

Hilda Oomen

☎ (613) 789-7145

CURRICULUM VITÆ**STUDIES**

- 1984 The Banff Centre, Young Resident Artists Program
- 1984 Queen's University, Bachelor of Fine Art

- 1984 "The Young Resident Artists Exhibition", The Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff,
- 1983 "BFA on View", Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston, ON
- 1982 "BFA on View", Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston, ON

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 1992 New Work, Robert Birch Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 1991 Inside/Outside, Mississauga Civic Centre Art Gallery, ON.
- 1990 Painting & Collage, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, U of T
- 1989 Recent Paintings, The Samuel J. Zacks Gallery, York University, Toronto
- 1988 Paintings & Collage, The Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, ON,
- 1987 Recent Painting & Collage, The Kingston Artists Assoc. Inc., Kingston, ON

STUDIES

- 1991 The Ontario Arts Council, Short Term Grant
- 1987-91 The Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Grant
- 1984 The Andre Bieler Prize, Queen's University
- 1984 The Molson's Scholarship, The Banff Centre
- 1980 The Frontenac County Bursary

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2008 Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON
- 2008 Now Representing, Galerie D'Avignon, Montreal, QC
- 2006 Efflorescence, Cube Gallery, Ottawa, ON
- 1994 "Off the Wall", Birganart Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- 1991 Hilda Oomen & Marianne Lovink, Art Gallery of Peel, Brampton, ON
- 1989 Round Up Toronto, Hilda Oomen, Marianne Lovink & Jennifer Stead
- 1988 Round Up Toronto, Hilda Oomen & Anne Freeman
- 1988 "Five New Painters" Erindale Campus Art Gallery, U of T,
- 1988 "Discord & Harmony" The Library & Gallery, Cambridge, ON

HILDA OOMEN**ARTIST'S STATEMENT**

Borrowed Landscape: a concept and practice in traditional Asian garden design which utilizes and incorporates a distant landscape into one's own garden and intimately connects the distant landscape to the garden design.

Some of the interests that motivate me to paint are also found in the art of garden making. I have spent years working in gardens as a means of support and, at times, as a substitute for painting. The borrowed landscape concept is particularly relevant to the work I produced in the last few years. The imagery and experience of the time I have spent in gardens unexpectedly found its way into the paintings. I realized I was pairing fragments of intimate details of gardens with several different views and often a distant, smaller fragment of landscape. The mosaic-like building of these compositions developed naturally from this idea and from an enduring interest in collage. I see the borrowed landscape concept as a beautiful metaphor for the self and the personalizing of the world at large into one's own private world.

The rural area where I live and work is the focus and subject of my most recent work. Hiking trails lined with wildflowers and indigenous plant life, open fields bordered with trees and brush and sky, and the many and varied bodies of water are the stuff of my immediate surroundings. I am instinctively drawn to landscape as subject matter and I believe in the value natural environments have on the mind and spirit. My work is a gathering of all these collected images.

Hilda Oomen
January 2009