

EMMA PIIRTONIEMI

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As a contemporary art jeweller, Emma Piirtoniemi recognizes the incredible potential of jewellery to convey big ideas on an intimate scale. Originally from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Emma completed her BFA Major in Jewellery Design and Metalsmithing and Minor in Art History at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. She was a finalist in the 2016 L.A. Pai National Jewellery Student Competition in Ottawa and exhibited at SOFA Chicago 2016. She is currently a full-time artist-in-residence at Harbourfront Centre in Toronto, Ontario and a core member and contributing writer to MetalAid Contemporary Jewellery Network.

Emma works in acrylic, glass, and metal. Her work is about allure, intimacy, and private worlds with a focus on creating wearable contemplative objects. Often employing installation-based methods in her practice, Emma aims to connect through jewellery, in both wearable and non-wearable contexts, bringing the intimacy of tactile objects to non-corporeal space.

Education

- 2017 **Preliminary Gemmology Certificate**, *Canadian Gemmological Association*
- 2016 **BFA Major Jewellery Design and Metalsmithing, Minor Art History**, *NSCAD University*, Halifax, NS
- 2009–11 **Studies in Fine Art, French, Music**, *Algoma University*, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Awards/Bursaries

- 2017 **One-Year Scholarship**, *Harbourfront Centre*, Toronto, ON
- 2016 **Educational Mission to SOFA Chicago**, *Craft Alliance Atlantic Association*, Halifax, NS
- Travel Bursary**, *NSCAD University*, Halifax, NS
- Finalist**, *L.A. Pai 13th Annual Jewellery Student Competition*, Ottawa, ON
- Arthur Lismer Award for Academic Excellence**, *NSCAD University*, Halifax, NS
- Nova Scotia Student Bursary**, *Attendance bursary for Canadian Museums Association conference*

Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 **Draw Near**, *Chives Window Space*, Halifax, NS
- 2016 **Draw Near**, *Anna Leonowens Gallery*, Halifax, NS

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Group Exhibitions

- 2017 **Studio 21 Holiday Pop-Up**, *Studio 21 Fine Art*, Halifax, NS
Canada 150 Art Jewellery Show, Juried exhibition, *Mings Diamond*, Vancouver, BC
Working it Out, Curated by Melanie Egan, *Harbourfront Centre*, Toronto, ON
Art and Form, *Studio 21 Fine Art*, Halifax, NS
Dialect, Fashion Show, *NSCAD University*, Halifax, NS
Entities, NSCAD Senior Art Jewellery and Metalsmithing Exhibition, *Historic Properties*, Halifax, NS
Gallery @ ACTS, Juried exhibition, *Atlantic Craft Trade Show*, Halifax, NS
- 2016 **Studio 21 Fine Art**, *SOFA Chicago*, Chicago, IL
15 Monologues, Summer Residency Exhibition, *Mary E. Black Gallery*, Halifax, NS
13th Annual Jewellery Student Competition, *L. A. Pai Gallery*, Ottawa ON
Currents, NSCAD Senior Jewellery group show, *Frida Fine Jewellery*, Halifax, NS
NSCAD Graduation Exhibition, Anna Leonowens Gallery, Halifax, NS
- 2015 **Mass & Velocity**, Digital exhibition, *SNAG Conference*, Boston, MA
- 2014 **Coal or Gold**, NSCAD Jewellery group show, *Bridge Centre for the Arts and Technology*, Dartmouth, NS

Curatorial Experience

- 2016 **Currents**, Exhibition Coordinator, NSCAD Jewellery group show, *Frida Fine Jewellery*, Halifax, NS
- 2015 **Curating Parallels**, Co-curator, NSCAD Faculty group show, *Port Loggia Gallery*, Halifax, NS

Publications/Press

- 2017 **The Culture Trip**, “11 Emerging Contemporary Artists from Nova Scotia to Know” by Kate Horodyski
The Coast Weekly, “One Stop Shop” by Rebecca Dingwell
ARTiculations, “Emma Piirtoniemi: Big Ideas on an Intimate Scale” by Adam Carscadden
- 2016 **Jewellery Studio Projects**, NSCAD University Jewellery Design and Metalsmithing Catalogue
NSCAD Graduation Catalogue
- 2015 & 16 **Free Coffee**, NSCAD annual publication of student work
- 2012 **Soo Today**, “Emma weaves up something fresh” by Rob Majury

Residencies

- 2017 **Harbourfront Centre**, Full-time Residency, Metal studio, Toronto, ON
- 2016–17 **Nova Scotia Centre for Craft**, Nine-month Residency, Metal and Glass studios, Halifax, NS
- 2016 **Nova Scotia Centre for Craft**, Summer Residency, Metal and Glass studios, Halifax, NS

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Experience

- Currently **Core Member/Contributing Writer**, *MetalAid Contemporary Jewellery Network*, Toronto, ON
- 2018 **Writer**, Tamika Knutson: *Skin* exhibition text, *ODD Gallery*, Dawson City, YT
- 2017 **Gallery Technician**, *Mary E. Black Gallery*, Halifax, NS
- Copy Editor**, *From Switzerland to Argentina and Back* by Grace Laemmler, Halifax, NS
- 2016 **Gallery Technician (Relief)**, *Anna Leonowens Gallery*, Halifax, NS
- Open Studio Intern**, *Wonder'neath Studios*, Halifax, NS
- 2015 **Conference Volunteer**, *University Arts Association of Canada*, Halifax, NS

Teaching Experience

- 2017 **Instructor**, Plastics for jewellery, *Nova Scotia Centre for Craft*, Halifax, NS
- Demonstrator**, Glass lamp-working, Artist for a Day, *Nova Scotia Centre for Craft*, Halifax, NS
- 2015 **Instructor**, Cuttlefish casting workshop, *NSCAD University Jewellery Department*, Halifax, NS
- 2010–12 **Instructor**, Jewellery with alternative materials, *Sault Youth Association*, Sault Ste. Marie, ON
- 2011 **Workshop Instructor**, *White Pines C&VS Art Department*, Sault Ste. Marie, ON
- 2008–10 **Instructor**, *Art Gallery of Algoma*, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Professional Development

- 2017 **Canadian Craft Biennial symposium**, “Can Craft? Craft Can!”, Toronto, ON
- Artist Lectures by Otto Künzli**, *NSCAD University*, Halifax, NS
- Gallery Presentation series**, Gallery @ ACTS, *Atlantic Craft Trade Show*, Halifax, NS
- 2016 **Grant Writing workshop**, *Visual Arts Nova Scotia*, Halifax, NS
- Canadian Museums Association conference**, “Inspiring Solutions”, Halifax, NS
- 2015 **Society of North American Goldsmiths conference**, “Impact: Looking Back, Forging Forward”, Boston, MA

Professional Associations

- Art Gallery of Nova Scotia**
- Craft Ontario**
- Craft Nova Scotia, Juried member**
- Society of North American Goldsmiths**
- Vancouver Metal Arts Association**
- Visual Arts Nova Scotia**