

JULIE GLADSTONE

Toronto, ON

BIOGRAPHY

Julie Gladstone is a Canadian Interdisciplinary artist well known for her abstract painting and installations, while also working in drawing, photography, sculpture, knitting, embroidery, textiles, music, performance and DIY video work. Her practice involves collecting contemporary artefacts, creating altars, amulets, spiritual couture and garments for rites of passage around motherhood, and inventing contemporary ceremonies for healing.

Currently an MFA candidate in the Interdisciplinary Studio program at OCAD University, Gladstone is the recipient of an Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Presidents Scholarship and the Dean's Scholarship for her research. Gladstone holds a BFA with a major in painting and drawing and a minor in film studies from Concordia University, in Montreal, Canada where she lived for 5 years.

She has participated in artist residencies at SIM Residency in Iceland and Artscape Gibraltar point on Toronto Island and has lived in Haida Gwaii where she volunteered at the Haida Heritage Centre archiving the rare book collection and exhibiting in the Ocean Art Show. Gladstone has exhibited her work in solo and group exhibitions widely in Canada and the United States. Notable exhibitions have included Surface Tension at the Artport Gallery as part of Design TO, A solo exhibition at the Museum of Jewish Montreal, You are Not Wonderful Just Because you are a Mother Exhibition curated by Qiana Mestrich, the Department of Canadian Heritage in Toronto, and The Talahassee Museum. Her work has been supported by the Toronto and Ontario Arts Councils, the Government of Quebec, Artscape, and the City of Edmonton. Gladstone's work has been featured by CBC Arts, Toronto Guardian, Toronto Life and the Canadian Jewish News.

Her first International solo exhibition was produced with the support of the Judío David Melul Museum, in Béjar Spain in the summer of 2019 and was followed by a solo exhibition s at the Museum of Jewish Montreal. Inspired by family mythology and diaspora, the exhibition became part of a quest to discover the medieval village in Spain from which her ancestors were exiled during in 1492, during the Spanish Inquisition. By integrating Medieval Sephardic and Kabbalistic iconography and the flora and fauna from her ancestral environment as a way to create metaphysical protective garments, for herself, her unborn child and as retroactive protective garments for her ancestors in the diaspora. These works were exhibited in the village from which her ancestors were exiled 500 years earlier and are a contemplation of the

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meaning of a homeland in an era of displacement, climate change and the disconnection from one's culture and land that comes from a diaspora heritage.

Julie is also the founder of Living Maps Alchemical Yoga, and is a former professional Acupuncturist. Her studio is in a 100-year-old building of a former Jewish hospital in the Annex in Toronto, Canada where she lives with her partner and daughter Skye Rose. Sometimes cardinals and hawks land on the branches of the trees outside the window while she is working.

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ARTIST STATEMENT

This series explores the meaning of intimacy, domesticity and contending with representations of self as a mother/artist.

As a Canadian abstract landscape painter, my past work focused largely on expressions of the outer world; on the changing faces of the urban landscape and on the impact of weather patterns and climate change on the public imagination through a re-imagined sublime aesthetic. Much of my interest in pattern and composition focused on observations from urban walks through my neighbourhood, and on creating patchwork juxtapositions of aerial views with microscopic details of textures observed, such as cracks in the pavement, or moss covered brickwork.

In recent work, the figure and the domestic environment have begun to enter my painting vocabulary, and there is an interest in conveying emotion and intimate moments. I've become interested in exploring the theme of intimacy through the lens of the art movement "intimism" defined by art critic Camille Marcoux as "a revelation of the soul through the things painted, the magnetic suggestion of what lies behind them through the description of the outer appearance, the intimate meaning of the spectacles of life".

Inspired by the series of "Bather" paintings by Pierre Bonnard and the intimism movement in general, this series reclaims the notion of domestic narrative from a male dominated voyeur gaze, to describe the real lived experience of domesticity from the perspective of an artist/mother contending with all of its inherent duality. Intimate physical moments are depicted in their nuances of claustrophobia, exhaustion as well as transcendent beauty, love and connection. There is a particular focus on the figure of the bather, and the bath as a site of refuge, healing and solace.

The intimism movement is notable in its emphasis on texture, an exaggerated palette, and merged figure and ground, utilizing domestic narratives or a focus on the mundane. In this series I make use of these techniques to represent domestic experiences such as bathing, sleeping, nursing, gardening and interior decor, from a first person perspective. In so doing, my work aims to contribute to feminist discourse in contemporary painting, centering a politics of care, and reclamation of non-idealized representations of intimacy, motherhood and interior spaces amidst a male dominated cannon.

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CV

EDUCATION

- 2022 OCAD University MFA Candidate, Interdisciplinary Master's in Art, Media & Design
2007 BFA Major in Painting and Drawing, Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec

SELECTED SOLO + DUO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *River Variations* with Vanessa McKernan, Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
2020 *One for the Other* with Clovis Alexandre-Desvareaux, Eleanor London Gallery at Côte St Luc Library, QC
2019 *Return to the Fortress*, Museum of Jewish Montreal, Montreal, QC
2019 *La Fuente de Los Deseos*, Museo Judío David Melul, Casino Obrero, Bejar, Spain
2018 *2012-2018 Survey*, Department of Canadian Heritage, Toronto, ON
2016 *The Secret Life of Rainbows*, Gallery 555, Toronto, ON
2016 *Infinity Pool: Sublime Pop Paintings*, Navillus Gallery, Toronto, ON
2016 *The New Sublime*, curated by Geoffrey Nawn, GN Contemporary, Toronto, ON
2014 *Julie Gladstone – Selected Works*, Artscape Youngplace Gallery, Toronto, ON
2013 *The Sky is Falling*, Walnut Contemporary, Toronto, ON
2012 *Metaphysical Cartography*, Walnut Contemporary, Toronto, ON
2008 *Salon D'impermanence*, The Lumenarium Gallery, Montreal, QC
2008 *Fossilized* with Glen LeMesurier, Galerie St. Viateur, Montreal, QC
2007 *The Life of Relics* with Matthew Thompson, VAV Gallery, Montreal, QC

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Presently*, Art Gallery of Peterborough, Peterborough, ON
2020 *You Are Not Wonderful Just Because You're a Mother*, curated by Qiana Mestrich, juried virtual exhibition, Artist/Mother Podcast
2020 *Painting 2020*, curated by Niki Dracos, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON
2020 *How to be a Rainbow in Dark Times*, Grow-Op Contemporary Art Fair, Gladstone Hotel, Toronto, ON
2019 *Design TO: Surface Tension*, Artport Gallery, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON
2018 *All Those Lines*, The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto, ON
2018 *Tarot Themed Exhibition*, Phylogeny Contemporary, Seattle, USA
2017 *Dripping in Paint*, Earls Court Gallery, Hamilton, ON
2016 *Scapes*, Navillus Gallery, Toronto, ON

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- 2016 *Full Spectrum*, Living Arts Centre Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2015 *Buff???*, SIM Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland
- 2015 *15 Hot Artists to Watch in 2015*, Canadian Fine Arts Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2015 *Human\Nature*, curated by Kaitie Robertson, Navillus Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2015 *7 Painters*, curated by Geoffrey Nawn, GN Studios Contemporary Art, Oakville, ON
- 2015 *Best of Toronto Outdoor Art*, exhibition for Award Winners, First Canadian Place, Toronto, ON
- 2014 *Immoderation*, curated by Megan Press, The Living Arts Centre, Toronto, ON
- 2014 *Annual Juried Competition*, curated by Jean Young, FSU Museum of Fine Arts: Tallahassee International, Florida, USA
- 2013 *The Annual/Shifting Ground*, curated by Katherine Dennis, The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto, ON
- 2013 *These Post-Neo-Pop Like Days*, curated by Sabah Askara, Walnut Contemporary, Toronto, ON
- 2012 *Gallery Launch Exhibition*, curated by Amanda MacDonald, Walnut Contemporary, Toronto, ON
- 2011 *Weather*, curated by Lee Petrie, Toronto Pearson International Airport, Toronto, ON
- 2011 *The Ocean*, Haida Heritage Museum, Skidigate, Haida Gwaii, BC

INSTALLATION WORK

- 2018 Department of Canadian Heritage: Extreme Cloud installation, Toronto, ON
- 2017 Earls Court Gallery "Virtual Eco-System" Installation Window, Hamilton
- 2017 Gladstone Hotel: Grow-Op Exhibition "Extreme Cloud Gazing" Public Installation
- 2017 House of VR Gallery: Extreme Cloud Gazing Installation
- 2016 Artscape Gibraltar Point Beach: Extreme Cloud Gazing Installation

GRANTS + AWARDS

- 2021 Ontario Graduate Scholarship, OCAD U
- 2021 President's Scholarship, OCAD U
- 2019 Dean's Scholarship, OCAD U
- 2019 Self Portrait Competition Winner at TAP Contemporary Art Fair, Toronto, ON
- 2017 Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Assistance Grant
- 2016 Canadian Society of Civil Engineering Emerging Artist Competition Award Winner
- 2014 Toronto Arts Council Visual Arts Grant for Emerging Artists
- 2014 Artscape Award, Best in Show at Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition
- 2008 Government of Quebec Emerging Artist Grant and Mentorship Program

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RESIDENCIES

- 2019 David Melul Jewish Museum Artist Residency, Bejar, Spain
- 2018 Artscape Gibraltar Point Artist Residency
- 2015 SIM International Artist Residency, Reykjavik, Iceland

SELECT PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 You are Not Wonderful Just Because You're a Mother curated by Qiana Mestrich
- 2021 Artist/Mother Podcast Exhibition Catalogue
- 2020 John B. Aird Gallery, online publication of Painting 2020, juried by Niki Drakos
- 2020 Culture Fancier Blog: Grow Op 2020
- 2020 Canadian Art Agenda: Return to the Fortress at MOJM
- 2019 Anansi Press, cover art for Marie Claire Blais novel Thunder and Light.
- 2019 Cult Montreal, Best of the Week: Return to the Fortress Vernissage
- 2019 Radio Salamanca, Hoy por Hoy, Interview, Salamanca, Spain.
- 2019 I like Your Work Podcast / Studio Visit with Erika B Hess
- 2018 The Green Majority Podcast: Eco- Arts Roundtable
- 2017 Toronto Guardian: A Day In the Life of Toronto Artist Julie Gladstone
- 2017 CBC Arts: Save The Planet, Adopt One of These Clouds
- 2017 Toronto Life: These quirky installations are taking over the Gladstone Hotel
- 2017 Gladstone Hotel Blog: An Extreme Weather Event in Gladstone Lobby
- 2016 Akimbo Connects spotlight Gibraltar Point Artist Residency.
- 2016 Mississauga News: Emerging Artists display contemporary works at LAC
- 2015 Filmartist Productions 30 second film
- 2015 Photonews Magazine, Portrait of An Artist: Panasonic Artist Feature
- 2015 Artscape News: Interview with Julie Gladstone
- 2015 CJN Eye on The Arts: At The Galleries
- 2015 Notable.ca, Julie Gladstone: Today's Notable Young Professional
- 2015 Navillus Gallery Blog For New Collectors
- 2014 FSU Museum of Fine Arts, Tallahassee International Juried Art Exhibition Catalogue
- 2014 The Canadian Jewish News, Eye on Arts. "Artists Win Prizes in TOAE"
- 2013 Notable.ca by Erin Davis: Artist Profile of Julie Gladstone, Review of "The Sky is Falling"
- 2013 Canadian Architect: The Annual: Shifting Ground at the Gladstone Hotel, October, 2013
- 2012 View on Canadian Art, By Andrea Carson: "In The Studio with Julie Gladstone"
- 2012 Plaid Magazine: Walnut Contemporary & Metaphysical Cartography
- 2012 In Conversation with Contemporary Canadian Art, By Trish Boon

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2012 Fiasco Magazine UK with Greg Swales

COLLECTIONS

Museo Judio David Melul, Bejar Spain

Ayuntamiento de Bejar, Bejar, Spain

The Battat Collection

Canadian Society of Civil Engineering, City of Edmonton, Edmonton, Alberta

Private collections across Canada, the United States, and England

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