



The title of this exhibition *90 Seconds to Midnight* references the tagline from the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists and is used with their permission. Find out more at: <https://thebulletin.org/>

The Artists are grateful for support from:



Gallery and Workshop

📍 1401 5th St N, Cranbrook, BC
 🌐 www.cranbrookarts.com
 ✉️ cdac@cranbrookarts.com



Cranbrook Arts acknowledges that we work on and are located in the traditional and unceded territory of the Ktunaxa Nation, which includes the Kinbasket family. We are thankful for the incredible opportunity and privilege.

Gallery Hours:
 Wed to Sun, 12:00-4:00
 (Summer hours for June to Aug)

All Are welcome
*Donations for Admission
 are greatly appreciated!*

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**Howard Roo
 Tova Main**

**90 Seconds
 to Midnight**

June 3 to July 16
 2023

OPENING RECEPTION:
 SAT JUNE 3: 6:00-8:00

Howard Roo:

I remember growing up in the Cold War, duck and cover drills were a regular routine at school. Ominous warning signals frequently sounded off on our old black and white TV. This is only a test reverberated on the airways throughout my childhood. I draw inspiration from nuclear catastrophes that never should have happened. Chernobyl, Fukushima, and especially the Hibakusha, the people, the survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As these people age and pass away, an effort is being made to keep their stories alive. If these stories are lost to the ravages of time, we risk repeating history and it's terrible events. My art remembers the events of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and by remembering the destruction and devastation, maybe we could avoid what some people call the Inevitable Day of Destruction.

My main material is steel. I have never put a piece of steel in the landfill and any extra pieces or waste are collected and recycled. I try and use re-purposed steel as much as possible, saving them from going to the landfill. Rocks that I use for the fountains are locally sourced river rock. I always ensure my work is as environmentally sound as possible and everything that can be recycled is. I don't use plans, this way I keep each piece an original. I start with something or someone who inspires me. I then see what I want in my head and create a concept. I work out approximately the size and dimensions. Finally, I shape, form and construct the piece, then paint it. I'll keep redoing a piece until I get it right. Or as Leonardo De Vinci once said "Artwork is never finished, only abandoned".

*My website is <https://howardrooart.ca/>
My commercial Facebook site is Castilian Fountain & Metal*



Tova Main, *Drought*, acrylic on canvas, 2020

Howard Roo, *My Shattered World*, steel, 2015



Tova Main:

Tova Main is a Kootenay artist, originally from Alert Bay, BC. Surrounded by wilderness she developed a strong love of nature and an interest in art. Ongoing art lessons in Vancouver and self-directed exploration of artistic expression became a life-time passion. The Kootenay mountains and the availability of outdoor activities in the Kootenay region continue to be her inspiration.

Artist Statement for "90 Seconds to Midnight"

The Doomsday Day Clock is a metaphor for how close humanity is to destroying our world with our dangerous technologies. Created in 1947, after the first use of the atom bomb, the danger of nuclear weapons and the nuclear arms race between the United States and Soviet Union were the reason for keeping the time as a countdown to "Doomsday". Today its focused on three main areas: nuclear risk, climate change and disruptive technologies. The Clock belongs to The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, a non-profit media organization, posting free articles on its website, educating and advocating for humans to control these technologies.

<https://thebulletin.org>

My passionate response to my own anxiety about both climate change and deployment of nuclear weapons is the reason for my paintings on these themes. I am thankful to the Bulletin for all that they do in making world leaders and the public aware, so with their permission chose to use the countdown, the closest to midnight it's ever been, as the title for this show.