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Dominique Blain Wins Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas



Dominique Blain, *Missa*, 1997. 100 pairs of army boots, nylon threads, metal grid and wood, 600 x 600 x 300 cm.

Collection Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. Image courtesy Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran.

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BY [Canadian Art](#)

Montreal artist [Dominique Blain](#) received the Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas at a ceremony yesterday at Quebec's parliament buildings.

The award is part of the Prix du Québec, a series of prizes recognizing cultural and scientific achievement awarded annually by the Quebec government.

Blain's work is known for its attention to political and social issues. Her work *Missa* (1997) consists of 100 pairs of army boots that are hung in a grid, evoking absent soldiers and the consequences of war. Her textile piece *Rug* (2001–2012) looks like a Persian carpet, but its patterns are formed with pictures of various land mines.

Blain credits her parents with enrolling her in a drawing course at the age of 5 in beginning her studies in art. On the post-secondary level, she undertook studies in art at Concordia University in the late 1970s. Blain later moved to Los Angeles, returning to Quebec in 1992.

Blain's work has been exhibited at the Biennale of Sydney, the Kunstverein Frankfurt and the Stedelijk Museum, among other venues. She has also produced public art for the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal's Jewish General Hospital and other sites.

The judging panel for this year's prize consisted of Sylvie Lacerte, Pierre Blanchette, Claudie Gagnon, Philippe Lamarre and Mireille Racine.

Past winners of the Prix Paul-Émile-Borduas include Marcel Barbeau (2013), Gabor Szilasi (2009) and Betty Goodwin (1986).