

## **Maxwell Stephens**

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\*1966 in Montreal, Canada, lives and works in Berlin

## **Education**

2004 Masters of Arts in Communications, European Graduate School, Sars Fée, CH

1998 Bachelors in Fine Arts, Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, Vancouver, CA

1986 Diploma in Contemporary Music Improvisation, Capilano College, Vancouver, CA

## **Public Art Commissions**

2021 Up to This Moment, Metrolinx, Eglinton Crosstown LRT, Mount Dennis Station, Toronto, CA

2019 Shortlisted: *Today it all begins*, Legacy Art Project Toronto: Inspired by Terry Fox, Art + Public UnLtd, Toronto, CA

2018 Conference of the Neighbours, Bessarion Community Centre, Toronto, Ontario, CA

2017 Conference at the Council House, Celebration Square, Mississauga, Ontario, CA

2016 Garden of Future Follies, Waterfront Toronto, Toronto, CA

Take the Cake, DJD Dance Centre, Calgary, CA

## **Solo Exhibitions**

2015 *Patient Patient*, Anna Leonowens Gallery, Halifax, CA

2014 *The Queen still falls to you*, Project Arts Centre, Dublin, IR

2013 *If you were me, I would think twice*, Jessica Bradley, Toronto, CA

2011 *Um*, Or Gallery, Berlin, DE

*Who That Happens*, Or Gallery, Vancouver, CA

2010 *The Idiots*, Every Letter in the Alphabet, Vancouver, CA

*Some Improperities*, Samsa, Berlin, DE

*Improperities*, SMART Project Space, Amsterdam, NL

*"Who can resist a Human? who doesn't finger lies?"*, YYZ, Toronto, CA

*Baroque Baroque*, Jessica Bradley, Toronto, CA

2009 *The Metal Drummer and the Walldog*, AKA, Saskatoon, CA

*The Lemonade is weak like your Soul/Die Limonade is matt wie deine Seele*, Kunstverein Göttingen, Göttingen, DE

2008 *1+1-1*, Jessica Bradley, Toronto, CA

2007 *1+1-1*, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, DE

2006 *Survival Kit*, Canadian Photographic Portfolio Society, Belkin Satellite, Vancouver, CA

*Deleted Scenes*, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA

2005 *We Are Othyrworld*, Western Front, Vancouver, CA

*The Décor Project*, Howard House, Seattle, WA

2004 *I Love You I Love You I Love You I Love You*, 69 Pender, Vancouver, CA

2003 *Décor Project: Sandman*, Artspace, Peterborough, CA

*Décor Project: White on White*, Ace Art Inc., Winnipeg, CA

2002 *Museum of Metaphors*, Open Space, Victoria, CA

*Intimate Desert*, Struts, Sackville, CA

2001 *Inseparable*, Grunt Gallery, Vancouver, CA

2000 *Dirty Rats*, Access Artist Run Centre, Vancouver, CA

1999 *Negotiating Desire*, Artspeak Gallery, Vancouver, CA

## **Selected Group Exhibitions**

2015 *Are You Experienced?* Hamilton Art Gallery, Hamilton CA

*Homecomings, etc.* Berlin Gallery Weekend, Berlin, DE

*Bild und Anpassung 2*, Städtische Galerie Waldkraiburg, DE

*Ideas and Things*, Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops, CA

*Oh, Canada: Contemporary Art from North North America*, Esker Foundation, Calgary, CA  
*Homework*, Open Forum, Berlin, DE  
*Depth of Perception*, Oakville Galleries, CA  
*Signs and Symbols*, Jessica Bradley Gallery, Toronto, CA  
*Sign, Sign, Everywhere a Sign*, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Toronto, CA  
*art is a written word*, Galerie Meyer, Marseille, FR  
2014 *The 19th Biennale of Sydney: You Imagine What You Desire*, Sydney, AU  
*Somebody, Everybody, Nobody*, Scrap Metal, Toronto, CA  
*Performance Proletarians!* Magasin, Grenoble, FR  
*Oh Canada*, Owens Art Gallery, Sackville, CA  
*Bild und Anpassung*, Palais für aktuelle Kunst, Glückstadt, DE  
*5 Billion Solar Years*, Galerie Reinhard Hauff, Stuttgart, DE  
2013 *The Intellection of Lady Spider House*, project by Geoffrey Farmer, Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, CA  
*The Bet*, Kunstwerke, Berlin, DE  
*Living with More Art*, Galerie Reinhard Hauff, Stuttgart, DE  
*Because the world is round it turns me on*, curated by Clara Meister, Arratia Beer, Berlin, DE  
*Rain, Steam and Speed*, curated by Paul McDevitt & Declan Clarke, Sommer & Kohl, Berlin, DE  
2012 *Material Information*, Bergen Art Museum, curated by Juan Gaitán, Bergen, NO  
*Higher Atlas*, 4th Marrakech Biennial, Marrakech, MA  
*Oh Canada*, Mass MoCA, North Adams, US  
*Living with Art*, Galerie Reinhard Hauff, Stuttgart, DE  
*Once More with Feeling*, Nuit Blanche, section curated by Helena Reckitt, Toronto, CA 2011  
*Pentimenti*, curated by Gregor Quack, Kleine Humboldt Galerie, Berlin, DE  
*Emotional Blackmail*, curated by Chen Tamir & Markus T. Andresson, Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, CA  
*The End of Money*, curated by Juan Gaitán, Witte de With, Rotterdam, NL  
*The Bell Show*, curated by Dieter Roelstraete, Lüttgenmeijer, Berlin DE  
*Metrospective 1.0*, Program, Berlin, DE  
*Manifestos Now!*, Teck Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
*Sublimation*, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, CA  
*Kranich Museum*, commission for permanent collection, curated by Alex Schweder, Hessenburg, DE  
*Poste Restante*, Artspeak, Vancouver, CA; Limoncello, London, UK; Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, US  
*Light in Darkness*, Western Bridge, Seattle, US  
2010 *It's the End of the World (as We Know it)*, curated by Bettina Steinbrügge, La Kunsthalle Mulhouse, FR  
*Everything Everyday*, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
*Catastrophe!:* Manifestation Internationale d'art Québec, Québec City, CA  
*Invitation to an Infiltration*, curated by Eric Fredericksen, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
*Kurt*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, US 2009 *The Malady of Writing*, MACBA, Barcelona, ES  
*Nomads*, National Gallery of Canada, CA  
*Transformers*, Jessica Bradley, Toronto, CA  
*How Soon is Now?*, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
*There is No Audience*, curated by Adnan Yildiz, Montehermoso Cultural Centre, ES  
*Suddenly: Where We Live Now*, Pamon Museum of Art, Los Angeles, US  
2008 *If We Can't Get it Together*, curated by Nina Möntmann, Powerplant, Toronto, CA  
*Thermostat: Video and the Pacific Northwest*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, US  
*Le Chamois de Messidor*, Program, Berlin, DE  
*Good Gangsters in Town*, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei, TW  
*Into the Music*, Kunstraum München, Munich, DE  
*Just Play: Musik als Soziale Praxis*, Edith-Ruß-Haus für Medienkunst, Oldenburg, DE  
2007 *Where is Contemporary Art?* Museu de Arte Contemporânea da Universidade de São Paulo, BR

*De Kist*, Noorderzon Festival, Groningen, NL  
*It's a Wonderful Life*, Owen's Art Gallery, Sackville, CA  
*Projections I*, commission for Cabinet Collective, Roundhouse Theatre, Vancouver, CA  
 2006 *Habitat*, Jessica Bradley, Toronto, CA  
*Into Black*, Western Bridge, Seattle, US  
*"I want to show you somewhere"*, Douglas F. Cooley Memorial Art Gallery, Reed College, Portland, US  
*Why I'm So Unhappy*, Or Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
 2005 *Classified Materials: Accumulations, Archives, Artists*, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
*Pardon Me*, curated by Cate Rimmer, Saidye-Bronfman Centre for the Arts, Montréal, CA; Charles H. Scott Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
 2004 *Organization for Exchange and Disagreement*, West Space, Melbourne, AU  
 2002 *Binocular Parallax*, Consolidated Works, Seattle, US

## Publications

List of Works. In: *Jeremy Shaw*, eds.: Christine Macel and Simon Castets, Centre Pompidou; Swiss Institute, Paris; New York, pp 128–137, 2020.  
 "Notes on Commentary in the work of Gernot Wieland," Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg. Exhibition text, 2020.  
 "Two Desks, Each in a Small Room, One in Bremen, The Other in Berlin—Late Evening A conversation between Nadja Quante and Maxwell Stephens" in: *Sofia Duchovny: Private Viewing*, eds.: Tomke Braun, Kunstverein Göttingen, Göttingen 2019, pp 36–50.  
 Exhibition Text for Jeremy Shaw's, *I Can See Forever*, König Galerie, Berlin 2018  
 "Jeremy Shaw: Effects and Affects in a Crisis of Authenticity," German and English. In: *Kunstpreis Böttcherstrasse Prize Bremen 2018*, Kunsthalle Bremen, pp 118–124  
 "Murmuring a Trace ... Tracing a Thought." In: *Ankyloglossia (n. tongue-tied): Emma Waltraud Howes*, eds.: Emma Waltraud Howes. K. Verlag Press and Künstlerhaus Bethanien 2014, Berlin.  
 "The Queen still falls to you," program guide, Project Arts Centre, September, 2014.  
 "Victoria's Public Secret, Chapters 1, 1.2, 2, 3, and 6" serial publication on [www.60pages.com](http://www.60pages.com), April-June, 2014.  
 "Temet-ie Nosce (Know Thyselfie)," *Bewilder...ment*, ed. Federica Buetti & Clara Meister, in Glänta, Göteborg, 2-3, 2013.  
 "Someone That Happens," *Intangible Economies*, ed. Antonia Hirsch, Fillip Editions, Vancouver, 2012, pp 99-114.  
 "Someone That Happens," ed. Antonia Hirsch, *Fillip Review*, Vancouver, issue #14, summer 2011, pp 12-19.  
 "Notes on Improperities," *The End of Money*, ed. Juan Gaitán, Witte de With, Rotterdam, 2011.  
 "Verb List Compilations, 1967-8 & 2010," *See it Again, Say it Again: The Artist as Researcher*, ed. Janneke Wesseling, Valiz, Amsterdam, 2011.  
 "Dear Brian & Verb List Compilations, 1967-8 & 2010," *Manifestos Now!*, Capilano Review, Vancouver, 3.13.2011.  
 "A Man of Improperities," An Invitation to an Infiltration, Eric Fredericksen, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, 2010.  
 "Uninterrupted Stage Directions for Louise Miller." *Kunst und Theorie der Künstlerhäuser Worpswede*, argobooks, 2009.  
 "As Heads is Tails," F.R. David, ed. Dieter Roelstraete, de Appel, Amsterdam, spring 2009.  
 "Find us at the kitchen door," *Art Lies!* Issue 57, spring 2008.  
 "Schreibtisch Architecture," in *The Violence of Participation*. Ed. Markus Miessen, Sternberg Press, December 2007. "(find us at the kitchen door) at the unitednationsplaza," *Fillip Review*, Vancouver, summer 2007.  
 "What's Love Got to Do with It: The Broken Heart of Contemporary Art," *Mödart*, summer, 2007.  
 "Curator: 300 mg Apo-Diazepan," *Centrefold*, Vancouver Review, no. 12, winter, 2007.  
 "d'une lutte prolongée," *World's Best New Art*, ed. Georg Leutner, Unreal Projects, Bétonsalon,

Verlag für moderne Kunst Nuremberg, 2006.

"Catachresis: A Smile for Geoffrey," *Fillip Review*, (insert), Vancouver, vol. 1, no. 2, winter, 2006.

"Décor Project: Potential Performances," *Public*, no. 27, fall, 2004.

"Fountain Postcards," *Occasional Work and Seven Walks from the Office for Soft Architecture*. Lisa Robertson, Clear Cut Press, Astoria, 2003.

## **Collections**

National Gallery of Canada, CA

Vancouver Art Gallery, CA

Hart House Permanent Collection, University of Toronto, CA

Tacoma Art Museum, US

Oakville Galleries, CA

Canada Council Art Bank, CA

Toronto Dominion Bank, CA

Privatsammlungen in Canada, the US, Australia and Europe

## **Awards and Residencies**

Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, residency and exhibition, 2015

Artspace, in association with the 19th Sydney Biennale, Sydney, AU, 2014

Canada Council for the Arts Long Term Grant, 2013-15

Thematic Residency (faculty), with Geoffrey Farmer, Banff Centre, CA, 2010

Artist Residency, YYZ, Toronto, CA, Summer 2010

Artist Residency, Künstlerhäuser Worpswede, DE, Summer 2009

Artist Residency, PROGRAM, Berlin, DE, Spring, 2008

Canada Council International Artist Residency, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, DE, 2006-7

Canada Council for the Arts, Creation/Production Grants: 2015, 2011, 2009, 2005, 2003, 2002

VIVA (Vancouver Institute for the Visual Arts) Award, 2005

Artist Residency, Struts Artist Run Centre, Sackville, CA, 2004

British Columbia Arts Council Award, 2004

Visual Arts Development Award, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA, 2001

## **Teaching**

### **2008-2013 Piet Zwart Institute, International Masters of Fine Arts Program, Rotterdam, NL**

Thematic Seminar (Leader), "Speechless: The Proximity of Gesture, Philosophy and Cinema," 2008-9;

Core tutor and advisor, 2009-2013

### **2004-2014 Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver, CA**

Undergraduate: Teacher's Assistant Cultural Studies, Special Topics

Co-instructor: Mixed Media Sculpture, Media History, Creative Processes (Foundation), Humanities Seminar (Art in Social Spaces), Senior Studio, Humanities Seminar Online (Art Writing).

Masters of Applied Arts low residency program: Studio Instructor (from 2012). External examiner, Masters of Applied Arts thesis defense, 2013 and 2014.

### **2002-04 European Graduate School, CH**

Teacher's Assistant and Online Tutorial Instructor for: Hubertus von Amelunxen (2003), Lewis Baltz (2003), Yve-Alain Bois (2002).

## **Lectures, Presentations, Workshops and Guest Tutorials**

2016 Artist talk and tutorials, York University, Toronto, CA  
2015 Artist talk, field trip to foundary and tutorials, Ontario College of Art and Design, Toronto, CA.  
Artist talk, Nova Scotia School of Art and Design, CA.  
Artist talk, Dublin Institute of Technology, Dublin, IE  
2014 Artist talk, National College of Art and Design, Dublin, IE  
2013 Artist talk, Tete, Berlin, DE  
Pecha Kucha: The Bet, hosted by Ana Texiera Pinto, KW, Berlin, DE  
Performance Lecture: "Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time," WORM, Rotterdam, NL 2012 Artist talk and tutorials, York University, Toronto, CA  
Artist talk and tutorials, Guelph University, Guelph, CA  
Artist talk and Seminar, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, US  
2011 Symposium Presentation: "It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time," Intangible Economies, presented by Phillip Review, Grey Church, Collection & Projects Space, Vancouver, CA  
Presentation: "On Improperities," University of Washington, Seattle, US  
2010 Presentation: "On Improperities," The Banff Centre, Alberta, CA  
Lecture: "Notes on Gesture," University of Washington, Seattle, US  
Respondents: to Bik van der Pol, in "Learning from Vancouver" Symposium, Western Front, Vancouver, CA  
Public Lecture: "Improperities" SMART Project Space, Amsterdam, NL  
2009 Lecture: "Conditions of Belonging," Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, CA  
2008 Lecture: "Sympathy for the Bourgeoisie," Emily Carr Institute, Vancouver, CA  
2007 Presentation: "Meet me at the Kitchen Door," unitednationsplaza, Berlin, DE  
Workshop "using global media," with Matthew Stadler, Berlin, DE.  
Artist presentation, Künstlerhäuser Worpswede  
Presentation: "Eve Democracy," in response to "New Harmony: Delbrugge+de Moll," Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, DE  
2006 Public Lecture: "Is Art Fair?," guests of "Public Speakers," Jupiter Art Fair, Portland, US  
Artist Presentation: Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, CA  
Panel Discussion: "Projections," Roundhouse Theatre, Vancouver, CA Presentation: conversation with Monika Szewczyk, Vancouver Art Gallery, CA  
2005 Lecture: "The Accident," Emily Carr Institute, Vancouver, CA  
Artist Presentation: Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, CA