

Brendan Flanagan is an artist and educator currently based in Toronto. He holds a PhD in Visual Arts from York University supported by a SSHRC grant and several university fellowships. Flanagan's painting-focused practice explores intersections of technology, authorship, and artistic praxis.

EDUCATION

- 2026** PhD Department of Visual Arts, York University, Toronto.
Title of Dissertation: ***Painting After AI: Shared Attention and the Problem of Authorship***
SSHRC Doctoral Award Recipient
- 2014** MFA, Concordia University, Montreal
- 2007** BFA, Ontario College of Art and Design University, Toronto
- 2004** Exchange Program through OCADU, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2026** **Sessional Instructor, University of Toronto, Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, Toronto**
Painting: Contemporary Practice (VIS323), 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: Composition and Colour (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)
Painting: Constructing the Human Figure (VISA 3022), Winter 2022
Drawing: Comics and Sequential Art (VISA 3088), Fall 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
- 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)
- Developed the curriculum and supervised instructors of other sections.
 - Designed in-class exercises and projects integrating classical and experimental drawing approaches.
 - Emphasized high engagement, imaginative ideation, and visual communication.

- 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
- Instructed multiple courses that combined traditional and contemporary techniques.
 - Fostered individual growth by offering one-on-one critiques and encouraging risk-taking, while maintaining rigorous craftsmanship.
- 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 curriculum that examined intersections between painting, mass media, and pop-culture imagery.
 - Guided students in critiquing and appropriating cultural iconography to expand their compositional strategies.
- 2012-2014** **Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Fine Arts , Concordia University, Montreal**
Between the Wall and the Viewer, Fall/Winter 2012–2013 under Raphaele de Groot
Drawing and Knowledge II, Fall/Winter 2013–2014 under Eleanor Bond
- Assisted with in-class demonstrations on installation-based painting and participatory art.
 - Managed discussion groups, encouraging critical analysis of how artwork’s context affects audience reception.

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

- 2025** **Organizing Committee Member, Universities Art Association of Canada (UAAC)**
2023-2025 **Treasurer, Visual Art Graduate Student Association (York University),**
2023-2025 **Union Steward, CUPE 3903,**
2024 **Conference Organizer** for the York AMPD-Sensorium Graduate Symposium

AWARDS & FUNDING

- 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

- 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 WRITINGS

2025	“Machinic Chance within Modernist Creation.” <i>Technophany: Journal of Philosophy and Technology</i> .
2024	Exhibition Text for <i>HOUSE BOAT GOOD WATER</i> Goodwater Gallery, June 2024; also published by moire.ca
2023	“Dear Rose: On Viewing Art Through Rose Tinted Glasses.” <i>Æ: Graduate Journal of Art Education</i> (Winter)

LECTURES & PANELS

2025	“Luxury Merch” lecture and performance with Erica Stocking, UAAC, York University, Toronto ON.
2025	“Art Economies: ZIRP and Speculative Investment” for Professional Practice at York University, Toronto ON
2024	“Merch and the Poetry of Capitalism” lecture and performance with Erica Stocking, ASAP15 Conference at New York University, New York, NY
2024	“Ad Reinhardt and the Problem of Blackness” UAAC Conference at 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 for Artist Panel, <i>a juncture, a join, a strait, a pinch</i> York MFA Graduating Show at Collision Gallery, Toronto
2019	Guest Lecture, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago: “Machine Aesthetics”
2014	Concordia University Artist Talk, Fine Arts Department
2015	Panel Discussion “The State of Painting” for <i>Six Peintures</i> , Galerie B312
2014	Artist Talk at Concordia University, with Eleanor Bond
2014	Artist Talk, OCADU, Painting and Drawing Department
2011	Artist Talk, OCADU, Painting and Drawing Department

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2026	<i>Gambits</i> , Galerie B312, Montreal
2026	<i>Intuitive, Portable, Easy to Use</i> , Gales Gallery, Toronto
2023	<i>Pica</i> , Goldfarb Visual Arts Study Centre, Toronto
2016	<i>Dense Hands, Thick Clouds</i> , FOFA Gallery, Montreal
2015	<i>Preset Mispronounced</i> , Division Gallery, Toronto
2014	<i>NOTHINGBUTFOAM</i> , Jean Brillant, Montreal
2011	<i>Sightlines</i> , Thierry Goldberg Projects, New York
2010	<i>Interiors</i> , Angell Gallery, Toronto
2009	<i>Revenant</i> , Angell Gallery, Toronto
2008	<i>Black Bay</i> , LE Gallery, Toronto
2007	<i>Mighty Magnificence</i> , LE Gallery, Toronto

COLLABORATIVE / TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Brendan Flanagan / Jean Francois Lauda*, Vie d'Ange, Montreal
2014 *Rules and Mediations*, with Alan Stanners and Nathaniel Hurtubise, Ground Gallery, Montreal

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Wine on the Cuff, Dirt on the Collar*, Zalucky Contemporary, Toronto ON
2022 *Size of a Credit Card*, The Plumb, Toronto
2020 *Naviguer en Eaux Troubles*, Galerie d'Art Desjardins, Drummondville, QC
2019 *Transitions*, Nova Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria
2015 *Surface and Stratagem*, Division Gallery, Toronto
2014 *Architectures*, Division Gallery, Montreal
2014 *Composed of Superposed Layers*, Circa Popop, Montreal
2014 *Six Peintres*, Galerie B312, Montreal
2014 *Invisible Heavy Hand*, French Restaurant, Montreal
2013 *RBC Painting Prize*, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
2013 *Shape Shifters*, Division Gallery, Toronto
2013 *D3, Drawing Lab Dessin*, Berlin
2013 *Fresh Paint*, Art Mur, Montreal

RESIDENCIES

- 2019 WoCo Artist Residency, Sofia, Bulgaria
2017 Banff Artist in Residence, Banff Centre for the Arts
2013 Digital Atelier, OCAD University, Toronto

BIBLIOGRAPHY (Selected Press & Reviews)

- 2015 "Exhibition: Brendan Flanagan," *Canadian Art Magazine*, Winter 2015
2013 *RBC Canadian Painting Competition Finalists*, *Canadian Art Magazine*, Summer 2013
2012 *Beautiful Decay*, #8, Fall 2012
2012 *Victoria Collects*, The Art Gallery Of Greater Victoria, p.72
2011 *Color Magazine*, 9.2 (Leah Turner), Summer 2011
2011 *Bad Day Magazine*, #10 (Interview with Tibi Tibi Neuspiel)
2010 *Magenta Magazine*, Trish Boon, November 30
2009 "Shapeshifting," *The National Post*, Leah Sandals, October 3
2009 "Gallery Going," *The Globe and Mail*, Gary Michael Dault, October 3
2009 "One to Watch: Brendan Flanagan," *View on Canadian Art*
2008 *Carte Blanche: Vol. 2*, Magenta Publishing For the Arts, p.60
2008 "Gallery Going," *The Globe and Mail*, Gary Michael Dault, December 6