



# JOHN BARKLEY

**COUTUREGALLERY**  
CONTEMPORARY ART SPACE

# JOHN BARKLEY

**ARTIST AND SCHOLAR JOHN BARKLEY** (Canadian, born 1964) began painting and drawing as a boy. He was encouraged by his artist-father with whom he went on painting trips in the Ottawa valley. Today, Barkley creates dense, layered paintings inspired by his studies in philosophy, psychology and religion. A practicing professional artist since 1996, Barkley experiments with thick paint application and varied brushstrokes to create abstract landscapes that simultaneously evoke both a quiet contemplation of nature but also its chaotic excess and mystery.

Barkley also paints purely abstract works filled with organic shapes, bright colors and dark voids, which he relates to the psychic terrain of human consciousness. Whether from nature or the human mind, these works depict landscapes that belie the artist's intense interest in human existence—its place within the greater scheme of life, but also how our views about our place in the world impact our relationship with the surrounding environment.

Barkley's work connects to a range of Canadian artistic traditions and predecessors. Critics have discussed him as a contemporary descendant of the Canadian landscape artist Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven that formed shortly after Thomson's death in 1917. However, Barkley's paintings also relate to those of Paul-Émile Borduas and Jean-Paul Riopelle, who formed the group Les Automatistes in the mid-1940s with fellow Québécois artists interested in Surrealism and its methods of automatism. According to the artist, he is most influenced by the introspective approach he learned while studying at the University of Ottawa with Catherine Everett and Roland Poulin.

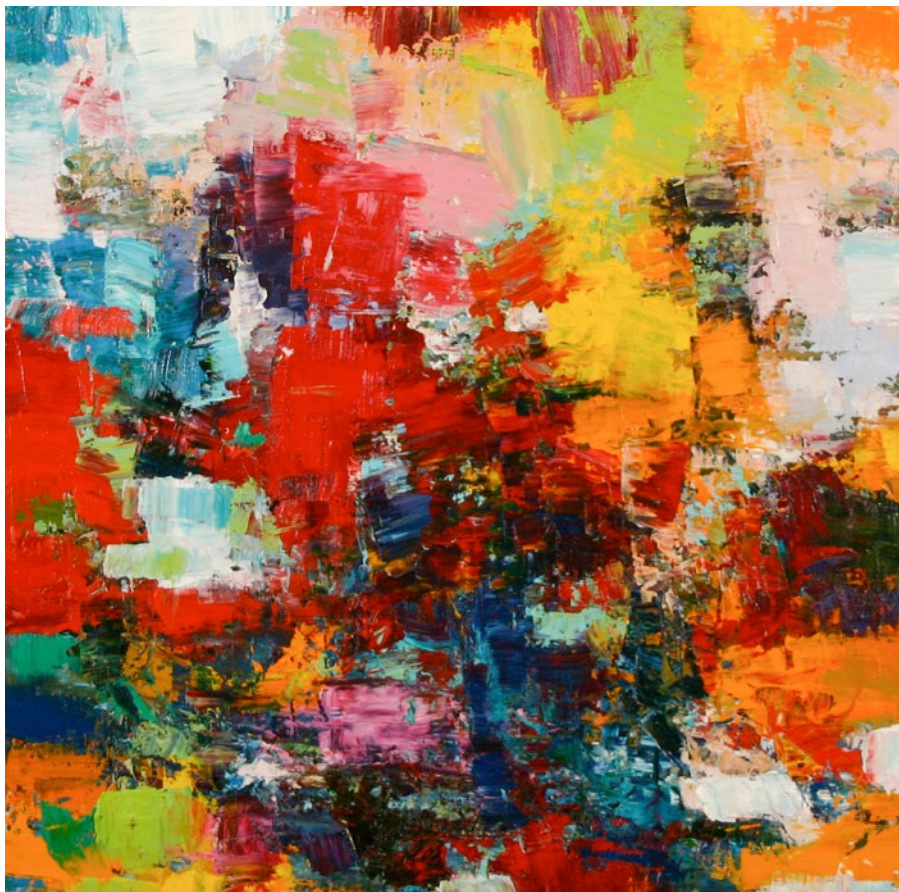
TEXT BY NICOLE SMITH

COVER ART: IT ALL CHANGES, OIL ON CANVAS, 152 X 183 CM, 2012

PHOTOGRAPHS OF ARTWORKS BY ARTIST



WILL LEW



MARRED SURFACE, OIL ON CANVAS, 102 X 102 CM, 2011



INTO THE MANY, OIL ON CANVAS, 102 X 122 CM, 2012



ORIGINS, OIL ON CANVAS, 102 X 122 CM, 2012



MOVING TOWARDS IMAGO, OIL ON CANVAS, 122 X 152 CM, 2011



THE BEGINNING AND END #2, OIL ON CANVAS, 122 X 152 CM, 2012



EXCAVATED, OIL ON CANVAS, 102 X 122 CM, 2011



ALMOST THROUGH, OIL ON CANVAS, 152 X 183 CM, 2012



IMAGO, OIL ON CANVAS, 102 X 122 CM, 2011

# JOHN BARKLEY Visual artist

## EDUCATION

- 2001 MA Religion, College of Humanities, Carleton University, ON
- 1996 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Magna Cum Laude, University of Ottawa, ON
- 1989 BA Psychology (honours), Carleton University, ON
- 1987 BA Law and Psychology (Criminology), Carleton University, ON

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 Bau-Xi Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2010 Couture Galleri, Stockholm, Sweden  
Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON
- 2009 Winsor Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC  
Drabinsky Gallery, Toronto, ON
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Drabinsky Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2007 Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON  
Winsor Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2006 John Barkley, Winsor Gallery, Vancouver, BC  
Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC  
Drabinsky Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2005 Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON  
Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC  
Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON
- 2004 Har, Maison de la culture de Gatineau, QC  
Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2003 Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON  
Scapes, Peak Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2000 Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 Big, Galerie St-Laurent + Hill
- 2011 Le pArty, Ottawa Art Gallery Art Auction
- 2010 Studio Chez Alice, Chelsea Wakefield Art Tour  
REPÉRAGE la Collection Loto-Québec, Galerie Montcalm, Gatineau

- 2009 Patrick Gordon Framing and Yann Martel Book launch, "Back Burner", Ottawa
- 2009 Studio Chez Alice, Chelsea Wakefield Art Tour  
The Collection's Cabinet, Ottawa city Purchase. City of Ottawa art gallery
- 2008 Studio Chez Alice, 20th anniversary exhibit of Chelsea Wakefield Art Tour
- 2007 Winsor Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2006 VIVID, Winsor Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2005 Juice, Winsor Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2005 Outside In, Winsor Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- 2005 Enriched Bread Artists' Annual Open Studio, Ottawa, ON, since 1996
- 2005 Art 2005, Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, QC
- 2003 Cluster, Peak Gallery, Toronto, ON  
Through The Looking Glass, Arts Court, Ottawa, ON  
Through My Eyes, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, ON  
Art For Water, Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, ON
- 2002 The Art Of The Soul, Heartwood Gallery, Ottawa, ON  
Vive La Peinture, Peak Gallery, Toronto, ON  
The Spirit Of Drawing, Arts Court, Ottawa, ON
- 1999 Techne, Galerie Karsh - Masson, Ottawa City Hall, ON
- 1998 Emergence, La Maison de la Culture - L'Art Image, Gatineau, QC  
Peinture Peinture, Galerie St-Laurent + Hill, Ottawa, ON
- 1997 Process over Progress, E.B.A.
- 1996 Collective Impulse, University of Ottawa
- 1995 Suzanne Rivard Lemoyne Competition, Gallery 115, University of Ottawa
- 1994 Jacquelin Fry Memorial, Gallery 115, University of Ottawa, ON

## COLLECTIONS

- Air Canada, Ottawa International Airport
- Department of External Affairs
- Washington Bank
- Bombardier Canada
- The Region of Ottawa-Carleton
- Numerous corporate and private collections nationally and internationally

**OPENING RECEPTION APRIL 19TH FROM 17:30 TO 20:00.**  
**EXHIBITION ONGOING THROUGH MAY 16TH.**



THE INVITATION, OIL ON CANVAS, 122 X 152 CM, 2012

**COUTUREGALLERI**  
CONTEMPORARY ART SPACE

BIRGER JARLSGATAN 26, 114 34 STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN • TELEPHONE: +46 (0) 734 267 018

OPENING HOURS: TUESDAY TO FRIDAY FROM 12:00 TO 18:00. SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FROM 12:00 TO 16:00.

[WWW.COUTUREGALLERI.SE](http://WWW.COUTUREGALLERI.SE)