

bert leveille
PRESS KIT



bert leveille



about bert leveille

Who would have guessed that a passion for finding images in clouds as a child would develop into a lifelong art journey? leveille received her BA from Elmhurst College, where she discovered that she was not meant to be an actress, but an artist. Her love of the smell of greasepaint, and stage environments made real were telltale signs of leveille's journey into art and art installations. Among collaborations with musicians and performers, Shawn Coyle's choreographed dance "Tunnel" was inspired by leveille's large-scale art. It incorporated leveille's 15-foot art tunnel, large canvases and 3-D creatures. leveille, an accomplished designer, uses her computer skills to explore her art with digital media as well – digital painting and animating.

leveille's art and art installations have been featured in Illinois at "Around the Coyote", Chicago; Contemporary Center for the Arts of Arlington, Arlington Heights; Prairie Center for the Arts, Schaumburg; Bubotto, Elgin; Old Courthouse Art Center, Woodstock; and Starline Gallery in Harvard Illinois...

leveille resides in McHenry County and has a studio at Starline in Harvard, IL. As an exhibiting member of E-Artgroup, leveille plays an active role in show development and guest artist selections – most recently "ellipse". leveille is a board member of Chicago Women's Caucus for Art; a member of Chicago Artists Coalition, and Woman Made Gallery; a past commissioner on the Elgin Cultural Arts Commission; a past board member of Contemporary Center for the Arts of Arlington; and a past Bubotto board member. bert leveille art work can be seen at www.bertleveille.com

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bert leveille – artist statement

I am exploring consciousness. My experiences filter through me and connect me.

My art has always been about connecting to the collective conscious. I strive to tap in to that which I do not know; to discover unexpected images, connections and visual relationships; to explore emotions. I open my brain while I'm working and work from my subconscious; connect to this collective conscience; and selectively manipulate the imagery I find in the paint.

My explorations in abstraction have led me to an “alternate” world – environment. This releases me from my subjective view of the world; allows the me to find new perspectives; get beyond my personal “tunnel” vision; and better connect to my self, to others, to my world and to the universe.



bert leveille – the process

My large unstretched acrylics are treated more like tapestries and hung from a stretcher bar at the top. Some of them have materials attached and holes cut into them. I have even painted both sides and installed the canvases from the ceiling exposing the images on either side. While I'm working on the floor with the painting at arms length it is necessary to envision the painting hanging from a distance.

My watercolours are more like water drawings - mixed media with pencil and crayon added and occasionally other collage items. The immediacy and fluidity of the medium facilitate experimentation of the imagery.

Digital paintings are created beginning with a blank computer screen; painted digitally with a program called "Painter®" and a Wacom® Tablet and Stylus on a Mac® platform. They are then viewed digitally or printed on archival paper with an Epson® printer and Epson® archival inks. Some of the paintings are animated – either showing the painting as it develops or incorporated into larger animations.

Whether the medium is oil, acrylic, watercolour, clay or digital the approach is the same – to manipulate the medium while discovering available images and exploring an "alternate" world as it presents itself to me during the process of creating.

*"In to the ellipse" animated digital painting video was originally viewed in an installation in a vault.
It is available as SWF or mov 2014 includes original music by cellmod*

<https://vimeo.com/user40857853/intotheellipse>

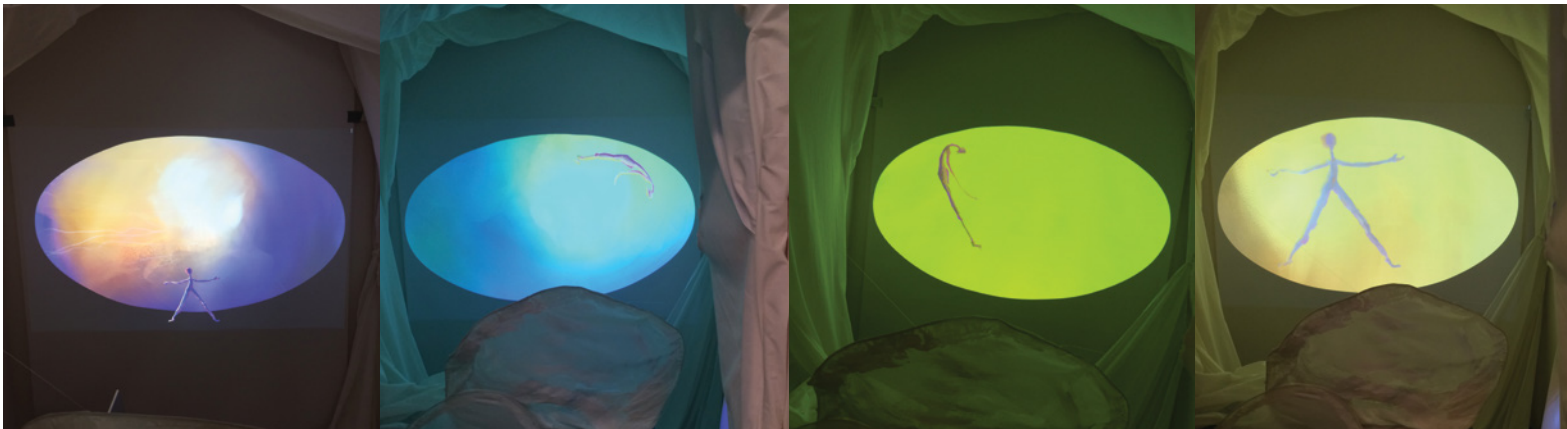
OR

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPnNBHwWMFs&feature=youtu.be>



http://www.bertleveille.com/b_exh_connect/index_connect.htm

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in to the ellipse video

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OR

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bert leveille • www.bertleveille.com • <https://www.facebook.com/pages/bert-leveille-visual-artist/56967468259>
P.O. Box 1123, Woodstock, IL 60098 • Studio: 204F, Starline Studios, Harvard, IL 60033 • 708.309.3333 • bertl@att.net

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bert leveille – curriculum vitae

SOLO EXHIBITS

- 2015 Starline Gallery, Harvard, IL – “CONNECTING”
- 2010 Schaumburg Prairie Center For the Arts, Schaumburg, IL - “EXPERIENTAL”
- 2004 Accelerator Art Space Gallery, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL - “BRIDGING THE MILLENNIUM”
- 2004 Raue Centre for the Arts, Crystal Lake, IL
- 2004 Algonquin Old Town Hall, and Books and Beans Coffee house, Algonquin, IL
- 1995 Bubbotto, Elgin, IL
- 1994 Campbell House, Geneva, IL
- 1992 Schaumburg Prairie Center For the Arts, Schaumburg, IL
- 1992 Chopin At The Gallery Theater, Around the Coyote (ATC), Chicago, IL
- 1992 Elgin Art Expo - “America In Flux”, Elgin, IL
- 1992 Excalibur, Chicago, IL
- 1992 Norris Cultural Arts Center, St Charles, IL
- 1992 Bubotto, Elgin, IL
- 1991 Barrington Area Arts Council (BAAC), Barrington, IL
- 1991 St. Luke’s Presbyterian Fine Arts Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1990 Contemporary Center For the Arts of Arlington, Arlington Heights, IL - “TOTALLY TUBULAR”
- 1989 LeAd, LeBel and Seri Graphics, South Elgin, IL - “EXPERIMENT IN FANTASY”
- 1988 Judson College, Elgin, IL - “EXPERIMENT IN FANTASY”
- 1988 Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL
- 1985 Hemmens Auditorium, Elgin, IL

GROUP EXHIBITS

- 2014 Old Court House Arts Center, Woodstock IL – “ELLIPSE”
- 2013 Old Court House Arts Center, Woodstock IL – “FLY”
- 2013 Schaumburg Prairie Center For the Arts, Schaumburg, IL – SPACE 900
- 2012 Starline Gallery, Harvard, IL – “NEW VISION”
- 2011 Old Court House Arts Center, Woodstock IL – “E/GLUED”
- 2011 Elmhurst College Barbara A Kieft Accelerator Art Space, Elmhurst, IL
- 2010 Schaumburg Prairie Center For the Arts, Schaumburg, IL - “E-FIVE”
- 2009 Old Court House Arts Center, Woodstock IL – “SMALLER WORKS”
- 2008 Dole Gallery, Crystal Lake, IL – “E/GO”
- 2008 Sage Gallery, Crystal Lake, IL – “E/MERSION”
- 2007 Old Court House Arts Center, Woodstock IL – “EVERY-BODY, A FGURATIVE EXHIBITION”
- 2007 Starline Gallery, Harvard, IL – “1-NITE STAND”
- 2006 Norris Cultural Arts Center, St Charles, IL - “CONNECTIONS”
- 2006 Art Encounter, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, Evanston, IL – “TRANSFORMATIONS”



curriculum vitae cont.

GROUP EXHIBITS (CONT)

- 2006** Artistic Bits, Dundee, IL – “20/20”
- 2006** Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts, Schaumburg, IL – “NOW AND THEN”
- 2006** Chicago Artist’s Coalition, Chicago, IL – “CHICAGO ART OPEN”
- 2005** Chicago Artist’s Coalition, Chicago, IL – “CHICAGO ART OPEN”
- 2004** Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts, Schaumburg, IL – “VISIONS”
- 1992** Around the Coyote, Chicago, IL
- 1991** Osterle Library Gallery, North Central College
- 1987** The Limelight, Chicago, IL
- 1971** George Williams College

JURIED GROUP EXHIBITS WITH AWARDS and COLLECTIONS

- 2009** “Down to There: Women and their Relationship to Hair”, Koehline Museum of Art, DesPlaines, IL
- 2008** “Real People Show”, Old Courthouse Gallery, Woodstock, IL
- 2005** “Real People Show”, Old Courthouse Gallery, Woodstock, IL
- 1992** Juror- **Mary Phelan**, “Women’s Works”, Old Courthouse Gallery, Woodstock, IL
- 1991** Juror- **Joy Horwich**, Contemporary Center For the Arts of Arlington, Arlington Heights, IL
- 1990** “Chicago Show” Jurors- **Neal Benzra, Kenneth Burkhardt, Marva Pitchford Jolly, Paul Sierra and, Lynne Warren**, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL
Continental Bank (Sponsor of Chicago Show) award – art to be used for Show poster
- 1990** Jurors - **Ralph Arnold** and **John F. Miller**, Norris Gallery, St Charles, IL
- 1990** Juror- **Jane Neville**, Contemporary Center For the Arts of Arlington, Arlington Heights, IL
- 1988** ARC Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 1988** Nominated for Margaret Hillis Award for the Arts
- 1987** Juror- **Marianne Philbin**, Contemporary Center For the Arts of Arlington, Arlington Heights, IL
- 1986** Juror- **Ann Nathon**, Contemporary Center For the Arts of Arlington, Arlington Heights, IL
- 1985** Juror- **Ralph Arnold**, Contemporary Center For the Arts of Arlington, Arlington Heights, IL
- 1979** IDEA Exhibit, Triton College, Chicago, IL
- 1971** Elmhurst College Purchase Award for Permanent Collection

EDUCATION

- 1971** Elmhurst College, BA - Art
- 2005** Northern Illinois University, Graduate Student At Large

MEMBERSHIPS

Board member of the Chicago Women’s Caucus for Art, member of Chicago Artists Coalition, E-Artgroup, Northwest Area Cultural Council, Past Commissioner on the Elgin Cultural Commission, Past Board Member of Contemporary Arts of Arlington, and Past Board Member of Bubotto

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