



Teddy c100

Concrete and toy parts, 9x15x10in, 2007 - \$525





Panda c115

Concrete and toy parts, 10x9x6in, 2007 - \$450





Teddy c134

Concrete and toy parts, 11x10x8in, 2007 - \$525





Goose c191

Concrete and toy parts, 10x10x9inch, 2007 - \$525





Two Heads Are Better Than One c191

Concrete and toy parts, 7x12x7in, 2007 - \$600



Dog c192

Concrete and toy parts, 9.5x15x11in, 2007 - \$725





Bear Belly c193

Concrete and toy parts, 11x13x12in, 2007 - \$725





Teddy Tower C195

Concrete and toy parts, 22x12x10in,
2007 - \$1500



Ross Bonfanti



Hanging Teddy c196

Concrete and toy parts, 12x8x4in, 2007 - \$350



Hanging Teddy c197

Concrete and toy parts, 9x8x4in, 2007 - \$275





Standing Teddy c198

Concrete and toy parts, 11x9x6in, 2007 - \$550



Moose c199

Concrete and toy parts, 20x13x8in, 2007 - \$975



Monkey On My Back c200

Concrete and toy parts, 10x12x15in, 2007 - \$850





Yellow Swim Suit

Concrete, Acrylic, Metal on Wood, 18x18x4in, 2007 - \$750



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Small, Medium & Large

Concrete, Acrylic, Metal on Wood, 18x28x5in, 2007 - \$1200





Love Is In The Air

Concrete, Acrylic, Metal on Wood, 18x18x5in, 2007 - \$750





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Artist Statement

The Concreatures are cast inner forms of once loved and cherished plush toys. These stuff animals are frozen in a petrified state that solidify their importance and recorded memories of past physical manipulation and emotional associations.

Created from discarded toys and local thrift shops finds, I manipulate the found pieces to create altered visions that redefine and renew their purpose while maintaining elements of it's prior significance. Hidden inner features are revealed and imprints of fabric and fur remain on the concrete surface marking this former existence. At once each piece simultaneously conveys soft and hard, cute and creepy, comfort and unease.

The iconography of the stuffed toy relates to childhood. Objects are used as an exterior embodiment of childhood neurosis, anxieties, affection, dependencies etc., providing both comfort and companionship. Artist Mike Kelley looks at the stuffed toy as "idealized sexless models by means of which children were to be adapted to family and social norms". (Art at The Turn of the Millennium, 1999,p.270) I display the inner recording of this attachment. The foundation of childhood is thus memorialized in concrete materials used here to record the foundation of personal identity and private history. The element of mass produced toy is removed to reveal the unique: a collectible of modern time. The Concreature serves a new purpose as a permanent piece, a statue, a trophy of sorts.

AWOL GALLERY



Ross Bonfanti

Education	1993-1997	Ontario College of Art & Design (AOCAD Fine Art, Florence program) Toronto, ON
	1990-1992	George Brown College St. James Campus (Graphic Design Diploma) Toronto, ON
Solo Exhibitions	2007	Concreature- XEXE Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2006	How do you like them apples? – XEXE Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2003	The Deformative Years – Katharine Mulherin Contemporary Art Projects, Toronto, ON
	2002	Heavy Heads- 1080BUS, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2001	Playoff - Queen Mother Cafe, Toronto, ON, Canada
	1999	The Dumb Art Show- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
Selected Art Fairs	1997	Sink- Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2007	Bridge ArtFair Miami07, Miami Beach, Florida, U.S.A,
Selected Group Exhibitions	2007	Toronto International Art Fair, XEXE Gallery, Toronto Canada
	2007	AAF Amsterdam , Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	AAF New York , AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2007	AAF London, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	Art DC, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	Glasgow Art Fair, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	The London Art Fair, Rebeck Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	Palm Beach Contemporary Art + Design, Rebeck Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	Art Miami, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2006	Art London, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	AAF London, Rebecca Hossack Gallery, London, England
	2007	Toronto International Art Fair, XEXE Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2007	AAF Contemporary Art Fair- AWOL Gallery, New York City, NY, USA
	2005	AAF Contemporary Art Fair- AWOL Gallery, Pier 92 New York City, NY, USA
	2004	AAF Contemporary Art Fair- Quiver Project, Pier 92 New York City, NY, USA
	2004	Toronto International Art Fair, AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2003	The Affordable Art Fair- Quiver Project, Pier 92 New York City, NY, USA
	2006	Square Foot 06- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2005	Something for Everyone II- XEXE Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
	2005	Square Foot NYC- Project Spaceman, Brooklyn, NY, USA
2005	Square Foot 05- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2005	Built for Speed- L' Autre Galerie, Montreal, Quebec, Canada	
2004	Hi Libido- Gallery 1313, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2004	Square Foot 04- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2003	Go Figure- Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2003	Square Foot- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2003	BUY & SAVE AMERICA- The Natural Light Window, a collaboration by Dale Thompson & Ross Bonfanti , Toronto, ON , Canada	
2003	Identita- Joseph D. Carrier Art Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2003	7 Seconds- AWOL Collective, Kabat Wrobel Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2002	Whole- AWOL Collective, 376 Dufferin St., Toronto, ON, Canada	
2002	Identita- Glenhurst Art Gallery of Brant, Brantford, ON, Canada	
2002	Pleasure- Gallery 1313, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2002	Battle Royal- Art System, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2001	Standard- AWOL Collective, 376 Dufferin St. Toronto, ON, Canada	
2001	Leisure- Gallery 1313, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2001	Ain't No Picnic- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
2000	Blindness- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
1999	From a Hat- AWOL Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
1998	Truck Stop 12 (traveling art show in vans), Downtown Toronto parking lots , ON, Canada	
1997	OCAD Arte Firenze- Vaughan Estates of Sunnybrook, Toronto, ON, Canada	
	Matters of the Soul- John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada	
	In Partenza- OCAD Florence Campus, Italy	
1996	Propeller 1- (founding members show) Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON, Canada	
1996	Propeller- 96 Spadina Ave. Suite 303, Toronto, ON, Canada	



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Juried Exhibitions

2006	45th Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2005	44th Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2004	43rd Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2003	42nd Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
2003	Inside Art Expo, Metro Convention Centre, Toronto, ON
2001	40th Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON Scarborough Arts Council "Odyssey", Consilium Atrium, Scarborough, ON
2000	20th Annual Juried Show of Fine Art, The Visual Arts Centre of Clarington, Bowmanville, ON
2000	39th Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON
1999	37th Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Philips Square, Toronto, ON

Collections

Canada Council for the Arts, ArtBank, Ottawa, ON, Canada
Private collections in Canada, USA, Europe and Asia

Work Related Experience

1999-2005 Co- Founder and Co-Director of AWOL Gallery & Studios, Toronto, ON
1996-1999 Co-Founder of Propeller Centre for the Visual Arts, Toronto, ON

Publications

2005	"the grammar architect", by Chris Eaton, Insomniac Press, Cover art
2003	"the Inactivist", by Chris Eaton, Insomniac Press, Cover art

Reviews

2006	- "apples a la carte and fractured selves to go" by Anya Galkina, Show Magazine, (may / june) issue 1, vol.1 pg.14,15 -"At The Galleries" by Peter Goddard, Toronto Star, (Sat. April 29/06) A&E H9
2005	- "Big Picture 37" by RM Vaughan, National Post, (June 25, 2005) Toronto section
2004	- "Great Outdoors" by Darren Altmayer, National Post, (July 10, 2004) vol.6, no.218, sec TO, p. 1 -"Signs of the Unexpected" by Bridget O'Brien, Korean Times, (April 24, 2004) p.12
2003	- "is it art" on Richardson's Round up CBC Radio One Sept 30 -"A reflection in praise of the human body" by Jennifer Febbraro (Go Figure review), Tandam, Vol. XLIX, # 256, pg. 12-13, Sept. 21 -Whole Exhibition, Mix Independent Art and Culture Vol.28.4, pg.10 -"Bush Babies" by Murray Whyte (BUY & SAVE AMERICA installation review), The Toronto Star, Fri. Jan. 24/03 A&E pgC14
2002	- "Arts-Half Baked" by Thomas Hirshmann (Whole show review), Now Magazine, issue 1089 vol.22 no.13, Nov. 28-Dec 4, pg99 -Best Bet by Joanne Huffa (Heavy Heads show at 1080 BUS), Eye Magazine (Volume 11, Issue 35), June 6, pg.66
2001	-Toronto Living with Flavio Belli, Channel 10 Rogers Cable (Interview and review about Standard show) Dec. 3rd-7th -"Arts- Picnic Picks" by Deirdre Hanna, Now Magazine, issue 998 vol.20, March, pg.69 -Lola Magazine (summer issue 9) Shotgun Reviews of Blindness exhibition by Egon Von Bark, pg.72
2000	-Art on Air with Elizabeth Fearon, CKLN Radio 88.1FM (discussion about Blindness exhibition) Nov. 23rd
1999	- "Toronto's Independant Art Scene" by Elizabeth Fearon (The Dumb Art Show), Artfocus Magazine (# 68 winter/spring issue) pg.26 -Lola Magazine (fall/winter issue 5) Shotgun Reviews of The Dumb Art Show by Egon Von Bark, pg. 88 -Lola Magazine (spring/summer issue) Shotgun Reviews of From A Hat by 5:17, pg.87 -Quick Stop Art Spot with Chandra Bulucon, CKLN Radio 88.1FM (discussion on alternative galleries: AWOL Gallery) April
1998	-Truck Stop 12 Art in Vans Collective, Mix Independent Art and Culture Vol. 24.3, pg.20 -Quick Stop Art Spot with Chandra Bulucon, CKLN Radio 88.1FM (discussion on alternative show, Truck Stop 12) Nov. -Truck Stop 12 televised by City Pulse News, City TV, Oct. 11, 6pm -"Artists take their works to people friendly mall" by Miriam Sonati (review of Truck Stop 1) Globe & Mail, Oct. 12, Sec. A, pg.7 -Eye Openers Art News Eye Magazine, (Truck Stop 12) 10/8/98 -Eye Openers Art News Eye Magazine "Dirty Works" review by Joanne Huffa 14-05-98