

DREW MOSLEY

Ottawa, ON

ARTIST STATEMENT

Drew Mosley forms fantastical narratives inspired by the study of natural history, mycology, ancient civilizations and social evolution. His works tie together contemporary concerns of collapsing ecosystems, hyper-consumerism, and capitalism in a Dutch Renaissance style. Played out across Mosley's canvases are stories of misguided notions of wealth and social status. In a world with an uncertain future, the characters populating Mosley's fairytale environments offer examples of empathy, community and reverence for nature. Mosley's overall oeuvre speaks to a desire for a shared existence with greater environmental and social consciousness.

Drew Mosley lives and works in Ottawa where he divides his time between an exhaustive studio practice, and various carpentry and woodworking projects in the Ottawa Valley.

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WALL SPACE GALLERY

358 Richmond Rd, Ottawa, ON, K2A 0E8 | 613.729.0003 | info@wallspacegallery.ca



DEIMATIC BEHAVIOUR

Wall Space gallery is proud to present the latest exhibition of Drew Mosley's surreal paintings, *Deimatic Behaviour*. This exhibition explores evolutionary traits in nature and their metaphorical connection to human social and biological patterns.

Deimatic Behaviour refers to startle reflexes produced by any creature that has a weak system of defense. These creatures rely on sudden illusory bodily transformations and vibrant, sometimes pulsating, surface pigmentation in an attempt to distract or scare predators away. Familiar instances of this survival mechanism can be seen in fake eye spots on butterfly wings and octopi's undulating, multi-chromatic skin and ability to quickly enlarge their body to appear intimidating.

Rich with symbolism, Mosley's humanization of predatory creatures asks us to examine our role in the decimation and exploitation of the natural world and build empathy for the Earth's most vulnerable.

- Tiffany April
Curator

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CV

SELECT SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Diematic Behaviour*, Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2019 *Hellocene/New Beginnings*, Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2017 *A Rebellious Nature*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2016 *Enormous tiny art show*. Nahcotta Gallery, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, US.
2015 *Diorama*. Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2013 *After Dark*. Ideaspace, Ottawa, ON
2013 *Wild Country*. Gallery GreyArea, Ottawa, ON
2012 *Santorini Biennale of Arts*. Krinos Gallery, Prygos, Greece
2011 *The Dreamers*. Antisocial Gallery, Vancouver, BC
2011 *The Pousleys*. Wurm Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2010 *Hurry up to slow down*. La Petit Mort Gallery. Ottawa, ON

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Division of Birds*, Paradigm Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
2021 *Enormous tiny art show*, Nahcotta Gallery, Portsmouth, New Hampshire
2016 *LE ART PARTY*. Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2016 *Ornament*. Central Booking Gallery, New York, NY
2015 *Return to the Wild*. Auguste Clown Gallery Fitzroy, Vic, Australia
2015 *Face Off*. PDA Projects, Ottawa, ON
2014 *Nuit-Blanche*, Mural installation with En Masse collective. PDA Projects, Ottawa, ON
2013 *Self Propelled*. Gallery GreyArea, Ottawa, ON
2013 *Artists For Animals*. L'entrée des Artists, Montreal QC
2013 *BenchWorks*. Magpie Jewelry collaboration, Ottawa, ON
2012 *Drawuary*, Gallery Gache. Vancouver, BC
2011 *The Cheaper Show*. Vancouver, BC

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS AND COLLECTIONS

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- 2016 "The Forager" City of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON
- 2016 Andaz, 1000 sq. ft. mural commission, Andaz Hotel, Ottawa, ON
- 2016 Street Art Toronto, 1400 sq. ft. public mural commission. Todmorden Mills Heritage site, Toronto, ON
- 2015 "The Parade" 1800 sq. ft. public mural commission, Bank street underpass, Ottawa City mural program
- 2015 STart - Scarborough city mural as part of Street art Toronto program

JURY AND WORKSHOPS

- 2016 Karsh Masson Juror
- 2016 Boys and Girls club mural workshop in Partnership with the United Way

MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2017 "Exhibition: A Rebellious Nature at Wall Space Gallery", by Brenda Dunn, Apt613
- 2017 "A weekend of memories, music and an enchanted art show", by Sandra Abma, CBC Ottawa
- 2017 "Animal Spirits: Three artists reflect on the natural world", by Peter Simpson, Artsfile
- 2017 "Drew Mosley's "A Rebellious Nature" at Wall Space", Supersonic Art
- 2016 "Alchemy - The Art and Craft of Illustration.", (HRDCVR) Sandu Publishing, China
- 2013 Apocrypha Online Art Magazine. Edition 20.
- 2013 Herd Magazine- Online Feature
- 2013 Guerilla Magazine- Feature

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