

ERYN O'NEILL

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SPACE
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STAGE 2:

THE CONSTRUCTION OF OTTAWA'S LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM



ERYN O'NEILL

BIOGRAPHY

Born in Ottawa, Eryn O'Neill holds a BFA from NSCAD University, and an MFA from the University of Waterloo. She completed her MA at Carleton University in Art and Architectural History and Curatorial Studies. Currently she is pursuing a Masters of Architecture at the Azrieli School of Architecture & Urbanism at Carleton University

Her paintings study an urban space in transition through the perspective of a runner. The paintings are the product of months of repetitive outings, in all conditions, to gather enough information, visually and mentally, to create sensory charged paintings suggestive of a figure navigating an urban environment.

Eryn attended the Vermont Studio Centre in 2016 and the Golden Foundation Artist in Residence in March 2019. Her work will be part of a group exhibition in New Berlin, New York in April 2020.

A multiple Ontario Arts Council Grant recipient, and a two time recipient of the Elizabeth Greenshields Award. In 2021 her work was acquired by Global Affairs Canada and the City of Ottawa's Art Collection .

Eryn lives and works as a full-time artist in Ottawa, with a studio space at the Rectory House in the Byward Market.



STAGE 2

ARTIST STATEMENT

This series, *Stage 2: The Construction of Ottawa's Light Rail System*, began with several trips to the stations in various stages of progression. The images became the source material for the paintings. The intention of the work is to capture the construction elements of the integration of a rail line in an urban centre. The ongoing documentation exposes the overlooked elements associated with a major undertaking, creating paintings that celebrate the chaotic and functional components associated with construction. Through representational paintings, the series captures transitional periods, aiming to document the temporality of construction; a constantly moving target.

The methodology includes research and creation. The research is often accomplished by gathering photographic images to gain an understanding, first-hand, of being in the space; this helps achieve more accurate paintings of the locations. The creation is solely done in the studio setting, working from the photographs and sketches to create the final product, bringing to light features and nuances that make an urban system truly unique.

The research will also consider the impact and changes to the physical landscape of Ottawa. With a keen interest in the architectural elements directly associated with the train development, that will tangentially inspire other imagery to show a larger scale impact on the city. Unprecedented in Ottawa, this scale of advancement is impacting areas formerly more rural and less accessible from public transit, to the most urban spaces.

The images depict surrounding architecture and steer the public towards the importance of public spaces and how we interact with our urban environment. The work is meant to open a dialogue around how we navigate through the landscapes for transportation. At this time the images depict sections of the train construction, covering bridge infrastructure and stations from Moodie to Trim Road, and many areas in between.

The areas deemed worthy to paint come from years of careful observation and editing to create confident and narrative pieces that resonate with a broader audience. Aspiring to make relatable work, and to continue to interconnect art, architecture and urban advancement through the lens of painting.


Eryn O'Neill



Bridge Construction (Limebank)

 Oil on canvas

 48 x 30 in.

 \$3900



Concrete Pillar

 Oil on canvas

 40 x 48 in.

 \$4400



Cranes

Oil on canvas 

40 x 48 in. 

\$4400 



Moodie Station

Oil on canvas

48 x 40 in.

\$4400



South Keys

Oil on canvas

48 x 40 in.


\$4400



Place d'Orleans


 Oil on canvas

 40 x 30 in.


 \$3500



Tunnel (Byron Linear Path)

 Oil on canvas

 40 x 30 in.

 \$3500



Scaffolding (Leitrim Station)

Oil on canvas 

40 x 48 in. 

\$4400 



Bayview Station Scaffolding

 Oil on canvas

 40 x 20 in.


 \$3380



Ottawa River Parkway

 Acrylic on canvas

 72 x 48 in.

 \$6000

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JUNE 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

347 PRESTON ST. OTTAWA

