

## **Blair Brennan: Curriculum vitae**

Edmonton, Alberta  
Canada  
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Born in August 1959 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

### **Artist Bio:**

Blair Brennan has exhibited his artwork nationally and internationally. He has written for a number of arts and cultural publications, in print and online. Brennan was born in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and continues to base his practice from his home in Treaty 6 territory: land held sacred by Nehiyawak (Cree), Nakota Sioux, Niittsitupi (Blackfoot), Dene suliné, Salteaux, and Métis peoples. Recent illness, injury, related spinal cord surgeries, and resultant physical deficiencies have forced Brennan to consider his practice from a disabled or differently-abled perspective. To date, Brennan's artwork documented his magickal progress in the world. Despite health challenges, Brennan anticipates the continuation of this process.

### **Academic Credentials:**

1981 Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

### **Selected Solo Exhibitions:**

2018/19 *Uses For King Kong: An Imaginary Book*, Kapodistrian University's Aiolou Street Campus, Artist in the Window Exhibition Programme, Athens, Greece  
2017 *Get it Down On Paper*, Bleeding Heart Art Space, Edmonton AB  
2017 *White Nurse*, Art Gallery of Grande Prairie/TREX Travelling Exhibition Program, (TREX Region 1)  
2014 *The Right Side of Magic*, dc3 Art Projects, Edmonton AB  
2007 *Sacra Privata: Works on Paper* by Blair Brennan, SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, AB  
2000 *About the Author*, Harcourt House Gallery, Edmonton, AB  
1995 *Similia Similibus Curentur*, Illingworth Kerr Gallery, Alberta College of Art, Calgary, AB  
1991/92 *Rex Mundi: Wrestling with the Angel*, a travelling exhibition organized for the Provincial Extension Programme by the Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton, AB  
1991 *Cave Canum*, Muttart Art Gallery, Calgary, AB  
1990 *Wormwood*, Latitude 53 Gallery, Edmonton, AB  
1988 *Three Things I Know About Magic*, The Works Visual Arts Festival, Ordo Templi Orientis, Nephthys Lodge, Edmonton, AB  
1984 *Blair Brennan*, Woltjen/Udell Gallery, Edmonton, AB

### **Collaborative Installation/Performance Projects with Brian Webb:**

2014 *An Unlearned Human Language*, presented in conjunction with solo exhibition *The Right Side of Magic*, dc3 Art Projects, Edmonton, AB  
1993 *Magic / Magick / Miracles*, Gallery 101 Artist's Centre, Ottawa, ON.  
**Also performed:**  
1994, Brian Webb Dance Company, Edm, AB  
1995, Dancemakers Studio, Toronto, ON  
1995, Dancers' Studio West, Calgary, AB  
1992 *(I wanted to know) The Exact Dimensions of Heaven*, Locations, Latitude 53 Gallery and the Brian Webb Dance Company, Edmonton, AB

### **Selected Group Exhibitions:**

- 2021 *DY3SCORIA. Future Intersections of The Body and Technology.* Online Exhibition:  
<<https://www.dyscorpia.com/dy3corpia-1>>
- 2021 *Art In The Pandemic: Engaging Creatives.* Online Exhibition:  
<<https://www.covidcreative.ca/en/home>>  
University of Alberta, Department of Art & Design and RSC Task Force
- 2019 *DYSCORPIA: Intersections of the Body and Technology,* Enterprise Square Galleries,  
Edmonton, AB
- 2017/18 *Extratextual: An international exhibition of contemporary art informed by modes of  
writing,* Contemporary Calgary
- 2017 *The Story So Far: An Exhibition of Artists' Books,* SNAP Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2015 *The Body in Question(s) / Le Corps en question(s),* Enterprise Square Galleries,  
Edmonton, AB \* Collaboration with Sean Caulfield and Royden Mills
- 2015 *Bodies, Differently:* Blair Brennan, Antonis Choudalakis and Jean René Leblanc, Vorres  
Museum, Athens, Greece
- 2015 *Design Latitudes: An exhibition mapping the innovations, influences and future  
directions of design studies in the north,* FAB Gallery, University of Alberta, Edmonton,  
AB
- 2014/15 *90 x 90: Celebrating Art in Alberta,* The Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, AB
- 2014 *A Record of Events,* Harcourt House Gallery, Edmonton, AB
- 2014 *The Missing Body: Performance in the Absence of the Artist,* Southern Alberta Art  
Gallery, Lethbridge, AB
- 2013 *Text Crutch,* Jackson Power, Edmonton, AB
- 2013 *InSight2: Engaging the Health Humanities,* FAB Gallery, University of Alberta,  
Edmonton, AB
- 2013 *Papier 13: Contemporary Art Fair of Works on Paper,* Montreal, QC (w/ dc3 Art Projects)
- 2013 *Made in Alberta Part IV,* The AGC (Art Gallery of Calgary), Calgary, AB
- 2013 *BIMPE* (the Seventh edition of the Biennial International Miniature Print Exhibition),  
organized and circulated by New Leaf Editions, Vancouver, BC. Exhibitions at SNAP  
Gallery, Edmonton, AB and the Federation and Dundarave Print Workshop Galleries,  
Vancouver, BC

### **Other Professional Activities: Projects, Performances, Lectures, Visiting Artist and Awards:**

- 2019 Performance: *Symmetrical Bilateral Movement for Dirt Buffet Cabaret,* Mile Zero Dance,  
Edmonton, AB
- 2018 Guest Lecture, *When You Cut Into the Present the Future Leaks Out: William S.  
Burroughs, Brion Gysin, Marshal McLuhan and the Cut-Up,* U of A, Department of Art  
and Design, Edmonton, AB <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rO8oZusG1RE>
- 2017 Guest Artist In-Class Lecture, *CUT – UPS: Exploring Art and Text with Blair Brennan,*  
UofA, Augustana Campus, Camrose, AB
- 2017 Guest Lecture, *When You Cut Into the Present the Future Leaks Out: William S.  
Burroughs, Brion Gysin, Marshal McLuhan and the Cut-Up,* Contemporary Calgary
- 2017 16 images/illustrations in *The Eradication of Small Pox Series* in *The  
Vaccination Picture.* (along with eight other artists/designers/illustrators/cartoonists)
- 2017 Guest Lecture, *When You Cut Into the Present the Future Leaks Out: William S  
Burroughs, Brion Gysin, Marshal McLuhan and the Cut-Up,* McLuhan House,  
Edmonton, AB
- 2017 Workshop instructor, *CUT – UPS: Exploring Art and Text with Blair Brennan,* Harcourt  
House, Edmonton, AB
- 2016 Alberta Foundation for Arts, Visual Arts and New Media Individual Project Grant for the  
project *Uses for King Kong*

- 2016 *Edmonton Artist Colouring Book*, SNAP and Latitude 53, Edmonton (along with numerous other artists/designers/illustrators/cartoonists)
- 2016 Performance, MT for SubArctic Improv, Mile Zero Dance, Edmonton, AB
- 2015 Nominated and Short Listed for the \$10,000 Eldon and Anne Foote Edmonton Visual Arts Prize (one of two runners up)
- 2015 *Tell a Story and Leave Mark*, Guest Artist performance project at Golden West Music Festival, Ardmore, AB
- 2015 Artist/participant, Edmonton Edition artist book published in conjunction with The Art Gallery of Alberta exhibition *Charette Roulette: Language* with artists Kathy Slade and Keith Higgins of Publication Studio Vancouver (PSV)
- 2015 Collaboration with dancer/choreographer Nancy Sandercock, *Frost Flowers/Arctic Ship of Death* presented by the Brian Webb Dance Company, Timms Centre for the Arts – Second Playing Space, Edmonton, AB  
<http://www.bwdc.ca/season/nancy-sandercock.php>
- 2015 Instructor, Non-traditional Print Workshop, SNAP, Edmonton, AB

**Published Writing By Blair Brennan:**

- 2019 Catalogue essay for an upcoming Julian Forrest exhibition, Vernon Public Art Gallery, Vernon, BC
- 2018 *These Shadows of Imagination*, article and illustrations included in Winter 2018 – “What Happens Next?” Issue of SNAPline <https://snapartists.com/snapline/>
- 2017 Catalogue essay for Dara Humniski and Sergio Serrano: *Monument* (Exhibition dates: October 2017 – February 2018), Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton, AB
- 2017 *In America, the Product Buys You*, MISC Blog  
<https://miscmagazine.com/in-america-the-product-buys-you/>
- 2017 Introductory essay for Steven Dixon, self published monograph
- 2017 *Expect a Miracle*, print and article included in Spring 2017 – “God” Issue of SNAPline  
<https://snapartists.com/snapline/>
- 2015 Brochure/catalogue essay for April Dean exhibition ‘Blowing In The Wind’, Alberta Printmakers, Calgary, AB
- 2015 *The Future and the Future of Art*, VUE Weekly  
<http://www.vueweekly.com/the-future-and-the-future-of-art/>

**Art Work in Public Collections:**

- The Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Edmonton, Alberta
- The Canada Council Art Bank, Ottawa, Ontario
- The Art Gallery of Alberta (formerly the Edmonton Art Gallery), Edmonton, AB
- The Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Alberta
- MacEwan University (formerly Grant MacEwan Community College), Edmonton, AB
- The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta
- The Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba
- The City of Edmonton, Alberta
- The University of Alberta Hospital