

## ROBERT BURLEY

(b. Picton, Ontario, 1957)

### EDUCATION

1984-86 M.F.A. (Photography) The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

1975-80 B.A.A. (Media Studies) Ryerson University, Toronto

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 The Last Day of Work, Scotiabank Contact Photography Festival, Toronto, ON
- 2021 Accidental Wilderness, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto
- 2017 An Enduring Wilderness, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto
- 2015 The Disappearance of Darkness, Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton  
The New Suburb: Landmarks, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto
- 2014 The Disappearance of Darkness, George Eastman House, Rochester  
The Disappearance of Darkness, Ryerson Image Centre, Toronto
- 2013 The Disappearance of Darkness, Musée Nicéphore Niépce, Chalon-sur-Saône  
The Disappearance of Darkness, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa  
The Disappearance of Darkness, Ryerson Image Centre, Toronto
- 2009 Photographic Proof, public installation, Le Mois de la Photo a Montreal,  
Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montréal  
The Disappearance of Darkness, Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montréal
- 2008 Still Revolution, public installation, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto
- 2007 The Places of Glenn Gould, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto
- 2006 Great Lakes, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto
- 2005 Instruments of Faith: Toronto's First Synagogues, Eric Arthur Gallery,  
University of Toronto, Toronto
- 2001 Engineering the Picturesque: The Landscapes of Olmsted,  
Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography, Ottawa
- 1995 The Parks of Frederick Law Olmsted, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto
- 1994 Tithing for Eden, Design Exchange, Toronto
- 1988 O'Hare: Airfield on the Prairie, Chicago Historical Society, Chicago
- 1987 The Don Valley, Toronto Image Works, Toronto  
O'Hare Airfield, Gallery TPW, Toronto
- 1983 Stages, Gallery TPW, Toronto  
Robert Burley, Video Culture Canada, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 People, Places, Things – Part II, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2023 Cities in Flux, The Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, ON
- 2022 Approaches to the Camera, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- 2021 Re-Collect, Curated by Tamara Berghmans, Foto Museum, Antwerp, Belgium

- 2020 A Handful of Dust, Nation Center of Photography and Images, Taipei, Taiwan  
FOMU Collects, 2010-2020, Fotomuseum Antwerpen, Antwerp, Belgium
- 2019 A Handful of Dust, The Polygon, North Vancouver, BC
- 2018 A Handful of Dust, California Museum of Photography, Riverside, CA  
Photography in Canada: 1960-2000, The Rooms, St. Johns  
Land Use, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto  
Water Works, Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton
- 2017 It's All Happening So Fast, Art Museum at the University of Toronto, Toronto  
Photography in Canada: 1960-2000, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa  
A Handful of Dust, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK  
The Agony of Silver, Musée de la Photographie André Villers, Mougins, FR
- 2016 A Handful of Dust, Rubelle and Norman Schaffler Gallery, Pratt Institute, New York  
Counterpoints: Photography Through the Lens of Toronto Collections,  
Art Museum at the University of Toronto, Toronto  
Some Landings/Certains Débarquements, John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto
- 2015 Photography Inc. From Luxury Product to Mass Medium, Fotomuseum, Antwerp, Belgium  
Residue: The Persistence of the Real, Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver  
A Handful of Dust, Le Bal, Paris, FR  
Identity: Art inspired by the Great Lakes, The Lieutenant Governor's Suite, Queen's Park,  
Toronto  
The CCA in photographs, 1987–2015, The Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal  
Celebrating 20 Years, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto
- 2013 A Noble Line, Oakville Galleries, Oakville  
Airport Landscape, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, Cambridge MA
- 2012 Arcadian Land: Seized or Lost?, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto  
Back to the Land, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa  
Imperfect Health, Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montréal
- 2011 Spaces of the City, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
- 2010 Persistent Shadow: Considering the Photographic Negative,  
George Eastman House/International Museum of Photography & Film, Rochester
- 2009 Liquid from Rain and Rivers: Robert Burley, Patterson Ewen, and Ron Martin,  
Art Gallery of Hamilton, Hamilton  
Beautiful Fictions: Photography at the AGO, video installation, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto  
ORD: Documenting the Definitive Modern Airport, Chicago Architecture Foundation, Chicago
- 2008 Flight Dreams, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax  
State of the City, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Rochester  
Between Memory & History: From the Epic to the Everyday,  
Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto  
Recurrent Memories: Historic Jewish Sites in Canada and Poland, Gallery 345, Toronto  
ORD: Documenting the Definitive Modern Airport, Eric Arthur Gallery,  
University of Toronto, Toronto  
The Death of Photography, Stephen Bulger Gallery, Toronto
- 2006 A Collected View: Ten Years of Photography Acquisitions 1995–2005,  
City of Toronto Archives, Toronto
- 2005 Sense of the City, Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montréal
- 2003 The Urban Character, Triennale of Milan, Milan  
Defining Boundaries: Photographs of City and Country, Ryerson Gallery, Toronto
- 1999 House/Home, Photo Passage at Harbourfront, Toronto
- 1998 From the Collection: Gardens, Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography, Ottawa  
Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander & Geoffrey James, Field  
Museum, Chicago

- 1997 Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander & Geoffrey James, Davis Museum, Wellesley, Massachusetts  
Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander & Geoffrey James, Davis, Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, Ohio
- 1996 Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander & Geoffrey James, The Equitable Gallery, New York
- 1995 Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander & Geoffrey James, Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montréal

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Burley, Robert. *Accidental Wilderness: The Origins and Ecology of Toronto's Tommy Thompson Park*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2020
- Burley, Robert. *An Enduring Wilderness: Toronto's Natural Parklands*. Toronto: ECW Press, 2017
- Dümpelmann, Sonja and Waldheim, Charles. Eds. *Airport Landscape: Urban Ecologies in the Aerial Age*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2016
- Berghmans, Tamara. Ed. *Photography Inc. From Luxury Product to Mass Medium*. Tilt: Lannoo Publishers, 2015
- Company, David. *A Handful of Dust*. London: Mack Books, 2015
- Arnold, Grant. *Residue: The Persistence of the Real*. London: Black Dog Publishing, 2015
- Burley, Robert. *The Disappearance of Darkness: Photography at the End of the Analog Era*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2012
- Morel, Gaëlle. Ed. *The Spaces of the Image*. Montréal: Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal, 2009
- Sheppard, Dale. Ed. *Flight Dreams*, Halifax: Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, 2009
- Himes, Darius intro. *The Death of Photography: Robert Burley, Michel Campeau, Alison Rossiter*, Toronto: Bulger Gallery Press, 2008
- Camilleri, MaryAnn ed. *Carte Blanche: Volume I*. Toronto: Magenta Foundation, 2006
- Lambert, Phyllis. Ed. *Viewing Olmsted: Photographs by Robert Burley, Lee Friedlander and Geoffrey James*. Cambridge, MA.: MIT Press, 1996
- Viskochil, Larry. *O'Hare Airfield: Airport on the Prairie—Photographs by Robert Burley*. Chicago: The Chicago Historical Society, 1988
- Boyle, William. *Seeing People—Seeing Places*. Toronto: Visual Arts Ontario, 1984

## SELECTED EXHIBITION REVIEWS & ARTICLES

- “Sur les pas d'Olmsted,” *Les Carnets du paysage*, No. 45, 2024
- Silver, Erin. “From Dust to Light: On Photography's Material Traces”. *MOMUS*, 24 Apr 2019
- Lederman, Marsha. “It's all about dust.” *The Globe & Mail*, 11 Feb 2019
- Knight, Christopher. “Contemplating ‘a Handful of Dust’ at the California Museum of Photography”. *Los Angeles Times*, 19 Aug 2018
- Nahidi, Nazli. “Land Use at the Stephen Bulger Gallery”. *ArtCanada.ca*, 17 Aug 2018
- Novakovic, Stefan. “How Green Is Our Valley”. *Canadian Architect*, 19 Mar 2018
- Grande, John K. “An Enduring Wilderness: Toronto's Natural Parklands”. *Border Crossings*, Dec 2017
- Bozickovic, Alex. “Lost in green space”. *The Globe & Mail*, 25 August 2017
- Freek, Kerry. “Book of the Issue: Enduring Wilderness”. *Spacing Magazine*, Summer 2017
- Tasse-Winter, Dena. “It Takes One: Robert Burley”. *Cultural Landscape Foundation*, 29 Jun 2017
- Sienkiewicz, Alexandra. “Hey Toronto—Take a walk on the wild side”. *CBC News*, 21 May 2017
- Micalef, Shawn. “Celebrating the glory of Toronto's semi-wild spaces”. *The Toronto Star*, 12 May 2017
- Managh, Geoff. “The Remnants”. *BLDBLOG*, 3 May 2017

Grande, John K. "Robert Burley: End of Analog Era." *Arte.Es.* #62 - 63 2015

Reznik, Eugene. "One the Wall: The End of Film". *American Photo*, 17 November 2014

LeBlanc, Dave. "The strip mall celebrated". *The Globe and Mail*, 23 October 2014

Whyte, Murray. "Robert Burley and Phil Bergerson at the Ryerson Image Centre until April 13". *The Toronto Star*, 23 January 2014

Goddard, Peter. "Picture this - the end of analog photography". *Toronto Star*, 2 January 2014

Rogerson, Steph. "Robert Burley: The Disappearance of Darkness". *AfterImage*, January 2014

"Robert Burley: The Disappearance Of Darkness". *Photoworld Magazine China*, January, 2014

Lévy, Bernard. "Murs aveugles et chambre noire". *Vie des Arts*, Volume 58, Issue 233

Addleman, Katie. "Darkness, Be Not Proud". *Border Crossings*, December 2013

Boutouille, Myriam. "Robert Burley, Documenter L'Éphémère". *Connaissance des Arts Photo* 32, 2013

Lessard, Valérie. "Grands hommages à l'image". *Le Droit*, 19 October 2013

Stauble, Katherine. "Requiem for film: Robert Burley and Michel Campeau". *NGC Magazine*, Oct 2013

Bethune, Brian. "Elegy for the strange death of analog art" *Maclean's*, 10 October 2013

Day, Rosie. "Profile: Robert Burley" *South Kiosk*, 6 October 2013

Mitchell, Michael. "Prints of Darkness: Robert Burley and the End of Film." *Canadian Art*, Dec 2012

O'Hagan, Sean. "The Disappearance of Darkness: - review" *The Guardian*, 9 December 2012

Fleisher, Glen. "Rage, rage against the dying of the dark." *The Economist*, 29 November 2012

Allen, Jennifer. "The Ends of Photography". *Frieze*. Issue 3, December/January 2011-2012

Bercedo, Ivan. "La Desaparición de la Oscuridad". *La Vanguardia*, 18 May 2011

Charron, Marie-Eve. "Photographie—Regarder le Temps". *Le Devoir*, 17 October 2009

Tousley, Nancy. "Is Photography Dead?". *The Calgary Herald*, 26 October 2009

O' Dault, Julia. "Sacred Sights". *The National Post*, 3 February 2005

Goddard, Peter. "Historic Synagogues Part of City's Fabric". *The Toronto Star*, 26 February 2005

Temple, Kevin. "Faith Bases". *NOW Magazine*, 5 May 2005

Power, Mark. "Dazzled in an Olmsted Park". *Times Literary Supplement*, 11 July 1997

Morrone, Francis. "The Way Olmsted Saw". *The New Criterion*, April 1997

Pascucci, Ernest. "Viewing Olmsted". *Artforum*, February 1997

Jones, Malcom Jr. "Scenic Overlooks". *Newsweek*, 24 February 1997

Muschamp, Herbert. "Visualizing Olmsted's Legacy". *The New York Times*, 28 February 1997

Woodward, Richard B. "Carving Out of Urban Gray". *The New York Times*, 5 January 1997

Mays, John Bentley. "Landscape through a lens brilliantly". *Globe and Mail*, 16 December 1996

Kozloff, Max. "Olmsted". *Canadian Art Magazine*, Winter 1996

Muschamp, Herbert. "A Promise of Refuge, Aloft and Afield". *The New York Times*, 8 September 1996

Hiss, Tony. "Sense of Place". *Doubletake*, Summer 1996

Forstener, Abigail. "Exhibit captures drama of the surprising city of O'Hare". *Chicago Tribune*, 1988

## COLLECTIONS

Archives of Ontario  
 Art Gallery of Hamilton  
 Art Gallery of Ontario  
 Art Institute of Chicago  
 Art Windsor-Essex  
 Canadian Centre for Architecture  
 Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography  
 Chicago History Museum  
 City of Toronto Archives  
 City of Toronto Art Collection  
 Doris McCarthy Gallery, University of Toronto

Donovan Collection, University of Toronto  
Fotomuseum Antwerpen  
George Eastman House / International Museum of Photography & Film  
Granite Club Art Collection  
The Image Centre, Toronto Metropolitan University  
Library and Archives Canada  
La Musée de l'Elysée  
Masterworks Museum, Bermuda  
Musée des Beaux-Arts de Montréal  
National Gallery of Canada  
Ontario Jewish Archives  
Vancouver Art Gallery  
Yale University Art Gallery  
Numerous private and corporate collections

## **AWARDS**

2022 OALA Honorary Award  
2021 Toronto Heritage Book Award  
Award of Excellence – Research, Canadian Association of Landscape Architects  
2019 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Grant  
2018 Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada  
Planning Excellence Award - Publication, Canadian Institute of Planners  
2015 Ryerson University - FCAD Innovation Grant  
2011 Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) – Research/Creation in Fine Arts Grant  
2010 Mellon Senior Fellow – Canadian Centre for Architecture  
Canada Council for the Arts – Visual Arts Project Grant  
2008 Ryerson University – Creative Grant  
Canada Council for the Arts – Visual Arts Production Grant  
2007 Ryerson University – Creative Grant  
2006 Canada Council for the Arts – Visual Arts Grant  
Ryerson University SRC Development Grant  
Ontario Arts Council – Mid-Career Grant  
2003 Ryerson University – SRC Development Grant  
Ontario Arts Council – Mid-Career Grant  
1999 Ryerson University – SRC Research Grant  
1996 Ontario Arts Council – Artist's Project Cost Grant  
1988 Canada Council – Artist's "B" Grant  
1986 School of the Art Institute of Chicago – Fred J. Forster Fellowship  
Ontario Arts Council – Artist's "A" Grant  
1985 Canada Council – Artist's "B" Grant

## **PUBLIC LECTURES**

2020 Arts & Letters Club, Toronto  
2019 Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal  
2018 Daniels School of Architecture, Toronto  
York University, Toronto Regional Conservation Authority, Toronto

2017 Media Ruins, SCMS, Chicago  
 Word-on-the Street, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto  
 2016 Art Museum at the UofT, Toronto  
 2015 Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver  
 New York Public Library, New York City  
 2014 George Eastman House, Rochester, New York  
 Kodak Lecture Series, Ryerson University, Toronto  
 2013 National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa  
 2011 Ryerson Image Centre, Edward Burdynksy: Oil Symposium, Toronto  
 2010 Mellon Lecture, CCA, Montréal  
 Archives Association of Ontario Annual Conference, Barrie  
 2009 Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal Colloquium, Montréal  
 Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto  
 Chicago Architectural Foundation, Chicago  
 2008 National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa  
 NSCAD University, Halifax  
 Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Rochester  
 Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto  
 2007 Photographic Historical Society of Canada, Toronto  
 2006 Photo Educators Forum, Keynote, Toronto  
 1997 Rouse Visiting Artist Program, Harvard University, Boston  
 1995 Kodak Lecture Series, Ryerson University, Toronto