

Drew Klassen

B. TORONTO, ONTARIO
LIVES & WORKS IN
OTTOWA

ABOUT

Born in Toronto, Ontario, Drew Klassen is a contemporary Canadian painter whose work explores the emotional resonance of landscape through memory, observation, and abstraction. Now living and working in Ottawa, Ontario, Klassen creates evocative oil paintings that distill the essence of place rather than its literal appearance. Drawing inspiration from the Canadian landscape and the experience of travel, his work reflects a deep engagement with atmosphere, light, and the subtle relationships between land, sky, and memory.

Working primarily in oil, Klassen employs broad, expressive brushwork and carefully layered colour to create compositions that balance structure with spontaneity. Geometric passages merge with organic forms, while quiet tonal shifts and textured surfaces evoke changing weather, shifting light, and the passage of time. Rather than documenting a specific location, his paintings invite viewers to connect with the universal emotions and recollections that landscapes can inspire, creating spaces that feel both familiar and deeply personal.

A graduate of the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design, Klassen has exhibited extensively throughout Canada and has received numerous accolades, including the Established Artist Recognition Award from the Government of Nova Scotia. His work is held in public, corporate, and private collections across Canada and internationally, reflecting a practice that continues to celebrate the enduring relationship between memory, place, and the expressive possibilities of paint.

EXHIBITIONS

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| 2026 | <i>In Conversation (with Susana Espinoza)</i> , Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, GROUP |
| 2024 | <i>Contrasts & Reflections: Narratives in Form and Landscape (with Glen McMinn)</i> , Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, GROUP |
| 2023 | <i>3Featured Artist</i> , Gibson Fine Art Calgary, SOLO |
| 2021 | Galerie St. Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, SOLO |
| 2020 | Harvest Gallery, Wolfville, SOLO
Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, SOLO
Dianna Witte Gallery, Toronto, GROUP |
| 2019 | Annex Arts, Castine, Maine, GROUP |

EXHIBITIONS**(CONT.)**

2018	Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, SOLO
	Harvest Gallery, Wolfville, GROUP
2016	Gibson Fine Art, Calgary, GROUP
2014	Gallery Page and Strange, Halifax, SOLO
2013	<i>Toronto International Art Fair</i> , Parts Gallery, Toronto, GROUP
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	Papermill Gallery—Scarborough Arts Council: EGO, Toronto, GROUP
2011	Gallery Page and Strange, Halifax, SOLO
	Dalhousie University Gallery—Faculty Exhibition, Halifax, GROUP
2010	Anna Leonowens Gallery—Faculty Exhibition, Halifax, GROUP
2009	Gallery Page and Strange, Halifax, SOLO
2007	Fred, Halifax, SOLO
2006	Artsplace, Annapolis Royal, SOLO
	Mount St. Vincent University Art Gallery, Halifax, GROUP
2005	Secord Gallery, Halifax, SOLO
	Moed Gallery, Halifax, GROUP
2004	Ballroom Gallery, Halifax, SOLO
	eyelevelgallery, Halifax, GROUP

EXHIBITIONS

(CONT.)

2003

Galerie St. Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, SOLO

Anna Leonowens Gallery, Halifax, GROUP

Ciparis Lennox Gallery, Toronto, GROUP

Argyle Fine Arts, Halifax, GROUP

2002

Galerie St. Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, GROUP

Argyle Fine Arts, Halifax, GROUP

Khyber Centre for the Arts, Halifax, GROUP

Secord Gallery, Halifax, GROUP

2001

Visual Arts Nova Scotia, Halifax, SOLO

eyelevelgallery, Halifax, SOLO

Anna Leonowens Gallery, Halifax, GROUP

Secord Gallery, Halifax, GROUP

Argyle Fine Arts, Halifax, GROUP

2000

Khyber Centre for the Arts, Halifax, SOLO

Secord Gallery, Halifax, GROUP

Dalhousie University Gallery—Faculty Exhibition, Halifax, GROUP

eyelevelgallery, Halifax, GROUP

Stratford Gallery, Stratford, GROUP

Struts Gallery, Sackville, GROUP

1999

Secord Gallery, Halifax, GROUP

1998

Studio 21, Halifax, SOLO

Olympic Commemorative Exhibition, Nagano, Japan, GROUP

EXHIBITIONS

(CONT.)

1997

Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan, GROUP

AWARDS**2010**

Creative Nova Scotia, Established Artist Recognition Award

2009

Nova Scotia Art Bank Purchase Award

2007

Nova Scotia Art Bank Council Grant

2004

Nova Scotia Art Bank Purchase Award