

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 Schalfler 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*. Tiel: 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
- Bozikovic, 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 Burzynksy: 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