

ROBERT WISEMAN

ARTIST STATEMENT / BIO

Robert Wiseman (b. Montreal) graduated from Concordia University in 1997 with a B.F.A. in Painting & Drawing. He has continued to refine his art practice with an emphasis on painting in oils and drawing with inks and watercolours.

Gripped by the historical lineage of landscape, still-life and figurative painting, Robert Wiseman's work addresses the tradition of creating meaning through images, made by applying coloured materials to flat surfaces, a practice that dates back 40,000 years. His colour palette and brush strokes are vigilantly measured in a counter-intuitive manner, a strategy for Wiseman to create paintings that are vibrant, whimsical and personal.

In his recent landscape paintings, the figures, flora and architectural forms are rendered with economy and conviction, giving a sense of mass and structure in relation to the air and water, with the elements of the paintings organized quixotically for the viewer to accept and enjoy.

Robert Wiseman brings painting into the realm of the narrative, with mythological underpinnings, yet his primary focus remains the act of painting—the push and pull of colour—the composition and the material. Painters who have influenced him include Goodridge Roberts, Paterson Ewan, John Fox, Richard Diebenkorn and Philip Guston.

Wiseman is currently living and working in Montreal. Since 2012 he has taught painting and drawing at the Westmount Visual Arts Centre, as well as workshops at the Cummings Centre in Montreal and the Women's Art Studio. He has participated in several group exhibitions across Canada. Featured in solo exhibitions at private galleries in Edmonton, Toronto and Montreal. His works can be found in public and private collections across North America.