



Detail of "Simmer Dim Flyover," 2010, casein and oil on canvas, 46" x 84"

## SHONA MACDONALD

### *Two Northeast*

#### Artist's Statement:

"topamnesia" is the "remembrance of place, especially that informs a painter's rendition of a place or region she has once experienced in first person; in such memory, the place or topos constitutes the major themes or primary concern."

—Edward Casey, from *Getting Back into Place*

The title of this show, *Two Northeast*, puns on my autobiographical past and present: growing up in Northeast Scotland, my current location in the Northeast of the United States, and traveling, both literally and imaginatively, between them.

For the last decade, my artwork has explored ideas surrounding landscape and memory. This exhibition brings together three years of work, each exploring in different ways, some of Casey's complex ideas of displacement and re-emplacement, or a reconnecting to "place."

While reviewing imagery in certain landscape photographs I had accumulated, I was struck by the similarity between the emerging striations of the *Envelope Innards* paintings and the landscape photographs pinned on my studio wall. It then became clear to me that the series was a very personal reflection upon place, location, identity and memory.

The works on paper slowly construct and distill imagery culled from memory, imagination and actual lived experience, fusing the temporal and physical into singular images.

Finally, the oil and casein paintings attempt to create resonant geographies, both real and imagined. The tension that exists between place that is longed for and place that is lived in is mapped out in these works through a layering process, suggestive of how memories are unearthed or fade away. The imagery depicts fields that I drive by daily, in Western Massachusetts, and glimpses of man-made structures, recalled from my childhood, such as washing lines, fences and piles of paper and folded clothes that morph into rock strata or ground. Often, the lack of singular vantage point and shifting scale and perspective further disorient the viewer adding to a sense of displacement.

— Shona Macdonald, 2010

**August 7 – September 1, 2010**

*Saint-Gaudens Memorial Exhibitions at the Picture Gallery  
Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, Cornish, New Hampshire*

# SHONA MACDONALD

Born in Aberdeen, Scotland. Lives and works in Western Massachusetts

## EDUCATION

- 1996 MFA Degree, Studio Art  
University of Illinois at Chicago, Illinois
- 1991 BFA Honors Degree, Painting  
Glasgow School of Art, Scotland

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS & PROJECTS

- 2011 *Shona Macdonald*, Engine Room,  
Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand
- 2009 *Two Northeast*, Proof Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts
- 2008 *Shona Macdonald*, Reeves Contemporary  
New York, New York
- 2007 *Shift*, Den Contemporary, Los Angeles, California
- 2005 *Shona Macdonald: Inscape Drawings*  
Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago Illinois
- Shona Macdonald: Inscape: Paintings*  
Skestos-Gabriele Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
- 2002 *Shona Macdonald: Envelopes and Isles*  
Galerie refugium, Berlin, Germany

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 *Imagining Science*, University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- 2007 *The Uncertainty Principle: Drawing in the Golden Age  
of Worry*, NIU University Gallery, DeKalb, Illinois
- 2006 *Into the Midst*, Mixture Contemporary  
Houston, Texas
- 2005 *Displacement*, Gescheidle, Chicago, Illinois,  
(brochure, essay John Brunetti)
- 2000 *Surface Tensions, Spaces*, Cleveland, Ohio

## SELECTED REVIEWS

- 2006 *Art in America*, Sept (solo show)  
Susan Snodgrass
- 2005 *LA Times*, (group show), David Pagel  
*Chicago Tribune*, Dec 16 (solo show),  
Jenn Goddu  
*Chicago Sun Times*, Dec 9 (group show), Margaret  
Hawkins  
*Chicago Reader*, (interview, solo show), Fred Camper
- 2003 *Art News*, Summer, (solo show)  
Lyndsey Westbrook  
*Chicago Critics on Chicago Art: John Brunetti on  
Shona Macdonald*, May 15, Art Chicago

## AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS & RESIDENCIES

- 2009 Pollock Krasner Foundation Award
- 2005 Illinois Arts Council Finalist Award
- 2001 Nominated, Louis Comfort Tiffany Award
- 2010-11 Roswell Artist in Residence Fellowship  
Roswell, New Mexico
- 2004 Tyrone Guthrie Centre, County Monaghan  
Ireland, International Artists Residency Fellowship
- 2001 Virginia Center for the Creative Arts  
Artists Residency (Also offered 2003)  
Sweet Briar, Virginia
- Ragdale Foundation, Artist Residency Fellowship,  
Lake Forest, Illinois



Detail of "Fence," 2010, graphite on gessoed paper, 13" x 30"

This exhibition is sponsored through the generosity of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial.

The Saint-Gaudens Memorial is a private, non-profit organization chartered by the State of New Hampshire in 1919, to preserve and exhibit Saint-Gaudens's home and studios and to preserve his work there. The Memorial operated the site as a museum until 1965, when they donated the property to the National Park Service to become the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site. The Memorial continues to play an important role as a park partner and supports the Site in a variety of ways including sponsoring programs and activities such as this exhibition, the summer concert series, and other events that increase public awareness of

Augustus Saint-Gaudens and his works, and that promote sculpture and the arts in general.

The Fellowship of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial was established in 1977 to assist artists of promise. A Fellow is selected annually by the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, from a pool of candidates put forward by the Fellowship Committee and advisors, and is awarded to artists who have completed a body of work that demonstrates exceptional talent, and who may benefit from the recognition and financial grant that accompany the Fellowship. The year following the Fellowship, the artist submits works for installation, as part of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial exhibition series at the Picture Gallery.

To find out more or to help us by becoming a friend of Saint-Gaudens please contact us at (914) 944-1608 or email us at [SGMemorial@aol.com](mailto:SGMemorial@aol.com) or visit us on the web at [www.sgnhs.org](http://www.sgnhs.org).