

## Bio

**Peter Dykhuis** was born in London, Ontario. He graduated in 1978 with a BFA from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, then moved to Toronto, Ontario, where he established an active studio practice and worked for various galleries in the region. In 1991 he moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he continues to live and practice.

Dykhuis has exhibited in artist-run centres and public galleries throughout Canada, notably: YYZ and Mercer Union in Toronto, Ontario; Plug In ICA in Winnipeg, Manitoba; the Owens Art Gallery in Sackville, New Brunswick; Eye Level Gallery and Dalhousie Art Gallery in Halifax, Nova Scotia; and the Art Gallery of Regina in Saskatchewan. He is a member of the Red Head Gallery in Toronto and participated in solo and group projects in 2004 and 2006. As well, Dykhuis has exhibited at The Embassy of Canada in Tokyo in 1998 and, over the years, in the United States, participating in group shows in: Flint, Michigan; Nashville, Tennessee; Chicago, Illinois; and Dallas, Texas. In January 2007, Saint Mary's University Art Gallery in Halifax mounted an overview exhibition with a full colour catalogue of projects from the past ten years titled *You Are Here*.

Throughout this period, Dykhuis has been awarded numerous grants from federal and provincial agencies. In 2001 he received the Juror's Award in Encaustic Works 01 at the Muroff-Kotler Visual Art Gallery, Ulster County Community College, New York, and he was also the 2003 winner for Eastern Canada in the *New Canadian Painting Competition* sponsored by RBC Investments and the Canadian Art Foundation. In concert with his exhibition practice, Dykhuis has presented papers at the College Art Association in Atlanta, Georgia, in 2005 and Dallas, Texas, in 2008, as well as at the Southeastern College Art Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 2005, Nashville, Tennessee, in 2006 and Charleston, West Virginia, in 2007. On the international stage, he will exhibit *Pressure Today* at the conference *Cartography and Art – Art and Cartography* in Vienna, Austria, in 2008.

Parallel to this, Dykhuis developed a career as an arts administrator, contract curator and critical writer. In the early 1980s, he designed and installed travelling exhibitions for the Art Gallery of Ontario, then worked as a freelance exhibition designer and architectural model-maker. After moving to Halifax, Dykhuis became affiliated with the Anna Leonowens Gallery at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD University), becoming the gallery's Director in 1996. He has curated six exhibitions for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia and written reviews for ARTSatlantic, C Magazine, Parachute, Canadian Art and Art Papers. In August 2007, Dykhuis became the Director/Curator of Dalhousie Art Gallery at Dalhousie University in Halifax.