno Beach, 2014
City of Ottawa, Public Sculpture Commission, Richcraft Rec Complex, Nepean, ON. Silver Line, 2013
Royal Canadian Mint, Commissioned Coin Design, Leaving for War, 2013
City of Ottawa, Public Sculpture Commission, Shenkman Arts Centre, Orleans, ON. Resonance, 2009.
City of Ottawa, Public Sculpture Commission, Plant Bath, Ottawa, ON. Skipping Stones, 2004.

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Canadian War Museum, Ottawa ON, 2016.
Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, Quebec, QC, 2016.
John Michael Kohler Art Center, Sheboygan, WI, 2015
Royal Canadian Mint, 2013, 2014, 2015.
Musée des Beaux-Arts, Montreal, QC, 2013
National Bank of Canada, Toronto, ON, 2013.
City of Ottawa, (2013, 2010, 2009, 2004), 2013.
Lacoste, Paris, 2010.
Canada Council for the Arts. Ottawa. ON. 2007.

VISITING ARTIST, FACULTY & JUROR POSITIONS

(upcoming) **Vermont Studio Center**, Visiting Artist in Residence.
Emily Carr University, Vancouver, BC. Sessional Faculty, 2017
York University, Toronto, ON. L.L. Odette Visiting Artist in Sculpture/Guest Faculty, 2016.
Concordia University, Montreal, QC. Sessional Faculty (2012–2015)
CUSEC – 30th Anniversary Symposium (Canadian Undergraduate Surgery Education Committee), Presenter: Looking and Seeing, 2015.
Kohler Co. (John Michael Kohler Art Center), Kohler, WI. Art/Industry Resident, 2015.
Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA. Artist in Residence (2014–2015).
California College of the Arts, San Francisco, CA. Wornick Distinguished Visiting Professor, 2014.
Carleton University, Ottawa, ON. Graduate Studies Conference; Keynote Speaker, 2013.
Lethbridge University, Lethbridge, AB. Visiting Artist/Guest Lecturer, 2012.
Concordia University, Montreal, QC. Visiting Artist/Guest Lecturer, 2012.
Canadian Forces Directorate of History and Heritage, War Artist Program, Afghanistan, 2010
City of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON. Kanata North Rec. Centre, Design Team Consulting Artist, 2010
City of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON. Public Works Project Design Juror, 2010.
City of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON. Public Arts Design Team Juror, 2010.
Bishops University, Sherbrooke QC. Visiting Artist/Guest Lecturer, 2009.
FOFA Gallery, Montreal, QC. Programming Juror, 2008.

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS & RECOGNITION

BC Council for the Arts, Category II Award, 2017
Canada Council for the Arts, Research/Creation Grant, 2014.
Conseil des arts et des lettres Quebec, Research/Creation Grant, 2013.
Société de Développement Entreprises Culturelles, Grant, 2011.
Conseil des arts et des lettres Quebec, Exhibition Production Grant, 2011.
BC Council for the Arts, Senior Award (2007–9), 2009.

EDUCATION/ ACADEMIC AWARDS

MFA (Studio Art): Concordia University, Montreal, QC, 2009
SSHRC (Research Council of Canada Social Sciences and Humanities), CGS Masters Award (2007–9), Hydro Quebec, Graduate Scholarship (2008–9), 25th Anniversary fellowship (2006–7), University Graduate Fellowship (2006–7), GSAAC Award, 2006.

BFA (Minor in Philosophy): Mount Allison University, Sackville NB, 2001
Departmental Award in Fine Arts, 2001, University Leadership Certificate, 2001, Community Service Award, 2001, University Undergraduate Fellowship, 2000, Mark Marsters Prize, 2000, 1999, Philp Prize in Drawing, 1999, J. A. Gairdner Fine Arts Scholarships (1998–2000), University Scholarship (1998–2000), Sculpture / Foundry Technician (1998–2001).

MONOGRAPHS, BOOKS
& EXHIBITION
CATALOGUES

Farquharson, Rachel Anne **Pendulum**, The McClure Gallery and Art Books Canada, Montreal, QC, 2015.
Banksy, **Dismaland Bemusement Park**, Weston Super-Mare, UK, 2015.
Love and Loss, Contemporary Art Museum, Lentos, Linz, Austria, 2015.
City Creatures, Chicago Academy of Sciences/Peggy Notebaert Museum, Chicago, IL, 2015
Eternal September, Aksioma Institute Contemporary Art, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 2014.
Auf Schritt und Tritt (At Every Turn) Museum Villa Rot, Burgrieden, Germany, 2014.
Working it Out, The Painting Center, New York, NY, 2013.
Step into the Limelight, GRASSI Museum, Leipzig, Germany, 2013.
Climate of Uncertainty, DePaul Art Museum, Chicago, IL, 2013.
Swept Away, Museum of Art and Design, New York, NY, 2012.
Paperless, Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, Winston-Salem, NC, 2012.

SELECTED PRESS

Shi, Diana "A Tiny Wishbone Holds This Deconstructed Piano Together", **The Creators Project** (VICE Media), Jul 2, 2016. Online.
Soos, Adam, "Maskull Lasserre, From Canada to Dismaland", **Freq.**, Vol.2-Issue 5, Jan. 2016, pg. 40-44, Print.
Balzar, David, "Banksy Takes Maskull Lasserre to Dismaland", **Canadian Art**, September 2015, Online.
Maskull Lasserre. He's going to Dismaland", **CBC Arts**, August 2015, Online.
Clément, Éric, "La sculpture comme une quête", **La Presse**, March 13th 2015. Online.
McLaughlin, Bryne, "Maskull Lasserre; How the Army Changed My Art", **Canadian Art**, January 17th 2013. Online.
Sokol, Zach, "Handmade Grenades Release Music When You Pull The Trigger", **The Creators Project** (VICE Media), May 15th 2014. Online.
Delgado, Jerome, "Des Vies Sur le Pilote Automatique", **Le Devoir**, December 29th, 2013, Pg. E6. Print.
Rhodes, Richard, "Art Toronto Highlights", **Canadian Art**, October 27th 2013. Online.
Mierins, Krystina, "Review: Maskull Lasserre at Centre Space", **Sculpture Magazine**, September 2013. Pg. 78. Print
Paige Smith, Hilary, "Artist Invokes Our Inner Animals", **Here Magazine**, February 7th 2013. Pg. Cover, 20, 21. Print
Landry, Mike, "If the Shoe Fits" Feature interview, **Telegraph Journal**, February 2, 2013. Pg. S3. Print.
Tousignant, Isa, "Subject to Gravity" Feature interview, **Canadian Art Magazine**, September 2012. Pg. 120-125. Print.
McLaughlin, Bryne, "Maskull Lasserre, Canada's New Sculpting Heavyweight", **Canadian Art**, September 7th 2012.
Gessell, Paul, "Making Waves", **Ottawa Magazine**, January 2012, Print.
Keuffel, Ken, "Going Paperless", **Winston-Salem Journal**, June 03, 2012. Print.
Schechter, Fran, "Object Lesson", **Now Magazine**, December 20th 2012, Vol 32, No.16. Print.
Tousignant, Isa, "2011 Critics Picks; Best Monumental Work", **Akimbo**, December 13th, 2011. Online.
McLaughlin, Bryne, "Maskull Lasserre: Playing to Extremes", **Canadian Art**, December 8th, 2011. Online.
Lee, Yaniya, "Magical Sculpture", **Montreal Mirror**, pg. 38, November 17th 2011. Print.
Paré, Isabelle, "Salon du Livre- Papiers choisis au Devoir", **Le Devoir**, pg. A1, A8, November 15th 2011. Print.
Kennincott, Philip, "Adaptive Artwork", **The Washington Post**, pg. C2, September 24, 2011. Print.
Don't Panic Magazine, UK, August 2011, **Don't Panic Magazine**, UK, August 2011. Online.
McCracken, Rosemary, "Art leaps from the boardroom to the streets", **The Globe and Mail**, May 31st 2010. Print.
Martins, Tony, "Artists of the Montreal Metropolis", **Guerilla Magazine**, Volume 7, Summer 2010, pg. 24. Print.
Burness, Wesley. "Installation Nation." **Spade Magazine**. Oct-Dec 2009: pg.48. Print.
Redgrave, Veronica. "Maskull Lasserre, Wishbone Hangers and Other Pieces." **Vie Des Arts**, English Edition. No, 216. Autumn 2009: pg. 13. Print
"Artist carves out reputation for public sculptures" **The Ottawa Citizen**, July 24, 2009. Print.
Charron, Marie-Ève. "Le Poids du Temps." **Le Devoir**. April 5, 2009. pg. E6. Print.
Dewolfe, Stacey. "Noise Makers 2009, Basic Elements." **Montreal Mirror**. January 8. pg. 34. Print.