

Clint Roenisch Gallery

Jon Sasaki, (b. 1973)

Education

1996 B.F.A, Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB

Selected Solo Exhibitions and Projects

2025

Making Do With The Photons That Linger After The Sun Has Set, Clint Roenisch Gallery, Toronto

Homage touring exhibition and new commission, University of Manitoba School of Art Gallery, Winnipeg, MB

The Hollow Man, public art commission for the City of Vancouver, BC

Homage, Owens Art Gallery, Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB

2024

Homage, MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON

A Space of Endless Potential, a commission for the BMO Project Room, Toronto, in collaboration with Gordon Hicks, P.Eng.

Homage, Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery, Sarnia, ON

2023

We First Need a Boat for the Rising Tide to Lift Us, National Gallery of Canada

We Are Shaped By The Obstacles We Face, permanent public artwork made in collaboration with DTAH landscape architects, Toronto waterfront

Aura (in conjunction with Homage touring exhibition) Art Windsor Essex, ON

2022

Jack Pine, 8' Camera Crane, RBC Collection video screen, Toronto, ON

I Would Rather Share A Pumpkin Than Be Lonely On A Velvet Cushion, Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, Buffalo, NY

Homage, Tom Thomson Art Gallery, Owen Sound, ON

Neighbours, public sculpture commission for the City of Mississauga, ON

Homage, Art Gallery of Algoma, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

2021

Homage, touring exhibition organized by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, ON

School of Art Gallery, University of Manitoba

Online performance for Field Trip, presented by The Power Plant, Toronto, ON

2020

A Day Becomes A Sunrise, The Rooms, St. John's, Nfld.

Homage, touring exhibition originating at the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Kleinburg, ON

Killing One Bird With Half A Stone, Esker Foundation, Calgary AB

2019

We First Need a Boat for the Rising Tide to Lift Us, Richmond Art Gallery, in conjunction with the LIVE Performance Biennale and the Richmond Maritime Festival

2018

Forwards and Backwards, Permanent public art installation, Toronto Transit Commission, Coxwell subway station

Improvised Travel Adapters, North American Souvenirs at the Edition Art Fair, Toronto

2017

I Coined A Word The Other Day, But I Forgot What It Was. It Was a Good One. It Came To Me In a Dream. Clint Roenisch Gallery, Toronto, ON

Things Saved For A Rainy Day, Varley Art Gallery, Markham, ON

2016

Dividers Made Into A Juncture, permanent public art commission, City of Barrie, ON

In The House Built By Those That Came Before Me, Art Gallery of Sudbury, Sudbury, ON

From the Ground To The Sky And Back Again, La Galerie Du Nouvel-Ontario, Sudbury, ON

A Vague Sense of an Impending Something, YYY Artists' Outlet, Toronto, ON

2015

Rightsized Limo, day-long performance, November 15, MOCAD, Detroit, MI

Two Roads Diverged In A Wood, Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, ON

2014

A Clock Set To 24-Hours Into the Future, public art commission for Temporary Contemporary, Sheridan College, Oakville, ON

Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, BC

2013

More Still Than Still, Tom Thomson Art Gallery, Owen Sound, ON

Dunlop Art Gallery, Regina, SK

Jessica Bradley Gallery, Toronto, ON

2012

Prairie Art Gallery, Grande Prairie, AB

I'll Try To Make It... Gallery 101, Ottawa, ON

MacLaren Art Centre, Barrie, ON

Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, AB

2011

KW/AG Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener, ON

Pine, Art Gallery of Ontario, in partnership with Images Festival, Toronto, ON

Good Intentions, Kenderdine Art Gallery, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK

2010

Comedown, Access, Vancouver, BC

Holding Pattern, 126, Galway, Ireland

On Purpose, Eastern Edge, St. John's Nfld

Unabashed Optimism, Jessica Bradley Art +Projects, Toronto, ON

Good Intentions, Doris McCarthy Gallery, University of Toronto, Scarborough, ON

2009

Crossroads, Centre Clark, Montreal, Quebec

Warmup, AUDIO OUT project space, Art Gallery of York University, Toronto, ON

Some Unabashed Optimism, Latitude 53, Edmonton, AB

2007

Six Shaggy Dog Stories, Blackwood Gallery, University of Toronto, Mississauga, ON

Moving the Goal Posts, The New Gallery, Calgary, AB

Wishing for Three More Wishes, Gallery TPW, Toronto, ON

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025

Trust Fall, two person exhibition with Laura Gildner, Nanaimo Art Gallery, Nanaimo BC, curated by Jesse Birch

2024

A Look Within: The Vision of Alberta Collectors, Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton AB

Looking Out: Canadian Artists in Bermuda, Masterworks Museum of Bermuda Art, curated by Dr. Sara Thom

2023

Works from the RBC Art Collection at Art Toronto

Violent Exports, UC Santa Cruz Institute of the Arts and Sciences, video programme curated by Luke A. Fidler

2022

Car Show, curated by Charlene K. Lau and Liana Schmidt, ESP, Toronto

Yume Digital Dreams, collaboration with Baco Ohama, curated by Matt Miwa and Julie Tamiko Manning

Refracting the Lens, Varley Art Gallery, Markham, ON, curated by Anik Glaude

2021

Pandemical Loneliness, Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Queen's University, Kingston, ON

A Lingering Shadow, The Polygon Gallery and Centre A, Vancouver, BC

Burning Glass, Reading Stone, Blackwood Gallery, an eight-part lightbox series on the University of Toronto Mississauga Campus

2020

Immaterial Architecture, The Art Museum, University of Toronto, group exhibition curated by Yan Wu

In Process, online video programme curated by Tanya Zimbardo and Diego Villalobos, inprocessprojects.com

Pressure Cracks, Near North Media Lab, North Bay ON, curated by Robin Alex McDonald and Alexander Rondeau

2019

Fast Forward, Birch Contemporary, Toronto, ON

Writers Select, The Doris McCarthy Gallery, University of Toronto, Scarborough, ON

Hart House Collection: Works on View, Hart House, University of Toronto, ON

Bend, Prince Takamado Gallery at the Canadian Embassy in Japan

Cluster, Ceramic edition commissioned for the 2019 SMASH fundraising event, Gardiner Museum Toronto

Self-Publishing Publizieren als Kunst, Kunsttempel, Kassel, Germany

2018

L'Éclatement de l'image, Musée régional de Rimouski , Rimouski QC, curated by Ève De Garie-Lamanque

"If, But What If?", The Bentway Conservancy, Toronto, curated by Ilana Altman

Multi Layered Surfaces, Prince Takamado Gallery at the Canadian Embassy in Japan, Nihonbashi Institute of Contemporary Art, Denchu Hirakushi House, Tokyo

Multi Layered Identities, Residency and offsite exhibition, Koshoji Temple. Anewal Gallery, Kyoto, curated by Daisuke Takeya

Tout Contexte est Art, La Galerie UQO, Gatineau QC, curated by Jean-Michel Quirion

Without Repair, Union Gallery, Queen's University, Kingston, ON, curated by Robin Alex McDonald

Halcyon Days, Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery, curated by Crystal Mowry

Figures of Sleep, Art Museum, University of Toronto, curated by Sarah Robayo Sheridan

2017

Lesson Ø, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Gwacheon Branch, Seoul Korea

12 Trees: Let There Be Light, Gardiner Museum, Toronto, ON, curated by Douglas Coupland and Ben Mills

A Present Abstract, Cydonia Gallery, Fort Worth, TX, curated by Alex Bowron

Epic Fail, Platform Centre for Photographic + Digital Arts, Winnipeg MB

Art Souterrain, Montreal QC

Duration & Dialogue II, durational performance festival, Katzman Contemporary, Toronto

2016

Taehwa River Eco Arts Festival, Ulsan, South Korea

Form Follows Fiction, Art Museum at the University of Toronto, curated by Luis Jacob

Mixer, MOCA Toronto, co-presented at the Royal Conservatory, curated by Christof Migone

Cut The World Until It Fits On The Back Of Your Hand, Clint Roenisch Gallery, Toronto, ON

Showroom, The Art Museum at the University of Toronto, curated by Sarah Robayo Sheridan

Notes on How To Be a Human, the Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff, AB, curated by Natasha Chaykowski

Singular Bodies, one of ten choreographed solos for the Toronto Dance Theatre, Toronto, ON

Why Can't Minimal, touring exhibition, Open Space Victoria BC, The Rooms, St. John's Nfld, Kenderdine Art Gallery, Saskatoon SK

2015

The Work of Wind, Nuit Blanche Toronto, curated by Christine Shaw

Half-Lit Moon, Nuit Blanche Edmonton, curated by Dave Dymant

Glenfiddich Artist in Residence Exhibition, Glenfiddich Gallery, Dufftown UK

Why Can't Minimal, touring exhibition, Contemporary Calgary, Calgary AB

Always Already, Blackwood Gallery, Mississauga, ON, curated by Julia Abraham

Rose-Colored Glasses, Mackenzie Art Gallery, Regina, SK

Papier Projects, Papier15 Art Fair, Montreal PQ

Still Life, Still Living, Jessica Bradley Gallery, Toronto, ON

Hang In There, Owens Art Gallery, Sackville, NB, curated by Lisa Theriault

Under the Kamejima Bridge, collaboration with Hiroaki Morita, Art Autonomy Network, Nihonbashi Institute of Contemporary Arts, Tokyo, Japan

Villa Toronto, Art Fair, closing performance at the MOCCA, January 23, 2015

2014

Platform Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia, curated by Pippa Milne

Why Can't Minimal, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Toronto, ON, curated by John Hampton

"TBA", Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto, ON, curated by Su-Ying Lee

The Secret to Living, Jessica Bradley Gallery, Toronto, ON, curated by Leah Turner

Home Sweet Home, À propos de l'(in)quietude, Dazibao, Montréal, Quebec

2013

More Than Two (Let It Make Itself) curated by Micah Lexier, The Power Plant, Toronto, ON

We're in the Library, Koffler Gallery, Toronto, ON

Auto-Motive: World from the Windshield, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, ON

Please Stare, Neutral Ground, Regina, SK

2012

Genius Loci, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, ON

Junction Arts Festival, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

Yo-In: Nikkei National Museum, Burnaby, BC

Great Outdoors! Pace University Digital Gallery, NYC

2011

Electric Speed, Urban Screen video commission, curated by Revised Projects in association with the Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, BC

Cabin Fever, Neutral Ground, Regina SK

From One Side to Another, ESAM, Caen, France

2010

Cabin Fever, Platform: Centre for Photographic & Digital Arts, Winnipeg, MB

Move Me! The Nunnery Gallery, Bow Arts Trust, London, UK

FAX, Burnaby Art Gallery, touring exhibition originating at the Drawing Center, NY

“Proposal (Notes Towards a Mental Breakdown) for Toronto” an exhibition-in-print by Vincent Honoré, for Canadian Art, Spring 2010.

CUE, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC

Alternorthern, The Lab, San Francisco, CA

2009

We Are Sailing, Masterworks Museum of Bermuda Art, Hamilton Bermuda

The Projects, Blackwood Gallery, University of Toronto, Mississauga. (offsite: City of Port Credit.)

Road-Runners, VOX, Centre de l’image contemporaine, Montréal, QC

New Beginnings, curated by Pamela Meredith, Susan Hobbs Gallery, Toronto, ON

2008

Vanish, Art Gallery of Regina, Regina, SK

I Promise It Will Always Be This Way, Nuit Blanche, Toronto, ON

Stories, In Pieces, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, University of Toronto

The Constant Search for a Better Way, Simon Fraser University Gallery, Vancouver, BC

A Little Art Every Day as Directed, Owens Art Gallery, Mount Allison University, Sackville, NB

Selected Screenings

2024

Water (Deshkan Ziibi), 12-hour event at the artLAB at the Department of Visual Arts, Western University, London, Ontario and the Doris McCarthy Gallery, curated by Ann MacDonald and Marla Hlady; Christof Migone, Sheri Osden Nault and Ruth Skinner

2020

To Be Continued, Platform Gallery and the Winnipeg Underground Film Festival

2019

City Moments, Sidewalk Labs Toronto, programmed by filmmaker Peter Lynch

2016

Screening programmed by Leslie Supnet, Winnipeg Cinematheque

Lifetime Piling Up, programmed by Dave Dymont, Nuit Blanche Edmonton, Edmonton AB

2015

Performance Arcade, Wellington, New Zealand

Fool Me Once You Can't Be Fooled Again, programme by Nothing To See Here, at the Dikeou Collection, Denver, and the Tucson Museum of Contemporary Art.

58 Yard / 53.0352 Metre Runway, screening and lecture, MOCAD, Detroit, MI

2014

Images Festival, commissioned video, Toronto, ON

ARTBAR, curated by Lara Thoms, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney

Title Goes Here, Fail Fest, Denver CO

Feature Contemporary Art Fair, video program, Toronto, ON

2013

Stop At Nothing, intervention as part of the Parkdale Film + Video Showcase, Toronto, ON

Doin' Good, programmed by Leslie Supnet, Winnipeg Cinematheque, Winnipeg, AB

2012

Brick + Mortar Film Festival, Greenfield MA, curated by Denise Markonish

2010

Disembodied Bodies Pt. 1, (Images festival touring programme) ECC Hall, Seoul, Korea, followed by venues in Bangalore, Baroda, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Thailand and Taipei.

Ok. Quoi? Arts Festival, Struts Gallery & Faucet Media Arts Centre, Sackville, NB

Disembodied Bodies, Images Festival 23, Toronto, ON

Ex-Territory, Tel-Aviv, Israel

2009

'Let Us Play', 126, Galway, Ireland

2008

At Play, Federation Square, Melbourne, Australia

Video Now: Artists Working in the Spirit of Bruce Nauman, Aurora Picture Show and The Menil Collection, Houston, TX

2007

Haptic, CAFKA, Kitchener, ON

Rooftop TV, New York

2006

Trapped Inside the Machine, Rooftop Films, Brooklyn, NY

2004

Let's Get Tested, Oberhausen Film Festival; Independent Film Show 4th edition, Napoli, Italy

How to be a Canadian, Eyebeam Gallery, NYC; Vox Populi Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

2003

+System, Short Videos from the World, BizArt Art Center, Shanghai and Vitamin Creative Space, Canton

Selected Bibliography

Mashel Teitelbaum Terror & Beauty, contributor, edited by Andrew Kear, Goose Lane Editions, 2024

Robin Alex McDonald, Art in Sisyphean Times, Brooklyn Rail, March 2024

Mixed Drinks, contributor, artist book by Dean Baldwin Lew, published by MOCA Toronto

I Would Rather Share A Pumpkin Than Be Lonely On A Velvet Cushion, exhibition publication, Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center, essay by John Massier, 2022

Drawn Together, artist book documenting collaborative project with Oliver East, supported by Koyama Provides

Things Saved For a Rainy Day, digital exhibition catalogue, Anik Glaude and the Varley Art Gallery of Markham

Allison LaSorda, Tiny Grandeur, BESIDE Magazine online,
<https://beside.media/besiders/tiny-grandeur/>

Dan Adler, review, Artforum International, November 2021, Vol. 60, No. 3

Chris Hampton, The group of seven billion: This art was made by bacteria from the Group of Seven's paint palettes, CBC Arts, September 20, 2021

Jon Sasaki: Homage. Exhibition catalogue, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Sarah Milroy and Alison Douglas Contributors, 2021

Daniella Sanader, Germs of inspiration, review and photo feature, Maclean's Magazine, May 2021, pp. 86-91

A Like Vision: Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven. (contributor) Ian Dejardin and Sarah Milroy, 2020

Form Follows Fiction: Art And Artists In Toronto. Luis Jacob, 2020

Art After Dark: 10 Years of UrbanScreen. Survey catalogue, Surrey Art Gallery, 2020

Henry Heng Lu, exhibition review of We First Need a Boat for the Rising Tide to Lift Us, Canadian Art Online, fall 2019

Hart House Review, commissioned photo feature for the 100th anniversary issue

The Site Magazine, Volume 40, photo feature, with essay by Gustavo Artigas

Self-Publishing Publizieren als Kunst, exhibition catalogue, Kunsttempel Kassel

Julia Roberge Van Der Donckt, exhibition review of Tout Contexte Est Art, Inter Art Actuel issue 131 pp. 99-101

Tout Contexte Est Art, exhibition catalogue, Galerie UQO, Université du Québec en Outaouais, 2018

Dan Adler, exhibition review, Border Crossings, Volume 37 Number 1, Issue #145, pp. 93-95

Ontario Association of Architects 2017 Awards catalogue

Lesson Ø, exhibition catalogue, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Korea (MMCA, Gwacheon, Seoul)

Kenneth Hayes, Base Industries, text to accompany GNO and AGS exhibitions, Sudbury, 2017

Taehwa Eco River Art Festival, exhibition catalogue, 2016

Two Roads Diverged In A Wood, exhibition catalogue, Ottawa Art Gallery, 2016

Brad Phillips, Cut The World Until It Fits On The Back Of Your Hand, review, Blouin Modern Painters, June/July 2016

Printopolis, Open Studio, edited by Tara Cooper and Jenn Law, 2016

Why Can't Minimal, touring exhibition catalogue, Justina M Barnicke Gallery, 2016

Alex Bowron, Some Things That May or May Not Relate, exhibition text for YYY Artists' Outlet, 2016

Border Crossings, Review of Rightsized Limo, Volume 34, Number 4, Issue No. 136

Sarah Rose Sharp, Slicing Up a Limo as a Metaphor for Detroit, Hyperallergic, November 17, 2015

Alex Bowron, Shifting Perceptions, Magenta Magazine, Spring, 2015

Ben Portis, Dance and Objecthood, The Dance Current, June, 2015

Hang In There, exhibition catalogue, essay by Lisa Theriault, Owens Art Gallery, 2015

Dagmara Genda, review of Why Can't Minimal, C Magazine issue 125, Spring 2015.

Villa Toronto, catalogue, 2015

Why Can't Minimal, exhibition catalogue, essay by John G. Hampton, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Toronto, 2014

Adam Lauder, Comedians and Stoics, Canadian Art Volume 31, Number 2, Summer 2014

Home Sweet Home, À propos de l'(in)quietude, exhibition catalogue, Dazibao, Montréal QC, 2014

John Hampton, Flunking Ethics, essay, DAG Volumes: No. 2, catalogue. 2013

Amanda Brason, Jon Sasaki, review, Border Crossing Volume 32 Number 2 Issue no. 126, Summer 2013

Auto-Motive World from the Windshield, Digital Exhibition Catalogue, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, ON, 2013

We're In The Library, exhibition brochure, text by Mona Filip, Koffler Gallery, Toronto, ON, 2013

Lee Henderson, We're All Looking At The Stars... essay, Gallery 44 blog, Toronto, ON

Gabrielle Moser, Critics' Picks, review, Artforum.com, February 2013

David Jager, Subtle Sasaki, review, Now Magazine, Vol 32 no 20.

Great Outdoors! Exhibition catalogue, Pace Digital Gallery, 2012

Yo-In, Exhibition catalogue, Nikkei National Museum, Burnaby, BC, 2012

Heather Diack, Sleepless Nights: Contemporary Art and the Culture of Performance. Essay, Public #45, Spring 2012

Kate Armstrong editor, Electric Speed, catalogue, Surrey Art Gallery, Revised Projects and New Forms Media Arts Society, interview with Greg J. Smith, 2012

Jon Sasaki: Good Intentions, exhibition catalogue co-published by Doris McCarthy Gallery, Kenderdine Art Gallery, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, MacLaren Art Centre, Prairie Art Gallery, Dunlop Art Gallery. Essays by Ann MacDonald, Crystal Mowry and Ben Portis, 2011

Comedown, exhibition catalogue, published by Access Gallery, Vancouver. Essay by Jesse Birch, 2011

Christof Migone editor, WOOD, catalogue, Blackwood Gallery programming compendium, 2011

Murray Whyte. Jon Sasaki: Pine at the AGO, review, The Toronto Star, April 12, 2011

Earl Miller. Jon Sasaki, Scarborough, Canada. Review, Art Papers, July/August 2010, p. 58-59.

Kenneth Baker. Review, Alternorthern, The San Francisco Chronicle, March 5, 2010

Gary Michael Dault. An unabashed optimist's view of the world, review, The Globe and Mail, January 23, 2010.

Murray Whyte. Selling hope in the face of fact, review, The Toronto Star, January 21, 2010

Marie-Ève Charron. L'art de l'échec - Le Torontois Jon Sasaki célèbre l'homme ordinaire. review, Le Devoir, (Montreal) November 14, 2009

Betty Ann Jordan. Where the Art Is, Fashion Magazine, Winter 2010

Gabrielle Moser. Jon Sasaki, Jessica Vallentin, The Old College Try, review, Esse Arts + Opinions, #67, Fall 09

Nicholas Brown. Against Their Better Judgement: Jon Sasaki and Jessica Vallentin mix hope, futility, and outright lunacy. Exhibition text for The Old College Try, Red Bull 381 Projects, Toronto

Canadian Art Online, Jon Sasaki: Positive Thinking, review, April 30, 2009

Adam Waldron-Blain, Some Unabashed Optimism, review, Vue Weekly (Edmonton) issue #705, April 23 2009

Vanish: Art and Illusion, exhibition brochure, Art Gallery of Regina, 2009

Nicholas Brown. Enthusiasm at the Limit, (and front cover) C Magazine, issue 100, winter 2008

James Bradshaw. A long night's journey into art, The Globe and Mail, Monday October 6, 2008

Sarah Milroy. A night crawler's guide to Nuit Blanche. The Globe and Mail, Saturday October 4, 2008

Fran Schechter. Duelling Mascots. (and front cover) NOW weekly, October 2-8, 2008

Scott Rogers. There's that word "existentialism." Jon Sasaki's wry and funny installations come to The New Gallery. Review, FFWD weekly, October 25, 2007

Centre for Culture and Leisure #1 catalogue, essays by Carl Wilson, Dave Dymant

Nicholas Brown. The Artist as Failure, Jon Sasaki Won't Help Me And He Won't Help You. Art Feature article in: Color Magazine, volume 5 issue 4, fall 2007, p. 94-95.

Dan Adler. Exhibition text for Moving the Goal Posts, The New Gallery, Calgary, October 2007

Dave Dymant. Jon Sasaki, Antihero Décor, The Centre for Culture and Leisure No. 1; Wishing for Three More Wishes, Gallery TPW; Toronto. Review in C Magazine, issue 95, Fall 2007, p. 39-41.

Jennifer McMackon. Jon Sasaki, Toronto, review in: Art Papers, September/October 2007, p. 72.

Gary Michael Dault. Buster Keaton, high up in the sky. Review, The Globe and Mail, Saturday, June 30, 2007

Brian Joseph Davis. Monsieur Sasaki's Holiday. Exhibition essay, Wishing for Three More Wishes, Gallery TPW, June 2007

Selected Public and Corporate Collections

The National Gallery of Canada

Tom Thomson Art Gallery

Bank of Montreal

Blackwood Gallery

Doris McCarthy Gallery

Gluskin Sheff + Associates

Kitchener Waterloo Art Gallery

MacKenzie Art Gallery

The Masterworks Foundation, Bermuda

Varley Art Gallery

Torys LLP

The Art Museum, University of Toronto

The Ottawa Art Gallery

The Art Gallery of Ontario (Instant Coffee)

RBC Corporate Art Collection

The Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston ON

TD Art Collection

Art Windsor Essex