

# Toni Hamel

www.tonihamelstudio.com

## **BIO:**

Born (1961) in Italy. Lives and works in Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

Hamel holds a BFA from the Accademia di Belle Arti of Lecce (Italy, 1983), a post-graduate Certificate in Computer Graphics from Sheridan College (Canada, 1991), the Golden Key National Honour Society Award from the University of Toronto (Specialist Programme in Psychology, 1997), and the Lubiam Prize (Milan, 1983). Hamel is the recipient of many awards and three Ontario Arts Council grants (2011, 2012, 2014).

Her work has been exhibited in public and commercial galleries in Canada, USA, and Europe. It is included in the public collections of Mr. J.J. Abrams, Ms. Whoopi Goldberg, Ms. Julia Roberts, the Archives of Ontario/Government of Ontario, the Robert McLaughlin Gallery, the Omer DeSerres Corporation as well as many private international collections. Hamel's work is often featured in international Arts & Culture magazines, including American Art Collector (USA), Hi-Fructose (USA), The Big Issue (Taiwan), Efflorescence Culturelle (France), CBC Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (Canada), and Lodown (Germany) among many others.

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## **ARTIST STATEMENT:**

I see my work as "*an illustrated commentary on human frailties*". Rooted in storytelling, my art practice draws from personal experiences and outward observations to create thematic bodies of work that reflect on and interpret the psychological unease characteristic of our age. Virtues and vices, the holy and the profane, the good and the bad all share equal weight and supply an infinite source of material for my investigations. Pointing to historical and psychological references while tackling issues of universal interest, my narratives question our behaviour to eventually alert us about the repercussions of our current thinking models.

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## **CURRICULUM VITAE:**

### **Grants:**

Ontario Arts Council, Emerging Artist Grant 2014  
Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Assistance Grant 2012  
Ontario Arts Council, Emerging Artist Grant 2011

### **Artist Residency:**

February 4 to March 29, 2015  
Art Lab + Gallery A, Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa

### **Selected Exhibitions, Art Fairs, Awards And Events:**

#### **2025**

April 18 – April 20  
"San Francisco Art Fair" - art fair  
Exhibiting with CK Contemporary, San Francisco, USA

#### **2024**

September 7 – 10  
Art On Paper New York – art fair  
Exhibiting with CK Contemporary, San Francisco, USA

September 7 -10  
"Beyond the surface" - group exhibition of gallery's artists  
CK Contemporary, San Francisco, USA

July 6 – August 3  
"In lieu of better days" - solo exhibition  
CK Contemporary, San Francisco, USA

#### **2023**

December 1, 2023 – January 28, 2024  
"Lone Splendor" - invitational group exhibition  
Paradigm Gallery, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

April 20 – 23  
Art Market San Francisco – art fair  
Exhibiting with CK Contemporary, San Francisco, USA

#### **2022**

September 8 -11  
Art On Paper New York – art fair  
Exhibiting with CK Contemporary, San Francisco, USA

April 21 – 24  
Art Market San Francisco – art fair  
Exhibiting with CK Contemporary, San Francisco, USA

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## 2020

October 23 – 26

Art Taipei – art fair

Exhibiting with Yiri Arts, Taipei City, Taiwan

August 27 – 28

Art Formosa – art fair

Exhibiting with Yiri Arts, Taipei City, Taiwan  
Formosa, Taiwan

August 1 – 30

"Five and Under" - group exhibition of gallery's artists  
Arcadia Contemporary, Pasadena, California, USA

July 17 – 19

Art Taichung – art fair

Exhibiting with Yiri Arts, Taipei City, Taiwan  
Taichung City, Taiwan

February 5 - February 9

"LA Art Show" – art fair

Exhibiting with Arcadia Contemporary, Pasadena, California, USA

## 2019

August 7 - September 7

"Five and Under" - group exhibition of gallery's artists  
Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles, California, USA

July 5, 2019 - July 5, 2020

"Impact" - group exhibition from the permanent collection  
Robert MacLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

March 4 - 7

"Philadelphia Art Fair" - art fair

with Arcadia Contemporary, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

March 1 - 30

"Mondo Tondo" - invitational group exhibition

Arcadia Contemporary, Los Angeles, California, USA

January 12 - August 25

"Taxonomy Kingdom" - group exhibition of gallery's artists  
Ingram Gallery, Toronto, Canada

## 2018

July 12 - August 25

"Summer Series XI" - group exhibition of gallery's artists  
Ingram Gallery, Toronto, Canada

May 10 - 13

"Affordable Art Fair" London Hampstead, England- art fair  
with Lustre Contemporary

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March 17 -24

"Noir Dessin/Drawing in Gallery" - invitational group exhibition  
Galerie ALB, Paris, France

March 7 - 11

"Affordable Art Fair" London Hampstead, England - art fair  
with Lustre Contemporary

March 21 - 25

"Affordable Art Fair" New York, NY, USA - art fair  
with Lustre Contemporary

## 2017

November 18 to December 16

"Toni Hamel and Peony Yip" - two-person exhibition  
Talon Gallery, Portland, Oregon USA

January 28 to April 2

"Durham Reach" - group exhibition  
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario

February 4 to 28

"National Sustainable Living Festival 2017" - digital screening  
Various venues, Melbourne, Australia

## 2016

November 1 to November 29

"Happy hour" - solo exhibition  
Galerie Youn, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

April 22 to April 24

"Papier 2016" Montreal, Quebec - art fair  
with Galerie Youn

February 26 to February 28

"Room Art Fair" Madrid, Spain - art fair  
with Galerie Youn

March 3 to March 6

"Art on Paper" New York, NY, USA - art fair  
with Galerie Youn

## 2015

November 22 to November 25

"Art on Paper" Miami, Florida, USA- art fair  
with Galerie Youn

October 30 to December 6

"The Lingering" - solo exhibition  
Touring exhibition circulated by the Robert McLaughlin Gallery  
Grimsby Public Art Gallery, Grimsby, Ontario, Canada

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October 23 to October 26  
"Art Toronto 2015" - art fair  
with Galerie Youn, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

June 18 to July 19  
"Stories of the familiar transformed" - invitational group exhibition  
Galerie Youn, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

March 1 to April 1  
"The Land of Id" - solo exhibition  
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

February 4 to February 28  
"Drawing 2015" - juried exhibition  
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - 3rd Prize

## 2014

March 6 to March 11  
"No Barking Art - Biennial 2014" - group exhibition  
Truman Brewery Gallery 25, London, England

February 4 to February 28  
"Drawing 2014" - juried exhibition  
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

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## 2013

September 14 to November 24  
"The Lingering" - solo exhibition curated by Sonya Jones  
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

June 6 to July 20  
"Home: stories from here and away" - invitational group exhibition curated by Chai Duncan  
Latham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario, Canada

January 8 to February 1  
"Drawing 2013"- juried exhibition  
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Canada - Curry's Prize

## 2012

October 20 to December 2  
"Reading the image" - invitational group exhibition  
Station Gallery, Whitby, Ontario, Canada

March 11 to April 29  
"Triennial 2012" - invitational group exhibition curated by Carla Garnet  
Art Gallery of Peterborough, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

February 7 to March 2  
"Drawing 2012" - juried exhibition  
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Canada

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## 2011

"Annual Juried Exhibition 2011" - juried exhibition  
Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario, Canada

"Desmond Juried Art Exhibition 2011" - juried exhibition  
University of Guelph, Ridgetown, Ontario, Canada - 2nd Prize

## 2010

Oshawa City Hall Public Art Competition - 1 of 3 finalists  
Oshawa Civic Center, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

"OAA 42nd Annual Juried Exhibition" - juried exhibition  
Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario, Canada - 1st and 3rd Prizes

"Annual Juried Exhibition 2010" - juried exhibition  
Latcham Gallery, Stouffville, Ontario, Canada - 2nd Prize

"Drawing 2010" - juried group exhibition  
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Canada - 1st Prize

## 2009

"Desmond Juried Exhibition 2009" - juried exhibition  
University of Guelph, Ridgetown, Ontario, Canada - 1st Prize

"First National Juried Drawing Exhibition" - juried exhibition  
White Water Gallery, North Bay, Ontario - Finalist

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## 1983, 1982

"ExpoArte", Milan, Italy - Premio Lubiam  
"International ExpoArte", Bari, Italy

## Selected Reviews, Features and Interview:

### 2024

Colossal – review

"Absurdly superficial solutions rule Toni Hamel's witty paintings"

By Grace Ebert, June 29

"American Art Collector" - art magazine  
Feature full-spread article, August Issue

### 2023

Colossal – review

"Through incisive paintings, Toni Hamel highlights futile and inadequate responses to global issues"

By Grace Ebert, March 7

### 2021

"The poser", by Maya Stein - book  
Features painting "Bird head" (2014)

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Out North Radio KONR 106.1 FM  
Interview by Graham Dane, May 1

## 2018

CBC Arts, Exhibitionists series, Season 3, Episode 20 "Driven" - short documentary

"The Affair", monthly Arts & Culture magazine, Taiwan

"American Art Collector" magazine, May 2018 Issue - USA  
Collector's Focus - "Habitats of the world", article by John O'Hearn

Banzai Le Review (Collector Edition IX) - 9-page spread  
Mad Series Publishers, Montpellier, France

"Marchand de feuilles" - Montreal  
Publication containing 15 artworks selected by the publisher

"Frankie" - magazine, Australia  
Feature and interview, October

"BobBooks" - magazine, London, England  
Feature and interview, July

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## 2017

"High Times" Issue #98 (print publication by LowDown Magazine) - Berlin, Germany  
Feature with interview [http://shop.lodownmagazine.com/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=560&cPath=1](http://shop.lodownmagazine.com/product_info.php?products_id=560&cPath=1)

"Hi-Fructose Magazine" - USA  
Feature at <http://hifructose.com/2017/09/16/toni-hamels-paintings-reflect-human-impact-on-natural-world/>

"Mud Season Review" - USA  
Feature of the "Land of Id" with interview by Mike Sweeney; Print and online  
<http://mudseasonreview.com/2017/05/illustrated-commentary-on-human-frailties/>

## 2016

"Efflorescence Culturelle" - France  
Featured artist with interview by Joffrey De Dios Miguel  
<http://www.efflorescenceculturelle.com/2016/09/13/toni-hamel/>  
"Inland desire" by Mentana, Canadian folk band - album cover

## 2015

"The Hamilton Spectator" - Hamilton, Ontario  
Review of "The lingering" exhibition at the Grimsby Public Art Gallery by Regina Haggio

"Hi-Fructose Magazine" - USA  
Feature of the "Land of Id" at <http://hifructose.com/2015/08/08/toni-hamel-expresses-environmental-concerns-in-subdued-illustrations/>

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"PixelGray" - August 9

Feature of the "Land of Id" at <http://pixelgray.com/2015/08/09/toni-hamel/>

"Ink and Arrows" - Issue 8

Interview at [http://issuu.com/inkandarrows/docs/issueeight\\_inkarrowsmag\\_sample](http://issuu.com/inkandarrows/docs/issueeight_inkarrowsmag_sample)

## 2014

"RIDDLE FENCE" - Issue #17 (artwork published: "The vanishing" from the *White Primer* body of work, "The quest", "Transference", and "Home maker" from *The remedy* collection, and "The rescue" from *Hic et Nunc* series)

"SLICE" - Spring/Summer Issue (artwork published: "The unearthing" from *The lingering* series and "The healing" from *The remedy* collection)

"ROOM - Canada's oldest literary journal by and about women" - Issue 37.1 (artwork published: "Departures" and "Wish I were my alter ego" from *The lingering* series)

## 2013

"Toni Hamel: the lingering" - Exhibition catalogue with essay by Sonya Jones - Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, Ontario

"Oshawa this week" - Interview by Mike Ruta, Sunday, October 20, 2013

"Durham College Chronicle" - Interview by Will McGuirk, 2013-14 Issue 2

"Surfacing, Winter" - Tabloid, Durham Region, Ontario, Canada

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## 2012

"Platform, Fall" - Station Gallery Newsletter (cover and page 2) - Station Gallery, Whitby, Ontario

## 2009

"The First National Juried Drawing Exhibition" - Exhibition catalogue - White Water Gallery, North Bay, Ontario

## Speaking Engagements:

### 2013 - 2015

Artist Talks - Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa

### 2013

Artist Talk - The Latcham Gallery, Stouffville

### 2012

Artist Talk - Station Gallery, Whitby

### 1999, 2001, 2002

Panel Member, Annual Conference, Association of Women in Digital Media, Toronto

Lecturer - University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario

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## Education:

### 1994 - 1998

University of Toronto\*  
Psychology, Specialist Programme  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

### 1990 - 1991

Sheridan College  
Computer Graphics, Post-Graduate Certificate  
Oakville, Ontario, Canada

### 1979 - 1983

Accademia di Belle Arti (Academy of Fine Arts)  
Bachelor of Fine Arts (Painting/Studio Programme)\*\*  
Lecce, Italy

### 1978 - 1979

University of Rome "La Sapienza"  
Faculty of Architecture\*\*\*  
Rome, Italy

### 1974 - 1978

High School of Fine Arts  
Honours Graduation Diploma  
Taranto, Italy

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\* Awarded Golden Key National Honour Society award for academic excellence

\*\* Selected to represent the Academy at the International ExpoArte (1982, 1983).  
Received Premio Lubiam (1983)

\*\*\* Completed four first-year level courses