

# ELIZABETH D'AGOSTINO

Toronto, ON

## BIOGRAPHY

Elizabeth D'Agostino is a Canadian artist working in print media, sculpture, and installation, and is a member of Open Studio Fine Art Printmaking Centre in Toronto. She holds a BFA from the University of Windsor and a MFA from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, USA. Her work has been exhibited in Canada and internationally, including Kelowna Art Gallery (British Columbia, Canada), Manhattan Graphics Centre (New York City, USA), The Print Center (Philadelphia, USA), Iziko: Museum of Cape Town (Cape Town, South Africa), and Atelier Mondial (Basel, Switzerland). Elizabeth's prints can also be found in many private and public collections, including the University of Changchun Jilin (China); Bibliotheque et Archives Nationales (Montreal, Canada); Manly Art Gallery and Museum (New South Wales, Australia); Department of Foreign Affairs Canada; Toronto Pearson International Airport; and Ernst and Young Canada. She is the recipient of many awards and fellowships, such as a commission by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada to create a custom carpet design for the High Commission of Canada (Canada House) in the United Kingdom.

## ARTIST STATEMENT

My current research draws from contemporary environmental issues and is inspired by records of observational and scientific illustrations of Canadian flora and fauna. Human expansion, resource consumption, and natural disasters have increased dramatically resulting in compromised wildlife habitats. Influences from environmental discussions surrounding biodiversity, climate change, urban expansion, and relationships in space and structure are repurposed to create new narratives modified by their characteristics, habitats, and transitory nature. The disruption of many vulnerable species and the loss and destruction of habitats has led to uncertain outcomes and even the disappearance of individual genes and ecosystems.

My process often involves information gathering and recording details, while many of these printed environments are drawn up through the imagination producing new taxonomies. Organic and ephemeral materials are used throughout my practice, building from natural history elements including insects, botany, seedpods, birds, and geometric forms. As fictional forms are organized within each composition, they resemble the familiar combined with fragments of living components and attributes displayed as objects of curiosity. The

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relationships of the images and objects I use are specific to natural sites and recount the observations and curiosities of intersected forms.

Each project illustrates animal nature and the complexities of the changing landscape, emphasizing how various paths of nature have been interrupted. My interests in the landscape, and well as naturalistic forms within architecture, have evolved into fictitious environments, constructing stories by merging elements both imagined and real. These subjects are extracted from their current landscape and assigned new roles within a fabricated landscape. Each form and structure carry a heightened sense of interconnectedness displaying both animal and plant attributes.

The busy urban setting bordered by lakes, wetlands, tree canopies, and meadows is a field-site, a creative laboratory for studying the dense ecosystems and overlapping habitats, calling attention to the delicate balance between human activity and the environment.

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# CV

## EDUCATION

- 1998 MFA in Studio Art, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois  
1995 BFA Honours, University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *Paradigm of Wonder*, Centre de Diffusion Presse Papier, Trois-Rivières, Quebec  
2020 *Paradigm of Wonder*, Agnes Jamieson Art Gallery, Minden Hills Cultural Centre, Minden, ON  
2020 *Makeshift Tales and Other Collisions*, ARTsPLACE Gallery, Annapolis Royal, NS  
2018 *Other Collisions*, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2018 *Makeshift Tales*, Alberta Printmakers, Calgary, AB  
2016 *Makeshift Tales*, Open Studio Sales Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2016 *Makeshift*, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2015 *Makeshift*, Reynolds Gallery, Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC  
2014 *A Curious Assortment*, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2014 *Some Assembly Required*, George Gilmour Members' Gallery, Open Studio, Toronto, ON  
2013 *Nature Collapse*, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2010 *Escape from the Land of the Wandering*, George Gilmour Members' Gallery, Open Studio, Toronto, ON  
2010 *Artifacts of the Self-Made*, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2008 *Under Leaf and Log*, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2007 *Recent Prints*, Art Rental and Sales Gallery, Art Gallery of Windsor, ON  
2007 *Complicated Natures*, Nick Novak Scholarship, Open Studio, Toronto, ON  
2007 *From the Bloom Dreams*, Hamilton Printmakers Arts Association, Hamilton, ON  
2007 *Plenty*, Rotunda Gallery, Kitchener, ON  
2007 *Plenty*, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
1999 *Journals from the Silk Current*, ARC Gallery, Chicago, Illinois

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *New Perspectives*, Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON  
2021 *Celebrations of Summer*, Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON

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- 2020 *Come Up To My Room (CUTMR) 2020*, Gladstone Hotel, Invitational, Curated by Astrid Ho and Meg Feheley, Toronto, ON
- 2019 *Strata*, Atelier Mondial, Basel, Switzerland
- 2018 *Both Sides Now*, Japanese Paper Place, Toronto, ON
- 2018 *Going to Ground*, Southern Graphics Conference International, Las Vegas, Nevada
- 2017 *Trace*, Southern Graphics Conference International, Atlanta, Georgia
- 2016 *Boundless and Borderless*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia
- 2016 *Boundless and Borderless*, Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
- 2015 *Dwell*, St. Anne's Anglican Church, Toronto, ON
- 2013 *Boundless and Borderless*, Station Gallery, Whitby, ON
- 2013 *A Commitment to Washi: Canadian Artists Exploring Tosa Washi*, Japanese Paper Place Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2013 *A Commitment to Washi: Canadian Artists Exploring Tosa Washi*, Kochi Okayaku Ginze, Tokyo, Japan
- 2012 *Re: Arrange*, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON
- 2012 *Okanagan Print Triennial 2012*, Kelowna Art Gallery, Kelowna, BC
- 2011 *Elizabeth D'Agostino, Mi Hyang Kim and Michelle Murillo*, Malaspina Printmakers Society, Vancouver, BC
- 2009 *UpArt, Rooms of Wonder*, Gladstone Hotel, Toronto, ON
- 2008 *Impressit*, Galerie d'art St-Ambroise, Montreal, QC
- 2006 *In Cahoots*, The Inkshop and Olive Branch Press, Ithaca, New York
- 2004 *Time and Place, Kala Fellowship Exhibition*, Kala Art Institute Gallery, Berkeley, California
- 2003 *Gros Morne Artist-in-Residence Exhibition*, Discovery Centre, Woody Point, NL
- 2003 *Tracing Times*, Isiko: Museum of Cape Town, South Africa
- 2003 *Tracing Times*, Gittens Gallery, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
- 2003 *Curtains: Open or Closed*, Manhattan Graphics Center, New York, New York
- 2003 *77<sup>th</sup> Annual International Exhibition*, The Print Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2000 *Curtains: Open or Closed*, Gittens Gallery, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah
- 1999 *Combined Talents – The Florida National*, Florida State University Museum, Tallahassee, Florida
- 1999 *International Juried Show '99*, New Jersey Center for Visual Arts, Summit, New Jersey
- 1998 *Selected Mappings – A Journey into Earthscapes*, Crossley Gallery, Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, Florida
- 1998 *Memory, Moment, Memento*, Mira Mar Gallery, Sarasota, Florida

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2013-2018 Managing Director, Toronto School of Art, Toronto, ON
- 2004-2012 Curriculum Coordinator, Toronto School of Art, Toronto, ON

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2004-2011 Printmaking Faculty, Ontario College of Art and Design University, Toronto, ON  
2001-2003 Professor, White Mountain Academy of the Arts, Elliot Lake, ON  
1998-2000 Instructor, Ringling College of Art and Design, Sarasota, Florida

## AWARDS

2018 Toronto Arts Council Newcomer and Refugee Artist Mentorship Program (Mentor)  
2018 Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance  
2014 Hexagon, Special Projects Fellowship, Open Studio, Toronto, ON  
2014 Honourable Mention, Open Studio National Printmaking Awards, Toronto, ON  
2008 Honourable Mention, Printmaking, Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition  
2007 Visual Arts Emerging Artist Project Grant, Ontario Arts Council  
2005 Nick Novak Scholarship, Open Studio, Toronto, ON  
2004 Renaissance Graphic Arts Materials Award, The Print Centre, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
1998 Professional Development Grant, Ringling School of Art and Design, Sarasota, Florida  
1998 Southern Illinois University Women's Professional Studies, Carbondale, Illinois  
1995-98 Graduate Teaching Assistantships, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Illinois

## RESIDENCIES

2019 Edition/Basel 2019, Druckwerk Studio, Basel, Switzerland  
2017 Artist-in-Residence, Sointula Shed, Sointula, British Columbia  
2014 Artist-in-Residence, Anchor Graphics, Columbia College, Chicago, Illinois  
2006 Artist-in-Residence, Frans Masareel Centrum, Kasterlee, Belgium  
2004 Fellowship/Residency, Kala Art Institute, Berkeley, California  
2003 Artist-in-Residence, Art Gallery of Newfoundland and Parks Canada, St. John's, Newfoundland  
2003 Fellowship/Residency, Vermont Studio Centre, Johnson, Vermont

## PRESENTATION, WORKSHOPS + LECTURES

2018 Lecture, *Makeshift Tales*, Alberta Printmakers, Calgary, AB  
2014 Lecture, Open Studio, Hexagon Special Projects Fellowship, Toronto, ON  
2014 Lecture, Anchor Graphics at Columbia College, Chicago, Illinois  
2010 Q+A, moderated by Libby Hague and Yael Brotman, Loop Gallery, Toronto, ON  
2009 Open Portfolio, Southern Graphics Council, Chicago, Illinois  
2008 Visiting Artist, Lecture, University of South Dakota, Vermillion South Dakota

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- 2007** Lecture, Nick Novak Scholarship Exhibition, Open Studio, Toronto, ON  
**2004** Lecture, Kala Art Institute, Berkeley, California  
**2003** Workshop, Gros Morne National Park Discovery Centre, Wood Point, NL  
**2003** Lecture, *Meander*, Gros Morne National Park Discovery Centre, Wood Point, NL

## **CORPORATE COLLECTIONS**

Ernst and Young, London, Ontario, Canada  
Frans Masareel Centrum, Kasterlee, Belgium  
Japanese Paper Place, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
Kala Art Institute, Berkeley, California, United States  
Kay Hannah Associates, San Francisco, California, United States  
National Bank, Canada  
Open Studio, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
Pearson International Airport, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
St Cuthbert's Mill Paper Company, Somerset, England

## **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

Bibliotheque et Archives Nationales, Montreal, Quebec, Canada  
Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada  
Custom Carpet Commission, High Commission of Canada, Canada House, Ontario Room,  
United Kingdom  
Department of Foreign Affairs, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
Library Collections, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Illinois, United States  
Manly Art Gallery and Museum, New South Wales, Australia  
North East Normal University, Normal, Illinois, United States  
University of Changchun, Jilin, China  
University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, United States  
University of West Virginia, Morgantown, West Virginia, United States  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, United States  
Zuckerman Museum of Art, Kennesaw State University, Georgia, United States

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