



ERIKA DEFREITAS

www.erikadefreitas.com

EDUCATION

M.V.S., University of Toronto, 2008

B.Ed., York University, Toronto, 2004

H.B.A., Art History and Studio, University of Toronto, 2003

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2017 Sobey Art Award, Long List
- 2016 John Hartman Award, MacLaren Art Centre
Canada Council for the Arts, Travel Grant
Toronto Arts Council, Visual Artists Grant
Toronto Friends of Visual Arts, Award Finalist
Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Assistance Grant
- 2015 Canada Council for the Arts, Visual Arts Travel Grant
Ontario Arts Council, Emerging Artist Grant
- 2014 Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Assistance Grant
- 2013 Canada Council for the Arts, Visual Arts Travel Grant
Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Assistance Grant
- 2010 Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Assistance Grant
- 2008 Ontario Arts Council, Exhibition Assistance Grant
Canada Council for the Arts, Visual Arts Travel Grant
- 2006 Fellowship, University of Toronto
Canada Council for the Arts, Inter-Arts Travel Grant

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2017 *Impossible Gardens*, Angell Gallery, Toronto, ON.
like a conjuring (bringing water back to Bradley), The Anchorage Bradley Museums, Mississauga, ON.
- 2016 *; it was in the air, as they say.*, Gallery 44, Toronto, ON. (Vitrines)
- 2015 *The Work of Mourning*, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, ON.
- 2013 *Deaths/Memorials/Births*, Centre3 for Print and Media Arts, Hamilton, ON.
- 2009 *In The Bedroom Series*, Gallery 44, Toronto, ON. (Vitrines)
- 2008 *Deaths/Memorials/Births*, Platform Centre for Photographic + Digital Arts, Winnipeg, MB.
- 2005 *The Snapshot Chronicles*, CWSE, OISE/University of Toronto, Toronto, ON.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

(Two-person exhibitions *)

- 2017 *The Sustenance Rite*, Blackwood Gallery, Mississauga, ON. (upcoming)
Migrating the Margins, Art Gallery of York University, Toronto, ON. (upcoming)
Generators, Toronto Art Book Fair, Toronto, ON.
Impossible Gardens, Angell Gallery, Toronto, ON.
The Inhabitants of Space in General, Open Studio, Toronto, ON.
and this seems to say everything, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, ON. (Performance)
All That is Left Unsaid/at the very point where words fail us, Centre3 for Print and Media Arts, Hamilton, ON. *
Position as Desired: Exploring African Canadian Identity, Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, ON.
- 2016 *My tongue was tied*, Xpace Gallery, Toronto, ON. (Performance)
Enraged, Inertia ran off, Parkette at James and Wilson, Hamilton, ON.
Unfixed Homeland, Aljira, Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, NJ.
At the Seams, Grimsby Public Art Gallery, Grimsby, ON.
A Rehearsal for Objects Lie on a Table, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Toronto, ON.
Black Future Toronto 2116, Daniels Spectrum, Toronto, ON.
Art Souterrain 2016, Palais des Congres, Montreal, QC.
- 2015 *Ontario in Ajagemô*, Canada Council for the Arts, Ottawa, ON.
HOTBED, Art Gallery of Ontario Massive Party, Toronto, ON.
The One and the Many: A Self-portrait in Seven Parts, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX.

- 2014 *Stranger Than Fiction*, Pollock Gallery at the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX.
WE WON'T COMPETE, Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, ON.
Face Value, Gallery 1313, Toronto, ON.
- 2013 *The boat is a floating piece of space*, Houston Museum of African American Culture, Houston, TX.
- 2012 *unseen SEEN*, Studio 42, Toronto, ON.
New Faces: Portraits from the Collection of the Canada Council Art Bank, Jardins de Metis - Reford Gardens Estevan, QC.
- 2011 *This Woman's Work...*, Project Space, Hamilton, ON.
Eccentricities, Papermill Gallery, Toronto, ON.
Here and There, Propeller Centre for Visual Arts, Toronto, ON.
- 2010 *Feminist Research Performance Project* (in collaboration with Leena Raudvee), XPACE, Toronto, ON.
Do You See What I Mean? Voyez-vous ce que je veux dire? Canada Council Art Bank, Ottawa, ON.
The Trans-Cultural: Women in Performance, CWSE, OISE/University of Toronto.
Around the Frayed Edges, Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden, ON.
- 2009 *DIASPORArt: Strategy and Seduction by Canadian Artists from Culturally Diverse Communities in works from the collection of the Canada Council Art Bank*, Rideau Hall, Ottawa, ON.
- 2008 *MVS Graduating Exhibition*, The University of Toronto Art Centre, Toronto, ON.
Toronto Alternative Arts & Fashion Week, The Distillery District, Toronto, ON.
- 2007 *Fleeting Face*, A Space Gallery, Toronto, ON.
Rehab: Weaning Youth off Corporate Crack, The Gladstone Hotel, Toronto, ON.
- 2006 *Alumni Show*, The Gallery, The University of Toronto, Toronto, ON.
Art in the Halls, 401 Richmond, Toronto, ON.
Collision 2006 Inter-arts Research and Practices, University of Victoria, B.C.
Get on the Bus, CITY – SPACE, San Francisco, CA.
- 2004 *Sticks and Stones*, sisboombah, Toronto, ON. (Vitrine)
*7a*11d International Festival of Performance Art*, Toronto, ON.
LISTEN!: FIVE HOLES series, FADO, Toronto, ON.
Squarefoot 2004, A.W.O.L Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2003 *Touch and Go*, The Third Floor, Brooklyn, NY.
Body: Not My Autobiography, The Gallery, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON.
Gestures, Implant, Toronto, ON.
Beautificades, Ne Plus Ultra, Toronto, ON.
- 2002 *hardFORM*, Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON.
Grapefruit, Lemon, _____ . Art System, Toronto, ON.

SCREENINGS

- 2017 7a*md8 – On Screen, Toronto, ON (upcoming)
 Images Festival, Toronto, ON

AUCTIONS/FUNDRAISERS

- 2017 *SNAP! Auction*, Aids Committee of Toronto, Toronto, ON.
 2016 – 2017 Salon 44, Gallery 44, Toronto, ON
 2013 Canadian Art Foundation Art Auction, Toronto, ON.
 2012 – 2016 Over the Top, Mentoring Artist for Women's Art (MAWA), Winnipeg, MB.
 2010 – 2016 8x10 Fundraiser, Platform Centre for Photographic +Digital Arts, Winnipeg, MB.
 2009 – 2016 Photorama, Gallery TPW, Toronto, ON.

RESIDENCIES

- 2017 Alice Yard, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. (upcoming)
 2015 Also As Well Too, Winnipeg, MB.
 2010 Mentoring Artists for Women's Art (MAWA), Winnipeg, MB.

GUEST LECTURE / PANEL

- 2017 Panel Member, *Generators*, Toronto Art Book Fair, Toronto, ON. (upcoming)
 Artist Talk, The Anchorage Bradley Museums, Mississauga, ON.
 Guest Speaker, Caribbean Cultural Traditions course at Ryerson University, Toronto, ON.
 Artist Talk, *Family Matters: On working with your family in your practice*, Gallery 44, Toronto, ON.
- 2016 *Sunday Scene* (discussing Franz Erhard Walther's exhibition *Call to Action*), The Power Plant, Toronto, ON.
 Artist Talk, *These Funny Things*, Grimsby Public Art Gallery, Grimsby, ON.
- 2015 Artist Talk, *Salon Night with Erika DeFreitas*, Platform Centre for Photographic+Digital Arts, Winnipeg, MB.
 Artist Talk, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, ON.
- 2014 Artist Talk, Pollock Gallery at the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX.
 Artist Talk, Plug In ICA Summer Institute, Winnipeg, MB.
 Panel Member, *The State of Blackness: From Production to Presentation*, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON.

- 2010 Artist Talk, MAWA, Winnipeg, MB.
2009 Artist Talk, Gallery 44, Toronto, ON.
2008 Panel Member, *The New Art of Suburbia* at Centennial College, Toronto, ON.
Artist Talk, Platform Centre for Photographic + Digital Arts, Winnipeg, MB.
2006 Artist Talk, A Space Gallery, Toronto, ON.

JURIES/ADVISORY

- 2012 Jury Member, Ontario Arts Council Visual Artist: Emerging, Toronto, ON.
2007 Jury Member, Masters of Visual Studies Selection Committee, University of Toronto, ON.
2006 Jury Member, A Space Gallery, Toronto, ON.

PUBLICATIONS

Prefix Photo Magazine Issue 18, Artist Portfolio: The Impossible Speech Act, 2008.
Extensions: The Online Journal of Embodiment and Technology, Artist Project: Deaths/Memorials/Births, UCLA, 2008.

REVIEWS/ESSAYS/INTERVIEWS/PUBLICATIONS

- Julius, Kenesha. "Conceptualism Through Motion and Space: Erika DeFreitas in Conversation with Kenesha Julius," *Moko Magazine: Caribbean Arts and Letters*, Issue No. 11, May 7, 2017.
Ali, Grace Aneiza. "Un/Fixed Homeland." *Transition: The Magazine of Africa and the Diaspora*. 2016, pp. 135 - 145.
Mowry, Crystal. "Rest/Repeat: An Interview with Erika DeFreitas," *No More Potlucks*, Issue No. 45: Repetition, September 1, 2016.
Pluecker, John. "The One and the Many: A Self-Portrait in Seven Parts." ARTFORUM, May 2015.
Neudorf, Kim. "We Won't Compete at the Art Gallery of Windsor." Akimblog, August 12, 2014.
Dick, Terence. "Face Value at Gallery 1313 I Jason Wright at GalleryWest." Akimblog, February 25, 2014.
Matthews, Nolan. "The Art of Erika DeFreitas." *The Silhouette*. May 21, 2013.
Vegh, Stephanie. "Erika DeFreitas at Centre 3." Akimblog, March 19, 2013.
Davidge, Michael. "Message Pictures: Adventures in Reading Images Part 3." *BlackFlash Magazine*, Issue 29.2, Winter 2012.
Cittern, Zoe. "A Different Spin on Textiles." *Country Voice*, Volume 3 Issue 9: Thursday, March 25, 2010, p.26.
Carraway, Kate. "The art of Scarborough." *Eye Weekly*, December 12, 2008.
Eyland, Cliff. Akimblog: Winnipeg, December 2, 2008.
Thiessen, Brittany. "The significance of a blank page: Toronto artist uses obituaries as her canvas for exhibit." *The Uiter: The University of Winnipeg Student Weekly*, Issue 14: November 27, 2008.
Eigenkind, Heidi. "Deaths/Memorials/Births." Winnipeg: Platform Centre for Photographic + Digital Arts 2008.
Landry, Mike. "Deaths/Memorials/Births." *Things of Desire: Canada's Alternative Art Weekly*, Volume 1 Number 11: October 30-November 5.
Reckitt, Helena. (Catalogue Essay). *MVS Programme 2008 Graduating Exhibition*. Toronto: The University of Toronto 2008.
Goddard, Peter. "At the Galleries: Closing Today." *The Toronto Star*, July 21, 2007, Sec. E6.
Schechter, Fran. "Ethnicity's Fleeting Face." *NOW Magazine*, July 12-18, 2007, p. 81.
Nicholls, Sophie. "Battling against in-school discrimination." *24 Hours*, December 4, 2005, p. 6.
Whyte, Murray. "Random acts of weirdness." *The Toronto Star*, March 26, 2005, Sec. H, p. 1 and 12.

COLLECTIONS

- Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Barrie, ON.
Wedge Curatorial Projects, Toronto, ON.
Hart House Permanent Collection, Toronto, ON.
Feminist Art Gallery (F.A.G.), Toronto, ON.
Canada Council Art Bank, Ottawa, ON.
TD Canada Trust Art Collection, Toronto, ON.

DISTRIBUTION

- VTape, Toronto, ON.