

Gary Michael Dault

Gary Michael Dault was, until recently, a Toronto-based writer, artist and art critic; he lives now in Napanee, Ontario. He is the author or co-author of numerous books including *Barker Fairley Portraits* (Methuen, 1981), *Visions: Contemporary Art in Canada* [one of five contributors] (Douglas & McIntyre, 1983), *Cells of Ourselves* [with artist Tony Urquhart] (The Porcupine's Quill, 1989), *Children in Photography: 150 Years* (Firefly, 1990), *Architecture Canada 1997: The Governor General's Awards for Architecture* (TUNS Press, Faculty of Architecture, Dalhousie University and The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, 1997), *Esko Mannikko: Mexas* (Hasselblad Center, Gothenburg, Sweden, 1998), and *Photographs by Tom Sandberg* (Astrup Fearnley Museum, Oslo, 2000). He is co-author of a study of the work of the winners of the Canadian Prix de Rome in Architecture, published by Coach House Books in December of 2006, and author of *Captive: The Zoo Photographs of Volker Seding* (Montreal: Les 400 Coups, 2007). He is also the author of several books of poetry: *Flying Fish and Other Poems* (Exile Editions, 1996), *In Smoke* (The Church Street Press, February, 2005), *Breath* (Lyricalmyrical Press, 2005), *The Milk of Birds* (Mansfield Press, 2006), *Southwester* (Lyricalmyrical Press, 2007) and a limited edition of *The Hebdomeros Suite*—with watercolours by David Bolduc (coming from Coach House Books in 2010). His book of poems, *Handyman*, is to be published later this year by Black Moss Press. His e-column, *Notes from Swan House*, appears each week in the online journal, *The Toronto Art Post*—which also publishes ongoing prose-poem texts for *Toronto Myth*, and *Correspondences*, two collaborative works with photographer Lee Ka-Sing.

Until recently Dault contributed a visual arts review column called *Gallery Going to The Globe & Mail* (it appeared every Saturday for over a decade), and has written frequently for a number of Canadian and International magazines and journals including *Canadian Art*, *ARTnews*, *Canadian Architect*, *Azure*, *Border Crossings*, *Contemporary* (London), *Prefix Photo*, *Saturday Night*, *Canadian Interiors*, *CV Photo* (Ciel Variable), *Blackflash*, *Photo Life*, *Take One*, *Parkett*, *Toronto Life*, *The Financial Post Magazine*, *The Toronto Star*, *Eye Weekly* and others.

Dault is a prolific writer of art gallery catalogues and artists' monographs. Recent publications include *Suburbia* (Art Gallery of Peel, 2001), *Tony Urquhart: Drawings, Boxes and Process* (Thames Art Gallery, Gallery Stratford, Gallery Lambton, 2001), *Aurora Borealis: Richard E. Prince* (Visual Arts Burnaby, 2001), *From Here: New York City, Paintings by Susanna Heller* (Museum, London, 2002), *Making Space: Drawings by Ron Shuebrook* (New York Studio School, 2002), "Into the Woods: Janet Cardiff's Wanas Walk" in Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev ed., *Janet Cardiff: A Survey of Works including Collaborations with George Burres Miller* (New York, PS. 1, 2002), *David Bierk: Sanctuary* (Nancy Hoffman Gallery, NYC, 2003), *Gerald Ferguson: Drop Cloth Paintings* (St. Mary's University Art Gallery, Halifax, 2003), *Before The Flood: Photographs by Ed Burtynsky* (Mira Godard Gallery et al, Toronto, New York, London, 2003), "A Meeting in Montreal" in Trevor Gould: *Posing for the Public, the World as Exhibition* (Art Gallery of Hamilton, 2003), *De Luxe: Varieties of Transitional Light* (Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, 2004), "Brenda Pelkey: On the Solemn Geographies of Certain Extreme Sites" in *Spaces of Transformation* (Thames Art Gallery, 2004-5), *Deon Venter* (Buschlen Mowatt Gallery, Vancouver, 2004), *Heavy Weather: The Art Green Retrospective* (Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery and The University of Waterloo Art Gallery, 2005), *The Drawings of Peter Aspell* (Lehmann + Leskiw, Toronto, 2006), *Elaine Ling, Cuba Chronicles* (FOTO ARTE, Brasilia, National Theatre Claudio Santoro, 2005), *Eric Klemm, Back Alleys* (Gallery Jones, Vancouver, 2006), "Models of Continuity: The Art of Brent McIntosh" (Galerie de Bellefeuille, Montreal, 2006), *The Art of Gord Peteran: It's Grammars and Distances in Gord Peteran* (Milwaukee Art Museum, 2006), *The Patient Search: Recent Paintings by Dionne Simpson* (Art Gallery of Peel, 2006), "Negotiating the Promise of Solitude" in *Ed Pien: The Promise of Solitude* (The Koffler Gallery), catalogue essays for *Juan Geuer* (The Saidye Bronfman Centre, Montreal, 2007) and *Walter Redinger* (Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, 2007, plus museum catalogues for *Anna Yeschuk* (Art Gallery of Peel, 2008), *Howard Podeswa* (privately published), *Matthew Varey* (McMaster University Art Gallery, 2009), and the exhibition *Flight Dreams* (The Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, 2009). He contributed a catalogue essay for an exhibition of the work of John Scott for The Nicholas Metivier Gallery, Toronto, and Galerie Ron Mandos, Amsterdam, and, most recently, wrote catalogue essays about Wanda Koop (for the Michael Gibson Gallery in London., Ontario) and Ron

Shuebrook (for the Dalhousie Art Gallery). Most recently, he contributed a major essay to a book/catalogue about the work of Spanish born, New York-based painter Jose Ciria (Ciria: Beyond, for Castilla Y Leon es Visa, Valladolid, Span).

Dault has held a number of teaching posts, including staff positions at the Ontario College of Art (1970-76), Ryerson Polytechnical Institute (1985), Brock University (Art History), and positions within the Faculty of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Design in the University of Toronto, first as Resident Critic (1996), and then as Adjunct Associate Professor (1997-2001). He has taught recently in the Image Arts Dept. Of Ryerson University, and holds the position of Adjunct Associate Professor in the graduate program at The School of Architecture in the University of Waterloo School of Architecture.

As a teacher and commentator, Dault has contributed regularly to numerous radio and TV networks including CBC, CTV, Bravo!, Vision TV, and, most frequently, to TVO's Studio 2 and now TVO's The Agenda. He has written extensively for television, his most ambitious project to date being the writing of the script for the internationally seen six hour mini-series Inside the Vatican with Sir Peter Ustinov (1993)—his third project with Ustinov.

As a writer for the stage, Dault was commissioned by The Festival of the Sound to write new texts for Saint-Saens' The Carnival of the Animals (2002), and the text for the musical composition The Goal by composer Eric Robertson, a tribute to Bobby Orr, performed at the inauguration of the Bobby Orr Hockey Museum in Parry Sound, Ontario (site of the Festival of the Sound) in the summer of 2003 (and repeated in the summer of 2004). Dault's Alice in the Orchestra, an entertainment for actors and symphony orchestra (with composer Gene Di Novi) has been performed to great acclaim both in Canada and also in the Netherlands, where it was mounted (in its chamber orchestra configuration) in both the summer of 2005 and in the winter of 2006 at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. Alice was also presented by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, in its full symphonic form, on September 26, 2005. Dault's Hauntings for Orchestra

(with composer Eric Robertson) was performed by Sinfonia Mississauga (with Colin Fox and Nonnie Griffin) in April of 2007.

As a practicing artist, Dault has shown his work most recently at the Wynick/Tuck Gallery in Toronto (1996, 1998), at Spin Gallery, Toronto (2001) and at Revolver, Toronto (2002). In June/July of 2004, he exhibited his Cereal Box Paintings at the Wynick/Tuck Gallery in Toronto (curated by Gerald Ferguson). His Salt Poems: New Writings and Paintings were shown at Toronto's Pteros Gallery in November of 2004, followed by two exhibitions at Hamilton's Transit Gallery in June 2005 (Writers: New Paintings on Paper) and another in September of 2006 (Table Scraps: New Paintings). His Studies for Wordless was in the Process Gallery of Toronto's Gallery 1313 in June of 2005. He is one of the artists included the group show Good in Bed, at the James Baird Gallery in St. John's, Nfld, in June 2005 and, for the same gallery, an exhibition of Self-Portraits called I Am (September-October 2005). An exhibition of paintings by the art group Iron Men—which consists of Dault, John Scott and Matthew Varey working collaboratively, opened October 15, 2005, at Peak Gallery in Toronto. His exhibition-installation, An Hour of Landscape Painting: Sixty 1-Minute Paintings on Cereal Boxes was at Index G in Toronto in November 2006, and at Gallery Page & Strange in Halifax in February of 2007. His The Fifty-Minute Hour: Fifty 1-Minute landscapes on Cereal Boxes was shown at the Michael Gibson Gallery, London, Ontario in April, 2007. That exhibition was immediately followed by another, similarly constituted, at the Christina Parker Gallery in St. John's, Newfoundland (June 21-July 1, 2007). There was an exhibition of paintings, Pandora's Box, at Toronto's Index G in June of 2007. The second Iron Men exhibition (Iron Men II) opened at Toronto's Peak Gallery in the Fall of 2008. Two more exhibitions opened at Toronto's Index G in the Winter of 2010—one of paintings on paper (Landscapes and Fragments), and a suite of photographs titled Pictures of Diderot. Dault's latest solo exhibition, A Half Hour of Landscape Painting: 30 1-Minute Cereal Box Landscapes was at Modern Fuel in Kingston, Ontario, in the Spring of 2010. He has three exhibitions forthcoming—at the Thames Art Gallery, at b contemporary in Hamilton, Ontario, and a Peak Gallery in Toronto.