

Jaan Poldaa

CV

Estonian Canadian artist, b. 1948, Kristjanstad, Sweden, d. 2018 Toronto, Canada

Education

1967-1970 School of Architecture, University of Toronto

Solo Exhibitions

2025 Arsenal Contemporary, New York
2024 Birch Contemporary, Toronto
2023 Birch Contemporary, Toronto
2019 Birch Contemporary, Toronto
2017 Birch Contemporary, Toronto
2013 Birch Libralato, Toronto
2011 Birch Libralato, Toronto
1998 Wynick/Tuck Gallery, Toronto
1997 Wynick/Tuck Gallery, Toronto
1995 Costin & Klintworth, Toronto,
1994 Costin & Klintworth, Toronto
1993 Costin & Klintworth, Toronto
1992 Mercer Union Project Room, Toronto
1991 Costin & Klintworth, Toronto
1990 Costin & Klintworth, Toronto
1989 49th Parallel, New York
1988 Costin & Klintworth, Toronto
1988 Welch Gallery, Ottawa
1987 Cold City Gallery, Toronto
1982 Mercer Union, Toronto
1980 Anna Leonowens Gallery, NSCAD, Halifax
1979 Optica, Montreal
1978 ACT Gallery (Artist's Co-operative), Toronto
1978 Glendon Art Gallery, York University, North York
1978 "Paint on Paper," St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, Toronto
1977 "EG Series," A.C.T. Gallery (Artist's Co-operative), Toronto
1974 A Space, Toronto

Selected Group Exhibitions

2020 Art Museum at the University of Toronto, Birds Of A Feather, University of Toronto Art Centre, Toronto, Canada
2019 Birch Contemporary, 30th Anniversary Group Show, Toronto, Canada
2018 Alternate Landscape, Birch Contemporary, Toronto, Canada
2016 Art Museum, Form Follows Fiction: Art and Artists in Toronto, Canada
2015 Look Again: Colour Xerography: Art Meets Technology at the AGO:

- Robert Arn, Barbara Astman, Flavio Belli, Michael Bidner, Michael Hayden, and Jaan Poldas*, Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), Toronto, Canada
- 2014 National Gallery of Canada, New Collections, Ottawa, Canada
- 2012 The Shortest Distances Between Two Points, USask Art Galleries and Collection, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
- 2011 Estonian Art in Exile, Tartu Kunstmuuseumis, Tallinn, Estonia
- 2010 Estonian Art in Exile (Eesti Kunst Pauluses), Kumu Kunstmuuseumi (KUMU), Tallinn, Estonia
- 2008 Essential Works III (Green, Poldas, Patton, Schwarz, Walmsley), Birch Libralato, Toronto, Canada
- 1999 Wynick/Tuck Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1998 Informal Ideas 98.2 (Degrees of Abstraction), Wynick/Tuck Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1997 Carroll Moppett and Jaan Poldas: Painting, Trepanier Baer Gallery, Calgary, Canada
Toronto Abstract Painting, James Allen Fine Art, Toronto, Canada
Informal Ideas 97.5 (Colour and The Square), Wynick/Tuck Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1996 Informal Ideas 97.3, Wynick/Tuck Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1995 Fire and Ice, Canadian Geometric Abstraction, Art Gallery of Mississauga, Mississauga, Canada
"Milieu: of the order of presentation", S.L. Simpson Gallery, Toronto, Canada
- 1994 "Hidden Values", McMichael Canadian Collection, Kleinberg, Canada
- 1992 "Legal Perspective: Selected Works from the Collection of Osler Hoskin & Harcourt", McMichael Canadian Collection, Kleinberg, Canada
- 1991 Abstract Practices I, The Power Plant, Toronto, Canada
The Empirical Presence, Optica, Montreal, Canada
Building the Contemporary Collection, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
- 1990 The Art of Colour, Red Deer Museum, Red Deer, Canada
- 1989 Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Oshawa, , Canada
John Heward & Jaan Poldas, Gallery 101, Ottawa, Canada
- 1988 Information Systems, YYZ, Toronto, Canada
The Other Painting, Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, Canada
- 1986 Selections from the Permanent Collection, Art Gallery of Ontario, Canada
Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Canada
Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, Canada
Rodman Hall Arts Centre, St. Catherines, Canada
Art Gallery of Windsor, Windsor, Canada
The Gallery, Stratford, Stratford, Canada
Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, Canada
- 1985 Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Canada
- 1984 Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Canada
Toronto Painting '84, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Canada
- 1984 80/1/2/3/4, Mercer Union, Toronto, Canada

Selected Group Exhibitions cont'd

- 1983 Rational Alternatives, Art Gallery at Harbourfront, Toronto, Canada
1979 Drei Kunstler Aus Toronto, Kunstlerhaus, Hamburg, Germany
1979 Galery Waalkens, Finstervold, Netherlands
1978 Common Factors, Art Gallery at Harbourfront, Toronto, Canada
A.C.T. at Nexus Gallery, Philadelphia, USA
Contemporary Canadian Painting, Eaton Centre, Toronto
1976 Ric Evans, Robert McNealy, & Jaan Poldas, Arist Co-operatove Toronto
(A.C.T.), Toronto, Canada
1975 Four Painters, Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), Toronto, Canada

Public Art Commissions

- 2014 *Passages as Endpoints and Pauses*, 222 Bay Street, Toronto Dominion Centre, Cadillac Fairview Tower, 2013, (4 panels, acrylic on canvas each panel, 101x101")
1992 *Surface Design for Tempered Windscreens*, Metro Hall, 55 John Street, Toronto (Tempered glass, Numerous Panels, 60 cm x 2.2 m, 1992)

Selected Public Collections

Agnes Etherington Art Centre
Art Gallery of Hamilton
Art Gallery of Ontario
Art Museum, University of Toronto
Buffalo AKG Art Museum, Albright-Knox Art Gallery
Canada Council Art Bank
Doris McCarthy Gallery
Estonian Art Museum (KUMU)
Musée D'Art De Joilette
Musée Des Beaux-Arts De Sherbrooke
Museum London
National Gallery of Canada
Nickle Arts Museum, Calgary
The Robert McLaughlin Gallery
University of Lethbridge
University of Saskatchewan
University of Toronto
Vancouver Art Gallery

Selected Private Collections

Blake, Cassles & Graydon
Counsel Corporation, Toronto
Cadillac Fairview, Toronto
BMO Bank of Montreal, Toronto
Department of Foreign Affairs
Department of External Affairs

Selected Private Collections cont'd

First Marathon Securities, Toronto
Fasken, Cambell, Godfrey
Imperial Oil
IBM Canada
London Life Insurance Co., London, Ontario
McMillian Binch LLP
McCarthy Tetrault, Toronto & Calgary
Osler, Hoskin, & Harcourt
Sun Life Assurance Co. of Canada
Superior Propane, Toronto
Trilon Financial Corporation
TD Canada Trust
United Westbourne Industries
The Welch Collection
Numerous private collections

Selected Bibliography

- 2024 *Jaan Poldas: 2018*, Holubizky, Ihor and Rose, Jessica, Birch Contemporary
2017 *Jaan Poldas: 2016*, Baird, Daniel, Birch Contemporary
2010 *Estonian Art in Exile*, edited by Kersti Koll, Reet Mark and Tiiu Talvistu,
Published by the Art Museum of Estonia, Kumu Art Museum
2007 *Abstract Painting in Canada*, Roald Nasgaard, Page 277
Douglas & McIntyre, 2007
1995 *Depth Markers: Selected Art Writings 1985-1994, Volume 1, An Anamorphic
and Analogical Abstraction: Jaan Poldas's False Targets*, James D
Campbell, ECW Press, Chapter 30: pp. 305-325
1994 "Report from Toronto", Roni Feinstein, *Art in America*, 40 to. 45, November
1994 "Poldas rewards time spent", Kate Taylor, *The Globe
and Mail*, D. dl, November 5
1992 "From the E.G. Series, 1978", Sharon Brooks, exhibition
essay, Mercer Union
1991 Review, Kate Taylor, *The Globe and Mail*, November 8, p. C8
1991 "Abstract Practices", Robert Labossiere, *Parachute*, no. 64,
October/November/December, pp. 56-57
1991 "Abstract Practices I", James D. Campbell, exhibition catalogue,
The Power Plant
1991 "Past is present in timely exhibit", John Bentley Mays, *The Globe
and Mail*, January 19, p. C11
1990 "A milestone for Toronto artist: Poldas' tall colour grids work
like visual poems", John Bentley Mays, *The Globe and Mail*,
February 17, p. C15
1990 "The Art of Colour", Kirk Marlow, exhibition catalogue, Red Deer
Museum
1990 "Jaan Poldas at 49th Parallel", Walter Thompson, *Art in America*,

- January, pp. 162-163
- 1989 "Working with Physics", Robert Fones, Vanguard, February/March pp. 42-43
- 1989 "Jaan Poldaa, Costin & Klintworth, Toronto", Robert Youds, C Magazine, Spring, pp. 66-67
- 1989 "Colour Co-ordinates, Charting the progress of color painting in Canada", Gary Michael Dault, Canadian Art, Spring, pp. 72-75
- 1989 "John Heward & Jaan Poldaa", Daniel Sharp, exhibition catalogue, Gallery 101, Ottawa
- 1989 "Artist's minimal creations produce significant effect", John Bentley Mays, The Globe and Mail, September 22, p. C8
- 1988 "The Frog who would be Sphinx", Jerry McGrath, Vanguard, Cover Story, December/January
- 1988 "Information Systems", Andy Patton, exhibition essay, YYZ, Toronto
- 1988 "Toronto: La Pure et la Richissime", Rene Viau, Beaux Arts, pp. 100-104
- 1988 "The Other Painting", Ihor Holubizky, exhibition catalogue, Royal Canadian Academy of Arts Gallery, Toronto
- 1988 "Defiant Paintings, rewarding art tours", Deirdre Hanna, NOW, October 13
- 1988 Review, John Bentley Mays, The Globe and Mail, October 15
- 1987 "Conceptualist keeps his cool to pursue geometric elegance", Christopher Hume, Toronto Star, October 30, p. E11
- 1984 "Toronto Painting '84", David Burnett, exhibition catalogue, Art Gallery of Ontario
- 1983 "Contemporary Canadian Art", David Burnett and Marilyn Schiff, Hurtig Publishers, pp. 257-258
- 1983 "Rational Alternatives", exhibition catalogue, Art Gallery at Harbour front, Toronto
- 1982 "Jaan Poldaa, Mercer Union", Oliver Girling and Harold Klunder, Vanguard, September, p. 26
- 1980 "Exotic Modernism, Toronto", Donald B. Kuspit, Vanguard, November, pp. 19-25
- 1979 Review, George Bogardi, Montreal Star, April 18
- 1979 Art Notes, Jaan Poldaa at Optica, Virginia Nixon, Montreal
- 1978 "Jaan Poldaa: E.G. Series at ACT", Joan Frick, Artist's Review, volume 2, number 2, p. 2
- 1976 "Ric Evans, Robert McNealy, Jaan Poldaa at Artist's Co-operative Toronto", Ross Skoggard, Art in America, November/December, p. 124
- 1975 "Four Painters", Alvin Balkind, exhibition catalogue, Art Gallery of Ontario

Related Experience

- 1975-1979 Member of Artist's Co-operative Toronto (A.C.T.)
- 1979 Founding member of Mercer Union
- 1986-1988 Member of Cold City Gallery

Selected Awards

1997 Victor Martyn Lynch-Staunton Award, Canada Council
1996 Canada Council Arts "A" Grant
1996-1997 Ontario Arts Council Senior Grant
1991-1992 Canada Council Arts "A" Grant
1993-1994 Canada Council Arts "A" Grant
1988-1989 Ontario Arts Council Senior Grant

Representation

2010-2024 Birch Contemporary, Toronto, Canada
1995-2007 Wynick/Tuck Gallery, Toronto, Canada
1997-2007 Trepanier Baer Gallery, Calgary, Canada
1988-1995 Costin & Klintworth, Canada