

ANITA KUNZ OC, DFA, RCA

Biography

Canadian by birth, Anita Kunz has lived in London, New York and Toronto, and has been widely published in countries including Germany, Japan, Sweden, Norway, Canada, South Africa, Holland, Portugal, France and England.

Her work has been seen in Time magazine, Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair, The New Yorker, GQ, The New York Times, Sony Music, Random House Publishing and many others.

Articles about her work have appeared in Graphis and Novumgebrauchsgrafik magazines (Switzerland), Communication Arts and Step by Step magazine (USA), Idea, Illustration and Creation magazines (Japan), Applied Arts (Canada), Nuvo (Canada) and The Design Journal (Korea).

From 1988 to 1990 she was one of two artists chosen by Rolling Stone magazine to produce a monthly illustrated History of Rock 'n Roll end paper.

She has produced cover art for many publications including Rolling Stone Magazine, The New Yorker, Sports Illustrated, Time Magazine, Newsweek Magazine, the Atlantic Monthly and The New York Times Magazine. She has also illustrated more than fifty book jacket covers.

Anita frequently teaches workshops and lectures at universities and institutions internationally including the Smithsonian and the Corcoran in Washington DC.

Her summer workshops have been conducted at the Illustration Academy in Sarasota Florida, and at the Masters of Art degree program at Syracuse University.

She has been honored with many prestigious awards and medals and her critically acclaimed paintings and sculptures have appeared in galleries world wide, including the Norman Rockwell Museum in Massachusetts and the Teatrio Cultural Association in Rome Italy.

Her works are in the permanent collections at the Library of Congress, the Canadian Archives in Ottawa, the McCord Museum in Montreal, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Rome, and a number of her Time Magazine cover paintings are in the permanent collection at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington DC.

In 1987 she showed a collection of her works at Canada House in Trafalgar Square London.

In 1997 she had a one woman show at the Foreign Press office in New York City, in 1998 she had a solo show at the Creation Gallery in Tokyo, and the Society of Illustrators Museum of American Illustration mounted a mid-career retrospective of her work in the fall of 2000.

She has also had solo shows at the Govinda Gallery in Washington DC and more recently at the Art Institute of Boston and Massachusetts College of Art and Design. In the fall of 2003 she was the first woman and the first Canadian to have a solo show at the Library of Congress in Washington DC.

In 2000 she was invited to speak as one of The New Yorker magazine cover artists at the annual New Yorker Festival in New York and in 2001 and again in 2004, she was invited to speak at ideaCity, a think tank of luminaries from the fields of medicine, politics, science and the arts in Toronto.

In spring of 2007 Anita gave a presentation about her New Yorker covers at the prestigious TED conference in Monterey California.

From 2000 to 2003 she served on the Board of Directors of the Illustration conference. In 2004 she served as chair for the Society of Illustrators Museum of American Illustration annual exhibit and she has most recently served as chair of the Museum Committee there.

In 1997 she received the Les Usherwood Lifetime Achievement Award from the Advertising and Design Club of Canada.

Anita has been named one of the fifty most influential women in Canada by the National Post newspaper.

She has received an honorary doctorate from the Ontario college of Art and Design in Toronto and a second from MassArt College of Art and Design.

She has been appointed Officer of the Order of Canada, Canada's highest civilian honor, and recently received the Queen's Jubilee Medal of Honor.

She was inducted in the Museum of American Illustration Hall of Fame in New York in 2017.

In 2018, Canada Post released a postage stamp honoring her work as a Canadian illustrator and artist.