

401
RICHMOND

update

Summer 2015 Volume 22, Issue 2



CYNTHIA WYKTYSHYN



The 401 Richmond Update is a community-building initiative of Urbanspace Property Group. The newsletter began in June 1994 and over the years has documented the eclectic activities and fascinating people who make a home in our historic factory in downtown Toronto. If you would like to be added to the 401 Update mailing list please email: update@401richmond.net

Certified



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COVER IMAGE

Gelato Fridays!
Photo: Cynthia Mykytyshyn



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YULIA BENIVOLSKI

Janna Watson with her work in Studio 282
(see Tenant Profile)



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MOVING IN

ALEX D'ARCY moves her fine art practice from a shared studio space to a space of her own in Studio 383.

MUSEUM OF TORONTO HISTORY is setting up shop and getting to work in their inaugural space in Studio 384.

TORONTO ROSEDALE PROJECT joins 401 in their brand new space, Studio 382.

MOVING UP

PROJECTS ABROAD has relocated from Studio 236 to Studio 257.

MOVING ON

WARC has closed its doors in Studio 122 after many great years at 401.



Sign up for monthly *What's On* updates to your inbox at www.401richmond.net

IN THEIR OWN WORDS // HILDITCH ARCHITECT



Hilditch Architect (studio 139) is an architecture firm committed to demystifying the creation of the built environment. They believe that the natural environment should not be compromised by the built environment.

Recently, Hilditch Architect and Montgomery Sisam were awarded Stage One of the City of Toronto's **George Street Revitalization Project**, and have established a project office in Studio 137. The George Street Revitalization will use the site of the *Seaton House Shelter* in downtown Toronto to create a dynamic mix of housing and programs for homeless men and women and for vulnerable seniors. The new development will include an innovative combination of emergency shelter, long-term care and transitional/assisted living beds, supportive housing, along with a community hub that provides a range of services to clients and the surrounding community. The revitalization will support the creation of a vibrant and safe mixed-use neighbourhood linking Allan Gardens with Moss Park.

For over 30 years, Hilditch Architect and Montgomery Sisam have been delivering projects that provide long term care, affordable housing, and emergency shelter, while helping people overcome barriers to health and community services. We are excited to harness our collective "lessons learned" into a remarkable project of human and community renewal.

Above, left to right: Ken DeWaal (Hilditch Architects), Tristan Armesto (Montgomery Sisam Architects), Andrew Lockhart (MSA), Charles Rosenberg (HA), Mary O'Neill (HA), Fiona Greer (HA), Santiago Kunzle (MSA), Steve Hilditch (HA)



IN MEMORY OF JEANNIE THIB

Embellish (April 10 – May 9, 2015), a recent group show at **Open Studio** (Studio 104) celebrated the work of talented artist and former 401 Richmond tenant, **Jeannie Thib**, who passed away in 2013. Pattern and graphic motif were the foundation of Jeannie's aesthetic and conceptual practice, and artists in the show were invited to submit work that focused on such elements. Jeannie Thib's prints can be found throughout 401 Richmond, with two prominent pieces hanging just outside Open Studio.

Above, left to right: Works by Jeannie Thib, Barbara Balfour, Marlene MacCallum, Doug Guilford, Liz Parkinson



on the cover

Lauren Walter with her mobile gelato cart

CYNTHIA MYKITYSHYN

GELATO FRIDAYS

Gelato Fridays have become a familiar and welcome tradition here at 401 Richmond. Each Friday of the summer and early fall, Lauren Walter rides up in the Be Good Gelato cart with a selection of cool and tasty treats to beat the summer heat. Be Good is a collaborative effort between Lauren and her business partner, Kevin De Clippeleir. Be Good makes artisan gelato from scratch, using a selection of all natural ingredients, creating a variety of delicious flavours for us to enjoy!



CYNTHIA MYKITYSHYN

401 HISTORY Our chief boiler engineer, **Dave Overland**, is retiring after more than a decade with the Urbanspace team. After joining us in October 2004, Dave has worked tirelessly behind the scenes, getting up each day before sunrise to keep us warm and comfortable through the cold winter months. Thank you, Dave, for all your hard work and expertise!

tenant profile



YUULA BENWOLSKI

JANNA WATSON Studio 282

Undulating. Churning. Ethereal. Moody. Dreamy. These are just some of the words called to mind when encountering **Janna Watson's** large, gestural abstract paintings. Tension underpins Janna's work – amorphous forms hang, suspended in time, as though frozen in the process of rushing across the canvas; her compositions hover on the cusp between control and total unraveling.

Janna Watson has been working out of **Studio 282** since moving her practice from her home studio to 401 Richmond in 2012. Finding herself in a larger, brighter, and more spacious environment, has helped Janna to really grow her practice in the past few years. "It has been so wonderful working in the building", she says, "401 is beautiful aesthetically and there is such a tight community of creative professionals." A graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design's Bachelor of Fine Arts, Janna has been making her mark on the contemporary Canadian art landscape. We asked Janna to share some insight into her process and how she understands her work.

"I have always tended towards abstraction. I think it is constitutionally how my brain functions and experiences the world. I feel that the unsaid counts just as much as the said because language can't always cover what it signifies," explains Janna. She describes how abstract painting is able to explore that in-between space that language cannot always access, a "silent space that exists between and around words" which painting allows her to visualize. Janna's grandfather first taught her to paint with water-

colour on paper, which for a time was her preferred medium. Now, she works primarily in mixed media, using acrylic, ink, and oil pastel on wood panel. The texture and surface of the wood is similar to paper, she says, in the way she can control the paint, and it allows her to use resin, an acrylic based top-coat which she likes for its ability to "encase and enhance the pigments." Lately, Janna has also been experimenting with works on canvas, a surface that allows her to "use paint more sculpturally and sensually."

Of course, Janna's creative energy does not stop at painting. Janna is also a collaborator for **Watson Soule**, a project she shares with designer Nico Soule. Watson Soule produces "visually expressive floor pieces", original rugs, hand-tufted from natural fibres. The collaboration works, Janna says, despite very different creative processes, because Janna and Nico share similar visions and aesthetic tastes. Janna brings her penchant for abstraction, and a tendency towards intuition and spontaneity, while Nico brings a design-sense grounded in intellect, form, and practicality.

Janna Watson's work can be found in collections across the country, and has been exhibited both nationally and internationally. Janna's latest body of work aims to "execute the tension and emotional combustion of longing, loss and expectation through negative space, line and colour frenzy," and can be seen at her upcoming show at **Bau-Xi Gallery**, titled **Out of Line**, opening in June 2015.

www.jannawatson.com

spotted & applauded



Right
Frances Darwin
of ZooShare
(Studio 240)
shows off her
Easter Art Hunt
prize by Robert
Chandler

EASTER ART HUNT, LAST WEDNESDAYS

March 25, 2015



YOUTHFUL CITIES SUMMIT

April 27 to 30, 2015



EARTH DAY FAIR

April 21, 2015



Left Jennifer Berney and Shivani Sud
of Wildlands League, Studio 380
Right Tenants check out what our
green partners are up to



WINNIE TRUONG

Winnie Truong (Studio 392) is back at work in her 401 studio after being the first artist-in-residence at **Drake Devonshire** earlier this year. During her residency and time away from the big city, Winnie was inspired by the peaceful surroundings, catalyzing a new body of work.



VTAPE & IMAGES FESTIVAL

Vtape (Studio 452) and their neighbours **Images Festival** (studio 448) received special mention by **Canadian Art. Corinna Schnitt's Ball Spielen (Playing Ball)** [above], which ran at Vtape from April 10 to May 15, 2015, was listed as one of the seven "must-see" exhibitions during Images Festival 2015.

ABOVE, LEFT TO RIGHT: WINNIE TRUONG; CORINNA SCHNITT'S BALL SPIELEN (PLAYING BALL); FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF PARK PEOPLE, DAVE HARVEY; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ZOOSHARE, DANIEL BIDA



PARK PEOPLE

Park People, members of the City Builders Lab in Studio 119, held their **5th Annual Park Summit** at the Daniels Spectrum this past March. The summit was a resounding success, with over 400 attendees and almost 110 park groups. Everyone from volunteers, to councilors, to members of the public gathered together to share ideas on how to animate and improve Toronto neighbourhoods.



ZOOSHARE

Congratulations to **ZooShare** (Studio 240) who recently raised \$2.2 million to build North America's first zoo-based biogas plant. The facility will be located near the **Toronto Zoo** and will recycle thousands of tonnes of "zoo poo" and other local compostable waste into renewable power.

listings June to August 2015

The Listings Board is your opportunity to communicate with other tenants and keep them informed about what is happening in your organization. If you are having a sale, exhibition, or event you would like advertised, email details to update@401richmond.net. Listings are open to all tenants.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: Friday July 24, 2015

GALLERY DIRECTORY

A Space Gallery (Studio 110)

Contact 416-979-9633 www.aspacegallery.org

Abbozzo Gallery (Studio 128)

Contact 416-260-2220 www.abbozzogallery.com

Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography (Studio 120)

Contact 416-979-3941 www.gallery44.org

Open Studio (Studio 104)

Contact 416-504-8238 www.openstudio.on.ca

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art (Studio 124)

Contact 416-591-0357 www.prefix.ca

Red Head Gallery (Studio 115)

Contact 416-504-5654 www.redheadgallery.org

Trinity Square Video (Studio 376)

Contact 416-593-1332 www.trinitysquarevideo.com

Urbanspace Gallery (Studio 117)

Contact 416-595-5900 www.urbanspacegallery.ca

Vtape Video Gallery (Studio 452)

Contact 416-351-1317 www.vtape.org

YYZ Artists' Outlet (Studio 140)

Contact 416-598-4546 www.yyzartistsoutlet.org

EXHIBITIONS

continues to JUNE 6

Abbozzo Gallery

Jennifer Walton: *Below the Surface*

continues to JUNE 20

The Red Head Gallery

Margie Kelk: *Counterpoise*

Opening: Friday June 5, 6–9 pm

Open Studio

Hazel Meyer and Beth Stuart: *Visiting Artists Residency Exhibition*

Group Exhibition: *Print-by-Colour*

Theresa Morin

continues to JULY 25

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art

Yto Barrada: *Beaux Gestes*

PRESENTED AS A PRIMARY EXHIBITION OF THE SCOTIABANK CONTACT PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL AND IN PARTNERSHIP WITH A SPACE GALLERY

Urbanspace Gallery

Heather MacArthur Bell: *Living With Construction*

JUNE 1 – AUGUST 1

Trinity Square Video

Testing Grounds: Members Experimentation and Research in the Gallery

JUNE 5 – JULY 4

Gallery 44

Proof 22

Opening: Friday June 5, 6–8 pm

JUNE 24 – JULY 18

Red Head Gallery

Gillian Iles: *We found ourselves in a dark forest*

Opening: Wednesday June 24, 6–9 pm

opens JUNE 25

Abbozzo Gallery

Pearl Litwin

JULY 17 – AUGUST 1

Gallery 44

NS Photo Exchange Project

Opening: Friday July 17, 6–8 pm

AUGUST 15 – SEPTEMBER 19

Trinity Square Video

Technologies of Perception

AUGUST 27 – SEPTEMBER 19

Circuit Gallery @ Prefix ICA

Naomi Harria: *EUSA*

EVENTS

JUNE 10

Trinity Square Video

Purchase Collection Screening curated by Ivana Dizdar

JUNE 24, JULY 29

401 Richmond

Last Wednesdays

Galleries, shops and a guided tour!

Time: 5–8 pm, Free Admission



Dan O'Neill at Open Studio (to June 20)



Top to bottom: Rachel Granofsky at Gallery 44 (June 5 – July 4); Heather MacArthur Bell at Urbanspace Gallery (to July 25)



THE BACK PAGE

Easter Art Hunt Prizes by 401 Richmond Artists, March 25, 2015

Left to right (top to bottom) Sharon L. Clarke + Musideum, Brigitte Nowak, Sarah Nind, Gareth Bate, Erin MacKeen, Michelle Faucher, Lianne Cote, Winnie Truong, Daniel Faucher, Mary Newberry, Robert Chandler, Anthony Trask, Sheryl Dudley, Betsy Canfield, Janine Lindgren, Paul Fournier, Abbozzo Gallery, Angela Tamari, Alice Burton, Jacquie Green, Marian Wihak, Lynn Kelly, Kris Knight, Angela Tamari



If you'd like to be on **THE BACK PAGE**, please submit your drawing, painting, illustration, photograph or architectural plans at 300 dpi as a photoshop or illustrator file on cd or dvd disk. Please include a word file with your name, the title of the project, your website, your studio address and a brief description of 50 words (maximum) on the disk. The best entry will be chosen for each issue. Disks will not be returned. This space is to showcase the talent in the building. It is not for advertising an event or sale.



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