

401

RICHMOND

update

Spring 2022 Volume 29, Issue 1





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@urbanspace.org.



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COVER IMAGE

Studio mates Suharu Ogawa and Yarek Waszul warm up at the 401 Tenant Holiday Party held outdoors in the 401 parking lot this past December 2021.





Happy campers warming by the fire at the 401 Tenant Holiday Party.



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MOVING IN

Please welcome artist **Nancy Friedland** to **Studio 276**.

Pleiades Theatre, a producer of theatre that celebrates cultures from around the world and in Toronto, has moved into **Studio S30** on the lower level.

The Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA) in **Studio 350** now welcomes a refreshed mix of previous and new culture-based tenants into their co-working space including **The Musical Stage Company**, **Playwrights Guild of Canada**, **Volcano**, **Book*hug Press** and **Ontario Culture Days**.

MOVING ON

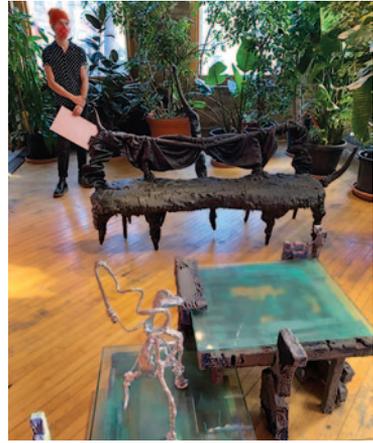
401 bids a fond farewell to long-time tenant, artist **Betsy Canfield** from **Studio 276**.



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

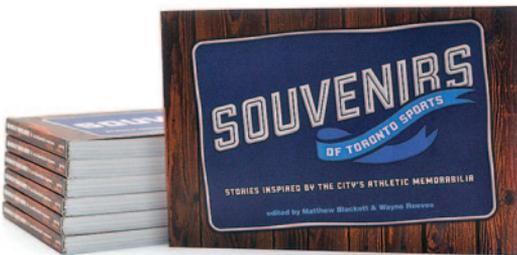


Left to right *Unearthing Chinatown* at Urbanspace Gallery and Steven K. Tucker with his installation *But I Don't Want Comfort* in the 401 lobby



DESIGNTO AT 401

Toronto's **DesignTO Festival**—focused on bringing people together to design a better future—came to the 401 in January with two exhibitions in public spaces. An installation of sound, sculpture and design in the lobby by **401 Richmond Career Launcher Prize (2021)** recipient **Steven K. Tucker** entitled *But I Don't Want Comfort*, abandoned the focus on utility and function and instead looked to the limitless space between: difference and reference; efficiency and excess; and history and potential futures. Steven's immersive exhibition made *Designlines'* Favourite Moments from the DesignTO 2022 line up. Also part of the festival, *Unearthing Chinatown: Memories Lost and Found* in the **Urbanspace Gallery**, explored the layers of Toronto's four downtown Chinatown neighbourhoods: from the first Chinese-owned business, to the urban evolution of the neighbourhoods, to machine learning AI imagined futures. It featured **Linda Zhang, Amy Yan, Jenna Buchwitz, Soon Chul Park, Sally Park and Duyen Nguyen.**



SOUVENIRS OF TORONTO SPORTS AVAILABLE AT SPACING

In *Souvenirs of Toronto Sports*, by **Wayne Reeves** and Spacing's **Matthew Blackett**, which spans 200+ years of Toronto's history and local sporting legends, one can read about the guns used in shooting competitions at Fort York, Ned Hanlan's rowing oar and a ticket from the first Blue Jays game at the Sky Dome.

RED SKY DIRECTOR JOINING EUROPEAN TRADE MISSION

Red Sky Performance's Executive and Artistic Director **Sandra Laronde** will be heading to Europe this spring with the **Department of Canadian Heritage** on its third creative industries trade mission. The mission will focus on the Netherlands, Sweden and Germany with the purpose of promoting and helping to extend the reach of Canadian creative industries to new markets and audiences.



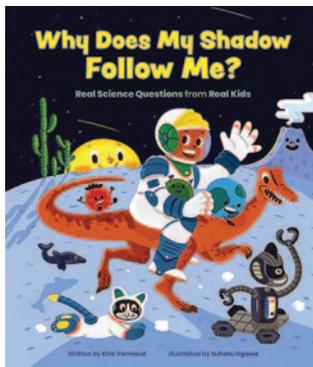
PAULA WILSON

401 TENANT ILLUSTRATES ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE KIDS BOOK

Second-floor illustrator and educator **Suharu Ogawa** worked with author **Kira Vermond, Annick Press**, and the **Ontario Science Centre** to provide visuals for the

children's book *Why Does My Shadow Follow Me? Real Science Questions from Real Kids*.

The book is available at **Swipe Design | Books + Objects** located in 401's lower concourse level.



spotted & applauded



INSIDE OUT AND CBC

Inside Out and CBC co-hosted an Instagram Live panel with the stars of the CBC television's critically acclaimed series *Sort Of* (streaming on CBC Gem).



8 80 CITIES' LANRICK BENNETT JR NAMED TORONTO'S BICYCLE MAYOR

8 80's Managing Director Lanrick Bennett Jr has been appointed Toronto's Bicycle Mayor by BYCS, an Amsterdam NGO that facilitates the development of a bicycle culture in cities across the world. Lanrick plans to work directly with community organizations to adopt cycling inclusion and safety in communities with an emphasis on reaching BIPOC and under-served community groups.



TOAF GIFTS OF HEART FOR FRONTLINE WORKERS

Over the course of the pandemic The Toronto Outdoor Art Fair raised over \$58,000 with their program Gifts of Heart that provides gifts of artwork to 200+ frontline workers and generated revenue for 160+ artists.



TAG WINS EQUITY ACCESS AWARD

The City of Toronto awarded Tangled Art + Disability with the Disability Access Award at the 2021 Access, Equity and Human Rights (AEHR) Awards which recognize people, organizations or programs that have created a more equitable city by advancing reconciliation and justice, addressing discrimination, and working to eliminate barriers to equality.

RED SKY PERFORMS AS CANADA'S OLYMPIC OUTFITS REVEALED

Red Sky Performance dance troupe performed at the kick-off of Team Canada's athlete kit reveal—designed by Lululemon—for the 2022 Olympics.



tenant profile



WINNIE TRUONG Studio 387

If you find yourself in the stairwell by 401's Spadina entrance, you may experience two small drawings by Winnie Truong. The pair of exquisitely crafted colour pencil works on paper mark a pivotal period in the artist's career: the first residency that would be a launching point for exploring how a focused period of production can propel a talented and resourceful artist forward. As the 2010 recipient of the **401 Richmond Career Launcher Prize**, Winnie went on to land seven more international and national artist residencies in the following decade, using each opportunity to build on previous bodies of work and push her master craft of drawing into relief collage, animation, and sculptural wall murals.

At the core of Winnie Truong's work is an interest in creating and exploring new worlds from the female perspective and as a woman of colour. Her choice of working with paper and colour pencils takes her further from the Western Art Historical Canon and inspires a freedom to build worlds void of male presence. She uses her drawings and animations to explore ideas of identity, feminism, and fantasy by making connections to and creating tensions within the natural world.

Winnie has been drawn to making things from an early age, regularly sketching out of boredom through her childhood. When an arts-focused high school program was suggested to her, she took the opportunity to explore different art-making processes and media. It wasn't until her last year of secondary school that she realized her desire to continue learning and making could be the beginning of a career as an artist. She chose to pursue a Fine Arts degree from OCAD University in Toronto, and over the 4-year program she developed and cemented lasting relationships with students and professors. In her last year at OCAD U, Winnie won the Career Launcher

Prize, and the path forward became clearer. "I had a whole studio to myself right out of school where I could build upon the momentum I had," Winnie recalls. The 500 sq/ft, light-filled studio allowed Winnie to continue creating large scale drawings that would have been almost impossible to produce in her small apartment.

Before Winnie completed her year as the Career Launcher recipient, she was introduced to fellow 401 artist **Kris Knight**. They became fast friends and when Kris' studio mate vacated her half of his third-floor space, he invited Winnie to share the studio. Winnie was thrilled to accept and they continue to share space, having recently expanded into a larger studio on the same floor.

In the same year as receiving the 401 residency, Winnie won the **BMO 1st Art!** competition for Ontario, standing out from post-secondary art school students across the province. It was also in this pivotal year that she first exhibited with curator and art dealer **Erin Stump** at the late **Katharine Mulherin's** gallery in Toronto. Winnie continued to show at **Erin Stump Projects** and at Katharine Mulherin's galleries (Toronto and New York) in nine exhibitions over seven years. Her work was also exhibited in solo and group shows across North America and around the globe, averaging three or four exhibitions each year for the past decade. Prominent arts writer **Murray Whyte** wrote about Winnie's 2014 show with Erin Stump noting, "Truong has a mastery of her chosen medium few I've seen can match and she uses that precision to both amplify and subvert her subject matter."

The growth and development of Winnie's work can be traced through her residencies beginning at 401. According to Winnie, "residencies have been such an integral part of my growth. It was important for me to set aside time in my career to expand outside of my



Left to right from opposite page
*Pink Cave (2021)**; *Parenthesis (2020)**; *Ripe
 Moon Rising (2021)**; Winnie Truong in her studio;
*Matterhorn (2020)**
 *All works: drawing, cut paper collage on panel.
 20 x 16 in.

community." After the Career Launcher year, Winnie was awarded two different residencies in Prince Edward County, Ontario: in 2014 she participated in a **Sparkbox Studio Residency** near Picton, and in 2016 was invited to be the **Drake Devonshire Artist-in-Residence** in Wellington. Her fourth residency in 2016 was the prestigious **Doris McCarthy Artist-in-Residence Program** at the late artists' home, Fool's Paradise, on the Scarborough Bluffs. Winnie's time at this residency was again noticed by Murray Whyte when he marked the shift in Winnie's work to exploring paper cuts based on an acute production period, "Truong has made arresting departures: from her usual, impossibly intricate drawings of women, their entangling manes and the implicit critique of social pressures on the female appearance, to sculpture, collage and a strange synergy with the landscape around her."

Winnie participated in three more residencies that year focused on furthering her papercuts, including opportunities in California and in Leveld, Norway. But it was a residency in Yamanashi, Japan near Mount Fuji where she started to create animations from her paper works. Crafting frame-by-frame animations from her small-scale papercuts using her laptop was a practical way to make the most of the international residency where the materials she could bring with her were

limited. This first foray into animating paperworks would be a launching pad for a new direction in her work. In 2018 Winnie was awarded the **Ontario Arts Council's** generous **Chalmers Arts Fellowship** that supports artists to undertake an investigation or examination of their artistic practice without the responsibility of producing artwork. This allowed Winnie to pursue animation in a more sustained way, learning more about animation software and its possibilities for this part of her practice.

Winnie's most recent residency, the **Brucebo Scholarship** took her and her young family to a quaint cottage outside of the small fishing village of Själsö in Sweden. It was here that she began to create mural works with her papercuts that she likens to a 'hanging garden,' linking the growing paper installation to her personal experience of giving life as a mother.

Rather than slow her down, the pandemic has brought many opportunities for Winnie to show her paper animations as digital projects with galleries like **Patel Brown Gallery** in Toronto and **VivianeArt Gallery** in Calgary. And so, as the confines of out-of-town residencies helped direct and develop her practice, Winnie continues to make the most of opportunities and challenges, propelling her practice forward and plotting new ground in her career.

listings March to May 2022

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 events@urbanspace.org. Listings are open to all tenants.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: Thursday, April 7, 2022

GALLERY DIRECTORY

A Space Gallery (Studio 110)

416-979-9633 www.ospacegallery.org

Abbozzo Gallery (Studio 128)

416-260-2220 www.abbozzogallery.com

Artspace Platform (Studio B-106)

ryersonartspace@gmail.com

www.ryersonartspace.com

Critical Distance Centre for Curators (Studio 122)

info@criticaldistance.ca www.criticaldistance.ca

Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography (Studio 120)

416-979-3941 www.gallery44.org

Museum of Toronto (Studio LL01)

416-583-2030 www.mysuemoftoronto.com

Open Studio (Studio 104)

416-504-8238 www.openstudio.ca

Red Head Gallery (Studio 115)

416-504-5654 www.redheadgallery.org

TAG (Tangled Art Gallery) (Studio 124)

647-725-5064 www.tangledarts.org

Trinity Square Video (Studio 121)

416-593-1332 www.trinitysquarevideo.com

Urbanspace Gallery (Studio 117)

416-595-5900 www.urbanspacegallery.ca

yumart Gallery (Studio B-20)

647-447-9274 www.yumart.ca

YYZ Artists' Outlet (Studio 140)

416-598-4546 www.yyzartistsoutlet.org

EXHIBITIONS

ongoing

401 Richmond Lobby

Steven K. Tucker: *But I Don't Want Comfort*

PART OF DESIGNTO FESTIVAL

continues to MARCH 5

Gallery 44

Main Space Nour Bishouty: *Nothing is lost except nothing at all except what is not had*

Members' Gallery Nadine Ryan: *From Up the Inlet*

Vitrines Bidemi Oloyede: *Perigon/Paragon*

continues to MARCH 23

Abbozzo Gallery

Vladimir Kanic: *The Book of Waves*

continues to MARCH 26

Abbozzo Gallery

Gallery Artists: *Interlude*

continues to APRIL 1

Tangled Art Gallery

BEING Home

#CripRitual

continues to APRIL 23

A Space Gallery

Main Gallery Rah Eleh: *SuperNova*

continues to APRIL 30

A Space Gallery

Windows Matatag: *Filipina Care Workers During COVID-19*

MARCH-APRIL

Urbanspace Gallery

Zherui Wang: *Volatile Ecologies: Architectural Apparatuses for Earthly Survival*

MARCH 5-26

yumart gallery

Leon Rooke: *Expressionism's Revenge*

APRIL 2-23

yumart gallery

Nina Amin



Nina Amin at yumart (April 2-23)

APRIL 30-MAY 21

yumart gallery

Seo Eun Kim

MAY 6-JUNE 18

A Space Gallery

Main Gallery Timothy Yanick Hunter: *Basic Instructions Before Leaving Everything*

EVENTS

continues to DECEMBER

A Space Gallery

Online *Studio Practices: Commissioned Artist Videos for the Online Screen Space* Curated by Vicky Moufawad-Paul with Jim Miller, Jason Baerg, Carole Conde and Karl Beveridge, Jorge Lozano, MORTIFIED (Jenn Goodwin and Camilla Singh), Winnie Truong, Shaheer Zazai

MARCH 3-19

Gallery 44

Online Salon 44



Clockwise from top: Bidemi Oloyede at Gallery 44, Vitrines (until March 5); Rah Eleh at A Space (until April 23); Steven K. Tucker, 401 lobby

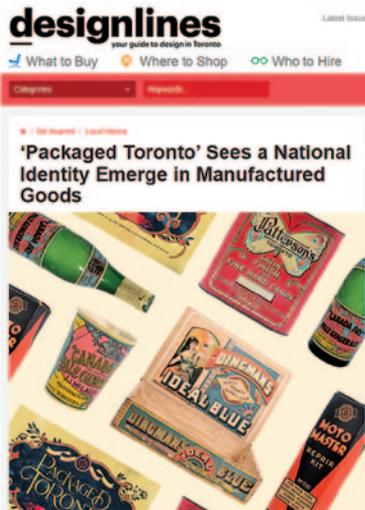
press check



PEN CANADA and George Brown College honoured the exiled Eritrean journalist Aaron Berhane who had been living in Toronto, with a scholarship and an ESL program for refugee writers dedicated in his name. Aaron passed away in 2021 from COVID-19 at the age of 51.



RAINBOW RAILROAD
The *Globe and Mail* spoke with Rainbow Railroad's Executive Director **Kimahli Powell** who says the organization has been trying to bring LGBTQ Afghans to Canada and other countries, and has been pushing for a process that would involve the charity directly referring cases to the federal government.



SPACING MAGAZINE
Editor Matthew Blackett's book *Packaged Toronto*, co-written with Wayne Reeves and Alexandra Advichuk, chronicling Canadian package design from 1890 to 1950, was featured in Designlines Magazine.



401 FILM HEROES
NOW Magazine recognized Amar Wala of Scarborough Pictures (*Superfan: The Nav Bhatia Story*) and Reel Asian Toronto International Film Festival Executive Director Deanna Wong in a recent piece on local film heroes.



YAREK WASZUL's recent illustration for *The New Yorker* where he is a frequent contributor and his design for the current season of *Commons*, a podcast produced by fellow 401 tenant *Canadaland*.

the back page

SUHARU OGAWA is a Toronto-based illustrator and educator. When she's not teaching illustration at OCAD U, Suharu can be found drawing with **Yarek Waszul** in **Studio 252**. www.suharuogawa.com @suharuogawa

October 1, 2021 at 2:00 PM ET

Season 3, Session 3

TORONTO GEOMETRY COLLOQUIUM



Stephanie Wang
UCSD

"Capturing surfaces with
differential forms"



Liane Makatura
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
"Pareto Gamuts: Exploring Optimal
Designs Across Varying Contexts"

Follow us @GeometryToronto
<https://toronto-geometry-colloquium.github.io>

The Toronto Geometry Colloquium is a five weekly hour-long
webseries showcasing geometry processing research. Topics range
from computer science, mathematics, and engineering including 3D
deep learning, computational fabrication, and computer graphics

Illustration by **Suharu Ogawa**

Poster by Suharu Ogawa for Season 3, Session 3 (October 1, 2021)
of the Toronto Geometry Colloquium webseries.



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