

**PETER ROTTER**

*Lakefield, ON*

## **ARTIST STATEMENT**

Landscapes dominate the subjects of my paintings, simply because they have always surrounded my life. Feeling is the essential motif behind my work; the initial inspiration holds the key to the process that evolves afterwards. I am drawn to a particular place by a luminous colour, a certain slant of light, an interesting shape, or shadow, movement of sky, a memory of sound, smell and sense of ease. These elements are what interest and excite me, stirring my passion to paint.

For me these places are found in northern Ontario. After graduating from the Ontario College of Art in 95, painting the north was a natural homecoming for me. Growing up it was where I spent my summers and weekends. Growing older I've realized the impact it made on my life and work.

Recently I relocated my home and studio from Toronto to Lakefield ON, in the Kawarthas, to be closer to my inspiration. When painting, I reference photos I've taken usually only days prior so the image and feeling is still fresh in my mind. Each piece starts as a small oil sketch, where I focus on colour and composition, this then may or may not lead to a larger canvas. I try to paint every day. This is important for my work as well as my well-being.

## **HORIZONS - CURATORIAL STATEMENT**

Wall Space Gallery invites you to join us for the presentation of new paintings by four renowned landscape artists; [Tanya Kirouac](#), [Peter Rotter](#), [Dan Ryan](#) and [Boyd Waites](#). Through their unique approaches, each of these artists explore the use of the horizon line, whether through its stark presence or its abstract denial, to tether us to reality or allow us to drift into psychological spaces of reverie.

A horizon line in painting is often considered the most basic descriptor of space, grounding abstract environment into 'land' and 'sky' - "up" and "down". In his realism, Peter Rotter is bound by the horizon, using it as a means to fragment the canvas into varying portions drawing us to open sky or pulling us earthwards as in *Sunset Island*. Rotter likewise withholds deep space from us

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through barricades of winter trees and snowy vistas. In *The Stand*, he focuses instead on rough textures of bark that push towards us, obscuring the horizon but leading us through multiple shallow drifts of snow.

Rotter loosens or amplifies the grip of gravity and space to allow painting to connect with the sensorial experience of place. The power in Rotter's approach to disorientation or grounding through the horizon lies in his ability to shake us loose from our everyday experience of the world.

- Tiffany April  
Curator

## CV

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *New Work*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
- 2014 *Solo Exhibition*. Studio Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
- 2013 *Solo Exhibition*. 129 Ossington Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2013 *Solo Exhibition*. Gallery on the Lake, Buckhorn, ON
- 2009 *Solo Exhibition*. Niagara Street Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2008 *Solo Exhibition*. Niagara Street Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2007 *Solo Exhibition*. Niagara Street Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2005 *Solo Exhibition*. Niagara Street Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2002 *Solo Exhibition*. Arcadia Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2001 *Solo Exhibition*. Arcadia Gallery, Toronto ON
- 1999 *Solo Exhibition*. Arcadia Gallery, Toronto ON

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- Oct 2015 *Canadian Art Collective: Point of View*. Wall Space Gallery, Ottawa, ON
- Oct 2014 *Toronto International Art Fair*. (with Postma Fine Art, Calgary, AB) Toronto, ON
- Nov 2013 *Waddington's Fine Art Auction*. participant in LIVE auction
- Nov 2013 *Boston International Fine Art Show*. Boston MA,
- Sep 2013 *Kawartha Autumn Studio Tour*.

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Jun 2013 *Group Exhibition.* Christensen Fine Art Gallery, Peterborough ON  
 Apr 2013 *Affordable Art Fair.* New York, NY  
 Dec 2012 *One of a Kind Show.* Chicago, IL  
 Nov 2012 *Group Exhibition.* 129 Ossington Gallery, Toronto, ON  
 Oct 2012 *Group Exhibition.* Paula White Diamond Gallery, Waterloo, ON  
 Sep 2012 *Canadian Art Collective Exhibition.* Toronto ON  
 Jan 2012 *Group Exhibition.* Arta Gallery, Toronto, ON  
 2009-12 *McMichael Gallery Canadian Art Collection.* Kleingurg, ON  
 2008-13 *The Artist Project.* Toronto, ON  
 1999-2013 *Toronto Outdoor Art Fair.* Toronto, ON  
 2003-07 *Inside Art EXPO*  
 2006 *Group Exhibition.* Niagra Street Gallery, Toronto, ON  
 2005 *Group Exhibition.* Wagner Rosenbaum Gallery, Toronto, ON  
  
 2004 *BCE Gallery Art Show.* Toronto, ON  
 1998-2002 *Buchhorn Wildlife Art Exhibition,* Buckhorn, ON  
 1998 *Kitchener City Hall Fine Art Juried Exhibition.* Kitchener, ON  
 1998- 99 *Artworks.* Toronto ON  
 1998 *Kawartha Arts Festival.* Fenlon Falls Art Gallery of Peel 24th Annual Juried Show of Fine Art

## MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

2014 - Present Artists for Conservation  
 2013 - Present Ontario Society of Artists

## AWARDS

Sheila Hugh MacKay Foundation Grant Recipient  
 Elizabeth Greenshield Grant Recipient Winner 2002, 2003, 2004  
 McMichael Gallery, BEST IN SHOW 2009, 2010

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