



ROBERT MARCHESSAULT

*AN  
EXCHANGE  
OF  
FORCES*

October 2023

FOSTER/WHITE GALLERY



*Departure*, oil and acrylic on panel, 12 x 24 inches

Cover image: *Sanostee*, oil and acrylic on panel, 48 x 40 inches

ROBERT MARCHESSAULT  
*AN EXCHANGE OF FORCES*

My work in this exhibition continues to focus on responding to space, form and color in landscapes. I present emotional states using mostly trees as a subject. My trees are a means of expressing internal states; their character and the surrounding spaces allow me to communicate with viewers and share the passion and sensitivities that drive my art. This year I spent time in the marine forests along the Atlantic Coast of Georgia. The windswept trees that hold the dunes against the sea excited me. I present some paintings from a new ongoing series exploring this subject. The exhibition title, *An Exchange of Forces*, implies that the elements composing my paintings cannot be isolated but require a dynamic exchange to achieve my intent.

The forms in my work are situated in surrounding space. The trees and landscape must exist in some kind of interactive atmosphere. A number of techniques, using acrylic and oil paints plus various custom tools, achieve this. I strive for a dynamic sense in which space is animated with movement, light and texture. The energy of the forms interacts with that of the surrounding spaces.

Typically, I work rapidly during the initial painting stages. I use the energy of my body with expressive movements and gestures to apply the paint in a way that shows natural forces. In the later stages of a work I slowly go in with smaller brushes to bring out specific details and textures that contrast with larger spaces.

Thematically my art can be described as part of the landscape genre. However, under the surface I am referencing an awareness and concern for our natural ecology. Trees and forests are a vital element for the health of our planet. Rising sea levels caused by climate change threaten our coastal lowlands; often the marine forests are all that protects us. While my art finds the beauty in nature, the stresses are also evident.

*Cassia*, oil and acrylic on panel, 48 x 24 inches





*Beach*, oil and acrylic on panel, 48 x 96 inches (triptych)



*Satilla*, oil and acrylic on panel, 48 x 36 inches



*Compagnons du Ciel*, oil and acrylic on panel, 44 x 44 inches



*Beso de Luz*, oil and acrylic on panel, 32 x 67.75 inches



*Agua,*  
oil and acrylic on panel,  
48.5 x 47.5 inches





*Altamaha*, oil and acrylic on panel, 12 x 24 inches

*Aria Umido,*  
oil and acrylic on panel,  
48 x 40 inches





*Boreal,*  
oil and acrylic on panel,  
29.5 x 21.5 inches



*Faviolla*, oil and acrylic on panel, 24 x 48 inches



*Golden Isle*, oil and acrylic on panel, 12 x 24 inches

# ROBERT MARCHESSAULT

## Education

- 1997 MA, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, ON
- 1978 BFA, Concordia University, Montreal, QC
- 1975 Visual Arts Diploma, Dawson College, Montreal, QC

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 'An Exchange of Forces,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
The Marshall Gallery, Scottsdale AZ
- 2022 'The Konyali Tree,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON  
'Resilience,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2021 'Grow/Regrow,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2020 'Solace,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2019 'Robert Marchessault,' Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2018 'The Lorax Dreams,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
McLARRY Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM  
'Robert Marchessault,' Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2016 'New Works Now,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
'Trees!' Littlejohn Contemporary, New York, NY
- 2015 'Ambient Trees,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON  
'Robert Marchessault,' Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC  
Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2014 'Forest for the Trees,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2013 'Ocean Palms,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON  
Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2012 'Eleganza,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, ON  
Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2011 McLARRY Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2020  
'Elements – Earth,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
'The Tree of Life,' Marshall Galleries, Scottsdale, AZ  
'Summer Solstice,' Wallace Galleries, Calgary, AB  
'Art Cares,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON  
'A Thousand Words,' Mason Fine Art, Atlanta, GA  
'Leap of Faith,' Be Contemporary Gallery, Stroud, ON
- 2019  
'New Works,' Wallace Gallery, Calgary, AB
- 2018  
'Deeper Shade of Blue,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
'Method,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON  
'Resolution,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
'Footprints in Time,' Tom Thomson Art Gallery, Owen Sound, ON  
Art Toronto, Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2017  
'Clouds,' Mason Fine Art, Atlanta, GA  
'30 Years,' Wallace Gallery, Calgary, AB  
'Summer Group Exhibition,' Littlejohn Contemporary, New York, NY
- 2016  
The Brain Project, Toronto, ON  
'From Forest, Sea and Sky,' Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
'Director's Selection,' Littlejohn Contemporary, New York, NY  
Littlejohn Contemporary, Chelsea, NY and New Canaan, CT  
'Landscapes,' Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC  
Mason Fine Art, Atlanta, GA
- 2014  
Hunter Kirkland Contemporary, Santa Fe, NM
- 2012  
'Found in Translation: Highlights from the Permanent Collection,' McLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON
- 2010  
'Olive Branch,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2009  
'Arboreal,' Durham Public Art Gallery, Durham, ON
- 2007  
'Small Works,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA and Vancouver, BC
- 2004  
'Collection of Small Works,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA  
'Art 2004,' Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2003  
'The Artist Voice in Landscape,' Group Show at McLarry Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM  
'Cullen & Marchessault,' Michael Gibson Gallery, London, ON

## Selected Awards and Grants

- 2009 McGraw-Hill Publishers Award, for best session at conference for Teaching and Learning held in Toronto, ON
- 2008 Approval by the Canadian Cultural Property Review Board for the donation of a 1993 painting 'Escarpment' 40 x 120' to the Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery, for 'meeting the required criteria of outstanding significance and national importance.'
- 2000 Canada Council, Travel Grant
- 1999 Ontario Arts Council, Mid-Career Individual \$5K Grant  
Artist in Residence, Joshua Tree National Park, CA

## Selected Collections

- 20th Century Fox  
Atari  
Bank of Montreal  
Ernst & Young  
Granite Club  
Hudson's Bay Co.  
Imperial Oil  
Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery  
MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON  
Royal Bank  
The Irving Collection, Halifax  
Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery (approved by the Canadian Cultural Property Review Board)  
University of Montreal

Full resume available upon request and on artist webpage

FOSTER / WHITE GALLERY

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