

CAMAL PIRBHAI CV

info@camalpirbhaiart.com
camalpirbhaiart.com
@camalpirbhaiart

Raised in Switzerland, Camal Pirbhai is trained in the United Kingdom. He began his professional career in Canada in 1994. Drawing from his expertise fabricating large-scale textile projects, hand-sewn furnishings, and intricate embellishments, Camal has evolved a multidisciplinary artistic practice exploring a wide array of materials and media processes such as sculpture, fiber, installation, painting, performance, and media art. Common threads throughout his practice are the exploration of the universality of beauty, and the interplay of culture, history, and identity. His work is about layering, from the aesthetic initial layer to the sometimes uncomfortable subject or meaning.

Pirbhai has maintained an ongoing collaborative practice with artist Camille Turner. Their projects have been exhibited nationally and internationally, notably at the Art Gallery of Ontario (2017), in Toronto, Canada, SixtyEight Art Institute (2017) in Copenhagen, Denmark, and the International Human Rights Festival "This Human World" (2021) in Vienna, Austria. Pirbhai has exhibited with OCADU (2017) in Toronto, Canada. And exhibited as a solo artist in other notable galleries such as McMichael Gallery (2017)

Pirbhai has acted as the Artistic Director of Studio La Beauté since 1994, and Reid&Lyons (2002-2010). He currently resides in Toronto, ON.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Artist

Artistic Director Reid&Lyons 2002-2010

Artistic Director at Studio La Beauté 1994-present

EXHIBITIONS AND MAJOR WORKS

2021 FAMILY MATTERS, in collaboration with Camille Turner, International Human Rights Festival "This Human World", Vienna, Austria

2021 ROCKS (ongoing series), in collaboration with Camille Turner, Central Art Garage, Toronto Art Show, Toronto, ON

2021 ROCKS (series) in collaboration with Camille Turner, The Visual Arts Centre of Clarington, Bowmanville, ON

2020 FAMILY MATTERS, in collaboration with Camille Turner, Luminocity Festival by Kamloops Art Gallery

2019 WHERE WE STAND, in collaboration with Camille Turner, Latcham Gallery, Whitchurch-Stouffville, ON

2017 FAMILY MATTERS, in collaboration with Camille Turner, curated by Adam Lauder, McIntosh Gallery, Western University, London, ON

2017 WANTED, in collaboration with Camille Turner, Every.Now.Then: Reframing Nationhood, curated by Andrew Hunter and Anique Jordan, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, ON

2017 BURQATECTURE, in collaboration with Mariam Magsi. "Purdah" MFA thesis exhibition, OCAD University, Toronto, ON

2017 WANTED, in collaboration with Camille Turner, curated by Earl Miller, SixtyEight Art Institute, Copenhagen, Denmark

2015 WANTED, in collaboration with Camille Turner, as part of Border Cultures III, curated by Srimoyee Mitra, Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, ON

2014 RESTLESS PRECINCT, in collaboration with Camille Turner, curated by Alize Zorlutuna, Reena Katz. Guildwood Park, Scarborough, ON

2012 FASHIONALITY: Dress and Identity in Contemporary Canadian Art, curated by Julia Pine, McMichael Gallery, Vaughan, ON

PUBLIC PROJECTS

2021-2022 HOUSE OF BÂBY in collaboration with Camille Turner, as part of ArtworxTO's Year of Public Art, Union Station, Toronto, ON

ART GRANTS

2021-2022 Explore and Create, Canada Council for the Arts, Ottawa, ON

2021 ArtworxTO: Toronto's Year of Public Art, "House of Bâby", Union Station, Toronto, ON.

2020-2021: Exhibition assistance: "What Rocks Remember", Bowmanville, Ontario. Ontario Arts Council

ARTIST TALKS

AGO CURATORS' CIRCLE TALK, December 11, 2017

MEDIA AND PRESS

This is the Year of Public Art in Toronto, The Globe and Mail, November 30, 2021.

New Hamilton BIPOC Theatre Festival brings Pain, Catharsis and Humanity to a Virtual Stage, CBC, May 28, 2021

Camal Pirbhai and Camille Turner: Where We Stand, Stouffville Review, April 12, 2019.

WANTED [book] Published by Art Gallery of Ontario, 2017

The 10 Best Art Shows of 2017, NOW Toronto, December 05, 2017

Tracy Moore on being Wanted, Art Matters Blog , Art Gallery of Ontario, December 5, 2017.

Why Everybody is Talking About "Every. Now. Then", Vidal Wu, Canadian Art, August 24, 2017.

CityLine TV "Tracy Poses in AGO's 'Wanted' Exhibit Exploring Canadian Slavery, July 19, 2017 <https://www.cityline.tv/video/tracy-poses-in-agos-wanted-exhibit-exploring-canadian-slavery/>

AGO show humanizes the enslaved, Yorkville store tramples on tragedy: Paradkar, Shree Paradkar, The Toronto Star, July 13, 2017.

Art disputing the arc of Canadian history, Murray Whyte, The Hamilton Spectator, July 06, 2017.

Breakfast Television CITY TV, July 06, 2017

Camal and Camille on Metro Morning CBC Radio - JULY 6, 2017

Canada revisited at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Murray Whyte, The Toronto Star, July 3, 2017.

AGO exhibition asks where Canada really came from, Brad Wheeler, The Globe and Mail, July 2, 2017.

Notice anything different about these fashion ads?, Art Matters Blog, Art Gallery of Ontario, June 30, 2017.

Behind the Curtain – Camal Pirbhai, Dolce Magazine, March 03, 2017

SCHOLARLY AND ACADEMIC WRITING:

Brown, Juanita. *b.O.s. 8.2 / Wanted* / Kimberly Juanita Brown, *ASAP Journal*, 2018
<http://asapjournal.com/b-o-s-8-2-wanted-kimberly-juanita-brown/>

Nelson, Charmaine A. *Re-imagining the Enslaved Eighteenth-Century Freedom Seekers as Twenty-First Century Sitters*, Art Gallery of Ontario, 2017.

<https://ago.ca/wanted-essays>

Redmond, S. A. *Unsettling National Narratives and Multiplying Voices: Art Museums as a Bold New Spaces for Social Advocacy and Decolonization, A Canadian Case Study*, *Museum Management & Curatorship*, 2020.

COLLECTIONS

WEDGE CURATORIAL PROJECTS