

About the Artist: Maya Kulenovic

“I never try to connect my personal life with my paintings. I believe that the connection between personality and life of the artist with his work is inevitable, and that it should be left as a subliminal process. My paintings are inspired by what I see, and if something inspires me, this is usually because it contains a larger, universal truth as well as connection to my own life. So all of my images bear scars of my own experiences as a participant, but also as an observer of both history and the present, who is trying to make sense of it all on rational, emotional, and philosophical levels. Every one of my paintings contains different aspects of everything that I know and have experienced, expressed either as a presence in the image, or as an absence.”

- *Atlas Magazine Interview with Maya Kulenovic (2012)*

Maya Kulenovic is a Canadian artist born in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. She studied art the London University of the Arts, Chelsea College of Art and Design in London, Ontario College of Art and Design University in Toronto, and Mimar Sinan University in Istanbul. In addition, she is an alumna of London Goodenough College (1997-1998).

Kulenovic's work has been exhibited in over twenty solo exhibitions and more than forty group shows and art fairs in Canada, the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands, Japan, Italy, the United States, Turkey, and South Korea. Her paintings can be found in numerous collections around the world. In 2008, a book of her work featuring an introduction by Edward Lucie-Smith was published by d'jonge Hond in Amsterdam. Her latest book, *Maya Kulenovic: Fugue*, which includes an essay by Mark Kingwell, was published in Toronto, Canada in 2017. She currently lives and works in Toronto, Canada.

Education:

1997-98 Master of Arts, Chelsea College of Art and Design, University of the Arts London, England

1997-98 Resided at Goodenough College, London England

1995-97 Fine Arts Department, Ontario College of Art and Design University, Toronto, AOCAD Honors

1992-95 Painting Department, Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul, Turkey. BFA Program, Painting and Printmaking

1983-91 Music training in classical piano, Sarajevo, SRBIH Yugoslavia, in the class of Prof. N. Iovic (83-89) and Prof. Smailovic (90-91)

1988-92 Studied drawing and painting with Prof. V. Vojnovic, in his studio in the National Library in Sarajevo, before its destruction

Other:

- In 1996, Maya Kulenovic became one of the founding members of Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, a well-known artist directed center and exhibition space in Toronto
- As a sculptor, Kulenovic occasionally creates artwork for film in the areas of trauma simulation, anatomy, surgery, or fine art sculpture, at special request only
- Kulenovic has studied and instructed martial arts for many years. She has achieved various advanced black belt levels in Karate, Kobudo, and Wing Chun Kung Fu

Solo Exhibitions:

2017

Evanescences, Barbara Frigerio Contemporary Art, Milan, Italy

Galerie de'Twee Pauwen, The Hague, The Netherlands

2016

Galerie de'Twee Pauwen, The Hague, The Netherlands

2012-2013

Maya Kulenovic: Selected Works 2005-2012 Paintings from Mr. Bert

Bolkenstein Collection. Morren Galleries, Amsterdam

Opening word by Dr. Bob van den Boogert, Curator, The Rembrandt House Museum, Amsterdam

2012

Solitaire, Morren Galleries, Utrecht, The Netherlands

2011

Recent Paintings, Morren Galleries, Utrecht, The Netherlands

2009-10

New Works, Morren Galleries, Utrecht, The Netherlands

2008

Recent Works, Morren Galleries (former Galerie Utrecht), Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Maya Kulenovic, Exhibition and Book Launch, Galerie Utrecht, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Opening word by Mr. Edward Lucie-Smith

2007

Maya Kulenovic, Galerie Utrecht, Utrecht, The Netherlands

2006

Claire/Obscure, Galerie Utrecht, Utrecht, The Netherlands
Quab Gallery, Calgary
Echoes of the Lament, Gallerie Luz, Montreal
Penumbra, Blackheath Gallery, London
2005
Wake, Quab Gallery, Art Central, Calgary
2003
Year Zero, Spin Gallery, Toronto
2002
Sublime, Partners Films, Toronto
2001
Inter Nos, Zypr Gallery, Toronto
Maya Kulenovic: Portraits, Una Mas, Toronto
2000
Seer, I-Land Gallery, Toronto
Maya Kulenovic, Partners Films, Toronto
Exposure, Spin Gallery
Caprice II, La Vitrine Gallery, Scotia Plaza, Toronto
1999
Procession Gallery 89, John Abbott College, Montreal
Caprice, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto
Maya Kulenovic, *paintings*, Revolutionary Bean café, Beaches, Toronto
1998
Vertigo studio MFA show, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London
1996
Walls-Voids Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto

Group Exhibitions – Selected:

2017
Forza Galerie Le Royer, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Woman, James Baird Gallery Pouch Cove (Canada), Miami (USA)
Skin, Galerie de Twee Pauwen, The Hague, The Netherlands
2016
Principle's Six, Principle Gallery at The Vendue, Charleston, SC, USA
Inspirational Forms, Principle Gallery, Charleston, SC, USA
Galerie de Twee Pauwen, The Hague, The Netherlands
2015
Principle Gallery, Charleston, SC, USA
Galerie LeRoy, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
2014
Galerie LeRoy, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

2013

Morren Galleries, Utrecht and Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Galerie LeRoy, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

2012

Morren Galleries, Utrecht and Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Galerie LeRoy, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

2011

Morren Galleries, Utrecht and Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Galerie LeRoy, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

2010

Morren Galleries, Utrecht and Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2009

Morren Galleries, Utrecht and Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2008

Galerie Utrecht, The Netherlands

2007

Blackheath Gallery, London
Robert Hughes Gallery, Austin, TX
Oisin Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
QUAB Gallery, Calgary

2006

Stampede, QUAB Gallery, Calgary
Fence Project; Sungnam – Pangyo, Korea – Public Design Innovation Centre
Abstract Mind Mural, A. Castillo Art Foundation; Museum of Science and
Industry, Chicago

2005

1040 Gallery, Montreal
QUAB Gallery, Calgary
International Women in Art, Aldo Castillo Gallery, Chicago
Aldo Castillo Gallery, Chicago

2004

QUAB Gallery, Calgary
INANIMATION, Museum of the Future, Toronto (Installation, Collaboration
with A S Hamilton)
Art at War, Chicago State University, Chicago
Art at War, Aldo Castillo Gallery, Chicago

1995-2004

Hot'n'Fresh, SPIN Gallery, Toronto
Mini-Me, SPIN Gallery, Toronto
Toronto Fashion Show, SPIN Gallery, Toronto
Gender Less Generation, SPIN Gallery, Toronto

Faculty exhibition, MacLaren Gallery, Georgian College, Barrie
Children of the Revolution, Fleurs du Mal Gallery, Toronto
Sable – Castelli Gallery, Toronto
Rhythm, Ritual and Repetitive Action, curated by Virginia MacDonnell,
Propeller CVA
Divine, curated by Rae Johnson, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts
John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto
The DD Exhibition 1996, International Drawing Exhibition, Kyoto, Japan
Inaugural Exhibition, Propeller Gallery, Toronto
Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square (Best Student Award)

1993-1995

Touring exhibition at Marmara, Istanbul and Bosphorus Universities, Istanbul
Siemens, Juried exhibition organized by the Siemens Inc.

Awards and Grants 1996-99:

Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation Grant
London Goodenough Trust bursary
Mudge Massey Graduate Traveling Scholarship
David L. Stevenson Scholarship
Mrs. W.O. Forsyth Scholarship
Ontario-Quebec Student Exchange Fellowship
Av Isaacs Tuition Scholarship
NCR Canada Ltd. (Best Student Award), Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition

Reviews & Catalogues – Selected:

Exhibition review in COLLECT Magazine (Arts Antiques Auctions), February
2016
Faces of Chaotic Beauty: Questions and Appeals in Maya Kulenovic's Painting
(An essay by Mark Kingwell, included in Measure Yourself Against the Earth:
Essay's, pages 228)
Painting 'Halcyon' in Vernis Magazine, 2014
Maya Kulenovic en Rembrandts Clair – Obscur by Bob van der Boogert
(Curator, Rembrandthouse), Exhibition essay, Maya Kulenovic: State of Being
by Edward Lucie – Smith (book essay)
De Mens Als Angstig en Bloeddorstig Wezen review by Lennard Dost, de
Volkskrant
Magazine cover and 2-page review by Severine Morren, ArtAlert, The
Netherlands
The Horrors of WAR by Hugh Graham Visual Arts, Fast Forward magazine,
Calgary WAR exhibition review, City TV Calgary

War, Yarn and Sunscreen by Wes Lafortune, Artbeat, FFWD Magazine,
Calgary
Art at War, by Margaret Hawkins Chicago Sun – Times, Galleries
Art at War by Bara Sapir, Zeek: A Jewish Journal of Thought and Culture
ZED TV, YEAR 0, Maya Kulenovic, CBC Vancouver
Inter Nos exhibition image and review, listing section, Nov 2001 The Globe
and Mail, Exposure Exhibition Review, Sep 2000 Eye Magazine
Caprice, Summer Issue 1999 MIX Magazine
Sable-Castelli exhibition review, Gallery Going, Feb 1999 The Globe and Mail
Rhythm, Ritual and Repetitive Action exhibition catalogue
MA 1998, Chelsea College of Art and Design, London, exhibition catalogue
The DD Exhibition catalogue, Kyoto, Japan
Soho International Art Catalogue, New York

Teaching Positions:

2002

Art History. Industrial Design Department, Humber College, Toronto, Canada
2001

Art History. Industrial Design Department, Humber College, Toronto, Canada
Drawing From Imagination. Fine Arts Department, Georgian College, Barrie,
Canada

Concept in Drawing. Fine Arts Department, Georgian College, Barrie, Canada
2000

Painting Studio Course. Fine Arts Department, Georgian College, Barrie,
Canada

Life Drawing Course. Fine Arts Department, Georgian College, Barrie, Canada

Associations:

LGAC London Goodenough Association Canada

Art Fairs – Participation:

Europe: Realisme Amsterdam

North America: TIAF (Toronto International Art Fair), Art Wynwood,
Context Art Miami

Publications:

Maya Kulenovic: Fugue

Essay by Mark Kingwell

Interview with Anthony Collins

148 pages Hardcover; English 2017

Maya Kulenovic

Writing by Edward Lucie Smith
128 pages Hardcover; English & Dutch
Published by d'jonge Hond Publishers and Galerie Utrecht 2008

Faces of Chaotic Beauty: Questions and Appeals in Maya Kulenovic's Painting
Essay by Mark Kingwell, included in "Measure Yourself Against the Earth:
Essays, pages 228-233
Published by Biblioasis 2015