

WAKING GIANTS

WRITTEN BY CLAY MCCANN
ON THE SOLO EXHIBITION "WAKING GIANTS"
BY ARTIST MAX STREICHER
CAMPBELL RIVER ART GALLERY 2 JULY - 7 AUGUST 2015

"People get excited by the objects..."

Breath of life to the body, rhythmic, inflate, ephemera rising, kinetic: light-as-cloud, vap'rous, overwhelm, scud, shift, the nylon/Tyvek giants, the horses, temporary, vulnerable, they fill the mind, part balloon, papery, crinkly, part sculpture, colossal, so you see the space they're in, the whirring of fans, the rising limbs, the sagging heads: lung, long, drawn up and out, architecture in dreams, you sense the space they're from, sleepers rising from the sheets, breathe, awake, alive.

"...balloons full of air, full of pressure..."

Max Streicher is a sculptor and installation artist from Alberta, now residing in Toronto. Since 1989 he has worked extensively with inflatable technology in kinetic sculptures and installation works. He has shown widely across Canada in solo exhibitions in museums such as The Art Gallery of Ontario, Edmonton Art Gallery and the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon.

"...air and spirit, an empathy of breath..."

He has been part of group exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Taipei, the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto, the Saidye Bronfman Centre, Montreal, Power Plant Centre for Contemporary Art, Toronto and Southern Alberta Art Gallery in Lethbridge. He has completed several international site-related projects in such places as Taichung, Taiwan, Erfurt, Germany and Prague, Czech Republic.

His inflatable works are in the collections of museums such as the ESSL Museum, Vienna, The Hara Museum, Tokyo and Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton.

EVENT BIOGRAPHIES

OPENING RECEPTION + ARTIST TALK
Thursday July 2, 2015, 7 PM

Join the discussion at the Campbell River Art Gallery with artist Max Streicher. Learn more about *Waking Giants* and Streicher's artistic practice while also celebrating this new exhibition.

MAX STREICHER

Max Streicher is a sculptor and installation artist from Alberta, now residing in Toronto. Since 1989 he has worked extensively with inflatable technology in kinetic sculptures and installation works. He has shown widely across Canada in solo exhibitions in museums such as The Art Gallery of Ontario, Edmonton Art Gallery and the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon. He was a founding member of the Nethermind collective of artists who organized four large exhibitions in alternative spaces in Toronto between 1991 and 1995. Max Streicher is currently represented by Ponce+Robles Galeria de arte, Madrid, Galerie Eric Mircher, Paris, Gallery Maskara in Mumbai, India, Felix Ringle Galerie in Düsseldorf and Ricco/Maresca Gallery in New York.

CLAY MCCANN

Clayton McCann is co-founder of Nelson, BC's the Mercury. Recent work has appeared in Moss (#1.1), Anthropologica (Vol.54, #2), Canadian Literature (#212), Elephant Mtn. Review (#13), subTerrain (#61), and filling Station (#50). He has performed on CBC Radio and at countless poetry readings throughout the Canadian West.

Clay recently defended his MA thesis, *A Cellar Tropic: Elison and the Marijuana Worker* (available above, under "Ethnography"), in Anthropology and Critical Studies at UBC Okanagan.

His next project, a novel about his experiences studying the marijuana industry, is the subject of his MFA, at UBC Okanagan.

Campbell River Art Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of our government, community, and exhibition funders.

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