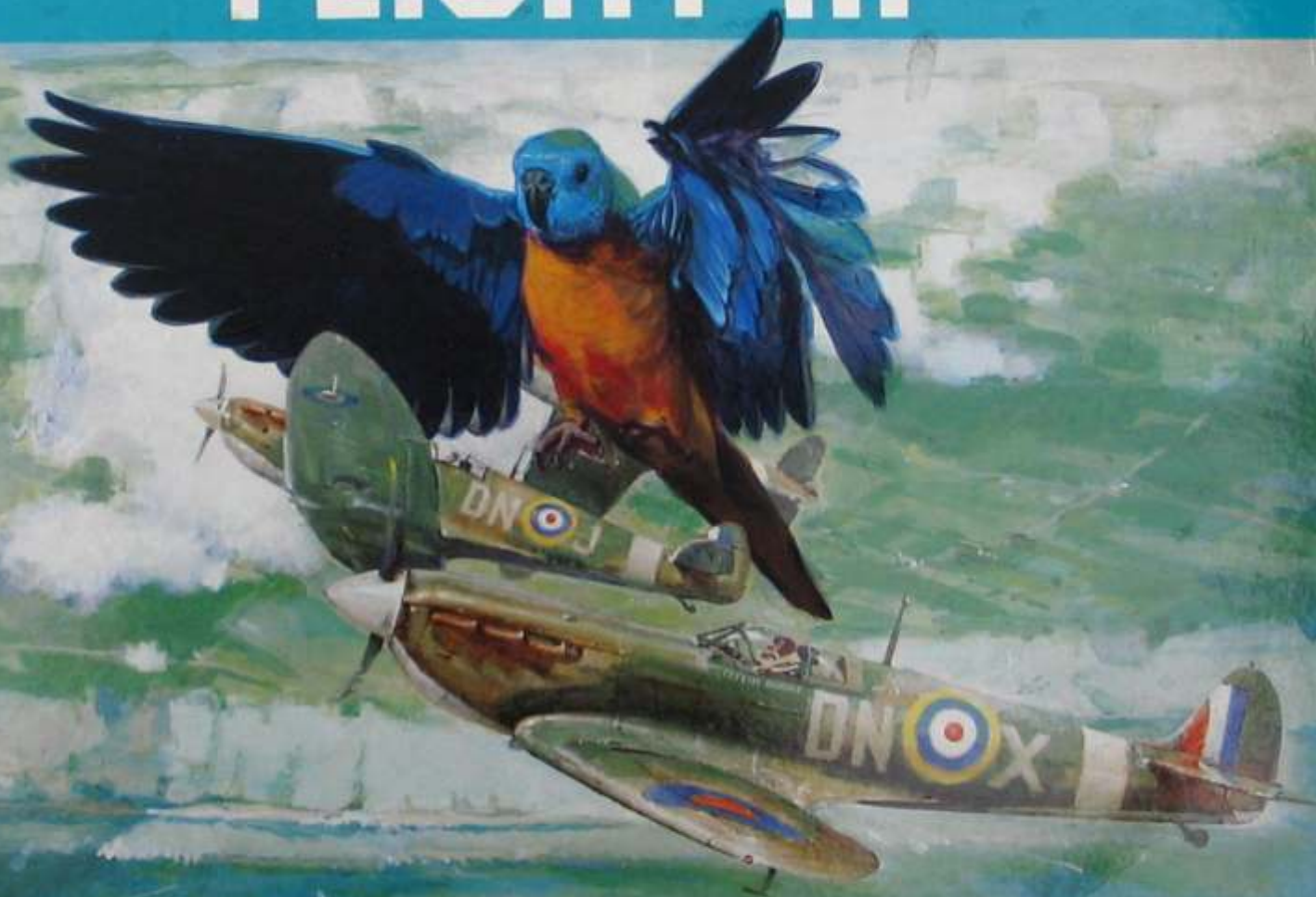


THE SPITFIRE BAND FLIGHT III



SCOTT WATERS

The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper

Work'n It

January 10 - February 14, 2008

Scott Waters

Commentary by Julie Oakes

Artist Catalog, Scott Waters
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Commentary by Julie Oakes
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Micro Publishing
Toronto Canada

Scott Waters

Work'n It

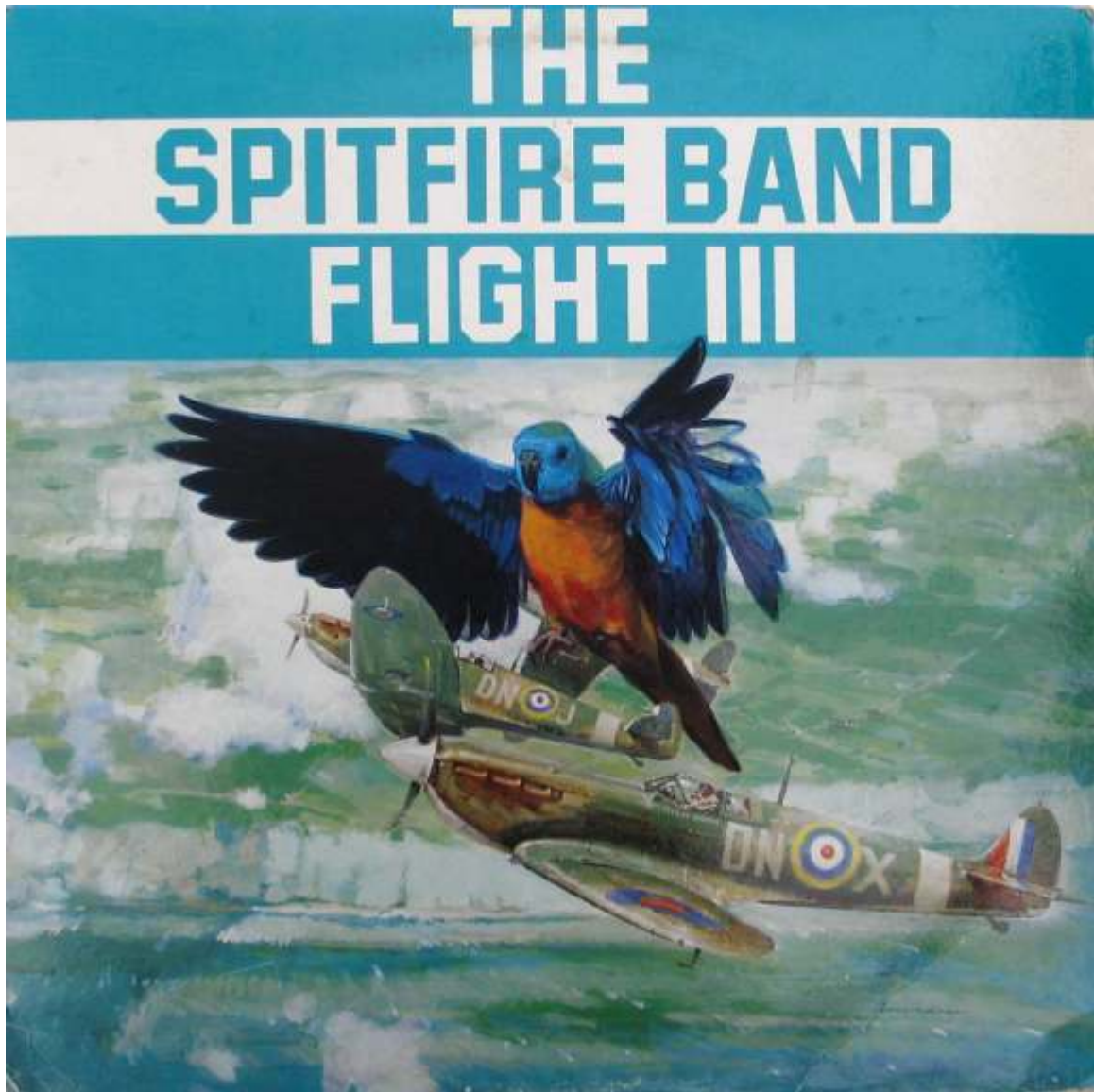
As the world fills up with visual material, nostalgia is often a safer haven than the harsh stringency of approaching a clean ground. It could be argued that there is no such thing as a 'fresh canvas' in the confusion of visual bombardment, both historical and contemporary.

There was very little garbage during the Second World War, everything from vegetable scraps to rubber tires was recycled. Today, it is an ecological choice to build upon the existing rather than add to the over-thinged and populated earth. It is an intrinsic part of working on recycled surfaces. On record album covers dating back to the forties, fifties and sixties, Scott Waters superimposes imagery of the times. But whose times? What times? A raging fire eclipses the prim concentration of folk singers, dressed and poised for a promotional shot on a record album cover. The original intent of setting up the image – in this case, the folk group presenting a visual to contextualise the music that will be heard on the album – is interrupted by an act in what has become the future tense of the original visual. There is an immediate sense of gapping, of being at odds with the visuals and the reception of the material is perceived as a jolt into the present tense. The hand of the artist becomes overbearingly apparent despite the fool-the-eye facility of Water's adeptness with paint. A bemused and comic jibe at the self serious concentration of the group of singers meters the shock of the blazing turmoil that has landed in their midst. Always, there is an unaware victim of a joke. The fishermen on the postcards are dwarfed by giant birds, illustrative and unaware of their context. The crux of the schism lies in who is the knowledgeable one, the new addition or the original setup and yet the only 'all-seeing-one' is the artist, Scott Waters.

Often using military imagery, the civilian world is thrown off kilter by the intrusive visual but there is no apparent change in the context other than the necessary obliteration of information from the visual addition blocking out a portion of his chosen backdrop.

Like a private joke that has been passed on to an audience through a discrete aside, the structure of nostalgia is skewed by the addition of new information. The joke on the past is at no-ones' expense however and only serves to illuminate the present by layering an unconsidered option on the present - an option that takes into account the inescapable impact of the visual material that has already filtered through and escaped the garbage bin. That a vintage record, postcard or romance novel can play, communicate and entrance with new vitality shows the power to convince that can be awakened by the hand of a practiced magician.

Julie Oakes



The Battle of Britain II - 2007
acrylic on LP cover on panel (12x12 inches)



Relaxing on the Beach - 2007
acrylic on LP cover on panel (12x12 inches)



Elusive as Corn - 2006
acrylic on book cover (6.5x4 inches)



Strategic Vacation - 2006
acrylic on postcard (6x4 inches)



Lance - 2006
acrylic on book cover (6.5x4 inches)



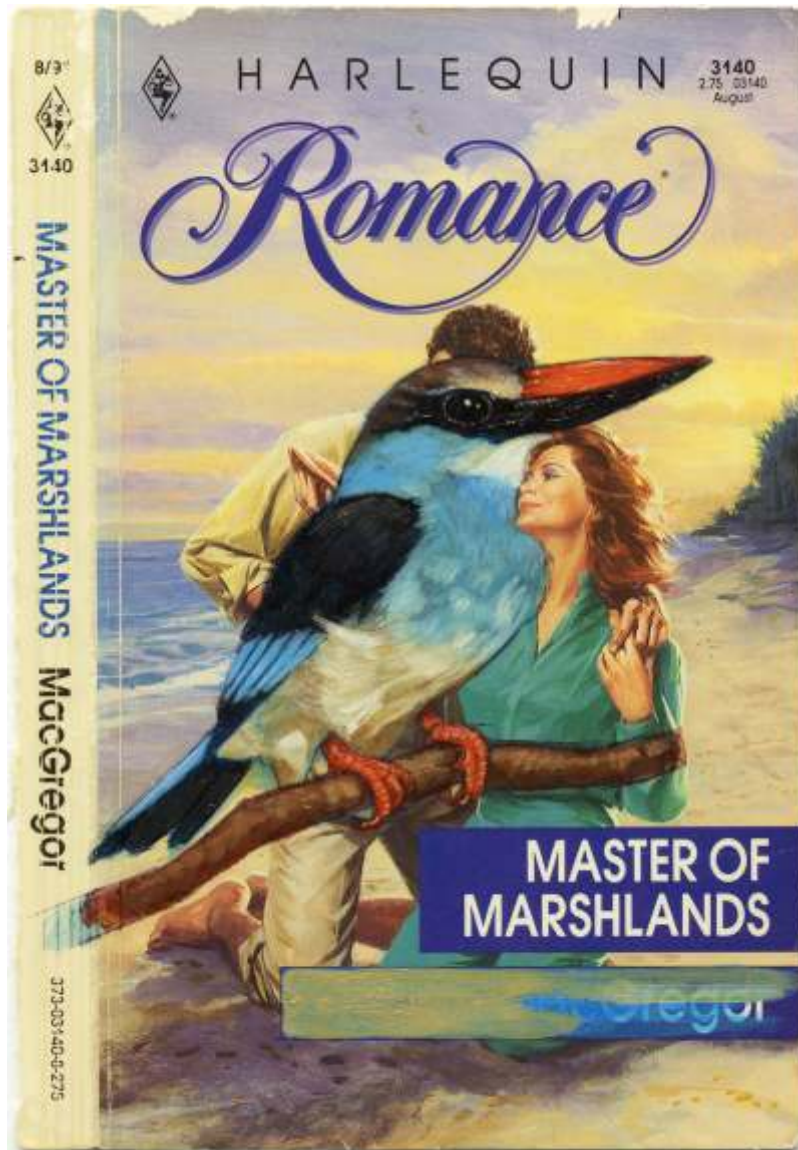
A-7E 2006
Domestic Violence
acrylic and oil on wallpaper (31x20.5 inches)



Vanquished by Nighthawk - 2006
acrylic on book cover (6.5x4 inches)



Otter Vs. Sub - 2004
Battle of the Plains of Abraham
acrylic and tape on wallpaper (60x20.5 inches)



The Master Takes Court - 2006
acrylic on book cover (6.5x4 inches)



Harrier Gr. MK 3 2006
Domestic Violence
acrylic and oil on wallpaper (31x20.5 inches)



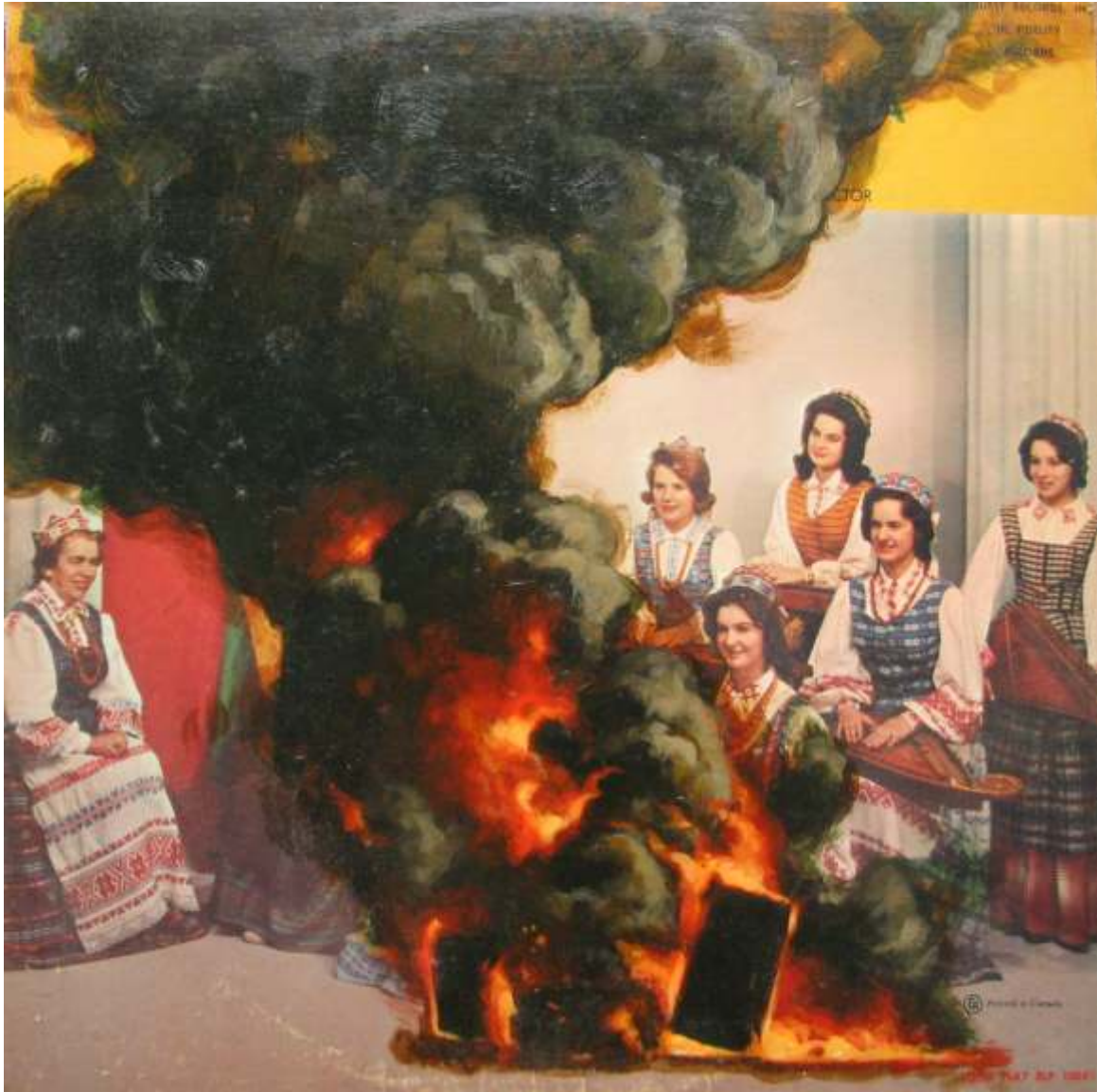
Kingfisher in Plaid - 2006
acrylic on postcard (6x4 inches)



Air Superiority Complex - 2006
Battle of the Plains of Abraham
acrylic and tape on wallpaper (61x20.5 inches)



Firewater of the Gods - 2007
acrylic on LP cover on panel (12x12 inches)



Lithuanian Bonfire - 2007
acrylic on LP cover on panel (12x12 inches)



Domestic Cardinal - 2004
acrylic on wallpaper (17x11 inches)



English Explosion 2006
Domestic Violence
acrylic and oil on wallpaper (30x20.5 inches)



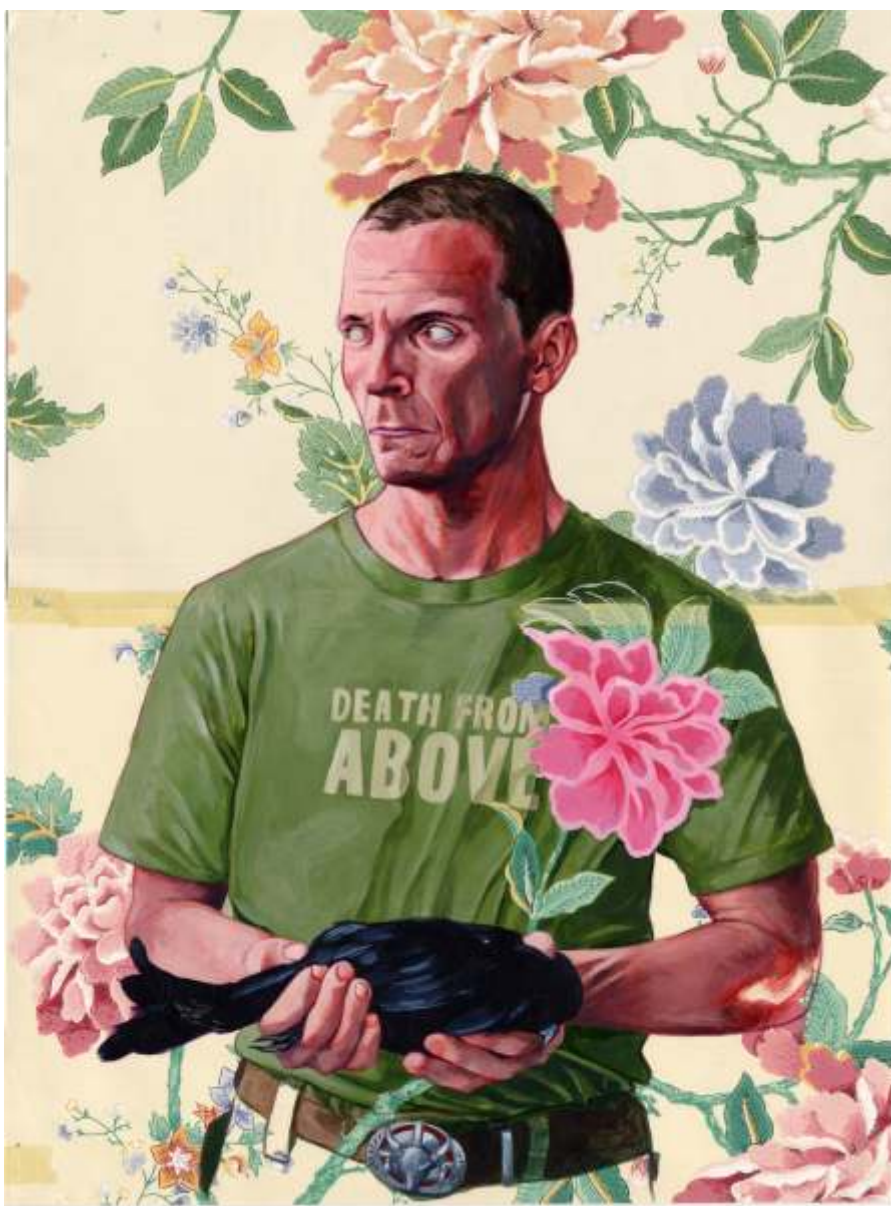
AH-1 2006
Battle of the Plains of Abraham
acrylic and tape on wallpaper (60x20.5 inches)



VM-22 2002-06
Domestic Violence
acrylic and tape on wallpaper (14x20.5 inches)



UH-60 2002-06
Domestic Violence
acrylic and tape on wallpaper (14x20.5 inches)



Death From Above - 2006
acrylic and tape on wallpaper (17x23 inches)

Scott Waters

Selected Exhibition History

Solo, Two & Three Person

- 2008 *Time Heals All Wounds*, Craig Scott Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2008 *Domestic Violence*, CRAM, St. Catharines ON
- 2007 Visiting Artist Residency Exhibition, Open Studio, Toronto ON (w/ Diyan Achjadi)
- 2006 *You Wanna Go? We'll Go*, Le Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2006 *WAR*, Quab Gallery, Calgary AB (w/ Jerome Prieur, Maya Kulenovic)
- 2005 *Brief Excursions*, The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto ON (w/Jeff Winch)
- 2005 *Out of Bounds*, The Alternator Gallery, Kelowna, BC (w/Scott Trelevan)
- 2004 *The Hero Book**, Birganart, Toronto ON
- 2001 *A Thousand Plans, A Thousand Failures*, West Wing Art Space, Toronto ON

Group

- 2008 National Touring Exhibition, via Canadian War Museum (locations TBC)
- 2008 *Workin' It*, Headbones Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2008 Art Gallery of South Western Manitoba, Brandon, MB
- 2007 *Toronto International Art Fair*, Toronto ON
- 2007 *Authentic Fake*, Chicago Art Source, Chicago IL
- 2007 *Showcase 07*, Cambridge Galleries, Cambridge ON
- 2007 *Cherry Blossom*, Resistor Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2007 *O Pathetic Fallacy*, The Green Lantern, Chicago IL
- 2006 *Narrative?* Headbones Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2006 *Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition*, Toronto ON
- 2005 *Experiment 400/5*, UIC, Chicago IL
- 2005 *Flirt*, Gallery Neubacher, Toronto ON
- 2005 *Square Foot IV*, Brooklyn NY
- 2005 *Summer Fling*, Gallery Neubacher, Toronto ON
- 2004 *Affordable Art Fair*, NYC
- 2004 *Crossing Borders II*, Ohio State University, Columbus OH
- 2004 *Sacred/Profane*, Redhead Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2003 *Cambridge Galleries Juried Exhibition*, Cambridge ON
- 2003 *If I Ruled the World*, Redhead Gallery, Toronto ON
- 2003 *London Aesthetic*, Gallery Neubacher, Toronto ON
- 2002 *The Destroyers*, ArtSystem, Toronto ON
- 2002 *Delicia3*, Delicia Art Haus, Toronto ON
- 2002 *And Infinite Justice For All: The War Show*, ArtSystem, Toronto ON
- 2001 *Weather's Here, Wish You Were Beautiful*, ArtSystem, Toronto ON

Education

- 2004 M.F.A., Visual Arts, York University, Toronto ON
- 1999 Post-Graduate New Media Design Diploma Sheridan College, Oakville ON (high honours/top candidate)
- 1997 B.F.A., Okanagan University College. Kelowna BC (with distinction)

Small Press Fairs

- 2005 *Canzine*, The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto ON
- 2005 *Hamilton Small Press Fair*, The Downtown Cultural Centre, Hamilton ON
- 2005 *Expozine*, SAINT-ENFANT-J SUS church, Montreal QC
- 2006 *Canzine*, The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto ON

Books & Publications

- 2007 *Pure Hate*, "Kiss Machine" #15
- 2006 *A Good Father/Son Bonding Story* "Kiss Machine" #13
- 2006 *The Hero Book*, Cumulus Press
- 2005 *The Hero Book*, self-published
- 2005 *All of the Firearms I have Ever Used* (plus some support weapons), self-published

Residencies

- 2006 Visiting Artist Residency, Open Studio, Toronto ON
- 2006 CFAP (*Canadian Forces Artist Program*) CFB Gagetown, NB w/2RCR

Awards

- 2007 *Project Grant*, Canada Council for the Arts
- 2007 *Visual Arts Grant, Emerging*, Ontario Arts Council
- 2005 *Visual Arts Grant*, Ontario Arts Council
- 2005 *Samuel Sarick Purchase Prize*, York University
- 2004 *Art@Suite500*, Purchase prize, Schulich School of Business
- 2003 *Cambridge Galleries Juried Exhibition* Juror's Award
- 2002 York University Entrance Scholarship
- 1999 Silver Medal recipient, Sheridan College (Top Candidate)
- 1997 Helen Pitt award for graduating students
- 1997 Okanagan University College President's Purchase award
- 1996 Helen Pitt Fund For the Fine Arts scholarship

Articles/Reviews

- 2007 Martin, Lateef, (review of "The Hero Book) "Matrix", Summer 2007, issue 77
- 2007 Carr, Angela, *Men Behaving Badly*, "Montreal Review of Books", Spring 2007
- 2006 Tousignant, Isa, *Great Canadian publishers draw outside the lines*, "Montreal Gazette"
- 2006 *Enclosed Encounters of a Military Kind*, Border Crossings, Issue 100
- 2006 CBC Montreal (Radio Canada), "All in a Weekend", Nov. 04
- 2006 Graham, Hugh, *The Horrors of WAR*, "FFWD", Aug. 17
- 2006 Vocat, Daryl, *Art Attack*, "Dose" Jan. 30
- 2006 Davis, Kristina, "The Maple Leaf", Vol. 09, No.05
- 2005 Priegert, Portia, *Military Memoir*, "eVent", Sept. 28
- 2005 Balzer, David, *Eye Candy*, "Eye Weekly", August 18
- 2004 *Matt Bahen vs. Scott Waters*, Artfag Issue 3, May
- 2004 Osborne, Catherine. *Army Daze*, "The National Post" April 24, TO 10

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