

BILL RALPH

RESUME

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UPCOMING SOLO SHOWS

October 2009 *A Mano Libera Gallery, St. Catharines, Ontario*

Fall 2009 *Brock Video Gallery, Brock University, St. Catharines*

June 2010 *Red Head Gallery, Toronto, Ontario (member of the Red Head collective)*

ONE-PERSON MUSEUM SHOWS

2004 *Rodman Hall, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada*

2002 *Hamilton Conservatory, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*

ONE-PERSON SHOWS

2006 *Gallery 25N, Peekskill, New York*

2005 *Gallery 25N, Peekskill, New York*

2005 *Westchester Gallery (Westchester Community College), Peekskill, New York*

OTHER EXHIBITIONS

2008 *new!, 2008 Niagara Biennial, Rodman Hall Museum*

2008 *Digits!, Propeller Gallery group show*

2006 *Slow Blue, an animation, shown in a group show at the New Image Gallery at James Madison University.*

2001 *Artexpo, Javits Center, New York, New York*

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

2004 *Composition on R4, Brock University, Ontario, Canada*

2000 *Howard Anton (10 pieces)*

2000 *James Stewart (5 pieces)*

COMMISSIONS

2008 *Animations commissioned by James Stewart as part of architect's plans*

MEDIA COVERAGE

2008 *Article and Picture, St. Catharines Standard,*

2005 *Review, New York Times (Westchester Edition)*

2005 *Article, North County News (Entire Back Page)*

2004 *Review*, Pulse Niagara, St. Catharines, Ontario
2004 *Article*, Brock Press, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario
2002 *Article*, Artexpo Preview Magazine, New York, New York

QUOTES

"..., Mr. Ralph has a wonderful and effective color sense"

"...a veiling of sinuous smoky lines and colors that dominates all the work here and is the key to its success."

"Mr. Ralph may just convince more than a few people that mathematics can be an inspiration for wonderful art."

New York Times (Westchester Edition), 2005

"viewing one of Ralph's works is ultimately like seeing into the unification of two generally separated worlds: mathematics and fine art"

"even though his pieces are based on rather simple math rules they carry an increasing complexity and spontaneity that would be almost impossible to duplicate"

North County News (Westchester New York), 2005

"If this is the first time that you have heard of Bill Ralph's mathematical art, it certainly won't be the last. "

"What begins as an equation becomes an abstract masterpiece through a series of techniques which demand a nearly flawless understanding of the subject."

Brock Press, Brock University, Canada

INVITED LECTURES (Selected)

2008 *Art and Mathematics*, Niagara Region Architects Association

2006 *Imagery From Encoded Systems*, Westchester Community College, Peekskill, New York

2005 *Visions of a Mathematical Mind*, Westchester Community College, Peekskill, New York

2005 *Fine Art Through a Mathematicians Eyes*, Brock University

2004 *Can Mathematics Recognize Great Art?*, American National Youth Science Camp

2003 *Can Mathematics Recognize Great Art?*, The NOCA school in New Orleans

2003 *Can Mathematics Recognize Great Art?*, The Birmingham School of Arts and Science, Alabama

2003 *Can Mathematics Recognize Great Art?*, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish Nova Scotia

2003 *Can Mathematics Recognize Great Art?*, International Conference of Schools of the Fine and Performing Arts, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada

AWARDS

2003 *Teaching Award*, M.A.A. Seaway Section

2002 *Office for Partnerships for Advanced Skills (OPAS) award*, for excellence in Teaching with Technology for the creation of the Multimedia software "Journey Through Calculus" , commissioned by the Brookes/Cole Publishing Company

EDUCATION

1982 *Ph.D in Mathematics*, University of Waterloo, under an N.S.E.R.C. scholarship

1974 *A.R.C.T., L.T.C.L*, piano performance, Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto

EMPLOYMENT

1985-Currently *Professor of Mathematics*, Brock University Canada

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

When a painter uses a brush to blend paint and create textures on a canvas they are making use of a physical process that mathematicians would call a "nonlinear dynamical system". I use abstract versions of such systems as the basis for computer programs that assist me in creating art using technique that I have invented and which are unique in the world. The medium is quite difficult to handle and is much like creating a sculpture from a pile of leaves by blowing on them. As an artist, I hope that my work will connect people emotionally to the enormous complexity and unity that lies within the rich mathematical objects that inspire my images.

BRIEF BIO

Bill Ralph grew up in North Bay, Ontario, Canada where it is very cold, and has always been interested in mathematics, music and art. He spent three years in Toronto studying piano and composition before switching to mathematics at the University of Waterloo where he obtained a Ph.D. in Algebraic Topology. Several years ago, he was commissioned to design a piece of multimedia software to teach calculus and moved to San Francisco to create the CD that is now called "Journey Through Calculus". This software received the Ontario OPAS award for the development of educational technology at universities and has been shown at universities across the world. While he was studying the behaviour of certain chaotic dynamical systems, Professor Ralph became interested in exploiting their complexity to create visual art. His research uses mathematics to both analyze and create art has led to several invitations to speak about his work throughout North America. He is currently on the mathematics faculty of Brock University in St. Catharines Ontario where he enjoys teaching courses like mathematical modeling and the history of mathematics to excellent students.