

Communiqué

Manitoba Arts Council
Conseil des arts du Manitoba

2010 MAJOR ARTS GRANTS RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

APRIL 23, 2010 - WINNIPEG

The Manitoba Arts Council announces the recipients of the 2010 Major Arts Grant. The grant allows artists whose work shows exceptional quality or accomplishment to concentrate on a specific project relating to their creative artistic work. The Major Arts Grant covers living expenses, project costs and travel expenses and is awarded up to \$25,000.



RICHARD HINES is the recipient of numerous grants in support of his work from the Canada Council of the Arts, Manitoba Arts Council, and Winnipeg Arts Council. Richard has a BA from the University of Winnipeg, a BFA from the University of Manitoba, and a MFA from NSCAD University. The work of Richard Hine has been published, written about, and exhibited extensively. He has taught visual arts at NSCAD University, Mt. Allison University, and the University of Saskatchewan.

The Project: Since 2008, Hine has been awarded significant funding from federal, provincial and municipal art funders in support of a project where he accompanies and photographs strangers on their vacation. *The Vacation Project* stems from his desire to visually examine the complexities of human relationships and more specifically, to delve further into that fuzzy area between what is private and what is public. Instead of being the familial insider, as he was in the *Picture from (Inside)* series, he is more on the outside, working his way, both personally and photographically, through these uncertain and sometimes problematic relationships, in the process negotiating that terrain among individuals, their interactions, and himself as the photographer. There are two different yet equally compelling narratives unfolding in the pictures: one that is described in the pictures themselves; one more subtle narrative between the subject(s) and the photographer. Both narratives are constantly evolving and there is a sense that as one picture bleeds into the next the narratives become even more complicated and intricate. *The Vacation Project* is ongoing.

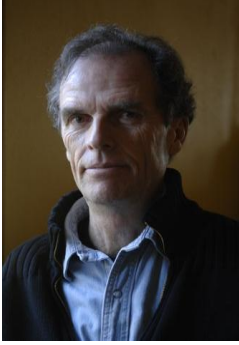


JIM HISCOTT has had compositions performed across North America, in Europe and Asia by artists including the Hilliard Ensemble, the St. Lawrence String Quartet, the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (WSO), the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver New Music, the CBC Radio Orchestra, Arraymusic, and Philadelphia's Relâche. Recent premieres of music by Jim Hiscott include *Moon Light* (violin and piano), with Duo Diorama; *The Song of the Stars* (soprano and chamber orchestra), with Maria-Luz Alvarez and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra with Rodrigo Muñoz, conducted by Scott Yoo; *I spoke to no one...* (chamber ensemble), with the GroundSwell Ensemble conducted by Earl Stafford; *Spiral* (two violas), with Daniel and Michael Scholz; and *North Wind* (dizi and orchestra), with Xiao-Nan Wang and the WSO, led by Andrey Boreyko. Hiscott's *String Quartet #2* was nominated for Outstanding Classical Composition at the 2004 Western Canadian Music Awards.

The Project: Hiscott's project is to compose three new pieces over a one-year period: a choral piece, an orchestral piece, and a concerto for dizi (Chinese bamboo flute) with string orchestra. The choral piece, for Prairie Voices, Camerata Nova, and the University Singers will explore improvisatory elements, taking as an example Corsican polyphonic chant, which developed in a folk-traditional context alongside related classical traditions. Hiscott will be in France during this year, and will visit Corsica to do research on the music. The orchestra piece, for the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, will also be inspired by experiences in Corsica, by polyphonic chant, and the annual Easter processions. The concerto for dizi is for soloist Xiao-Nan Wang and Toronto's Via Salzburg Orchestra. It will focus on Buddhist spirituality.

MEDIA CONTACT
PHONE
TOLL FREE IN MB
EMAIL
WEB

Leanne Foley, Communications Manager
(204) 945-0646
1-866-994-2787
lfoley@artscouncil.mb.ca
www.artscouncil.mb.ca



JAKE MACDONALD has been writing for over 25 years and has produced nine books, numerous short stories in a variety of literary magazines, and several hundred articles for many of Canada's leading publications, including *Saturday Night*, *The Walrus*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *Canadian Geographic*. Some of his books have been recognized with national awards, (the memoir *Houseboat Chronicles* won three awards across the country, including the Writers Trust of Canada prize for best non-fiction book 2002) and about 20 of the shorter pieces have won writing awards.

The Project: MacDonald will be working on a novel tentatively entitled *Closing Day*. The main character, Owen Summers, works as an itinerant pilot throughout Canada, the Caribbean and Mexico. He lives a simple life and has little in the way of savings. His identical twin Ethan, by contrast, is a successful businessman who courts and marries Charlotte Stafford, Owen's first girlfriend, while Owen is off to war. This turns out to be bad luck for all of them. Over the course of 30 years the characters experience all the uproar and social misadventure of each decade, struggling with the simple math problem that there are two of them and only one of her.



REVA STONE creates computer-assisted installations that engage with a wide variety of digital technologies. Her work investigates Western culture's drive to model, simulate, engineer and manipulate biological life. She situates her work at the increasingly blurred boundary between what is born and what is manufactured, what is animate and what is inanimate.

Stone's installations have been exhibited extensively across Canada and internationally. In 2001, she co-edited an anthology, *The Multiple and Mutable Subject*, published by the St. Norbert Arts Centre, St. Norbert, Manitoba. In 2002, her robotic work, *Carnevale 3.0* received an honourable mention from Life 5.0, Art & Artificial Life International Competition, Fundación Telefónica, Madrid, Spain. In November 2009, she presented a paper that addressed her work in the context of collaborations in art and science, at the *Super Human: Revolution of the Species Symposium* organized by the Australian Network for Art and Technology (ANAT) in Melbourne, Australia.

The Project: Recently, Stone began using Nokia cell phones to develop a new responsive installation work called *Portal*. The work is strongly influenced by living in a time when convergent networks are becoming the dominant organizational paradigm. Networked relations between people, between machines, and between machines and people have become a global phenomenon. These networks are altering culture; technology; ideas about what is public and what is private; ideas about space; body; consciousness; and the formation of identity. In this new work she is exploring the social and cultural shifts that are resulting from the proliferation of 3G mobile networks. To do this, she is accessing and altering the operating system of the phones, building a responsive holding device, and recording audio and video with the intention of making 12 phones act either as individuals, or as nodes in a network. In all cases, the phones will appear to be sentient.

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