

An abstract painting with a textured, layered appearance. The background is a mix of grey, blue, and white tones. There are several distinct shapes: a large, dark, curved shape on the left; a bright red rectangular shape in the upper left; a yellow and black geometric pattern (resembling a wheel or a star) in the upper right; and a red and yellow striped rectangular shape in the lower right. The overall style is expressive and gestural.

ROBERT DMYTRUK

Transmissions

The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Robert Dmytruk
Transmissions

February 14 - March 17, 2013

HEADBONES GALLERY

Artist Catalog, Robert Dmytruk - Transmissions
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at Headbones Drawers Gallery, Vernon, BC Canada, February 14 - March 17, 2013

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Robert Dmytruk - Transmissions - Commentary by Julie Oakes
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RICH FOG

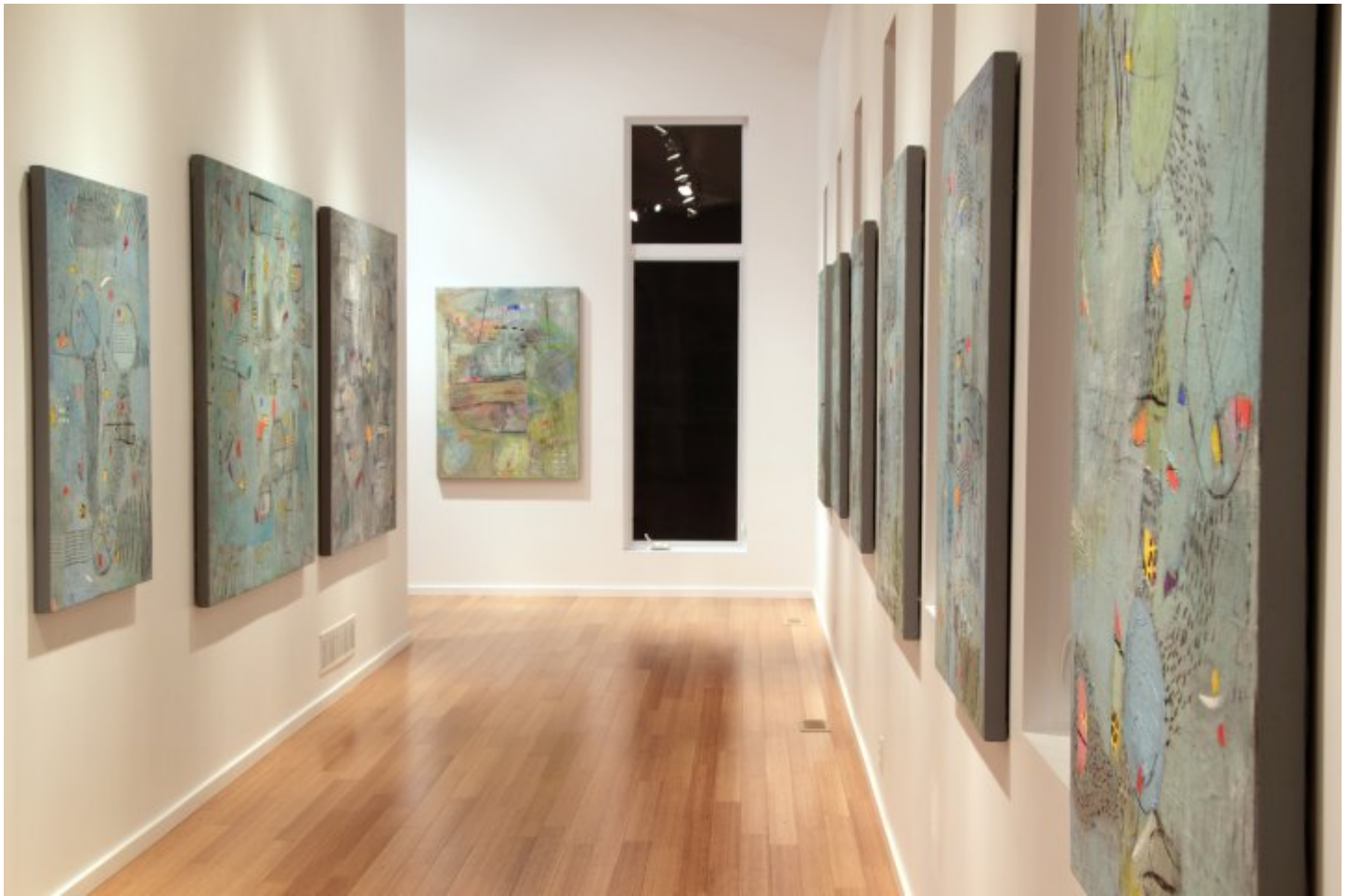


Micro Publishing

Robert Dmytruk

Transmissions

Commentary by Julie Oakes



Headbones Gallery - 2013

Robert Dmytruk - *Transmissions*

The Okanagan has seen an influx of master artists in the past ten years (John and Joice Hall, David Alexander, Janet Cardiff and Georges Bures Miller) and Robert Dmytruk is the latest addition to the valley's talent pool. His work is informed by place and tells a story of location. Dmytruk, having accomplished a move from Edmonton where he had a full working career, has built a stunning work/live studio in Summerland. He embraces this new period with its liberation of time and space allowing him to access a psychological and physical distance that refreshes his work.

Just as landscape painting references geographical places, so Dmytruk is representing a location. But whereas traditional landscape painting attempts to connect with the location through depiction, Dmytruk attempts to understand the location through telling the story of it.

His father owned a piece of land by a lake, 20 x 5 kilometers, in Alberta. It was on Range Road #52 (the number appears in many of the works). On the shore was a coal-fuelled power plant. Over the years three more power plants were built which necessitated strip mining beside the lake in order to fuel the plants with coal. The lake was a land locked lake, made from rain water and with the mountains of tailings from the lakeside mines leeching into the lake, it became polluted. Visually, it was blackened, muddied and swimming was most times disallowed. Night and day it was a work site with



lights blaring while vehicles with huge tires rolling across the surface of the land devastated it. Dmytruk used to sketch there.

He didn't stay beside the lake. He lived most of his life in Edmonton where he taught at Concordia College, was a teacher and administrator at the Victoria School of Fine Arts and art consultant to the Edmonton School District. He lived an urban life style, in a city that was consuming electricity that was probably coming from the very power plants that had



Headbones Gallery 2012

polluted the lake where he had been drawing, the lake which, in turn, fuelled his paintings when he turned to abstraction. He says that he would attack the canvases with physicality much like the energy of pollution overtaking the colourful snippets of life. Dmytruk wonders if the paintings aren't a show of guilt.

The story that Dmytruk tells over and over again has caught hold. He is consumed with it. Each piece is as individual as a personal drama yet as similar as the human condition. He repeats a view, pictured as if from above, where an

insistent blue-gray overtakes patches of vibrancy. He has also seen the lake from a plane. The paintings resemble topological maps.

Story aside, when medium (paint) and the exploration of it as mark-making becomes the image, the painting becomes an entity unto itself. Abstract expressionism involves the artist at the time of making but it results in imagery which is no longer attached to the physical movements or subliminal story line of the artist. Just as a child is an entity absolutely unto itself while still carrying the genes and characteristics of the parents, so



the most impressive abstract work carries family identity. These paintings are clearly recognised as *Dmytruks*.

A prayer spoken in Latin can suggest meaning without fully understanding the language so that it is an abstract meaning. The initiated, those who understand the abstract visual language, can appreciate its richness and many nuances but the layman as well can find a point of entry. Dmytruk has a large visual vocabulary and he speaks volumes with his lines, textures, patches of colour and undulating toned-down atmospheres. His paintings are not messages of doom and gloom. They are in fact playful, lilting and without a didactic hidden agenda, accepting the great opposites of our modern dilemma.

Now Dmytruk is living beside another lake in the beautiful Okanagan. He has produced a powerful series that will find resonance here, where the lakes are clean and the outlooks fresh. His is a welcomed addition to a rich cultural milieu.

Julie Oakes - 2013

Urban Mapping 1 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 62"x 66"



Urban Mapping 2 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 62"x 66"



Urban Mapping 3 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 62"x 66"



Urban Mapping 4 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 62"x 66"



Urban Mapping 5 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 62"x 66"



RR52 - Transmissions #1 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 48" x 35.5"



RR52 - Transmissions #2 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 52"x 39"



RR52 - Transmissions #3 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 48" x 35.5"



RR52 - Transmissions #4 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 52"x 39"



RR52 - Transmissions #5 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 48" x 35.5"



RR52 - Transmissions #6 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 47.5"x 34"



RR52 - Transmissions #7 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 52"x 39"



RR52 - Transmissions #8 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 48" x 35.5"



RR52 - Transmissions #9 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on canvas, 52"x 39"



Mapping #1 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on paper, 30"x 23"



Mapping #2 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on paper, 30"x 23"



Mapping #3 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on paper, 30"x 23"



Mapping #4 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on paper, 30"x 23"



Mapping #5 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on paper, 30"x 23"



Mapping #6 - 2012, Oil, acrylic and charcoal on paper, 30"x 23"





Robert Dmytruk
Summerland, BC - 2013

ROBERT DMYTRUK

Born 1950-

EDUCATION

BEd Secondary Art University of Alberta 1980

AWARDS

Alberta Foundation for the Arts Acquisition 2011

Strathcona Permanent Collection Acquisition 2011

Alberta Foundation for the Arts Acquisition 2009

Prime Ministers Award for Teaching Excellence in the Arts 2006

Emily Carr School of Art and Design Award for excellence in art education 2006

Alberta Foundation for the Arts Acquisition 2006

Victoria School Arts Foundation Visual Arts Award 2005,2006.

COLLECTIONS

Alberta Art Foundation

Strathcona Permanent Collection

Victoria School Of Art

Private Collections

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Urban Mapping, Harris-Warke Gallery, Red Deer, AB

March 2013

Transmissions, Headbones Gallery, Vernon, BC

February 2013

Appropriated Perceptions Visual Arts Association, Edmonton AB

March 2011

Imagemaker, Art Gallery of St Alberta, St. Albert, AB

Jan 2010

Water The Works Visual Art and Design Festival, Edmonton, AB

June 2008

Land Visions, Kensington Art Gallery, Calgary, AB

Nov 2006

Interrupted Landmarks, Front Gallery, Edmonton Alberta

Nov 2004

Places and Perceptions, Front Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta

Nov 2003

White Avenue, Misericordia Hospital Art Centre, Edmonton, AB

Sept 1998

Water and Land, Offenhauser Art Museum, Stony Plain, Alberta

August 1997

ROBERT DMYTRUK

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

<i>Season One</i> , Front Gallery, Edmonton AB	December 2012
<i>Conversations</i> , Common Sense Artist Gallery, Edmonton AB	November 2012
<i>Art on the Block</i> , Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton AB	May 2012
<i>Mapping</i> , Timms Centre for the Arts, University of Alberta	September 2011
<i>ReCharged</i> , Harcourt House Gallery, Edmonton AB	June 2011
<i>Mayors Celebration of the Arts</i> , Strathcona Art Gallery, Sherwood Park, AB	May 2011
<i>X Position</i> , Visual Arts Association of Alberta Gallery, Edmonton AB	April 2011
<i>Ten to the POWER of ten</i> , Jackson Power and Electric Warehouse, Edmonton	April 2011
<i>Art on the Block</i> , Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton AB	2006-2011
<i>Brian Webb Dance</i> , Silent Auction, Edmonton AB	2006-2011
<i>Earthscapes</i> , ArtsHab Gallery, The Works Festival Edmonton AB	June 2010
<i>Members Exhibition</i> Harcourt House Gallery, Edmonton AB,	June 2009-10
<i>Members Juried Exhibition</i> , Visual Arts Association of Alberta, Edmonton	2009-2010
<i>Workers Day</i> , Mennonite Centre Gallery, Edmonton AB,	May 2009
<i>Bird in Hand</i> , Profiles Art Gallery, St. Albert, AB.	Nov 2008
<i>Art at the Hanger</i> , Hanger 11, Edmonton AB	May 2008
<i>Workers Art Show</i> , Alberta Avenue Arts Centre, Edmonton, AB	May 2007
<i>Gallery Artists</i> , Kensington Art Gallery, Calgary, Alberta	April 2007
<i>Traveling Art Exhibition-“ Line”</i> , Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Alberta	2006-07
<i>Art in the Hanger 06</i> , Hanger 11, Edmonton, Alberta	August 2006
<i>Workers Art Show</i> , The Works Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta	May 2005
<i>Gallery Artists</i> , Kensington Art Gallery, Calgary, Alberta	2004-2007
<i>Surfacing</i> , Profiles Gallery, St. Albert, Alberta, 2 person exhibition	March 2005
<i>Art in the Hanger 05</i> , Hanger 11, Edmonton, Alberta	August 2005
<i>Five Abstract Artists</i> , Prairie Art Gallery, Grande Prairie, AB	Jan 2003
<i>Seeing Us</i> , Victoria Art School Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta	2003-06
<i>Gallery Artists</i> , Front Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta	2003-2006
<i>May Day</i> , The Works Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta	May 2004
<i>Landscapes Interpreted</i> , The Works Art Festival, Edmonton, Alberta	June 2004
<i>Globalization Issues</i> , Latitude 53 Gallery, Edmonton, Alberta	Sept 2002

HEADBONES GALLERY

Presents

Robert Dmytruk

Transitions

February 14 – March 17, 2013

Opening Reception 6-9 pm

Friday, February 22, 2013

6700 Old Kamloops Rd., Vernon, BC V1H 1P8 Tel: 250-542-8987

www.headbonesgallery.com - info@headbonesgallery.com

Hours: Wed-Sat 12-6pm