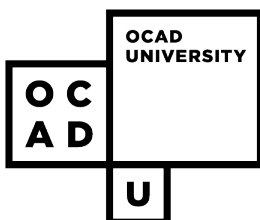


ONSITE GALLERY

2020-21 AND 2021-22 REPORT



ONSITE
GALLERY



We are happy to share this report with our donors and supporters on our activities over the past two fiscal years (2020-21 and 2021-22). While Onsite Gallery was physically closed between mid-March 2020 and September 2021, and again from December 2021 to January 2022 due to the pandemic, we successfully presented several innovative online events and remained engaged with our public. We also wrote a record number of grant applications for future projects, many of which were successful. We learned numerous lessons for increasing our digital presence beyond the borders of Toronto.

However, it was wonderful to reopen in September 2021 and see visitors interacting in person with our art and design exhibitions once again. We also brought back the fun OCAD U Gallery Crawl in April 2022.

We were thrilled to welcome Ryan Rice as our new Curator of Indigenous Art in July 2021. We worked with Ryan on the inaugural exhibition in our new gallery space in September 2017, *raise a flag: Works from the Indigenous Art Collection (2000-2015)*.

This year he developed our new program, *Up Front: Inuit Public Art at Onsite Gallery*, and curated our current exhibition, *Jordan Bennett: Souvenir*. We look forward to a fruitful working partnership over the next four years.

As we entered Onsite Gallery's 15th year of operations, the Gallery Team and Advisory Board of Directors spent months thinking our past achievements, the complicated present moment, and our future goals. Working with the experienced gallery consultant Jan Allen, we developed new Vision, Mission, Mandate and Values Statements to distill and differentiate our work. We are thrilled to share them with you here. Based on these new statements, we created a Sustainable Business Plan to solidify the financial underpinnings supporting our public programs. These initiatives have significant positive impact on the university and public, and they would not have been possible without your support.

We are deeply grateful for your commitment to Onsite Gallery and OCAD University and hope to see you at the Gallery very soon.

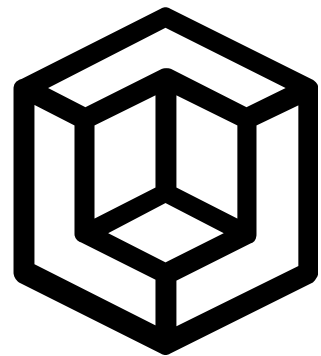
Francisco Alvarez

Executive and Artistic Director, OCAD University Galleries
July 2022



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS, ONSITE GALLERY ACHIEVED THE FOLLOWING IN THE 2020-2021 AND 2021-22 FISCAL YEARS.



2

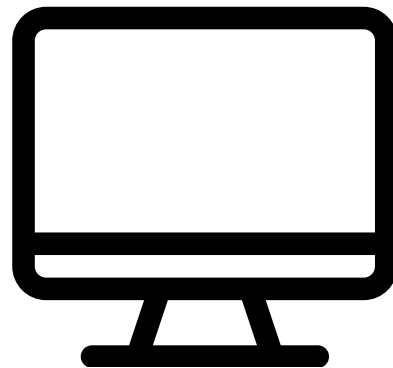
MAJOR EXHIBITIONS
IN PERSON

15

PUBLIC PROGRAMS
ONLINE AND IN PERSON

36

ARTISTS EXHIBITED



4

DIGITAL PROGRAM
SERIES:

1. 38 Virtual Studio Visits by Curator
2. Instagram Takeover
3. How will we be with you? Online Listening Program
4. International Curatorial Residency: Dr. Bonaventure Ndikung in conversation with Candice Hopkins and Liz Ikiriko



3

THREE INDIGENOUS
PROGRAMS:

1. Online Launch of Ilju-was Bill Reid book by Gerald McMaster
2. Indigenizing the Art Museum: Ten online conversations with curators of Indigenous collections; in partnership with Wapatah Centre for Indigenous Visual Knowledge
3. Up Front: Inuit Public Art at Onsite Gallery; in partnership with Inuit Art Foundation.

ONSITE GALLERY'S NEW MISSION

VISION

We envision a future in which art and design empower all beings to thrive.

MANDATE

Onsite Gallery presents contemporary, Indigenous, and public art and design to advance knowledge creation and stimulate local and international conversations on the urgent issues of our time.

MISSION

Onsite Gallery is OCAD University's public gallery and a hub for diverse communities from the University and the public to engage with contemporary, Indigenous, and public art and design.

In our work with artists, designers, and communities, we actively address our relationship with Indigenous territories, land-based values and the Calls to Action put forward by the Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We adhere to the principles of the Dish with One Spoon treaty agreement: ensuring the sustainability of our shared land and recognizing diverse Indigenous nations and cultures.

We develop welcoming, accessible multimodal spaces to present physical and virtual creative practice and curatorial research in art and design, always with opportunities for community participation, education, and critical understanding.

Our programs prioritize the challenges of our rapidly changing world and stimulate dialogues that unsettle racism and colonialism, advance social justice, and contribute to a sustainable planetary ecology.

Aligned with the mission of OCAD University, we offer investigational and experiential forms of learning for students and the public, and nurture future leaders in art and design.

Onsite Gallery stewards OCAD University's Permanent Collection of Art and Design.

VALUES

We believe in the power of art and design to positively transform social relations.

The principles of equity, diversity, inclusion, and Indigenous sovereignty are fundamental to all our work.

To respond to our ever-evolving society, we emphasize creativity, curiosity, positivity, respect, and open interpersonal engagement.

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT

**WITH THE HELP OF OUR SUPPORTERS, ONSITE GALLERY
BENEFITS THE COMMUNITY BY:**

PROMOTING ENGAGED CITIZENSHIP AND ARTS APPRECIATION

Through powerful and thought-provoking exhibitions and public events in-person and online, we stimulate contemporary conversations about critical issues facing Toronto and the world. The Gallery fosters positive social change and contributes to cultural transformation through increasing public understanding of the value of the arts in contemporary society.

SUPPORTING THE ART AND DESIGN COMMUNITY

The Gallery provides ongoing support and collaboration opportunities for local and international artists, curators, designers, and visual researchers, as well as partner organizations. It also impacts OCAD U students and faculty by offering innovative learning, research, and paid work opportunities as part of our programming.

SUPPORTERS HAVE ENABLED ONSITE GALLERY TO:

- Present critically acclaimed and award-winning exhibitions and publications
- Acquire new works for the Permanent Collection
- Create Canada's largest International Curatorial Residency, with Dr. Bonaventure Ndikung, supported by Partners in Art
- Participate in the city-wide Nuit Blanche festival since its inception
- Develop important partnerships with organizations such as Scotiabank Contact Photography Festival, Art Gallery of Ontario, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto Biennial of Art, imagineNATIVE Media Arts Festival, Wapatah Centre for Indigenous Visual Knowledge, University of Toronto, Art Works for Change, Vtape, Inuit Art Foundation and many more
- Bring back the annual OCAD U Gallery Crawl in April 2022



Top Image: Mary McIntyre. *Walking Near Water: My Relations Through Land*. 2022. Photo by Morgan Mavis [OCAD University Gallery Crawl 2022]

Bottom Image: *Kablusiak* part of *Up Front: Inuit Public Art at Onsite Gallery*, 2022. Installation View. Photo by Francisco Alvarez.

DIGITAL PROGRAMS

WITH THE PANDEMIC, ONSITE GALLERY QUICKLY DEVELOPED NEW ONLINE PROGRAMS TO DELIVER OUR MISSION OF MAKING PUBLIC COMPELLING ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS EXPLORING THE URGENT ISSUES OF OUR TIME.

VIRTUAL STUDIO VISITS – SUMMER 2020

Our curator, Lisa Deanne Smith, made 38 online studio visits to artists and designers invited through an open call. Instagram was used to communicate the diverse array of work by:

Christina Battle, Jude Griebel, Michel Dumont, Cole Swanson, Natalie King, Nicole Collins, Ella Tetrault, Stephanie Imbeau, Sam Cotter, Fraser McCallum, Elham Fatapour, Amanda White, Gerald Beaulieu, Jason Bomers, Joani Tremblay, Sarah E. Fuller, Jessica Auer, Debbie Ebanks, Whyishnave Suthagar, Jordan Shaw, Natalie Wood, Alana Bartol, Anelia Victor, Maggie Broda, Amy Thompson, Meredith Sproul, Maryse Goudreau, Lauren Pirie, Charmaine Lurch, Libby Hague, Ekow Nimako, Catherine Beaudette, Lyla Rye, Gwen McGregor, Randy Rosenburg, Eugenio Salas, Deanne Achong, and Tobaron Waxman.

HOW WILL WE BE WITH YOU? – DECEMBER 2020 TO AUGUST 2021

Online listening exhibition with a public artwork (large outdoor text work in vinyl at Onsite Gallery). Curator: Lisa Deanne Smith. Artists: Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung, Jeremy Dutcher, Levyi-Alexander Love, nichola feldman-kiss, Asha Srinivasan and Sara Fraker, Syrus Marcus Ware with Yousef Kadoura, Kayla Besse, Kristina McMullin, Elder Whabagoon.

INTERNATIONAL CURATORIAL RESIDENCY

Two free online events were broadcast via Zoom. On May 26, 2021, we presented Listening Into the Cracks of Time: Bonaventure Ndikung in conversation with Candice Hopkins, as part of the President's Lecture Series; and on October 26, 2021, Hear, See, Feel – On the Haptics of Photography and the Sonic: Bonaventure Ndikung in conversation with Liz Ikiriko. In October 2021, Dr. Ndikung completed the second phase of his OCAD U residency online, due to international travel restrictions.

OTHER ONLINE PUBLIC EVENTS

- Instagram Takeovers by Special Guests– summer 2020
- The Legacy of Iljuwas Bill Reid – December 17, 2020
- Indigenizing the Art Museum: Gerald McMaster in Conversation – March to July 2021
- Lively Objects: Artists and Curators in Conversation – October 28, 2021
- Presenting Your Work as an Emerging Artist or Designer – January 21, 2022



Top Image: Siren I performance of women ululating to the passengers of a tall ship, location photograph. Performance at Kajama Boat Tour, ArtSpin Toronto, 2018. Photo by Nichola Feldman-Kiss

Bottom Image: Dr. Bonaventure Soh Bejeng Ndikung. Photo by David-Uzochukwu

EXHIBITION:

SURVIVAL ARCHITECTURE AND THE ART OF RESILIENCE

SEPTEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 11, 2021

Curated Randy Jayne Rosenberg, Art Works for Change

ABOUT

In *Survival Architecture and the Art of Resilience*, science, technology, architecture, and art converge in a quest for resilience: What does it take to survive and thrive amid a changing climate? How can we address the needs of the world's most vulnerable citizens? Through a variety of innovative ideas — high-tech and low-tech, extravagant, and affordable — the exhibition begins to address the challenges of excess heat, droughts, flooding, food insecurity, homelessness, mass violence, biological disaster, and earthquake. Featuring 22 international visionary architects, designers, and artists.

IMPACT

OCAD University is committed to using art and design to develop solutions to our most pressing issues. This timely and relevant exhibition both underscored the urgency of accelerating climate change causing increasingly frequent natural disasters and health pandemics, but also the need to protect vulnerable populations dealing with urban poverty and lack of permanent housing.

PUBLIC EVENTS

- Enduring Resilience and Flow: The Lower Don River, September 23, 2021
- OCAD U BIPOC Faculty: Digital Minutes, March 18, 2022
- Humanizing Our Communities with Art and Design, November 3, 2021
- Regenerative and Restorative Design in Architecture, December 2, 2021



Top Image: Mitchell Jocahim and Terreform ONE, *Cricket Shelter: Modular Edible Insect Farm*, 2016, CNC milled plywood, plastic containers, 17 x 9 x 9 feet

Bottom Image: *Survival Architecture and the Art of Resilience*, 2021. Installation View. Photo by Yuula Benivolski

EXHIBITION:

FABLE FOR TOMORROW: A SURVEY OF WORKS BY WENDY COBURN

FEBRUARY 15 TO MAY 14, 2021

Curated by Caroline Seck Langill and Andrea Fatona, with video programming by b.h. Yael and Rebecca Garrett

ABOUT

Fable for Tomorrow presents the first survey of the late Wendy Coburn's artwork. The exhibition brings together four decades of sculpture, installation, photography, and video that reveal her ability to sense the pulse of a deep present while asking us to pay attention to other futures. Coburn's work explores representations of gender, sexualities, everyday objects, material culture, and human/animal relations. Partners: CONTACT Photography Festival, Paul Petro Contemporary Art, Vtape, Art Museum of University of Toronto

IMPACT

Wendy Coburn had significant impact on the Canadian art community as an artist, OCAD University educator and activist who exhibited internationally. This exhibition gives Wendy her earned place within the canon of Canadian contemporary art and video, and as a pioneering queer feminist artist, for future generations. Coburn's sculpture Untitled: After Fabritius (2015) was acquired for the OCAD U Permanent Collection.

PUBLIC EVENTS

- Slut Nation: Anatomy of a Protest, screening and discussion, February 9, 2021
- Holding Coburn: Exhibition activation performance by Jess Dobkin, Saturdays
- Wendy Coburn's Commitments as an Artist, March 23, 2021
- Video Curators' Chat, April 1, 2021
- Curators' Tour, April 13, 2021
- Dyke Night, May 6, 2021
- Content Feelings workshop, May 8, 2021
- Closing Reception, May 12, 2021



Top Image: Wendy Coburn. *Fable for Tomorrow*, 2008, bisque-fired clay, 7" x 7" x 5.5" each. Courtesy of the Estate of Wendy Coburn and Paul Petro Contemporary Art, Toronto

Bottom Image: Wendy Coburn. *Fable for Tomorrow*, 2022. Installation View. Photo by Polina Teif.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS FOR THEIR
GENEROUS PHILANTHROPIC GIFTS OF \$250 OR MORE:

\$1000 - \$10,000

Tim Gilbert
Sandra Janzen and David James
Caroline Langill
Marc Lantier
NEXUS Investment Management Inc.
Kate Subak
Subak Family Foundation
Toronto Friends of the Visual Arts
University of Toronto
* 2 Anonymous

\$250 - \$999

Carlos Coburn
Emilio Coburn
Shaun Coburn
Deirdre Logue
Heather Peever
Callum Peever
Scott E. Peever
Magdalena Popiel
Robyn Richardson
Angela Robertson

ONSITE GALLERY STAFF:

Ryan Rice, Executive Director, Onsite Gallery and Curator, Indigenous Art
Lisa Smith, Senior Curator and Manager, OCAD U Galleries System
Susan Jama, Programs & Community Coordinator, Onsite Gallery
Emily Gove, Programs & Community Coordinator, Onsite Gallery (2021-22)
Francisco Alvarez, Executive and Artistic Director (2016-2022)

ONSITE GALLERY ADVISORY BOARD:

Tim Gilbert (Chair), Patrick Burke, Andrea Carson Barker, Ankesh Chandaria,
Nancy Jain, K.J. McCusker, Ana Serrano, Elaine Waisglass, Justin Young

ONSITE GALLERY CONSTRUCTION FUNDED BY:



ONSITE GALLERY FURNITURE BY:

nienkämper

ONSITE LOGO DESIGN BY:

DEAN MARTIN DESIGN

INTERNATIONAL CURATORIAL RESIDENCY SPONSOR:



UP FRONT: INUIT PUBLIC ART AT ONSITE GALLERY



EXHIBITION SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

SURVIVAL ARCHITECTURE AND THE ART OF RESILIENCE



FABLE FOR TOMORROW: A SURVEY OF WORKS BY WENDY COBURN



With additional
support from:

Anonymous, Jess Dobkin, Barbara Fischer,
Alice Klein, Caroline Seck Langill,
Deirdre Logue and Angela Robertson

**ONSITE GALLERY PRESENTS
CONTEMPORARY, INDIGENOUS,
AND PUBLIC ART AND DESIGN TO
ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE CREATION
AND STIMULATE LOCAL AND
INTERNATIONAL CONVERSATIONS
ON THE URGENT ISSUES OF OUR
TIME.**

CONTACT

For further information, please contact:

RYAN RICE

Executive Director, Onsite Gallery
Curator, Indigenous Art
rrice@ocadu.ca
416 977 6000 x 314

LISA DEANNE SMITH

Senior Curator and Manager, Galleries System
lsmith@ocadu.ca
416 977 6000 x 2208

199 Richmond St. W, Toronto, ON, M5V 0H4

ocadu.ca/onsite

OCAD University acknowledges the ancestral territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabeg and the Huron-Wendat, who are the original owners and custodians of the land on which we work, stand and create.