

# SLGALLERY

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## MICHAEL A. ROBINSON



Michael A. Robinson lives and works in Montreal, Canada. A multidisciplinary artist and producer of sculptural installations, his artistic process combines theoretical ideas and intuitions, with material playfulness and invention. Working with immediacy, his work valorizes questioning and opening over conclusions and affirmations. Michael's work is reflexive, critical, and materially speculative. In the past twenty years his work has examined the creative gesture, its conditions of emergence, and the position of the artist in face of art world conventions.

Michael teaches sculpture and drawing at UQAM's Department of Visual and Media Arts (2004-present) and recently as full-time Artist in Residence, MFA Sculpture, at Concordia University (2016-2017). He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Concordia University, in Montreal and a Master of Fine Arts from Université de Paris 1 – Panthéon-Sorbonne.

During the past fifteen years Michael has been represented in Montreal by leading galleries such as Gallery Samuel Lallouz, Parisian Laundry, and Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran. Recent solo exhibitions include, The Gift of Oblivion 2018, Galerie Diagonale, Montreal, Either/And 2016, which was presented at ArtHelix, Brooklyn, New York and Black Period, 2015, L'Oeil de Poisson, Quebec, Quebec. Group shows include Other Worlds, Washington Project for the Arts, Washington D.C., 2016 and Dypthong, Shirley Fiterman Gallery, New York, New York, 2015. His works are part of numerous public and private collections, such as the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, the Musée nationale des beaux-arts du Québec, and the Canada Council Art Bank.

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## Artist Statement

For more than twenty years, I have been making works of art that express my own experience of creation. I describe my art practice as a reflexive, critical, and materially speculative act. I see making art as a cyclical process of becoming. My creative research is anchored in the questions that I ask myself while I am working. In this way, the subjects of my artworks often concern art, art history, and the creative process.

My sculptures and installations are composed of found objects and constructed assemblages, although I often incorporate sound, light, and video and image. My drawing and image-based works allow for more spontaneity and playfulness. They are the origin of my interest in line, which permeates all my work.

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## Education

- 1996 Masters of Fine Arts, University of Paris I/Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris (France)
- 1994 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Concordia University, Montreal (QC)

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 *The Gift of Oblivion*, Galerie Diagonale, Montreal
- 2016 *Either/And*, ArtHelix, Brooklyn, (NY)
- 2015 *Black Period*, L'Œil de Poisson, Quebec, (QC)
- 2014 *The Origin of Ideas*, YYZ Artists Outlet, Toronto, (ON)  
*Austerity Measures*, Le Lieu, Quebec, (QC)
- 2013 *The Origin of Ideas*, galerie antoine ertaskiran, Montreal, (QC)
- 2012 *The last of the last of the last*, Centre Plein sud, Longueuil (QC)
- 2010 *Even When Bombs Are Gone*, Parisian Laundry, Montreal (QC)
- 2009 *Throw Genre*, Darling Foundry, Montreal (QC)
- 2008 *The Debris Field*, Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain, Montreal (QC)  
*The Event Horizon*, EXPRESSION, Centre d'exposition de Saint-Hyacinthe (QC)
- 2006 *Speed Giants*, Centre d'exposition CIRCA, Montreal (QC)
- 2004 *Faits divers*, Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain, Montreal (QC)  
*Avancer dans le brouillard*, (*Sweet Dreams*), Musée nationale de beaux-arts du Québec, (QC)
- 2003 *Sweet Dreams*, Centre des arts actuels SKOL, Montreal (QC)
- 1999 *Stand Up to Be Discontinued*, Galerie Clark, Montreal (QC)
- 1998 *Trompe le monde*, Optica, Montreal (QC)  
*Recent Work*, Carl Davis Gallery, Ottawa (ON)
- 1996 *Real Real Gone*, Gallery Samuel Lallouz, Montreal (QC)  
*Self*, Hôpital Éphémère, Paris (France)

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- 1995 *Une cartographie inachevée*, Quartier Éphémère, Montreal (QC)  
*Ouvrez le panthéon*, Le Centre Colombier, Rennes (France)
- 1994 *Devenir-imperceptible*, Galerie AXENÉO-7 Art Contemporain, Hull (QC)

## Group Exhibitions

- 2018 *Où allons-nous?*, Musée national des Beaux-Arts du Québec, (QC)
- 2017 *La chose en soi*, Musée Régionale de Rimouski, (QC)  
*Making their Mark*, 100 Bogartr Street Gallery, Brooklyn, (NY)
- 2016 *Black and white and r(e)ad all over*, ArtHelix, Brooklyn, (NY)  
*Other worlds, other stories*, Washington Project for the Arts, Washington D.C.
- 2015 *Dyphthong*, Shirley Fiterman Gallery, New York, (NY)  
*Art Souterrain*, Complexe des Ailes, Montreal, (QC)  
*Formats X*, library Formats, invitation-Sophie Jodin, Montreal, (QC)
- 2013 *GAE 2013*, galerie antoine ertaskiran, Montreal, (QC)
- 2012 *Art Histories*, VOX, centre de l'image contemporaine, Montreal (QC)
- 2011 *Dessin à dessein*, Galerie Lilian Rodriguez, Montreal (QC)
- 2010 *Expansion*, La galerie de l'UQAM, Montreal (QC)  
*Ces artistes qui impriment*, The National Library of Quebec, Montreal (QC)  
*The National Biennale of Sculpture*, St-Jean-Port-Jolie (QC)
- 2009 Toronto International Art Fair, Parisian Laundry, Toronto (ON)
- 2008 *Québec Gold*, Reims (France)
- 2006 *The National Biennale of Contemporary Sculpture*, Trois-Rivières (QC)  
*Treehouse*, Galerie Liane and Danny Taran, Montreal (QC)  
*Mots perdus*, Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain, Montreal (QC)  
*Mots perdus*, The Bridge Art Fair, Miami (USA)  
*Utopies à vendre*, Centre d'exposition CIRCA, Montreal (QC)  
*Jumelages : L'ESPACE et son double*, travelling exhibition, Montreal (QC)

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- 2005 *L'écho des limbes*, Gallery Leonard and Bina Ellen, Montreal (QC)  
Toronto International Art Fair, Special project invitation, *Solo Spaces*, Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain, Toronto (ON)
- 2003 La triennale de la relève québécoise, Marché Bonsecours, Montréal (QC)
- 2002 *Ultra vide*, Fonderie Darling, Montreal (QC)
- 1998 Nouvelle collection du prêt d'œuvres d'art, National Museum of Fine Arts, Quebec (QC)  
*Artifice*, Saidye Bronfman Gallery, Montreal (QC)  
*Les bricolos*, Centre Clark, Montreal (QC)
- 1997 *La relève*, Hôpital éphémère, Paris (France)  
*Panique au faubourg*, exhibition *in situ*, Faubourg des Récollets, Montreal (QC)  
*En cause*, BRANCUSI, Gallery AXENÉO-7, Hull (QC)  
Loans collection exhibition, National Museum of Fine Arts, Quebec (QC)  
ARCO 97, representation at the contemporary art fair, Madrid (Spain)  
*Exhibition of small format works*, Galerie Samuel Lallouz, Montreal (QC)
- 1996 *Petite impertinence*, Cité des arts, Paris (France)  
*The drawings and maquettes of sculptors*, Galerie Samuel Lallouz, Montreal (QC)
- 1995 40<sup>e</sup> Salon de Montrouge, Paris (France)

## Grants & Prizes

Grant: (type A), The Quebec Arts Council 2014, 2011, 2007, 2005, 2004,

Grant: (type A), The Canada Council 2009, 2007, 2019,

Shortlisted for the Louis-Comtois Award for Montreal mid-career artist in 2009

Grant: *Maison de la culture du Monde*, Paris (France) 1997

Grant: Ministry of Culture France (D.A.I.) 1997

Grant: (type B), The Quebec Arts Council 2002, 1998, 1996, 1994

Grant: Quebec Ministry of International Affairs 1995

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## Residencies

NARS, (New York Art Residency and Studio Foundation), USA (2015)

RU Residency Brooklyn, NY, USA (2015)

Residence and studio offered by the city of Rennes (France)

Residence and studio offered by l'Hôpital Éphémère, Paris (France)

## Bibliography

2018 James D. Campbell, *The Gift of Oblivion*, Whitehot Magazine, November

2017 Marie-Eve Charron, *La vie secrète des objets*, Le Devoir, 19 août

2016 Cynthia Fecteau, *Michael A. Robinson, Black Period*, ETC Media, 107

2015 Anne Pilorget, *L'art vidé de tout propos*, Vie des arts 238

2013 *Equal to my own equation*, Monograph, Plein Sud, Longueuil, Quebec

Texts by André Paré and Marcel Blouin, Artist book, 116 p.

Marie-Eve Charron, *La compacité du vide*, Le Devoir, May 18

Marius Tanasescu, *Una cosa mentale*, ETC Montreal, No. 99

Normand Babin, *Lumière sur les idées lumineuses*, Montéalistment.blogspot.ca, May 19

Anne Pilorget, *L'attrait du vide*, Espace Sculpture, December

2012 Anja Bock, *Art histories*, Art Papers, July

2010 VOIR Télé-Québec, *L'art contemporain sous terre*, March 3

2009 Jérôme Delgado, *Affronter la scène*, Le Devoir, March 28

Peter Dubé, *Michael A. Robinson: Throw Genre*, C Magazine 103

2008 Jérôme Delgado, *Premiers champs de couleur*, Le Devoir, January 12

2007 Samuel Gaudreau-Lalande, *Autour des errances*, ETC Montreal, No. 78

2006 *Treehouse*, Galerie Liane et Danny Taran, Montreal, Quebec

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- Peter Dubé, *L'écho des limbes*, ESSE arts + opinions
- Jean-Michel Ross, *Jumelages: La sculpture dédoublée*, ESPACE sculpture No. 75.
- James D. Campbell, *White Rabbit, Black Hole*, ETC Montreal, No. 73, March-May
- 2005 James D. Campbell, *Put yourself in my shoes!*, ESPACE sculpture No. 71
- James D. Campbell, *Michael A. Robinson*, Canadian Art, Vol 22, Spring
- 2004 Nicolas Mavrikakis, *Michael A. Robinson: Atomes crochus*, Le Voir, September 30
- Isa Tousignant, *Various Exhibition Essentials*, Hour, September 30
- Jérôme Delgado, *Aux quatre vents*, La Presse, October 10
- Bernard Lamarche, *Michael A. Robinson at Pierre-François Ouellette*, Le Devoir, October 9
- 2003 Joan Rzakiewicz, *Elective Medicine*, ETC Montreal, No. 63
- Nicolas Mavrikakis, *Nuit Blanche*, Le Voir, Montreal, May 1-7
- Caroline Andrieux, *Ultra Vide*, ETC Montréal, No. 61, March-May
- 2002 Jérôme Delgado, *Heureuse Renaissance*, La Presse, July 22
- 1998 André-L. Paré, *Michael A. Robinson*, Parachute, No. 92, Oct-Dec.1998, pp. 47-48
- John K. Grande, *Intertwining* (Landscape, Technology, Issues, Artists), Black Rose Books, Montreal, New York, London, 1998 (pp.149-151)
- Bernard Lamarche, *Panique en la demeure*, Le Devoir, Montreal, June 14, 1997, p.B11
- Stéphane Aquin, *Zone Art*, Le Voir, Montreal, June 1997, Vol.11, No.25
- John K. Grande, *Real Real Gone*, ESPACE sculpture No. 39, spring 1997, Montreal
- 1996 Bernard Lamarche, *Real Real Gone*, Le Devoir, Montreal, November 16, 1996, B11
- David Liss, The Gazette (Montreal), January 20
- André-L. Paré, *Michael A. Robinson : Attention Fragile*, ESPACE sculpture No.32, Summer

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## Collections

National Museum of Fine Arts (permanent collection), Quebec (QC)

National Museum of Fine Arts (Art loans collection), Quebec (QC)

Montreal Museum of Contemporary Art, Montreal (QC)

Canada Council Art Bank, Ottawa (ON)

Carleton University, Ottawa (ON)



[https://www.instagram.com/michael\\_a\\_robinson](https://www.instagram.com/michael_a_robinson)

[www.michaelarobinson.org](http://www.michaelarobinson.org)