



# The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

*Contemporary Drawings and Works on Paper*

Julie Oakes

Inaugural Drawer's Selection

December 14, 2005 - February 4, 2006



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Artist Catalog, 'Julie Oakes - Headbones Gallery, The Drawers'  
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Director: Richard Fogarty  
[www.headbonesgallery.com](http://www.headbonesgallery.com)

# Julie Oakes

## Inaugural Drawer's Selection

### QuerciaStories - Renaissance, Sensuality and Feminism

Beauty, obsession, passion. All these describe the work of artist Julie Oakes.

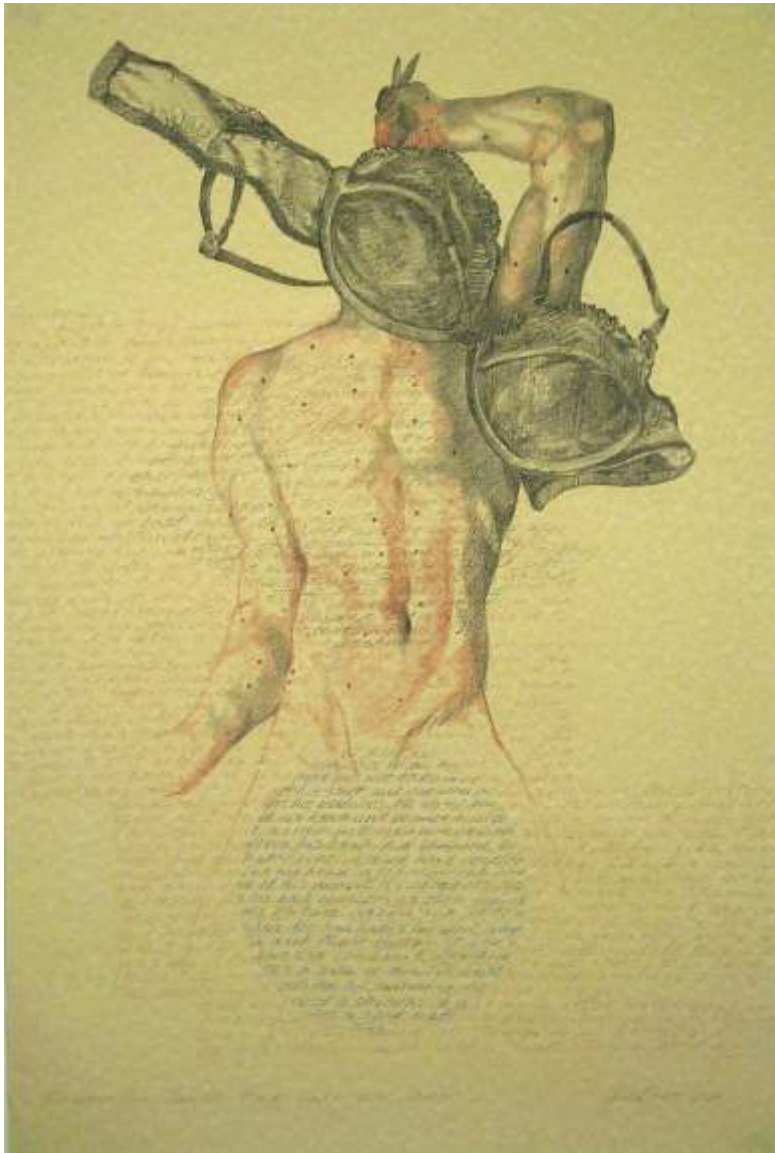
Quercia Stories intentionally references the techniques and concerns of Renaissance art. Over the past three years Oakes has drawn from the Metropolitan Museum collection in New York City as a ground for her writing. She derives from the collection, yet moves away from mimicking a style, and brings the works into a contemporary framework. The materials used are the traditional media of past generations. Specific references are made to techniques of the Renaissance period: parchment paper with sepia, indigo or black pencil, canvasses prepared with rabbit-skin glue, Bologna gesso, and natural pigments. In the paintings, meticulous renderings from Renaissance works are overlaid with strange and romantic imagery, at once obfuscating and revealing. In the drawings, excerpts from Quercia Stories, appear lightly on the page. They are difficult to read and follow. The writing is overlaid on the Met drawings with yet another layer of drawings obscuring the cursive writing. Within the universal symbols of love and eroticism the artist develops a personal, visual vocabulary.

The bed is an image clearly charged with sexual, political and sociological symbolism. Quercia Stories are tales of beddings. On first reading, the overall images are layered, yet they are also often broken down into fragments, reconstituted, and scaled toward the intimate. Erotic references from historical works, Victorian illustration, East Indian Tantric paintings, or Japanese erotica offer titillation, with contemporary images such as the provocative stiletto, lacy underwear, lipstick or the feathery fronds of an artist's brush balancing the collection with a less specific representation of sensuality. The freedom of literary expression, the strong, graphic presentation and the artist's confidence in handling her materials works well with the duplicity of the imagery: romance and threat, life and death, love and its absence.

At once feminine and masculine, hard-edged and soft, Quercia Stories, as a whole, text and visuals, captures the enigma that is the often tenuous and volatile relationship between human beings.

Condensed forward written by Susan Brandoli

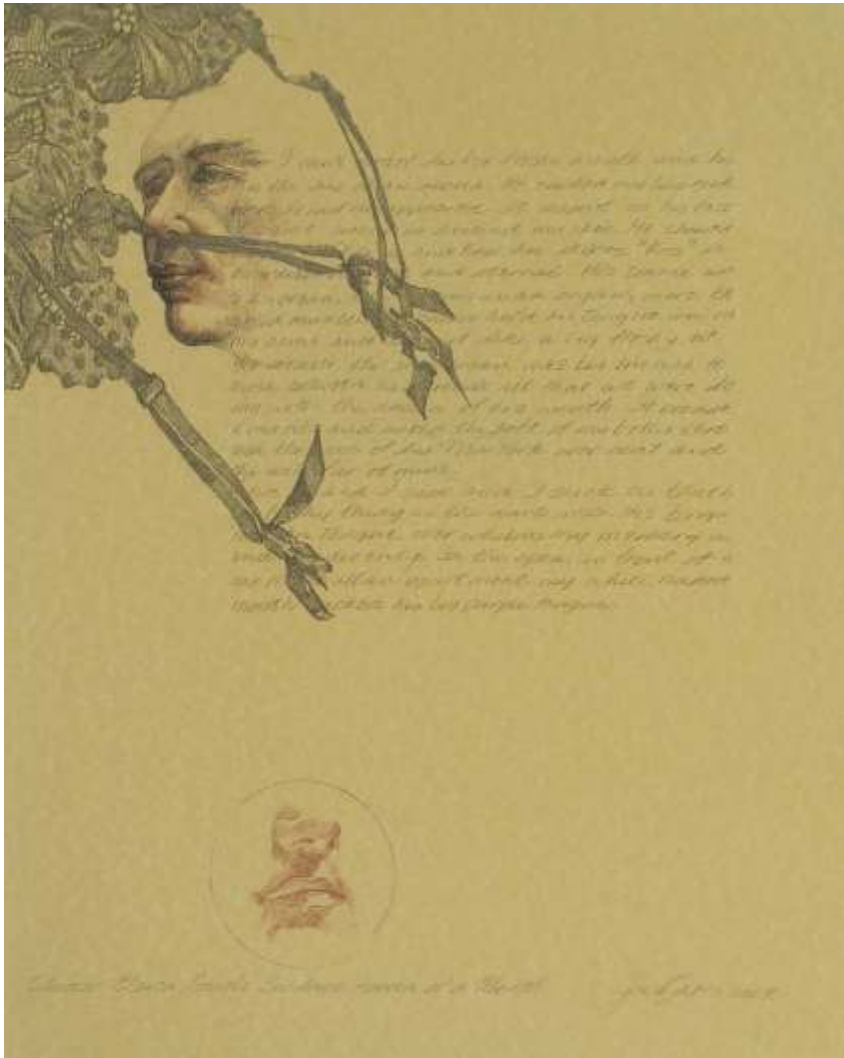
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Quercia Stories, Under Cover Dancer  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
34 x 23 in (38.5 x 33 framed)  
2004



*Quercia Stories, Fresh Blood*  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
34 x 23 in (38.5 x 33 framed)  
2004



Quercia Stories, Aporia / Mouth  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
22.5 x 18 in  
2004

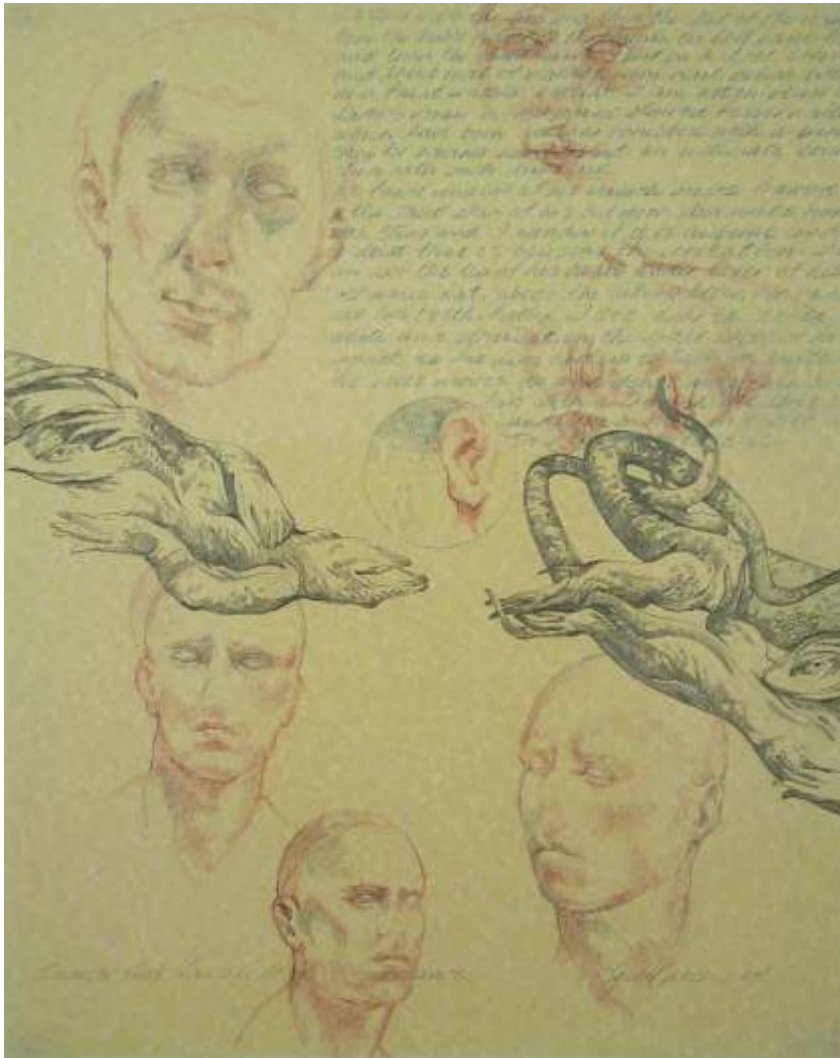


*Quercia Stories, Pillaged by a Pirate*  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
22.5 x 18 in  
2004





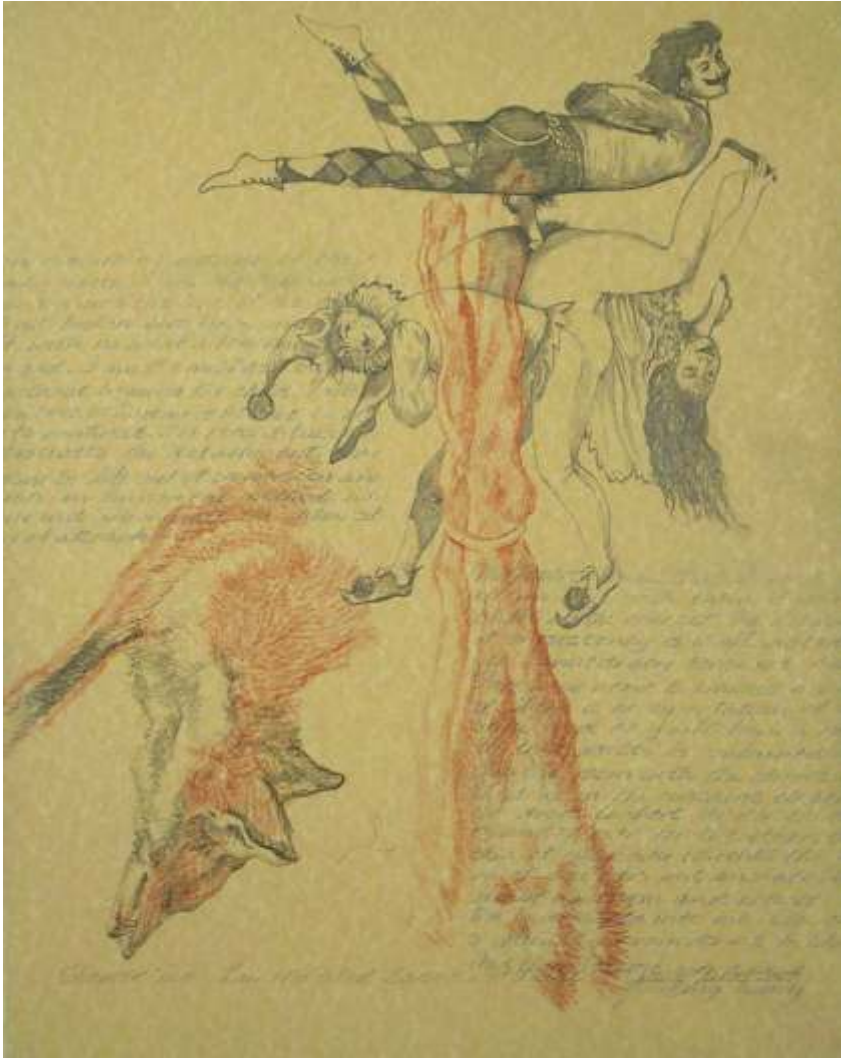
Quercia Stories, Human Sacrifice  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
22.5 x 18 in  
2004



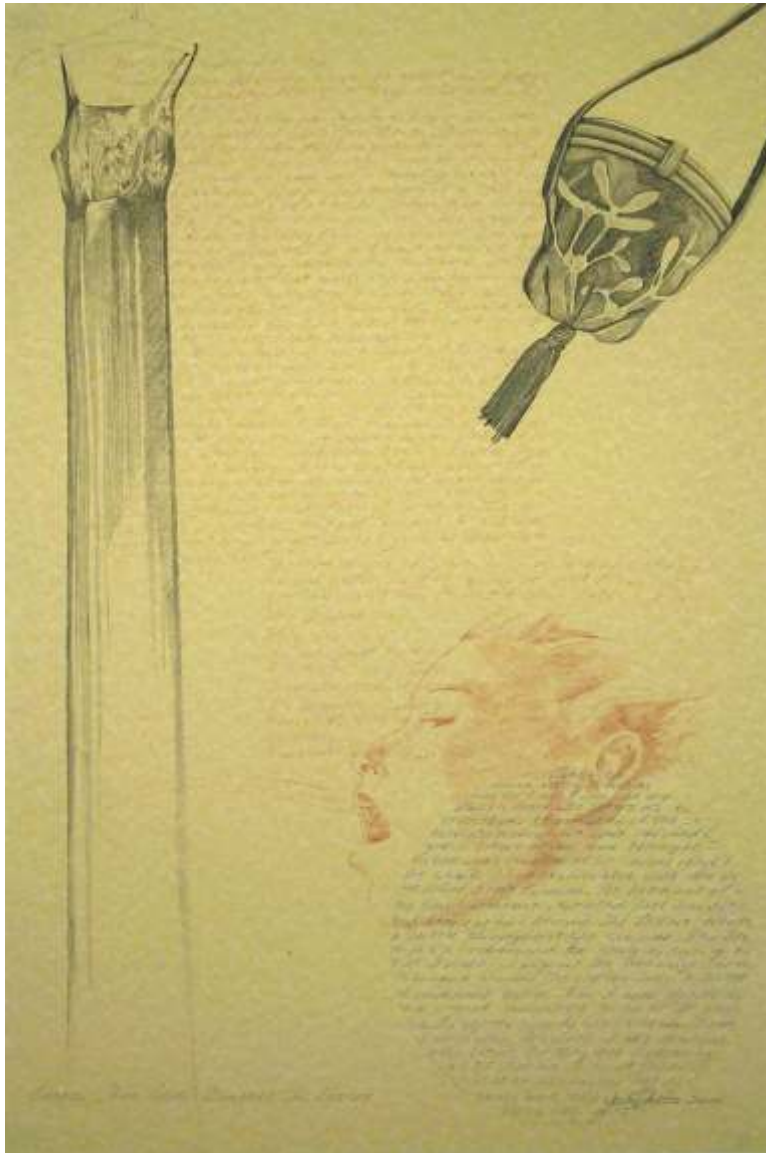
Quercia Stories, The First Jouissance  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
22.5 x 18 in (33.5 x 28.5 framed)  
2004



Quercia Stories, The Performer  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
22.5 x 18 in  
2004



*Quercia Stories, Baroque Interlude*  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
22.5 x 18 in  
2004



*Quercia Stories, The Letters*  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
34 x 23 in (38.5 x 33 framed)  
2004





*Quercia Stories, Dante and Beatrice*  
Pencil on Gold Parchment Paper  
34 x 23 in (38.5 x 33 framed)  
2004

## Julie Oakes

### Solo Exhibitions

- 2005 Poultry in Motion, The Absolute Gallery, Des Moines, Iowa.  
2005 Human Sacrifice-The Revolving Door, Lehmann and Leskiw Fine Art, Toronto, Ontario.  
2005 Human Sacrifice-Quercia Stories, The Rivington Gallery, London, England.  
2004 Human Sacrifice, The Art Ark Gallery, Kelowna, BC.  
2004 Poppies and the Sublime, Featured Artist, The Fugitive Gallery, Vernon, BC.  
2004 Forbidden Fruit The Destination Gallery, Parrsboro, NS.  
2001 Gentle Bondage, Vernon Public Gallery, Vernon, BC.  
Private Parade, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
2000 Reptiles and Roses, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
1999 Venezia, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC.  
Complimenti, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
1998 Rising Above, Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, Ont.  
Feathers Flying, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
1997 The Venice Series, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC.  
The Venice Series, The Grunt Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
Home Offerings, Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
1996 Herstory, The Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, BC.  
1994 Cunte Perfume Launching, Artemisia Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
Upright Man, Upright Woman, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC.  
Born to Shock, Gallery 56, Vancouver, BC.  
1993 B.P.A. RCA Visuals, Public Art Gallery, St. Johns, Nfld.  
1992 Born to Shock, Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, BC.  
1987 I am a Woman with a Past, Vernon Public Gallery, BC.  
1985 Gardens and Clothes Lines, Assiniboia Gallery, BC.  
1983 Lady Oakes, Temple Gallery, Nassau, Bahamas  
1973 Chandoo Gallery, Toronto, Ontario, Zangmo

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2005 Spot the Dog, Anchorage Museum of History and Art, Anchorage, Alaska.  
2004 Big and Small Show, East Village Art Coalition, Des Moines, Iowa.  
2003 SCOPE International, Curcio Projects, Miami, Florida  
2002 Meledandri, Fred Mitchell and Julie Oakes, Sugarhill Art Center, NY  
SCOPE International, Gershwin Hotel, New York, NY  
2001 Having Returned, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC.  
2000 Master Program Exhibition, New York University, New York, NY.  
1999 Gallery Artists, Totem Gallery, Venice, Italy.  
Clara e gli Americani, Brescia Gallery, Brescia, Italy. Catalog  
Masters Program Exhibition, Venice, Italy. Catalog  
1998 Venice, Casa Italiana, New York, NY.  
1998 New York University Masters Program Exhibition, Venice, Italy. Catalogue  
1996 Jury Show, Vernon Public Art Gallery, Vernon, BC.

- Gallery Artists, Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, BC.
- 1995 Gallery Artists, Grunt Gallery, Vancouver, BC.
- 1994-1999 Group Exhibitions, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC.
- 1994 Emerging Artists, Museum of Modern Art, Miami, Fla.  
Art of the Motorcycle, Redding Art Gallery, Redding, Ca.
- 1993 Images and Objects XI, Assembly of BC Arts Councils, Trail, BC. Catalogue
- 1992 Juried Show, Daniel Cameron, Pleiades Gallery, New York, NY.  
In the Biblical Sense, Smash Gallery, Vancouver, BC.  
B.C. Festival of the Arts, Vernon, B.C.
- 1991-1992 Earthlines, Deadlines, Lifelines is a group show of seven artists curated by John Taylor. The exhibition included seven large paintings by Oakes including the triptych "Behind Those Hills, There are No Trees" which aroused controversy and extensive media attention. When the BC Forestry industry took exception to the works.
- 01/14-02/13 The Kelowna Public Art Gallery/Museum, Kelowna, B.C.
- 03/30-04/29 The Vernon Public Art Gallery/Museum, Vernon, B.C.
- 05/29-07/05 The Redding Public Art Gallery/Museum, Redding, CA
- 08/01-08/31 The Hama Sushi Gallery, Venice Beach, CA
- 12/01-12/31 Neutral Ground, Regina, Saskatchewan
- 09/06-10/20 The Art Gallery of the South Okanagan, Penticton, B.C.  
Canadian Museum and Curators Conference held here in September.
- 11/22-01/05 The Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, B.C.
- 1991 Helio Gallery, New York, NY Group Show
- 1990 OAL Gallery, Kelowna, B.C. Condominium Show
- 1989 Dome Gallery, New York, N.Y
- 1989 Vernon Public Art Gallery, Okanagan Artists
- 1989 Loch Mayberry Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- 1988 Okanagan Jury Show, Penticton, Kelowna, Vernon, Kamloops, B.C.
- 1988 B.C. Festival of the Arts, Victoria, B.C.
- 1988 Gallery Gagnon, Vernon, B.C.
- 1986 Assiniboia Art Gallery, Regina, Sask. Two Woman Show
- 1986 Bessborough Gallery, Saskatoon, Sask.
- 1985 Rosemont Gallery, Regina, Sask. Two Women Show
- 1985 Penticton Art Gallery, Art Attack, four artists
- 1983 PIAFA Art Auction, Penticton, B.C.
- 1982 Okanagan Jury Show, Penticton, B.C.
- 1982 Kamloops Public Gallery, A bed of Ones Own, eight women
- 1980-1978 Grainary Gallery, Fintry, B.C. Owned and operated and exhibited solo and group shows
- 1977 Kelowna Public Gallery B.C. Two person show
- 1976 Brackendale Gallery, Brackendale, B.C.
- 1976 BauXi Gallery, Vancouver, B.C.
- 1976 Galerie Royale, Vancouver, B.C.
- 1969 Winnipeg Public Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba



## Visual Performances

- 1994 Cunte Perfume Launching, Artimisia Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
1993 A Bevy of Beauties, Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, BC  
Breasts Protest Fashion Extravaganza, RCA Visuals, St. Johns, Nfld  
1992 Breast Protest Anonymous, Vernon, BC  
1989 SWAT, OAA Gallery, Kelowna, BC  
1986 I am a Woman with a Past, Vernon Public Gallery, Vernon, BC  
1969 Purse Snatching, General Idea in conjunction with Felix Partz.  
Videos  
1996 Women who Wax and Pluck, (5 minutes) produced and acted.  
1993 Cunte, (3 minutes) produced.  
1994 Crow's Feet, (2 minutes, 48 seconds) produced.  
1994 rashy Lingerie at the Cappuccino Bar, (12 min., 14 seconds), produced and acted.  
1993 A Bevy of Beauties, (3 minutes, 4 seconds) produced, acted.  
1992 Breasts Protest Anonymous, (13 minutes) produced, acted.  
1989 Snuff Walls Around Townhouses (SWAT), 4 minutes, produced, acted.  
1987 I am a Woman with as Past, 25 minutes, produced, acted.  
1983 Lewd Wave, (5 minutes) designed, acted.  
1984 Wives and Lovers, (4 minutes) produced, acted.

## Education

- 2004 Masters Degree in Cultural Theory, New School university, New York  
2000 Masters Degree, Art and Art Professions, NYU, New York, NY.  
1996 Computer Graphic Design, Extension Dept. Okanagan University College, Vernon, BC.  
1998 Canadian Securities Commission Certificate, CSC, Toronto, Ont.  
1975 Professional Teaching Certificate, University of BC, Vancouver, BC.  
1974 Intensive Chinese Language, Tibetan History, New School for Social Research,  
1971-1973 Thangka painting under the master Lhasa court Thangka painter, Sherab  
Palden Berut, Samye Ling Tibetan Center, Eskdalemuir, Scotland.  
1969 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Gold Medal, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Man.  
1966 Painting 101, University of Saskatchewan, Regina, Sask.  
1965 Summer Painting School, Banff Centre of Fine Arts,  
with Charles Stegeman and Francoise Andre

## Writings

- 2005 The Revolving Door 228 pages  
2004 Quercia Stories: Lay My Head on the Chest of the Dane, Gentle Bondage, Editing Evil  
2001 Personal observation reportage for "The Morning Show", CBC radio, BC  
following September 11, for eight broadcasts.  
1974 White Socks Suck, Young adult novelette, 87 pages

## Selected Reviews

- 2001 Sights of Resistance by Robert J. Belton (University of Calgary Press, 2001) Julie  
Oakes – "Boys when the Spring Comes," pages 167, 318, 319.  
1994 Art in America, March 1994, "Cunte, a Performance Piece by Julie Oakes" pg. 60,61

## Scholarships and Grants

1993 Canada Council Project Cost Grant  
1985 Canada Council Art Bank Purchase  
1975 Canada Council Project Cost Grant  
1973 Canada Council Short Term Grant  
1970 Canada Council Bursary  
1969 Canada Council Bursary  
1967 Cotes-Hallmark Scholarship

## Selected Collections

Canada Council Art Bank (2)  
Credit Union Central  
Enigma Trading Company  
Cotes Hallmark  
The Glenbow Museum, Calgary  
Holiday Park Resort  
Lower Manhattan Cultural Council  
The Norman McKenzie Art Gallery, Regina  
Mendel Art Gallery, Saskatoon  
Rifle High School  
Saskatchewan Telephone Company (2)  
Vancouver Authors Society  
Vernon Arts Council  
Vernon Public Art Gallery  
Vernon Performing Arts Centre

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