

Rocks, Water, Trees by Monica Tap

April 23 – May 21, 2022

All images by Toni Hafkenscheid

1. Waterfall, 2022, Oil on canvas, 48 x 76"
2. Waterfall, 2022, Oil on canvas, 48 x 76"
3. Pleine Air Works, Exhibition View
4. Exhibition View
5. Dark Passage, 2022, Oil on canvas, 48 x 72", Big Pond, 2021-22, Oil on canvas, 48 x 72"
6. Dark Passage, 2022, Oil on canvas, 48 x 72"
7. Big Pond, 2021-22, Oil on canvas, 48 x 72"
8. Exhibition View
9. Exhibition View
10. Rocks, Water, Trees, 2021, Oil on canvas, 48 x 72"
11. Exhibition View
12. Exhibition View
13. Winter Camp, 2021, Oil on canvas, 52 x 43"; Summer Camp, 2021, Oil on canvas, 52 x 43"
14. Winter Camp, 2021, Oil on canvas, 52 x 43"
15. Summer Camp, 2021, Oil on canvas, 52 x 43"
16. Exhibition View
17. Exhibition View
18. #30 October 7, 2021, 10:46am, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"; #5 September 14, 2021, 5:34pm, water-based oil on Masonite panel 6" x 8"
19. Edge of Woods, 2022, Oil on canvas, 59 x 70"
20. #28 October 6, 2021 at 12:03pm, water-based oil on birch panel, 6" x 8"
21. #44 October 22, 2021 at 1:45pm, water-based oil on Masonite panel 6" x 8"
22. #35 October 17, 2021 at 12:17pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
23. #7 September 18, 2021 at 11:07am, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
24. #3 September 8, 2021 at 4:46pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
25. #25 October 2, 2021 at 7:06pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
26. #33 October 11, 2021 at 4:51pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
27. #22 September 29, 2021 at 4:14pm, water-based oil on Masonite panel 6" x 8"
28. #6 September 17, 2021 at 6:54pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
29. #9 September 19, 2021 at 3:31pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
30. #10 September 22, 2021 at 5:13pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
31. #34 October 17, 2021 at 11:38am, water-based oil on Masonite panel 6" x 8"
32. #2 September 6, 2021 at 6:03pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
33. #21 September 29, 2021 at 3:34pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
34. #12 September 24, 2021 at 5:19pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
35. #26 October 5, 2021 at 5:26pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
36. #15 September 26, 2021 at 12:52pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
37. #11 September 22, 2021 at 6:15pm, water-based oil on Masonite panel 6" x 8"
38. #19 September 27, 2021 at 6:18pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
39. #39 October 19, 2021 at 1:52pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"
40. #13 September 25, 2021 at 5:22pm, water-based oil on birch panel 6" x 8"

Known for building her compositions out of puzzle-like segments drawn from her travels and magpie'd from painting's past, Monica Tap's latest constructed landscapes introduce a new element to her practice. In *Rocks, Water, Trees*, Tap's signature collage-like treatment of painting forms the foundation for a more intuitive and place-based approach. Developed out of a two-month residency at the Pouch Cove Foundation in Newfoundland, the canvases in this exhibition represent a sustained study developed alongside a daily practice of plein air painting. Compelled by a fascination with the immediacy of making in such a rugged and ancient place, Tap was able to further her interest in how location can trigger memory, akin to how painting readily conjures its own past. By documenting her surroundings in this way, Tap channels a romance as old as painting itself, where being present is the pathway to capturing life's energy. In a time when we need it most, the works in *Rocks, Water, Trees* generously cast a spell on us, allowing the rest of the world to melt away, even if just for a moment.

[Monica Tap](#) is a Toronto-based artist and educator whose work takes a conceptual and systematic approach to unpacking codes of pictorial illusionism and perception.. Her work has been featured in numerous art publications and presented in exhibitions, both nationally and internationally, including MKG127 (Toronto, ON), Peter Robertson Gallery (Edmonton, AB), Dunlop Art Gallery (Regina, SK), Wells College (Aurora, New York), Gallery Roy (Zülpich, Germany) and the Canadian Embassy in Washington, DC. Tap has received many grants and awards, including the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada grant for her project, "Translation as a Strategy of Renewal in Painting." Tap holds an MFA from NSCAD University and is a professor in the School of Fine Arts and Music at the University of Guelph.