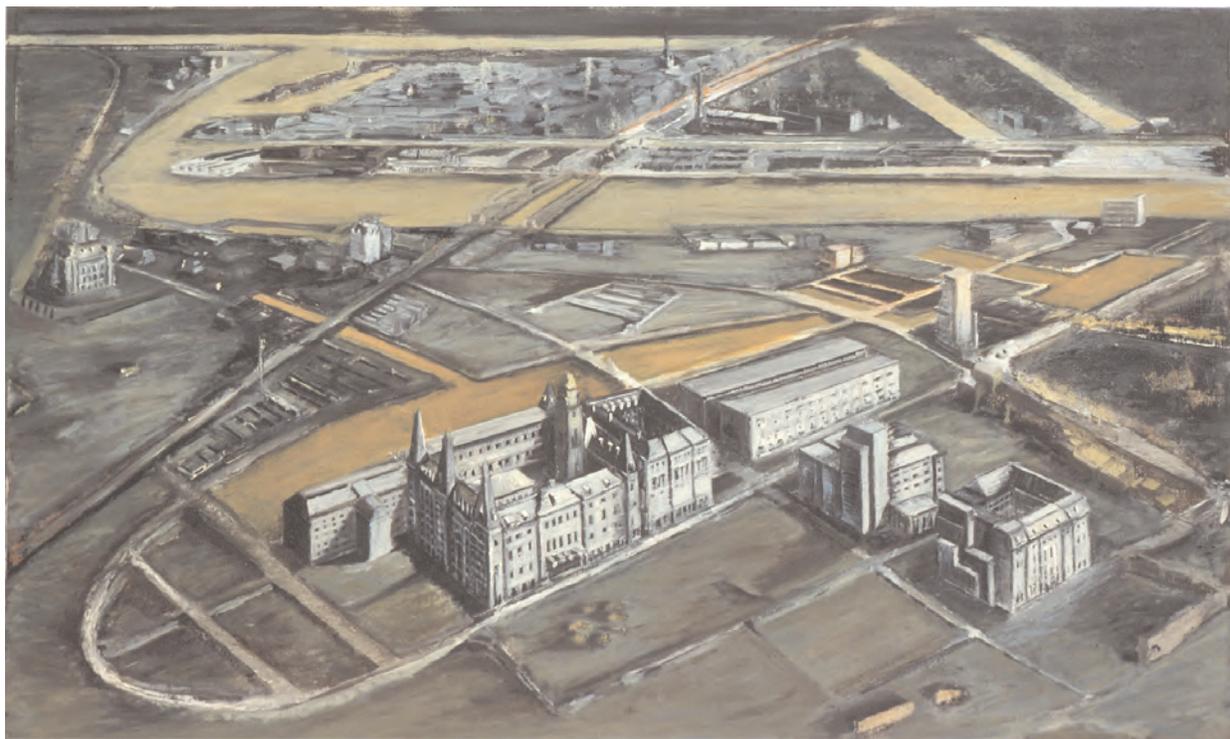


Shifting Ground



Asylum, 1997
oil on canvas
86 x 147 cm

David Hall

My works have always been about the concept of *place*. I use painting to depict various sites. Sometimes these are places I have known, places that I have experienced, but not necessarily of great significance to anyone else. Sometimes they are real places but ones I have only seen in images, places made famous by momentous events or images of unremarkable locations. On occasion I combine images from various sources to create an entirely new place. There are never any figures in these compositions but a human presence is implied by man-made structures; buildings, bridges, roadways, waterways. These structures appear to have been temporarily deserted, suggesting an isolated moment in time, that instant when something has just happened or is about to happen.

To produce these scenes I refer to photographs I find in books and ones I take myself of my immediate environment. I extract and combine elements of these photos, and use my imagination and memory to create new compositions.

I have employed various painting techniques to heighten the moods of these compositions. I paint over existing images on the canvas and then sand and scrub the surface so that remnants of earlier images appear as ghostly impressions or foreign objects in

the modified landscape. These remnants can also function as reminders of the flatness of the picture plane as they draw the eye between the two layers. I also use a combination of saturated colours and more sombre tones in my palette to suggest the light at specific times of the day. These devices contribute to the idea of an impending action.

Montreal, 2007

David Hall is a Montreal-based painter, born in Vancouver, British Columbia. He received his BFA degree from the Emily Carr College of Art and Design (Vancouver) and his MFA from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (Halifax, N.S.). David Hall's paintings are represented in the collections of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Musée National des beaux-arts du Québec, the Canada Council Art Bank, as well as several public and private collections. The artist has exhibited in both public and private art galleries and museums throughout Canada. Hall also teaches in the Fine Arts department at Dawson College in Montreal. His past work has focused on painting and is marked by his interest in fictionalized urban landscapes as subject matter.

David Hall

Shifting Ground



Meadowlands, 2006
oil on canvas
77 x 137 cm

Crossing, 2006
oil on canvas
26 x 33 cm



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the Fine Arts Department

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David Hall

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