



GIBSON FINE ART

www.gibsonfineart.ca

Jill Thomson

About the Artist:

Jill Thomson received her B.F.A. from Concordia University in Montreal. In her celebrated neighbourhood paintings, depicting creative life in cities with thriving local community (bike lanes, gardens, local businesses, ravines and rivers) she has established her own visual language for grounding the figure in private space within the forum of cities and the natural world.

Her artwork invokes her personal history of a small town/prairie childhood, an urban Montreal young adulthood and a settled life as artist and mother of three in Edmonton.

Biography:

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 **Gibson Fine Art**, Feature Artist, Calgary
- 2016 **A Place for Prose Writers Salon**, Feature Visual Artist, Edmonton
- 2014 **Skirtsafire Arts Festival**, *Happenstance*, Edmonton
- 2011-2012 **Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts**, *Unfolding Neighbourhoods*, Feature artist instructor with Nina Collective, Edmonton
- 2007, 2002 Rochester International Jazz Festival, *Jazz Pieces*, Rochester, NY,
- 2002 Pori Jazz Festival, *Jazz Pieces*, Pori, Finland

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 SPLASH. Live Art Auction. Vancouver, BC
- 2016 **Gibson Fine Art**, Summer Group Show, Calgary
- 2014 **Stollery Gallery**, *Nest Tree Confidences*, Curator and Artist, Edmonton
- 2016 **AGA Art Rental**, Feature Artist, Edmonton
- 1996 **Alberta Gallery of Art**, Les Graff Selects from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Edmonton
- 1992 **Harcourt Gallery**, Go Figure, Edmonton
- 1989 Concordia University – Visual Arts Gallery, Montreal

EDUCATION

- 1987 B.F.A - Concordia University, Montreal

GALLERIES AND COLLECTIONS

Gibson Fine Art Gallery, Calgary; Art Rental and Sales Gallery, Alberta Gallery of Art; Alberta Foundation for the Arts; Edmonton Arts Council; Alberta Gallery of Art; Edmonton City Hall; National and International private collections

PUBLIC ART COLLECTIONS AND GRANTS

Alberta Ave Alley Project, Alleyway Mural featuring nine artworks by Jill Thomson. A joint project of Arts on the Avenue, AABA, City of Edmonton Ave Initiative, Neighbourhood Empowerment Team, October, 2013

Heritage Quarter: A New Vision for an Urban Landscape Boyle Street Projections, Collaborative Public Art project with Jill Thomson, Mercury Opera, Guru Digital Arts and Wolf Willow Sound, grant from the Edmonton Heritage Council, November 2013

Dream City, Rivne International Film Festival, Screening and competition, Ukraine, 2016

Hinckley Opera Festival, Screening, London, 2016

ARTIST STATEMENT

“Jill Thomson’s paintings are views of urban environments and interiors of both public and private spaces such as cafes, libraries, brownstones and homes and as the paintings’ surfaces increase in size so the images absorb more houses, their street – the entire neighbourhood. The paintings have become deconstructed views of a house in a setting – its content and its inhabitants simultaneously revealed through multiple planes on a single surface.

A western viewer, particularly an urban person, recognizes the architectural vernacular of the old, Chicago-style neighbourhoods, their bungalows and foursquares – their brick facades – the same architecture Jill brings up to the surface to reveal both the structure and its interior. This shared visual language between artist and audience heightens the metaphoric and narrative possibilities of these works and reflects back to the viewer her own relationship to place and time.”

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