

**401**  
RICHMOND

# update

Fall 2023 Volume 30, Issue 3





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](mailto:UPDATE@urbanspace.org).

### 401 Richmond Ltd. Staff

Ingrid Araya, Janitorial Services  
Sean Canepa, Property Manager  
Bob Chandler, Security  
Maria Alejandra Cortes, Office Administrator  
Andrea Garcia, Administrative Assistant  
Pamela Lampkin, Janitorial Services  
Redentor Paragas, Maintenance  
Jon Price, Security  
Elise Rodgers, Lease Manager  
Vicki Rodgers, Chief Executive Officer  
Peter Rodrigues, Building Maintainer  
Yenislen Rodriguez, Janitorial Services  
Ronel Ruiz, Maintenance  
Jake Whittaker, Parking Lot Attendant, Maintenance  
Saskia Vegter, Urban Agriculture Coordinator  
Renato Villanueva, Maintenance  
Jennifer Ward, Communications & Community Animator  
Margaret Zeidler, Founder

### Newsletter

Jennifer Ward, Editor  
Lisa Kiss Design (Studio 408)  
Warren's Waterless Printing

Published by:  
Urbanspace Property Group  
401 Richmond St. W., Studio 111  
Toronto, ON Canada M5V 3A8  
tel 416-595-5900 fax 416-595-5904  
[www.401richmond.com](http://www.401richmond.com)

### COVER IMAGE

Artist Christy Hayhoe demonstrating her painting prowess for Doors Open 2023 guests.  
Photo: Tomasz Adamski





JACLYNE LOCKE / GUCCI

Kris Knight drawing in his studio (see Tenant Profile and The Back Page)



**2 NEWS**



**3 SPOTTED & APPLAUDED**



**4 TENANT PROFILE**

**6 LISTINGS**

**8 PRESS CHECK**



**9 THE BACK PAGE**

**MOVING AROUND**

**Made by Emblem**, an agency specializing in designing custom built solutions for brand strategy and identities, as well as editorial design and publishing, is moving up to **Studio 396** as they have outgrown their previous second floor space.

**MOVING OUT**

Wishing **Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts (TAPA)** well as they move to their own location.



Sign up for monthly *What's On* updates to your inbox at [www.401richmond.com](http://www.401richmond.com).



Kimhali Powell (far left) with PM Justin Trudeau at the ROM

## PM TRUDEAU ATTENDS RAINBOW RAILROAD PARTY

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau attended Rainbow Railroad's Freedom Party at the ROM to announce that the Government of Canada is partnering with the non-profit organization to protect LGBTQI+ refugees and welcome them to Canada. Through this partnership, Rainbow Railroad will work to identify LGBTQI+ people and their families who are fleeing violence and persecution and refer them to the Government of Canada for resettlement under the **Government-Assisted Refugees (GAR) Program**. Rainbow Railroad's CEO Kimhali Powell says, "This partnership represents a landmark milestone in Rainbow Railroad's history. We are delighted that Canada has stepped up as the first country to partner with us in this capacity and hope other countries will follow suit. In a time when there are more displaced people than ever, LGBTQI+ people are uniquely vulnerable due to systemic, state-enabled homophobia and transphobia."

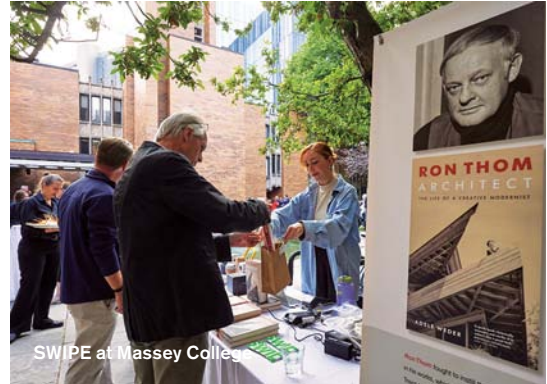


CDCC Panel

## CDCC PANEL WITH NATIVE WOMEN IN THE ARTS

As part of **Critical Distance Centre for Curators'** exhibition *Materialized*, co-presented with **Native Women in the Arts**, and in partnership with **Scotiabank CONTACT**

**Photography Festival** and **Partners in Art**, artists (CDCC Panel image: right to left) **Catherine Blackburn**, **Nadya Kwandibens**, **Joi T. Arcand** and **Celeste Pedri-Spade** presented artist talks in the **Urbanspace Gallery**, followed by a discussion moderated by curator and Artistic & Managing Director of Native Women in the Arts' **Ariel Smith** (CDCC Panel image: far left).



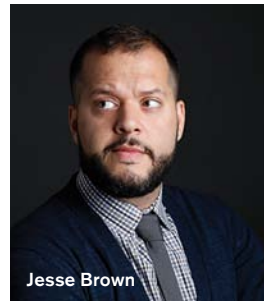
SWIPE at Massey College

HARRY CHOI PHOTOGRAPHY

## SWIPE AT RAIC EVENT

**Swipe Design Objects + Books** joined members of the **Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)** at **Massey College** to welcome the region's newest members and celebrate recent RAIC student medal and scholarship winners. The RAIC's special guest for the evening was **Adele Weder**, author of *Ron Thom, Architect: The Life of a Creative Modernist*, who launched the book in Toronto at Swipe last year. Swipe was on hand at the event selling Adele's book and connecting with RAIC members.

## 10 YEARS OF CANADALAND



Jesse Brown

Congratulations to **Canadaland** news site and podcast network as they celebrate their 10-year anniversary as a publisher of news, opinion and analysis, with a focus on Canadian media, current affairs, and politics. Their podcasts

are downloaded over 150,000 times per week. To mark the occasion, Canadaland founder and publisher, **Jesse Brown**, shared why he started the podcast and how that morphed into a thriving media company, in a podcast called "How CANADALAND Works." In it, Jesse reflects on the impact of CANADALAND's journalism and why the work they do is more important than ever.

# spotted & applauded

## IMAGINATIVE FOUNDERS HONORED BY GG MARY SIMON

Cynthia Lickers-Sage, Lisa Steele, Tomczak, and Wanda Vanderstoop were honoured at the **Canadian Honours Ceremony** with a Meritorious Service Cross award presented by **Governor General Mary Simon** for their work and efforts in establishing the **imagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival**. The festival was founded in 1998 when Cynthia was the Aboriginal Outreach Coordinator for **Vtape**. Vtape hosted the original exhibition of short film and video work by Aboriginal artists. While initially operated through Vtape, the festival subsequently became an independent organization.



SGT ANIS ASSARI / RIDEAU HALL



## RED SKY ED RECEIVES INDSPIRE AWARD

The **Indspire Awards** represent the highest honour the Indigenous community bestows upon its own people, recognizing outstanding career achievement on a national level across a variety of fields. **Red Sky Performance's** Executive and Artistic Director **Sandra Laronde** was recognized for her collaborations with numerous arts and cultural organizations, highlighting Red Sky's innovative performance at notable forums such as the **Venice Biennale**, **Cultural Olympiads** in Beijing and Vancouver, **The Kennedy Center**, **Canadian Stage** and with the **Toronto**, **Regina**, and **Winnipeg Symphony Orchestras**, among others. Sandra has also played a crucial role as a cultural ambassador, participating in trade and diplomatic missions all over the world, including Europe, Asia, and South Africa.

## ICA WINS AWARD FROM MANAGE HR MAGAZINE

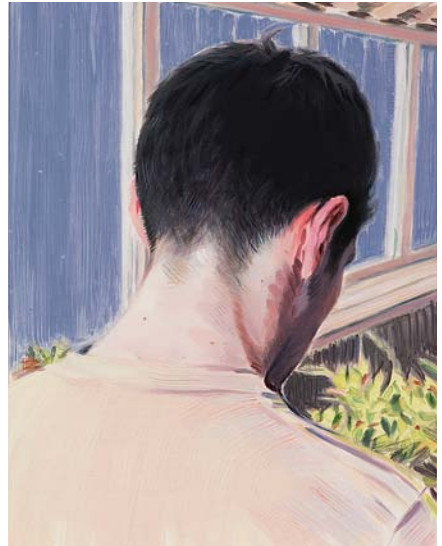
**ICA Associates**, a social enterprise consulting and training firm that specializes in designing, leading and teaching meaningful participatory group processes, was recently recognized as the "Top Organizational Culture Transformation Service in Canada" by **Manage HR Magazine**. The publication lauded the nonprofit stating that "ICA Associates has established itself as an industry leader, facilitating a culture of participation and empowering diverse communities, regardless of their geographic location or organizational structure, to contribute toward decision-making and witness meaningful change. Its impact is profound and far-reaching, and its commitment to transformative change is second to none."



## AUTHOR SIGHTING AT SWIPE

Author **Nate Storing** was spotted in **Swipe Design Objects + Books** checking out the stock of his two publications: **Vital Little Plans: The Short Works of Jane Jacobs**, co-edited with **Samuel Zipp**, and **Hyperlocal: Place Governance in a Fragmented World** co-authored with **Jennifer S. Vey**. Nate visited the books and design shop with **Max Allen**, curator of the exhibition **Getting to Small**, previously on view in the **Urbanspace Gallery**.

# tenant profile



## KRIS KNIGHT Studio 353

One of Kris Knight's earliest memories as a child was the look of surprise and excitement on his parents' faces upon witnessing his talent in drawing. Their enthusiasm spurred him on to continue to hone his skills, and he spent much of his childhood drawing. As an incredibly shy boy, Kris preferred to draw by himself on the floor than try to make friends with other children.

Growing up in several small towns in Southwestern Ontario in the 90s, Kris realized he was queer at a very young age. While he appreciated his rural roots, he never felt safe or that he belonged in the conservative community. He recognized early on that he would need to move from the area to live authentically without fear. Kris recalls, "I was saving for my first apartment from the age of 13. I was going to art school. I was going to Toronto."

After secondary school, Kris headed to **Ontario College of Art and Design** (now **OCAD University**) focussing on drawing and painting with a minor in curating and criticism. To Kris the school was a haven for high school misfits attracting all the quirky, creative kids from Ontario small towns. Although still quite shy Kris thrived in the company of other ambitious creators, feeding off their energy. Graduating in 2003, Kris left OCAD determined to spend most of his time painting and pursuing his career as an artist.

True to his own word, Kris never took a full-time job and instead managed to pay his rent and bills working three days a week in bars and restaurants in Toronto. In addition to painting as much as he could make time for, Kris also volunteered at different art galleries. "I would do at least one or two days working for art dealers and galleries so I could learn the ins and outs of the gallery system. I'm always interested in learning the background

of an industry. I feel more comfortable when I know what I'm dealing with," Kris explains. It was while volunteering at the now closed **Luft Gallery** on Ossington Street that Kris landed his first solo exhibition. A scheduled exhibition was cancelled at the last minute, and with a body of work ready to go Kris convinced them to give him the slot.

In those first few years after art school, Kris enjoyed the hey day of the renowned **West Queen West** district in Toronto with a gallery on every block and rents artists could afford. He started renting storefronts and installing exhibitions of his work and that of other young artists, developing a group of friends he remains close with still. One of those spaces was rented from the late gallerist **Katharine Mulherin** (1964–2019), one of the first dealers on the strip and acknowledged as the driving force for the creative neighbourhood that sprouted up around her. Katharine watched Kris operate in the space, how he interacted with people, and how he spoke about his art. Kris was hopeful she would start to show his work, but instead she offered him a job as her assistant.

Kris worked closely with Katharine for about 7 years as she took him to art fairs across North America. This exposure to galleries from all over the world gave Kris access to important dealers, museum directors and collectors as a trusted assistant rather than as an emergent artist trying to get noticed. Eventually, Katharine started to show Kris' work. She cut his hours at her gallery and politely told him to start painting more. He kept a few side hustles to stay afloat, but in his early thirties Kris quit his last job outside the studio and took the plunge to focus on painting full time. Looking back at his time with Katharine, who passed away in 2019, Kris acknowledges her impact on his success, "She definitely was the one who



Left to right, from right on page 4  
*Greenhouse Huffer*, 2019; *Fell Flat*,  
 2016; *The Performer*, 2016, *Good  
 Night Rich Kids*, 2016

gave me a shot and elevated my career. I wouldn't have the same career without her." After a few years with Katharine on the art fair circuit, Kris eventually secured representation with **Spinello Projects** in Miami, and later with **Galerie Alain Gutharc** in Paris.

It was the European fashion industry that first took notice of Kris's work. His paintings were frequently being published in avant-garde fashion and culture magazines, eventually leading to **Gucci Creative Director Frida Giannini** acknowledging Kris' paintings and pastel colour palette as the inspiration for her Men's Fall/Winter 2014/15 Collection. This led to an invite to Rome where Kris was pitched a proper collaboration with the brand – a reimagining of the house's iconic floral pattern, "Flora." After doing his research into Gucci's history, he learned that they hadn't worked with an artist since **Vittorio Accornero** designed the fashion house's iconic flora pattern, originally for a scarf as a gift to acknowledge **Princess Grace of Monaco's** patronage. Kris pitched a dark re-vamp of the design based on plants of ancient Rome used by women of that time to command power, especially power over men, whether it was for healing or seduction or poisoning. Frida was thrilled with the resulting painting, dubbing it "FloraKnight" and it became the exclusive pattern for the brand's 2015 Cruise Collection, appearing on clothing, luggage, and accessories.

Since then, Kris spends most of his days (and too many nights) in his 401 Richmond studio, creating new work for solo and group exhibitions and art fairs around the world, though he still finds collaborations in other creative industries just as exciting. In addition to his Gucci partnership, Kris has also worked on projects with fashion houses **Christian LaCroix** and **Louis Vuitton**, with book publishers for cover images, and musicians for

album art for which he was nominated for a Juno Award. Most recently, Kris spent six months working on a movie, yet to be disclosed, as the shadow painter for the film's main character who plays an artist.

Since the days of drawing on the floor as a child, Kris was often fixated on drawing faces, and this continued through his career, painting quiet portraits of friends, acquaintances, and friends of friends, usually queer creatives. While his paintings have evolved over time, the core remains the same with an interest in narratives that revolve around representation, queerness, and intimacy. Often portraying his sitters depicting different stereotypical traits used to demean queer men, Kris transforms the tropes into a celebration of vulnerability, tenderness and ambiguity. Kris sees his subjects as actors, stating, "they portray something I'm going through in my life; a kind of narcissistic scopophilia where you see people as a surrogate of yourself." Each series of work represents a chapter in Kris' life where the paintings act as a document to his experiences at that time.

Much of Kris' work is informed by his love of history, reading, and writing. When Kris has an upcoming show he begins by writing about the forthcoming body of work, chooses a theme based on his writing, and then creates 10 to 15 paintings based on his written exploration. For an upcoming show in Miami, Kris is working on a series inspired by the pandemic. Researching garden paintings from the height of tuberculosis in the Victorian era, Kris is making connections between then and now: "There were so many garden paintings as privileged people left the city. I'm trying to do a garden series that looks back at these works created during that time and trying to find common ground with what we went through with our pandemic."

[krisnknight.com](http://krisnknight.com)

# listings

## September to November 2023

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 [communications@urbanspace.org](mailto:communications@urbanspace.org). Open to all tenants.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: October 15, 2023

---

### GALLERY DIRECTORY

A Space Gallery (Studio 110)  
[aspacegallery.org](http://aspacegallery.org)

Abbozzo Gallery (Studio 128)  
[abbozzogallery.com](http://abbozzogallery.com)

Artspace Gallery TMU (Studio LL106)  
[artspacetmu.com](http://artspacetmu.com)

BAND Gallery (Studio LL108)  
[bandgallery.com](http://bandgallery.com)

Critical Distance Centre for Curators (Studio 122)  
[criticaldistance.ca](http://criticaldistance.ca)

Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography (Studio 120)  
[gallery44.org](http://gallery44.org)

Myseum of Toronto (Studio LL01)  
[myseumoftoronto.com](http://myseumoftoronto.com)

Open Studio (Studio 104)  
[openstudio.ca](http://openstudio.ca)

Red Head Gallery (Studio 115)  
[redheadgallery.org](http://redheadgallery.org)

Simon Bentley Fine Art (Studio 133)  
[simonbentleyfineart.com](http://simonbentleyfineart.com)

TAG (Tangled Art Gallery) (Studio 124)  
[tangledarts.org](http://tangledarts.org)

Trinity Square Video (Studio 121)  
[trinitysquarevideo.com](http://trinitysquarevideo.com)

Urbanspace Gallery (Studio 117)  
[urbanspacegallery.ca](http://urbanspacegallery.ca)

yumart Gallery (Studio B-20)  
[yumart.ca](http://yumart.ca)

YYZ Artists' Outlet (Studio 140)  
[yyzartistsoutlet.org](http://yyzartistsoutlet.org)

---

### EXHIBITIONS

continues to September 10  
Artspace Gallery TMU  
Raoul Olou, Tamara Jones, Ghislan Sutherland-Timm,  
Ayo Tsalithaba: *Black Spatiality*

continues to SEPTEMBER 23  
BAND Gallery  
Moses Salihou

continues to OCTOBER 7  
A Space Gallery  
John Ephraim Velasco: *The Kakaiba Collection*

continues to NOVEMBER 18  
Urbanspace Gallery  
Sidi Chen, Geoffrey Cheung, Joni Cheung, Makoto Chi, Imran Jatoi, Marisa Müsing: *The Bitten Peach – Asian Queer Spaces*

SEPTEMBER 8 – OCTOBER 7  
Abbozzo Gallery  
Richard Jacobson

A Space Gallery  
WITH THE KOREAN CULTURAL CENTRE  
Kohui: *Perceive*

SEPTEMBER 8 – OCTOBER 21  
Open Studio  
Main Gallery Kara Springer, Rafa Santos, Dorian FitzGerald  
Project Space Ruth Mora  
Feature Wall Angela Pilgrim

SEPTEMBER 8 – OCTOBER 28  
Gallery 44  
Main Space Victor Ballesteros, Ramey Newell, Tara Nicholson,  
Deb Silver, Karen Zalamea: *Surface, Sample, Site*  
Vitrines Laura Kay Keeling: *The Advantages of Tender Loving Care, Pt. 2: Variations*

SEPTEMBER 9 – 30  
yumart Gallery  
Y.M. Whelan: *The Unknown Region*

OCTOBER 5 – NOVEMBER 4  
BAND Gallery  
Ehiko Odeh

OCTOBER 7 – 28  
yumart Gallery  
Rupen

OCTOBER 14 – NOVEMBER 10  
Abbozzo Gallery  
David Wilstermann

OCTOBER 17 – DECEMBER 9  
A Space Gallery with imagineNATIVE  
Dayna Danger, Duane Isaac, Roberto Fatal: *Celestial Bodies*

OCTOBER 27 – DECEMBER 2  
Open Studio  
Main Gallery Chloe Alexander  
Project Space Brenda Joy Lem, Cleopatra Peterson,  
Mohammad Tabesh

NOVEMBER 3 – DECEMBER 9  
Gallery 44  
Vitrines Jasmine Liaw: *plastic climbs*  
Main Space Anahita Norouzi: *Systema Naturae*

NOVEMBER 4 – 25  
yumart Gallery  
Robert Chandler

NOVEMBER 17 – JANUARY 20  
Abbozzo Gallery  
30th Year Anniversary Exhibition

### EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 23  
401 Richmond  
Nuit Blanche  
7 pm to 7 am

DECEMBER 7 – 22  
Open Studio  
*Holiday Shop & Screen-o-rama*





Clockwise from top:  
John Ephraim Velasco  
at A Space Gallery  
(continues to  
October 7); Moses  
Salihou at BAND  
Gallery (continues  
to September 23);  
Jasmine Liaw in the  
vitrines at Gallery 44  
(November 3 to  
December 9)



# press check

## strategy

HOME | CHALLENGE | ARTICLES | MAGAZINE | SCREENING ROOM | CAREERS | CONTACT

Home » Branding, Design & Packaging, Shopper Marketing, Wine & Spirits »

### Jackson-Triggs refreshes its Proprietors' Selection bottles

A redesign and new logo are part of Arterra's plan to boost the brand relevance in Ontario for 2016.

By Justin Davis June 7, 2015



### JACKKNIFE

strategyonline.ca reported on the brand work of **Jackknife Design** for **Arterra's Jackson-Triggs Proprietors' Selection** line. The new look, which resulted from a two year collaboration between Jackknife and the Arterra marketing team, features "a range of colours representative of each variety, as well as dynamic lines and special finishes intended to give it high impact on shelf, while still being rooted in the brand's DNA," according to **Kim Norwich**, Creative Director at Jackknife.



### Treemonisha achieves sonic unity by bridging the old and the new

CATHERINE KUSTANCZY  
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE AND MAIL  
PUBLISHED JUNE 12, 2015  
UPDATED JUNE 13, 2015



Treemonisha is performed at St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts in Toronto until June 17.  
DANIEL KAZEMZADEH/OUTLINE

### VOLCANO THEATRE

**Volcano Theatre's** modern reimagining of American ragtime composer **Scott Joplin's** 1911 opera *Treemonisha* presented at this year's **Luminato Festival Toronto**, turned the heads of critics. **Joshua Chong** from the **Toronto Star** wrote that "Joplin's long-forgotten masterpiece has been ravishingly reborn for the 21st century in a triumphant production," and **Catherine Kustanczy's** review in **The Globe and Mail** stated that "the split between identities – American, African, daughter, lover, God-fearing, nature-loving – and the anguish resulting from such divides holds much of the power of this reimagined *Treemonisha*."

## AZURE

Design: Raymond Moriyama, Architecture: Teshima Architects, Photo: Kenjiro Sato



Architects Rally to Protect Moriyama's Landmark Ontario Science Centre

In 1964, Raymond Moriyama got a big break. Commissioned to design Toronto's Ontario Museum of Science and Technology, the young architect designed a

### ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVANCY OF ONTARIO (ACO)

**Azure Magazine** published open letters from the **ACO**, **Moriyama Teshima Architects (MTA)**, and the **Toronto Society of Architects (TSA)** outlining their opposition to the proposed demolition and relocation of the **Ontario Science Centre**, from Flemingdon Park to **Ontario Place**. Designed by **Raymond Moriyama** and opened in 1969, "the Ontario Science Centre serves as an important community hub in North York and removing it would directly contradict efforts towards sustainable and equitable city-building," stated **ACO Toronto president Stephanie Mah**.



### Were you a fan of 'Degrassi,' 'Mr. Dressup' or 'Polka Dot Door'? A new exhibit celebrates groundbreaking made-in-Toronto TV

The Museum of Toronto has a special anniversary this summer: celebrating the 42nd anniversary of its founding. To mark the occasion, the museum is presenting a new exhibit celebrating the city's television industry.



### Toronto exhibit brings back all our favourite local kids TV shows in one space



### MYSEUM OF TORONTO

The summer exhibition at **Myseum Toronto** entitled *Mr. Dressup to Degrassi: 42 Years of Legendary Toronto Kids TV*, curated by **John Conroy**, grabbed the attention of major news outlets including **CP24**, **Toronto Star**, **Toronto Life** and **blogTO**. The show tells the story of Toronto as a global player in a golden era of children's television programming from 1952 to 1994. For over four decades, the city brought together innovative thought leaders, passionate creators and unexpected collaborations, forming a corner of the television industry unlike any other in the world.



### 'New' a fresh take on on-stage portrayals of new immigrants deserves to get the on-screen series treatment

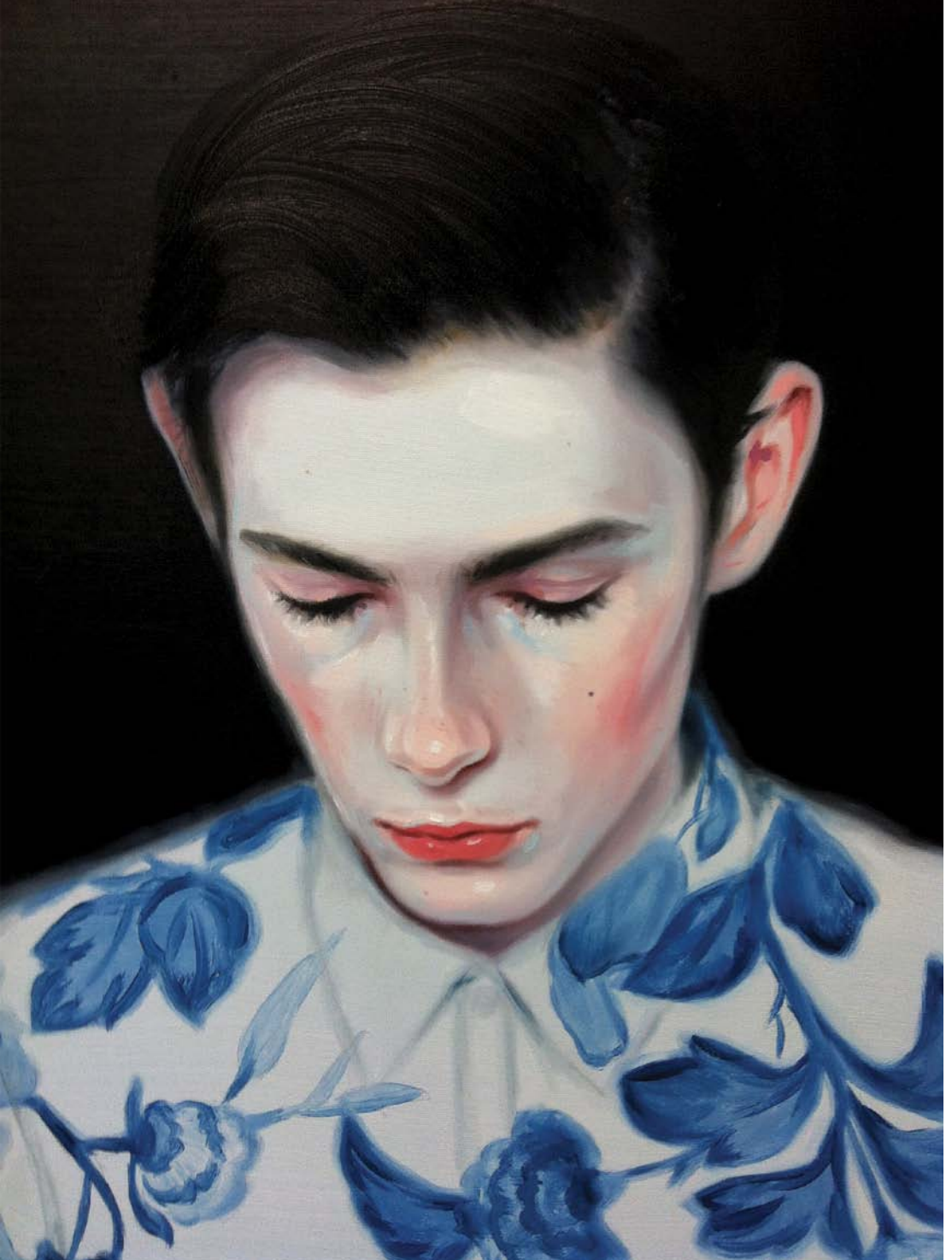
Reviewed by Catherine Kustanczy on June 12, 2015. A fresh take on on-stage portrayals of new immigrants deserves to get the on-screen series treatment.



### NECESSARY ANGEL

Theatre critics took notice of **Necessary Angel's** recent production of *New* at the **Berkeley Street Theatre** in association with **Canadian Stage** and the **Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre**. The **Toronto Star** described the play as "a strikingly fresh take on stage and screen portraits of first-generation immigrants." And **The Globe and Mail** lauded the emotion of the plot lines that "pack a powerful punch."

# the back page



Kris Knight, *Ivory*, 2013, oil on canvas, 40 x 30 in.  
[See Tenant Profile Page 4](#)

**401**

RICHMOND

401 Richmond Street West, Studio 111  
Toronto, ON Canada M5V 3A8  
[www.401richmond.com](http://www.401richmond.com)

# update

