

BRENDAN FLANAGAN

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Brendan Flanagan is an artist and educator based in Toronto. He completed his PhD dissertation in Visual Arts at York University in August 2026. Supported by a SSHRC Doctoral Award and university fellowships, his painting-focused practice explores intersections of technology, authorship, and artistic praxis.

EDUCATION

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| 2026 | PhD, Visual Arts, York University, Toronto
Dissertation: Painting After AI: Shared Attention and the Problem of Authorship
Completed August 2026
SSHRC Doctoral Award recipient |
| 2014 | MFA, Studio Arts, Concordia University, Montreal |
| 2007 | BFA (with Distinction), Ontario College of Art and Design University, Toronto |
| 2004 | Exchange Program, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, through OCADU |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| 2026 | Sessional Instructor, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, University of Toronto
VIS201: Painting: Materials and Methods
VIS323: Painting: Contemporary Practice, Summer 2026 |
| 2020–2026 | Instructor, York University, Toronto
Drawing: Comics and Sequential Art (VISA 3088), Winter 2026, Sections 1 and 2
Drawing: Perception, Proportion, Structure (VISA 2081), Fall 2025, Sections 1 and 2
Painting: Colour and Composition (VISA 2024), Winter 2025, Sections 1 and 2
Painting: Techniques and Materials (VISA 2025), Fall 2024, Sections 1 and 2
Photography: The Photographic Experience (VISA 1006), Winter 2024
Painting: Colour and Composition (VISA 2024), Winter 2023
Art History: Art in the City (ARTH 1900), Fall 2022, Sections 1 and 2
Drawing: Comics and Sequential Art (VISA 3088), Fall 2022
Painting: Constructing the Human Figure (VISA 3022), Winter 2022
Painting: Approaches to Techniques (VISA 2025), Fall 2021
Photography: The Photographic Experience (VISA 1006), Winter 2021
Art History: Art in the City (ARTH 1900), Fall 2020
Drawing: Comics and Sequential Art (VISA 3088), Fall 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed and delivered courses across painting, drawing, photography, and art history. • Led critiques and discussions emphasizing conceptual development and technical skill. |
| 2023 | Course Director, York University, Toronto
Drawing: Perception, Proportion, Structure (VISA 2081)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed the curriculum and coordinated instructors teaching other sections. • Designed exercises and projects integrating observational, classical, and experimental drawing approaches. |
| 2021 | Graduate Guest Instructor, York University, Toronto
Methods in Practice-Based Research (VISA 5650), Winter 2021; Professor Barbara Balfour
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led a Graduate Seminar and provided advanced critiques and mentorship to MFA students developing practice-based research. |
| 2017–2025 | Instructor, Continuing Studies, Ontario College of Art and Design University, Toronto
Oil Painting Techniques (Summer 2025; Winter 2025; Winter 2024; Summer 2023; Spring 2023; Fall 2019; Fall 2018)
Drawing 1 (Summer 2025; Winter 2025)
Drawing 2 (Summer 2025; Winter 2025)
Landscape Painting Studio, Winter 2019
Watercolour Painting Studio, Fall 2019
Encaustic Painting, Summer 2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combined traditional and contemporary studio methods for learners with varied levels of experience. • Supported individual development through demonstrations, one-to-one critiques, and material experimentation. |

- 2013–2015 Course Director, Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University, Montreal**
 Special Topics in Painting, Fall and Winter 2014
 Painting and Popular Culture II, Fall and Winter 2015
- Developed curricula examining painting, mass media, and popular-cultural imagery.
 - Guided students in critical appropriation and the development of individual compositional strategies.
- 2012–2014 Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Fine Arts, Concordia University, Montreal**
 Between the Wall and the Viewer, Fall/Winter 2012–2013; Professor Raphaëlle de Groot
 Drawing and Knowledge II, Fall/Winter 2013–2014; Professor Eleanor Bond
- Assisted with demonstrations and discussions focused on installation, participatory art, drawing, and context.

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

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| 2026 | Portfolio Reviewer, Undergraduate Admissions at York University |
| 2025 | Organizing Committee Member, Universities Art Association of Canada Annual Conference, York University |
| 2025 | Portfolio Reviewer, Undergraduate Admissions at York University |
| 2023–2026 | Union Steward, CUPE 3903 |
| 2023–2025 | Treasurer, Visual Art Graduate Student Association, York University |
| 2024 | Conference Organizer, York AMPD–Sensorium Graduate Symposium |

AWARDS & FUNDING

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| 2024 | Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Award |
| 2022 | Ontario Graduate Scholarship |
| 2020 | York Graduate Scholarship |
| 2020 | York Graduate Fellowship |
| 2014–2015 | Bronfman Fellowship in Contemporary Art |
| 2011 | Concordia University Graduate Scholarship |
| 2011 | Tedeschi Fine Arts Fellowship |

GRANTS

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| 2021 | Canada Council for the Arts |
| 2018 | Canada Council for the Arts |
| 2015 | Canada Council for the Arts |
| 2009 | Toronto Arts Council |
| 2009 | Ontario Arts Council |

PUBLICATIONS & CRITICAL WRITING

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| 2025 | "Brendan Flanagan on Scott Lyall: Neither Math nor Feeling" Susan Hobbes <i>Framework Essay</i> . |
| 2025 | "Machinic Chance within Modernist Creation," with Ella Dawn McGeough. <i>Technophany: A Journal for Philosophy and Technology</i> . |
| 2024 | "HOUSE BOAT GOOD WATER." Exhibition text, Goodwater Gallery; also published by moire.ca. |
| 2023 | "Dear Rose: On Viewing Art Through Rose-Tinted Glasses." <i>Æ: Graduate Journal of Art Education</i> (Winter). |
| 2023 | "Threads" York Graduating Exhibition text. |

SELECTED LECTURES, PERFORMANCES & PANELS

2025	"Luxury Merch," lecture and performance with Erica Stocking, UAAC Annual Conference, York University, Toronto, ON
2025	"Art Economies: ZIRP and Speculative Investment," guest lecture, Professional Practice, York University, Toronto, ON
2024	"Merch and the Poetry of Capitalism," lecture and performance with Erica Stocking, ASAP15 Conference, New York University, New York, NY
2024	"Ad Reinhardt and the Problem of Blackness," UAAC Annual Conference, Western University, London, ON
2023	"Scandals of Creation: Generative AI and Chance Operations within Artistic Production," Association for Art History Annual Conference, University College London, London, UK
2023	Moderator, artist panel for <i>a juncture, a join, a strait, a pinch</i> , York MFA Graduating Exhibition, Collision Gallery, Toronto, ON
2019	"Machine Aesthetics," guest lecture, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
2015	"The State of Painting," panel discussion for <i>Six Peintres</i> , Galerie B-312, Montreal, QC
2014	Artist talk with Eleanor Bond, Concordia University, Montreal, QC
2014	Artist talk, OCAD University, Painting and Drawing Department, Toronto, ON
2014	Artist talk, Concordia University, Fine Arts Department, Montreal, QC
2011	Artist talk, OCAD University, Painting and Drawing Department, Toronto, ON

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026 (upcoming)	<i>Gambits</i> , Galerie B-312, Montreal, QC
2026	<i>Intuitive</i> , Portable, Easy to Use, Gales Gallery, Toronto, ON
2023	<i>Pica</i> , Goldfarb Visual Arts Study Centre, Toronto, ON
2016	<i>Dense Hands</i> , Thick Clouds, FOFA Gallery, Montreal, QC
2015	<i>Preset Mispronounced</i> , Division Gallery, Toronto, ON
2014	<i>NOTHINGBUTFOAM</i> , Jean Brillant, Montreal, QC
2011	<i>Sightlines</i> , Thierry Goldberg Projects, New York, NY
2010	<i>Interiors</i> , Angell Gallery, Toronto, ON
2009	<i>Revenant</i> , Angell Gallery, Toronto, ON
2008	<i>Black Bay</i> , LE Gallery, Toronto, ON
2007	<i>Mighty Magnificence</i> , LE Gallery, Toronto, ON

COLLABORATIVE / TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2017	<i>Brendan Flanagan / Jean-François Lauda</i> , Vie d'Ange, Montreal, QC
2014	<i>Rules and Mediations</i> , with Alan Stanners and Nathaniel Hurtubise, Ground Gallery, Montreal, QC

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2027 (upcoming)	<i>Group Show</i> , Clint Roenisch Gallery, Toronto, ON
2024	<i>Wine on the Cuff, Dirt on the Collar</i> , Zalucky Contemporary, Toronto, ON
2022	<i>Size of a Credit Card</i> , The Plumb, Toronto, ON
2020	<i>Naviguer en eaux troubles</i> , Galerie d'art Desjardins, Drummondville, QC

2019	<i>Transitions</i> , Nova Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria
2015	<i>Surface and Stratagem</i> , Division Gallery, Toronto, ON
2014	<i>Architectures</i> , Division Gallery, Montreal, QC
2014	<i>Composed of Superposed Layers</i> , Circa Popop, Montreal, QC
2014	<i>Six Peintres</i> , Galerie B-312, Montreal, QC
2014	<i>Invisible Heavy Hand</i> , French Restaurant, Montreal, QC
2013	<i>RBC Canadian Painting Competition</i> , National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, ON
2013	<i>Shape Shifters</i> , Division Gallery, Toronto, ON
2013	<i>D3</i> , Drawing Lab Dessin, Berlin, Germany
2013	<i>Fresh Paint</i> , Art Mûr, Montreal, QC

RESIDENCIES

2027 (forthcoming)	Annandale Residency, Charlottetown, PEI
2019	WoCo Artist Residency, Sofia, Bulgaria
2017	Artist in Residence, Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity, Banff, AB
2013	Digital Atelier, OCAD University, Toronto, ON

SELECTED PRESS & REVIEWS

2015	"Exhibition: Brendan Flanagan." <i>Canadian Art</i> , Winter.
2013	RBC Canadian Painting Competition Finalists. <i>Canadian Art</i> , Summer.
2012	<i>Beautiful/Decay</i> , no. 8, Fall.
2012	<i>Victoria Collects</i> . Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, p. 72.
2011	Leah Turner. <i>Color Magazine</i> 9.2, Summer.
2011	Interview with Tibi Tibi Neuspiel. <i>Bad Day</i> , no. 10.
2010	Trish Boon. <i>Magenta Magazine</i> , November 30.
2009	Leah Sandals. "Shapeshifting." <i>National Post</i> , October 3.
2009	Gary Michael Dault. "Gallery Going." <i>The Globe and Mail</i> , October 3.
2009	"One to Watch: Brendan Flanagan." <i>View on Canadian Art</i> .
2008	<i>Carte Blanche</i> , vol. 2. Magenta Publishing for the Arts, p. 60.
2008	Gary Michael Dault. "Gallery Going." <i>The Globe and Mail</i> , December 6.