

Blanchette

Bruce's Studio News

Process • Concept • Evolution • Solution Vol. VII No. 3 Summer / 2017

STUDIO 8 • Prospect Hill Road • Walpole, NH 03608 • 603-313-0359 • www.bruceblanchette.com

“Pictures at an Exhibition” (or two)

For the last year or more I have tried to engage you with the workings of my creative process. I hope I have made the trip through the months interesting enough that your first impulse upon receipt of my email was NOT to hit DELETE. Regardless, I know that many people have expressed interest in what sometimes seems to me to be self-serving and egocentric as I post my thoughts using “old-fashioned” email... as opposed to Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, etc. (I should think otherwise). Generally, I prefer working in the studio to the perceived less essential need to communicate with the public about my art, although this is a common dilemma for me.

Fortunately, there comes a time when the work is done and the art gets its own chance to speak for me! This is what has been most rewarding in the last two months.

From April 10 to May 12 my solo show of twenty artworks in the Christine Price Gallery at Castleton University, VT “Breaking New Ground /Modularities” has come and gone, but seems to have been well received. Pictures appear below. Among the highlights of the exhibition, for me, were the responses voiced to me at the two separate openings that were held ; one for the public, and one for friends, relatives, and colleagues who couldn’t make the first one. Also the review in the Rutland Herald was a pleasant surprise. I have to thank a great number of people who came to my assistance, helping load and unload the U-haul truck, (twice) transport, set up and take down the show. I can’t thank these people enough. In Walpole/ friends Peter Roos, Mike Daley, Harry Bernard, Charles Phillips and my brother Ralph Blanchette. In Castleton/ my good friend Dick Weis, new friend Oliver Schemm, and gallery director Sarah Karczmarczyk. Of course, my very best friend and wife, Karen, is always my biggest supporter and helper... who coined the phrase “Your mind is like a runaway train!”, which was humorously instrumental in helping me through the nerve-racking preparation for my “artist’s talk” at the opening!

Castleton University
—
Two Openings



Keene State College
—
A Nice Surprise

Shortly after striking the exhibition in Castleton and transporting all the work back to my studio, I received word that three of my latest works had been selected for the 2017 Biennial Regional Juror’s Choice Exhibition at Keene State College’s Thorne-Sagendorph Gallery. (Wow, that’s a mouthfull!) Three days before the opening on June 2nd I found myself installing my largest work in the space. See below.

At the Opening on June 2nd, I learned that my *Third World Metaphor / Asymmetrical Landscape* had been chosen Best in Show by Allie Foradas, Assistant Curator at Mass MoCA in North Adams, MA.

I am very grateful for the recognition, particularly from a juror who is familiar with contemporary directions in today’s art world. I couldn’t have been happier to have my last few years of work acknowledged. (Receiving a cash prize isn’t bad either!)

