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The Jack and Doris Shadbolt Foundation announces the 2022 VIVA Awards and Max Wyman Award

Charles Campbell and Jan Wade - VIVA Awards Scott Watson - Max Wyman Award for Critical Writing



CHARLES CAMPBELL VIVA Award photo: Shawn Shepherd



JAN WADE VIVA Award photo: Thelonius Dule Mthombeni



SCOTT WATSON Max Wyman Award photo: Roberto Pinto

Vancouver, May 15, 2022 – The Board of Trustees of the Jack and Doris Shadbolt Foundation announce this year's recipients of three prestigious cultural awards in British Columbia.

This year, visual artists Charles Campbell and Jan Wade are the recipients of the 2022 VIVA Awards, granted annually by the Jack and Doris Shadbolt Foundation for the Visual Arts, each receiving \$15,000.

Writer, curator and educator Scott Watson received the \$5,000 Max Wyman Award for Critical Writing. The Max Wyman Awards are jointly administered by the Max Wyman Award Committee and the Yosef Wosk Family Foundation.

The usual annual celebration, a public ceremony honouring the recipients, was cancelled this year due to COVID-19.

Go to our website for more information and to view winners' artwork: shadboltfoundation.org

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ABOUT THE VIVA AWARDS FOR VISUAL ART:

Established in 1988, the VIVA Awards are funded by the Jack and Doris Shadbolt Foundation for the Visual Arts. The VIVA Awards were created to nurture the advancement of the visual arts in British Columbia and their appreciation by the public. Providing a minimum of \$15,000 annually, these awards celebrate exemplary achievement by British Columbia artists in mid-career, chosen for outstanding accomplishment and commitment by an independent jury. The VIVA jury members were Diyan Achjadi, Shaun Dacey, Robin Laurence, Elliott Ramsey and Tania Willard.

Charles Campbell and Jan Wade each recipients of a 2022 VIVA Award

CHARLES CAMPBELL is an internationally acclaimed multidisciplinary artist, writer, curator and educator. Born in Jamaica, he grew up on Prince Edward Island, studied in Montreal and London, UK, and is based in Victoria, BC. His artworks, which include sculptures, paintings, sonic installations and performances, explore aspects of Black history, especially as experienced in the Caribbean region and within the infamous nexus of slavery and colonialism. Recently, he has been investigating British Columbia's past with a focus on the province's Black pioneers.

Campbell holds an MA in fine arts from Goldsmiths College, London, and a BFA from Concordia University, Montreal. He has exhibited his work widely in North America, including the Caribbean, and in Europe. The former chief curator at the National Gallery of Jamaica, he is currently adjunct curator with the Confederation Centre Art Gallery, Charlottetown, PEI.

JAN WADE is a Hamilton-born, Vancouver-based artist whose practice includes mixed-media assemblages, paintings, textiles, text works, and icon-like sculptural objects. Many of them are created out of or embellished with found and recycled materials and objects, such as antique buttons, coins, shells, Scrabble tiles, pop-culture figurines, and religious symbols. Wade has developed a highly distinctive style and iconography, shaped by her personal experience as an African Canadian of mixed cultural heritage and her commitment to ideas of social and spiritual transformation. Her work expresses contemporary political concerns alongside deep ties to and research into her ancestral history in the American South, her memories of growing up in a predominantly Black community in Hamilton, and her family's attendance at an African Methodist Episcopal church. She has said that "music is the heartbeat of culture," and her art is also powerfully influenced by jazz and blues traditions.

Wade was recently celebrated in the solo exhibition *Jan Wade: Soul Power*, at the Vancouver Art Gallery, Previously, she exhibited her work in small public galleries and artist-run centres

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in Canada and the United States. Throughout her career, she has also been awarded national and international residencies. Born in Hamilton, Wade studied at the Ontario College of Art and Design (1972–76) and moved to Vancouver in 1983.

ABOUT THE MAX WYMAN AWARD FOR CRITICAL WRITING.

Scott Watson is the recipient of the 2022 Max Wyman Award

The internationally renowned UBC contemporary art curator, educator and writer **Scott Watson** is the winner of this year's Max Wyman Award in Critical Writing.

The annual award celebrates critical commentary on the visual, performing and literary arts. It is intended to honour informed and compelling writing that stimulates critical thinking, fosters ongoing discussion about the role of arts and culture in contemporary society and demonstrates the value of creative commentary in our understanding of the world around us. The winner receives a prize of \$5,000 and a gold and emerald pin designed by Vancouver artist Robert Chaplin.

The award was established in 2017 by philanthropist Yosef Wosk to honour the career and lifetime contributions of the Vancouver author, arts critic and commentator Max Wyman. It recognizes writers who have amassed a significant body of work. Eligible subjects of criticism include the visual arts, architecture and design, theatre, literature, dance, music, film and television, as well as more general cultural commentary.

Scott Watson is a Professor in the Department of Art History, Visual Art, and Theory at UBC and Director Emeritus and Research Fellow at UBC's Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery. A curator whose career has spanned more than thirty-five years, Watson has published extensively in the areas of contemporary Canadian and international art. His 1990 book on Jack Shadbolt earned the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize in 1991. *Thrown: British Columbia's Apprentices of Bernard Leach and their Contemporaries*, was a finalist for the 2012 Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize.

He is internationally recognized for his research and work in curatorial and exhibition studies, contemporary art and issues, and art theory and criticism, and his curatorial distinctions include the Hnatyshyn Foundation Award for Curatorial Excellence in Contemporary Art (2010); the Alvin Balkind Award for Creative Curatorship in BC Arts (2008); and the UBC Dorothy Somerset Award for Performance Development in the Visual and Performing Arts (2005). As director of the Belkin, he encouraged many national and international collaborations, including *Ruins in*

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Process: Vancouver Art in the Sixties (2009), a collaboration with grunt gallery on an online digital archive of Vancouver art in the 1960s and early 1970s

The jury citation reads:

In his long career as an innovative and visionary curator of contemporary art, Scott Watson has established a position as one of Canada's pre-eminent writers on artists and arts issues. He has always been deeply engaged with the world outside the gallery walls, and his informed and accessible curatorial commentaries lead the viewer not only to fresh insights about the work under discussion but also, more generally, fresh understanding of art's relationship with contemporary society. His humane and perceptive writings, as well as his work as director and graduate advisor to UBC's Critical Curatorial Studies program, which trains curators and critics in their roles as interpretive intermediaries between contemporary art and the individual, directly embody the values this award was established to honour.

Yosef Wosk commented: "I have long been both an admirer and a beneficiary of Scott Watson's brilliance and vision. His career is an object-lesson in how we can make art a necessary and enriching part of our lives."

The 2021 award jury consisted of arts advocate Merla Beckerman, Yosef Wosk and Max Wyman.

For more information specifically about the Max Wyman Award contact: Max Wyman: maxwyman@telus.net

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