

## Andrew Ranville – About the Artist

Andrew Ranville was born 1981 in Flint, Michigan, United States. He lived and worked in London, United Kingdom from 2006–2016, receiving his MFA from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2008. Ranville's expeditions, installations, sculptures, architectural interventions, photographs and films explore ideas related to landscape and community. The balance between the formal and functional aspects of the work often elicits viewer interaction, and are realized using ecologically sensitive methods which emphasize revitalization and resilience.

Solo shows in 2018 and 2019 *Polaroids* and *Instant Vista*, respectively, showcased original photographic works from research trips across the western United States. *Full Circle*, a collaborative screening in December 2019 with filmmaker Josh Guilford, celebrated the addition of several of Ranville's early film works to the Film-Makers' Cooperative's collection in New York City.

In 2016 Ranville represented the United States during the 5th Moscow International Biennale for Young Art in Moscow, Russia. His installation *East is West and West is East* highlights historic and contemporary geopolitical and geographic issues and was supported by a grant from the US State Department. In 2017, this work was the centrally featured in the 2nd Cycle Art and Music Festival Exhibition, *Sovereign | Colony*, at the Kópavogur Art Museum in Iceland.

From August to December in 2015, Ranville was awarded the Barstow Artist-in-Residence position at Central Michigan University where he mentored a variety of students, including BFA candidates. He organized several workshops and field trips, including two short expeditions: one to a small mountain overlook and island in Lake Superior; and another down a length of the Chippewa River, collaborating with a team of biologists to gather scientific data along the waterway.

In April of 2015, Ranville was commissioned by the crees Foundation to be Community Innovator at their Manu Learning Center located in the Peruvian Amazon. His initial visit investigated the center's physical infrastructure as well as its conceptual framework. Ranville's research, architectural installations, and artwork helped catalyze the next stage in the foundation's community philosophy.

In 2014, Ranville was invited to be a TBA21 Academy Fellow and take part in *Treasure of Lima: A Buried Exhibition*. As a expedition member traveling the Pacific to the remote Cocos Island, Ranville donated an artwork to a contemporary treasure chest which he then helped bury on the island. A duplicate chest with encrypted

map was sold at auction to raise money for conservation and the study of pelagic species around island, which is a National Park of Costa Rica and an UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In 2012 Ranville exhibited at the 4th Marrakech Biennale in Morocco. His *Seven Summits* project involved summiting the seven mountains over 4000 meters in the Western High Atlas range. He extracted a stone from the absolute peak of each mountain and transported them to Marrakech to be presented as part of a large architectural installation. The temporary installation—made from locally-sourced Atlas Cedar—was created and displayed on the roof of the Théâtre Royal. The trek to the summits was repeated in June of 2012, wherein Ranville restored the stones to their exact original locations.

From 2010–2013 Ranville cofounded and developed the Rabbit Island Residency program, periodically living and working on the remote, 91-acre island located in Lake Superior. The Rabbit Island Foundation is a registered non-profit, with Ranville acting as Director and residency administrator from its founding to present.

Ranville's work has been exhibited internationally and installations of his work can be found or have been shown in countries including Australia, China, Costa Rica, Finland, Iceland, Morocco, Russia, Spain, UK and the USA. His work has been published in various art magazines and journals. He has lectured and delivered talks at universities in Iceland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. He is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society since February 2016 and a founding member of the Temporal School of Experimental Geography, an itinerant group of artists and researchers exploring artists-led fieldwork.

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