



R I T A   R O D R I G U E  
A R T S   V I S U E L S

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**Artist's Statement**

The only way to make my art transcend time is to ensure it has a place in the future, and to express it to people nowadays.

The complexity makes contact with a parallel life where the human soul is beautifully scarred by ideas and tears revealing mystical messages from the temporal to the atemporal.

**Biography**

Rita Rodrigue has been a professional French-Canadian artist creating contemporary works for over forty five years, having exhibitions worldwide, with emphasis in Quebec and parts of Ontario. She has had many years of visual art training along as an art professor in the College of Gatineau.

She has presented about thirty themed since 1980 in solo and collective in Montreal at the Musée Marc-Aurèle Fortin and City Hall Art Galleries Karsh Masson of Ottawa, Maison-des-Arts Alfred Pellan in Laval and abroad at the Museum of Modern Art in Seoul, South Korea. She also exposed at the Fremantle Museum Arts Centre in Australia, and at the Galerie Art-Tournelle in Paris, France, at the Gallery La Aduana in Barranquilla, Colombia as well as at the Moraga Art Gallery in San Francisco.

She has won various awards, and her work has been purchased for public and private collections such as Loto-Quebec and Pratt & Whitney. In the context of integrating the art with architecture, she completed two projects out of three for the government of Quebec. She has also accomplished a project for the Municipality of Gatineau.

In 2015, one of her paintings of a permanent collection of the City of Gatineau was selected to participate in an exhibition (*Dialogues de l'oeil*), presented in the Montcalm Gallery of Gatineau. The painting is also part of the poetry book (*Dialogues de l'oeil*), published by the Neige-galerie Editions.

Her deep French-Canadian and Native American roots has provided her with the unique ability to detail very colourful, expressive, poetic and mystical works which has been overwhelmingly accepted by art admirers and investors alike.

2018 marks an important year in Rita Rodrigue's career. In addition to presenting **Les Temps échelonnés – Ancient and Recent Works by Rita Rodrigue** at the Jean-Claude Bergeron Gallery in Ottawa, she has published **Les temps échelonnés de Rita Rodrigue - 50 ans de creation** by author Josée Valiquette.

The productivity of Rita Rodrigue has generated a considerable body of work for which the documentation was so far very fragmented. Josée Valiquette's book is the result of a desire to fill this gap, not only for the artist herself and her posterity, but above all for our collective cultural heritage.

**Book**

2018 ***Les temps échelonnés de Rita Rodrigue – 50 ans de création***, by Josée Valiquette (in french)

**Solo Exhibitions**

2018 ***Les temps échelonnés – Recent and Older Works by Rita Rodrigue***, Galerie Jean-Claude Bergeron, Ottawa, Ontario

2018 ***Impressionism Times 2***, Moraga Art Gallery, San Francisco, USA

2017 ***Temps échelonnés***, Centre d'exposition Léo-Ayotte, Shawinigan, Québec

2017 ***Temps échelonnés (Transparente)***, Galerie Art Plus, Sutton, Québec

2015 ***Spread over Times***, Galerie Luz, Montreal, Quebec

2013 ***L'Intemporel***, Bostaurus, Gatineau (Aylmer), Quebec

2012 Artist's Studio, Gatineau (Aylmer), Quebec \*\*

2009 ***Hurried Time***, Artist's Studio, Gatineau (Aylmer), Quebec

2008 ***Transformation of passing image***, Old Royal Gallery, East Fremantle, Australia

2006 ***Transformation of passing imag***, Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa

2006 ***Fragmentation***, Alliance française Art Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

2004 ***The Heart of the Garden***, Artist's Studio, Gatineau (Aylmer), Quebec

2003 ***Resonating South-North***, Odyssee Hall, Maison de la culture de Gatineau, Quebec

2002-2003 ***Displacement of Time***, Promenade du Roy, Casino de Hull, Quebec

2002 ***Resonating North***, Artist's Studio, Gatineau (Aylmer), Quebec

2001 ***Artworks from Australia***

2001 ***Sacred memory***, Shawinigan Art Center, Shawinigan, Quebec

2000 ***Sacred memory***, Galerie Montcalm, Hull, Quebec

1999-2000 ***On the line of infinity***, Fremantle Museum Arts Centre, Fremantle, Australia

1997 ***Crossroads***, Maison des arts Alfred Pellan, Laval, Quebec

1996 ***Lines and Crossroads***, Jean-Claude Bergeron Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

1994 ***Figureheads***, Jean-Claude Bergeron Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

1972-1993 Numerous solo exhibitions in Quebec and Ontario, including these:

1993 ***Celebration***, Maison de la culture de Gatineau, Gatineau, Quebec

1989 ***5 Years Anniversary, Marc-Aurèle Fortin Museum***, Montreal, Quebec

1983 ***Song of Song***, Galerie L'Estampe, Hull, Quebec

\*\* At various times in my career, I opened my Studio for the presentation of my artworks.

**Collective Exhibitions**

2015 ***Dialogues de l'oeil***, from the **Permanent Collection of the City of Gatineau**, in partnership with Éditions Neige-galerie, Galerie Montcalm, Gatineau, Qc

2013 ***Repérage***, Loto-Quebec's Collection, Galerie Montcalm, Gatineau, Quebec

2011 ***Artist's Palet***, Mont St-Hilaire Arts Museum, Mont St-Hilaire, Quebec

2009 ***30 Years of Visual Arts***, Loto-Quebec's Collection, National Arts Museum, Quebec, Quebec

2005 ***Rythm***, BRAVO, Amiens, France

2004 ***Équilibre***, BRAVO, Baranquilla, Colombie

1966-2003 More than 30 collective exhibitions, including these:

1996 ***Joint fine Art Exhibition Korea and Canada***, Maison du Citoyen, Hull, Quebec

1996 ***Art and Paper 2***, Jean-Claude Bergeron Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario

1995 ***Artists Games*** Galerie Montcalm, Maison du Citoyen, Hull

1995 ***Collective Exhibit***, Canadian Consulate, Nagoya, Japan

1994 ***Joint fine Art Exhibition Korea and Canada***, National Museum of Modern Art, Seoul, South Korea

1992-93 ***Arts Tournelle***, Canadian Art Exhibit, Paris, France

1989 ***Women Painters of Quebec***, Musée Marc-Aurèle Fortin, Montreal, Quebec

1988 ***Expo-vente***, Musée Marc-Aurèle Fortin, Montreal, Quebec (with J.P. Riopelle, J.P. Lemieux, Jean Dallaire, etc.)

**Integrated Arts to Architecture**

- 2006 **Forêt de lumière**, participation (finalist), Integrated Arts to Architecture, Papineau's Hospital, Quebec
- 2005 **Labyrinthe pour une terre lointaine**, a project of social structures integrated in architectural arts CFP Relais de la Lièvre-Seigneurie
- 2004 **Le lieu de la connaissance**, a project of social structures integrated in architectural arts, Shawville-Clarendon Municipal Library
- 2001 **Corrid-Art, Flûte de banc**, bench sculpture, Arts in Urban Development, Aylmer, Quebec
- 1995-96 **The Six Senses**, Participation (finalist), Contest by Loto-Quebec for the Hull Casino, Hull, Quebec

**Public Art Galleries**

- 2014 **Galerie L'Harmattan**, Baie St-Paul, Québec
- 2013-14 **Carmel Gallery**, Ottawa, Ontario
- 2012 **Galerie Michael Gennis**, Ottawa, Ontario

**Public Collections**

- 2002 **A journey of freedom, The same melody**, Loto-Quebec, Montreal, Quebec
- 1999 **Climbing to see the bright sky**, Loto Quebec, Montreal, Quebec
- 1996 **Resonance**, Pratt and Whitney Canada, Montreal, Quebec
- 1995 **Ravissement**, Marc-Aurèle Fortin Museum, Montreal, Quebec
- 1993 **Time Itself is a Guest**, St-Raymond Credit Union, Hull, Quebec
- 1993 **Delivrance**, Quebec Office in Ottawa
- 1989 Permanent Collection, City of Hull
- 1987 **Les pierres radiantes**, Outaouais Central Library, Hull Quebec
- 1986 **Vêtue d'un corps nouveau**, Outaouais Central Library, Hull Quebec
- 1985 **Le jour et la nuit glisse sur mon corps**, De La Salle Educational Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1978 **Ferme de Ripon**, Conseil régional de la culture de l'Outaouais, Hull, Quebec

**Private Collections**

- Quand les hommes vivront d'amour**, M. Raymond Lévesque
- Des rêves vierges**, M. Camille Laurin
- Déploiement et Tu te vêtais de plume**, M. Henri Masson

**Illustrations**

- 2015 **« Dialogues de l'oeil »**, Éditions Neige-galerie, Gatineau, Qc, artwork from the Permanent Collection, City of Gatineau
- 2004 **Équilibre?**, Galeria de la Aduana Barranquilla, Colombia, **L'immortelle en dix temps**
- 2002 **Contemporary Art Magazine– ETC**, Montréal, Loto-Quebec, **A Journey of Freedom**,
- 1998-00 **La biennale internationale d'art miniature de Ville Marie**, Ville Marie, Quebec
- 1997 **Art-image**, Retrospective Catalogue, Maison de la Culture, Gatineau, Quebec
- 1996 **Frontières vagabondes**, Pierre Bernier, Éditions Vent d'Ouest, Hull, Quebec, **Déterrez les marques** (cover page)
- 1996 **Joint Fine Art Exhibition Korea and Canada**, Catalogue, Maison du citoyen, Hull, Quebec, **Trésors enfouis sous leurs cendres sacrées**
- 1996 **Art and Paper II**, Catalogue, Jean-Claude Bergeron Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario, **Résonance**
- 1995 **Milenka**, François-Xavier Simard, Éditions Vent d'Ouest, Hull, Quebec, **Étincelle du matin** (cover page)
- 1994 **Joint Fine Art Exhibition Korea and Canada**, Catalogue, National Museum of Modern Art, Seoul, South Korea, **Son bleu**
- 1975-1991 Numerous illustrations in many diverse magazines, catalogs, etc.

**Selection Committees**

- 2015 Symposium des couleurs Outaouais, Gatineau
- 2001 Visual Arts, Aymer Arts Council, Gatineau (Aylmer), Quebec
- 2001 Visual Arts, Maison de la Culture, Gatineau, Quebec
- 1995-96 Visual Arts, Maison de la Culture, Gatineau, Quebec

**Visual Arts Training**

- 1996 Summer training with Guiseppe Fiore, Montréal, Quebec
- 1995 Intensive course, *Arts publicity*, Institut des métiers d'art, Cégep du Vieux Montréal, Quebec
- 1991-92 Contemporary and General History of Arts, University of Ottawa. Teachers: Philip Frye, Elisabeth Ritchie and Olivier Asselin
- 1990-91 Paper, hand-made with Louise Champigny, Private class at Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec
- 1986 Ottawa Watercolor Society, with Edith Lépiá, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1983 Etching with Jocelyne Aird-Bélanger, Atelier de l'Île, Val David, Quebec
- 1975-76 Visual art training with Edmund Alleyn, University of Ottawa, Ontario
- 1970-74 Visual art training with Roger Larivière, Studio Sussex, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1969-70 Visual art training with Victor Tolgesy, Ottawa School of Arts, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1965-70 Visual art training with Henri Masson, Ottawa, Ontario

**Teaching (Visual Arts Professor)**

- 1983-95 Private lessons, Aylmer, Quebec
- 1975-91 Collège de l'Outaouais, Hull, Quebec

**Interviews in electronic medias**

- 2003 Interview with Radio-Canada Television about the exhibition ***Displacement of Time***, Promenade du Roy, Casino de Hull, Quebec
- 1993 Radio-Canada – Story on *Celebration's* Exhibit, Ottawa, Ontario
- 1992 ***Biz-Arts***, Interview, Laurentien Cable, Hull, Quebec
- 1983 ***Émission Contour***, documentary by Roger Lord, Radio-Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

**Educational Trips**

- 1984-2010 England, Australia, Cuba, Spain, France, Italy, Mexico, Singapore, Turkey, United States

**Awards**

- 1996 National Contest ***Art and Paper 2***, Jean-Claude Bergeron Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario  
***Résonance***, Pratt et Whitney Canada's Collection
- 1983 ***Taking Flight***, Conseil régional de la culture de l'Outaouais, Hull Quebec, **1st Prize**
- 1977 ***Ferme à Ripon***, Ottawa Arts Association, Ottawa, Ontario, **1st Prize**
- 1976 ***Plants***, Ottawa Arts Association, Ottawa, Ontario, **2nd Prize**
- 1976 ***Abundance***, Ottawa Arts Association, Ottawa, Ontario, **1st Prize**

**About... Impressionism Times 2**

Vivid colors and abstract shapes are the hallmark style found in Rodrigue's paintings that she said "reach out to us in the continuity of our memory of time, life and death" (...) Her non-objective paintings, using interrelated shapes, colors and textures, effect an array of light and dark moods and feeling, said Rodrigue. (...) [She] said that no matter what medium she uses, she's been expressing her life's experiences – her ups and downs – through her paintings. "It's like I'm telling a story through each of my paintings", said Rodrigue, who's published a book about her life's work.

Janice De Jesus, Bay Area News, San Francisco, 2018

**Temps échelonnés**

A magnificent series of works with assured composition, declining successive layers of photos on acetate, pictorial interventions, and light materials integrated into the whole. The result is an exquisite refinement and invites our gaze to embrace the passage of time through the photographic layers that serve as supports for the memory of matter. These images created from organic material or manufactured by the human (wood, metal, etc.) reveal the materials not in their physical reality, but in a subtle representation on transparent support. Rita thus transposes matter into a "ghost" register on the border between the visible and the immaterial.

Josée Valiquette, commentary issued during the exhibition at the Gallery Art Plus, Sutton, May 2017

**Transformation d'un passage à l'image**

« L'Évolution » est particulièrement révélatrice de cette renaissance : le dessin d'une jeune femme, dramatisée par le coloris rouge auquel s'ajoute la couleur de la photographie, du noir, du jaune, du gris, témoigne des vestiges empreints d'un passé auquel se joint l'âme.

Claude A. Bouchard, *Le Droit*, 2006, Ottawa-Gatineau

**Fragmentation**

Rita Rodrigue utilise des photographies d'objets usés par le temps. Par voie de dédoublement, les images se métamorphosent et créent des liens de contraste qui permettent de faire le rapprochement entre les images « temporelles » et le concept « intemporel ».

Claude A. Bouchard, *Le Droit*, 2006, Ottawa-Gatineau

**Mémoire du sacré**

Chacune des oeuvres est ainsi bidimensionnelle, présentant - ou l'envers- l'une de l'autre, témoignant que les objets du quotidien peuvent, en ce sens, prendre une signification sacrée, explique-t-elle. « Le monde, notre monde, n'est-il qu'un heureux hasard ou le fruit sacré du désir divin? »

Roland Paillé, *Le Nouvelliste*, 2001, Trois-Rivières, Québec

**Mémoire du sacré**

Chaque œuvre-structure-totem constitue sa propre exposition et renferme la thématique de l'œuvre dans son ensemble.

Claude A. Bouchard, *Le Droit*, 2000, Ottawa-Hull

**Sur la ligne infinie**

Although these abstract compositions are imbued with mystery, the artist does well at keeping the viewer well grounded with her attention to detail.

Judith McGrath, *X Press*, January 2000, Perth, Australia

**Figures de proue**

L'univers de Rita Rodrigue émerveille tant par la richesse, l'éclat lumineux et la transparence des couleurs, que par les diverses formes et symboles...

Joanne Legault, *Le Droit*, 1994, Ottawa-Hull

**Private Exhibit, 1992**

The common theme in her work, which spans a lifetime, is freedom and liberation. Many of the subjects are nudes; and birds frequent the background, even foreground. Rodrigue calls it "a liberation of one's inner voice."

Scott Verity Stevenson, *Aylmer Bulletin*, April 8, 1992

**Calligrammes**

*Sensation d'entrer dans les recoins les plus inusités et les plus merveilleux sous-bois de l'âme humaine.*

Serge Dion, *Le Droit*, 1991, Ottawa-Hull

**Célébration**

*La galerie est devenue un lieu semi-sacré, où sont exposés maintes odes à la sensibilité de l'âme et des mots qui la traduisent, à la femme prisonnière et libérée, à la nature morte et soudainement ranimée, à l'œuvre d'art fragile que l'on doit enchâsser afin de la protéger, au processus de la création qui puise dans le mot, le son...*

Éliane Gaudet, *Le Droit*, 1993, Ottawa-Hull

**Song of Songs**

*Her subject is The Song of Songs, and I can think of no more beguiling pictorial interpretation of the great poem than Rodrigue's graceful representations. (...) The paintings of Rita Rodrigue – like the Song itself – can be enjoyed for their beauty, their passion and their exquisite craftsmanship.*

Roger Amoroso, *Ottawa Revue*, June 3-7, 1983

**Galerie L'Imagier**

*Rodrigue exhibits 20 pastels drawings and watercolor paintings. Her work is assured, unhesitating and lively. (...) Rarely are any passages smudged or blended: The artist wants to keep the medium as thick and rich as possible.*

Robert Smythe, *The Ottawa Citizen*, September 19, 1977