

Artist CV – David Hovan

Multidisciplinary Abstract Artist
Born 1950 in Beirut, Lebanon
Lives and Work in Vancouver, BC, Canada

Biography

David Hovan is an award-winning multidisciplinary artist whose career spans over four decades. Born in Beirut, Lebanon, to an Armenian family, David was immersed in a culturally rich environment that shaped his early passion for the arts. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Beirut, gaining local acclaim in theatre, and later received a prestigious scholarship to study in the United States. He completed a Master of Fine Arts in Dallas, Texas, and conducted doctoral research in art theory, history, and criticism at the University of Illinois.

After relocating to Vancouver, Canada, David flourished in the arts scene as an actor, director, and award-winning independent filmmaker. His creative journey eventually led him to fine arts, where he developed his distinctive abstract painting style through independent studies at Emily Carr University of Art + Design and mentorships with established artists.

Working on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations, David Hovan creates richly textured abstract paintings known for their dynamic palette and emotional depth. His work is held in private and public collections in Canada and internationally, reflecting his lifelong exploration of identity, memory, and emotion through visual form.

Education

- 2018 Contemporary art technique studies at Salt Water Studio, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2017 General Fine Arts studies, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 1983 Post graduate studies in Theatre & Film Theory & Criticism at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, USA
- 1975 Master of Fine Arts, Meadows School of the Arts, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, USA
- 1973 Bachelor of Arts, Beirut, Lebanon

AWARDS AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2024 Terarvarna Art Gallery, Abstract competition award
- 2024 Artist Close Up Magazine Featured artwork
- 2021 Certificate of Artistic Excellence, Circle Foundation for the Arts

- 2018 Apero Art Catalogue, October, November and December issues.
- 2018 Third prize, Contemporary Abstract, Richmond Arts Council, Richmond, BC, Canada

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 – *David Hovan: Exploring the Unconscious*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2023 – *Collective Unconscious Abstract Art Works*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2022 – *David Hovan*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2021 – *David Hovan*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2025 – *Brushstrokes of Love: February Group Exhibition of Local and World Masters*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2025 Center for International Contemporary Art Gallery, juried exhibition, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2025 – *David Hovan*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2024 Armenian General Benevolent Union, group exhibition, Manhattan, New York, USA
- 2023 Armenian Cultural Association, group exhibition, Beaumont Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2023 – *Contemporary and Old Masters Holiday Collection*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2023 – *David Hovan*, Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2021 Port Moody Art Centre Gallery, group juried exhibition, Port Moody, BC, Canada
- 2021 Langley Arts Council, Summer group juried exhibition, Langley, BC, Canada
- 2021 Canadian Federation of Artists, Painting on the Edge juried exhibition, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2021 Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Fall Group show, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2021 Canadian Federation of Artists, Spotlight 2021 juried exhibition, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2019 Canadian Federation of Artists, Painting on the Edge juried exhibition, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2019 UBC Fashion Week group showing, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2018 North Van Arts, Juried group exhibition, North Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2018 Hive-Social Impact. Group exhibition, by invitation, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2018 The Beaumont Studios. Fall juried group exhibition. Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2018 Midsummer Art Show. Juried group exhibition. Richmond Arts Council, Richmond, BC, Canada
- 2018 In My Mind ART-ION group exhibition, by invitation, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2018 The Beaumont Studios. Summer Juried group exhibition. Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2016 & 2017 Private studio showings, Vancouver, BC, Canada

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOPS & RESIDENCIES

- 2023 Visiting Artist, Fundacion Corazon De Nina, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, México
- 2022 Resident Artist, Art Vallarta, Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, México
- 2018 Dutch River Art Tour and studio residency practice, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Gallery Representation

- 2021 to present – Vancouver Fine Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

- Over 107 private and publicly held artworks in Canada and internationally.