

ONSITE GALLERY

2023-2024 REPORT



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ONSITE
GALLERY



Front Cover Image: power, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Ekow Nimako, *Maame Wata* (detail), 2023, 64 x 40 x 45 in, LEGO®, metal armature. Photo by Em Moor.

Inside Cover Image: *On Americanness and Other Experiences of Belonging*, 2023. Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Artwork shown: Caroline Monnet, "Soaring Divide", 2023. Photo by Em Moor

Dear Onsite Gallery supporters,

I am pleased to share with you our Onsite Gallery Report for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Onsite Gallery opened several exciting exhibitions and projects that were accompanied by free and meaningful community programs, lectures and workshops. Our report showcases the activity that has taken place throughout the past year, that has engaged both the OCAD University community and a broader public audience.

In its second year on display Jordan Bennett's *pi'tawita'iek: we go up river* large-scale mural overlooking Butterfield Park on the façade of our main campus building at 100 McCaul Street continues to attract audiences. Furthering our reach in the public realm, we continued our successful collaboration with the Inuit Art Foundation with our exterior digital mural series *Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery* with seven exhibited since April 2022. The artists exhibiting this year included Tarralik Duffy, Jessica Winters and Glenn Gear.

On September 19, 2023, Onsite Gallery officially celebrated the announcement of the Delaney Family's transformational decade long gift with special guests. The gift will help Onsite Gallery fulfill its mission and allow us to continue supporting a community of diverse artists to advance professional creative practices. The gift will contribute towards the development of curatorial projects and relevant, thoughtful exhibitions and programs. The generous support will secure Onsite Gallery's reputation as an influential cultural institution for years to come.

In Fall 2023, Onsite Gallery received a nomination from Galleries Ontario Galleries (GOG Awards) for Jordan Bennett's *pi'tawita'iek: we go up river + Souvenir* in the category Exhibition of the Year (2022/2023) Budget \$20,000 + Monographic category. We also presented Tarralik Duffy's *Fresh Pop* mural and opened the gallery during Nuit Blanche 2023 to an unprecedented number of visitors.

The exhibition *On Americanness and Other Experiences of Belonging* opened the fiscal year and ran through the fall semester. In January 2024, Onsite Gallery opened the exhibition *power*, a group exhibition, with much success and introduced the Special Projects Gallery (formerly the Media Lounge) with Linda Grussani's *Mawadishiwewin* series.

In the new year (2024), Onsite Gallery presented an annual inaugural lecture series for Black History Month and started work on a year-long project assessing the OCAD University Art Collection.

Our exhibitions and community engagement represent everything we strive for at Onsite Gallery, to present contemporary, Indigenous, and public art and design professional practices to advance knowledge creation and stimulate conversations on the urgent issues of our time.

I hope you enjoy the report and I look forward to seeing you at Onsite Gallery soon. Thank you so much for your incredible generosity and support.

Warmly,

Ryan Rice
Executive Director + Curator, Indigenous Art
Onsite Gallery

2023-2024 OVERVIEW

Onsite Gallery continued to implement exhibitions paused completely during the pandemic with a return to year-round in-person exhibitions and public programming in mid 2022.

We began production on our first monograph publication on the work of Wendy Coburn. We completed and publicly launched the monograph for *Fable of Tomorrow: Wendy Coburn* on April 13, 2024. With a Digital Now grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, we produced more digital content over the last two fiscal years to complement and expand Onsite Gallery’s public reach. This included live hybrid recorded talks and short videos featuring artist interviews



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

Onsite Gallery’s current fiscal year (2023-2024) included projects that were driven by our in-house curator and two guest curated exhibitions included *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, power and *Taqralik Partridge: >ᓵᖃᓂᓯᓐᓐ (Pulaaqatigiit)*.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, 2023. Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *power*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *Taqralik Partridge: >ᓵᖃᓂᓯᓐᓐ (Pulaaqatigiit)*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *Taqralik Partridge: >ᓵᖃᓂᓯᓐᓐ (Pulaaqatigiit)*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *Taqralik Partridge: >ᓵᖃᓂᓯᓐᓐ (Pulaaqatigiit)*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Photo by Em Moor.

On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging

June 15 to December 09, 2022

Guest Curated by Analays Alvarez Hernandez and Colette Laliberté

Artists: Patricio Davila, Estey Ducaro, Eddy Firmin, Fredy Forero, Alexandra Gelis, Immony Men, Caroline Monet, and Ximena Velasquez.

Artists from Bogotá, Montréal and Toronto reflected upon the idea of Americanity asking questions such as “What does it mean to become aware of one’s Americanity in today’s context of globalization?” Considering the complex and different, yet similar, colonial/ decolonial histories across the Americas, the exhibition offered an insight into strategies of territorial appropriations and re-appropriations. Framed from a local, national and international lens, we supported international artists travel and multilingual translation of our exhibition publication and programs through a Canada Council for the Arts project grant.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, 2023. Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Artwork shown: Caroline Monnet, “KIWE”, 2023. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, 2023. Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Artwork shown: Alexandra Gelis, “Migrant Superpositions: convertirse en”, 2023. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, 2023. Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Artwork Shown: Patricio Dávila & Immony Mèn, “Passing Through the Heart”, detail, 2021 – 2023. Photo by Em



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, 2023. Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Detail. Artwork shown: Eddy Firmin, “Punching Bags”, 2021 – 2023. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, 2023. Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Artwork shown: Ximena Velásquez Sánchez, “Acururar”, 2013 - 2023. Photo by Em Moor.

Up Front: Inuit Public Art

Expanding our public art mandate, we maintained *Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery*, our collaboration with the Inuit Art Foundation, presenting commissioned digital murals on the gallery's façade. We focused our major institutional partnership with Nuit Blanche and programmed a mural reveal of Tarralik Duffy's *Fresh Pop*. This initiative is significantly important in challenging longstanding, public misconceptions that stereotype and pigeon-hole Inuit art to a specific medium and market.

The Inuit Art Foundation (IAF) is the only national organization supporting Inuit artists in all medias and geographic areas. It empowers and supports Inuit artists' self-expression and self-determination through its many platforms, including the Inuit Art Quarterly (IAQ), Canada's largest art magazine, the IAQ Profiles, artist services, awards, scholarships and mentorship opportunities.



Image: *Sea Ice Break Up* (2023) mural at Onsite Gallery in Toronto, Courtesy Onsite Gallery

ROBERT KAUTUK *SEA ICE BREAK UP*

(2019)
Digital-print vinyl mural
On display from April to August 2023
Curated by Ryan Rice

Sea Ice Break Up (2019), by award-winning photographer Robert Kautuk, is the third mural in the *Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery* series.

Based in Kangiqtugaapik (Clyde River), Nunavut, Kautuk uses a digital SLR camera and mobilizes drone technology to capture spectacular views of rarely seen moments, activities and landscape in the Canadian Arctic and his community.

His work foregrounds Inuit self-determination, and documents, preserves and celebrates traditional knowledge to focus on the continued importance of hunting in Inuit communities and the ongoing impacts of climate change throughout the North.

Sea Ice Break Up (2019), curated by Ryan Rice, Onsite Gallery's Executive Director + Curator, Indigenous Art, "is a drone-captured image, shot on July 1, 2019, from a cabin near Cape Christian, Nunavut. It focuses on seasonal change in the Arctic and at the same time hints towards the ongoing impacts of climate change throughout the area.

Inuit witness and experience the shifting climate at an alarming rate, which has prompted Kautuk to chronicle and create such dramatic documentation and bring attention to environmental impacts that extend globally," says Rice.

"His striking *Sea Ice Break Up* employs contemporary technology to eloquently map the artist's vast home territory, conveying the natural beauty of land and water with an underlying sense of urgency" adds Rice.

Kautuk has worked as a photographer and researcher for organizations and projects in the Arctic such as the Ittaq Heritage and Research Centre. He is a driving force behind the Clyde River Knowledge Atlas—a digital platform that documents and records traditional knowledge while also encouraging Inuit community-led research.

Kautuk's work has been published in various magazines, including *Up Here*, *Inuit Art Quarterly* and *Above and Beyond*. His recent exhibitions include *Dark Ice*, Ottawa Art Gallery, *We Are The Story: The Canadian Now Photography Acquisition*, Art Gallery of Ontario and *Land of None / Land of Us*, Contact Gallery, Toronto.

Up Front: Inuit Public Art



Image: Tarralik Duffy *Fresh Pop* (2023) mural at Onsite Gallery in Toronto, Courtesy Onsite Gallery

TARRALIK DUFFY *FRESH POP*

(2023)
Digital-print vinyl mural
On display from September to December 2022
curated by Ryan Rice

Tarralik Duffy is a multidisciplinary artist and writer who lives and works between Salliq (Coral Harbour), Nunavut, and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. From jewelry and apparel to graphic works and soft sculpture, Duffy's work shares distinctly Inuit experiences, which are often infused with a dose of humour and pop culture.

Fresh Pop is part of Duffy's ongoing examination, which finds her spotlighting the prominence of everyday objects that have become customary to contemporary Inuit culture and iconic in the North.

Duffy is the 2021 winner of the Inuit Art Foundation's Kenojuak Ashevak Memorial Award and presents solo exhibitions at the Art Gallery of Ontario and the Winnipeg Art Gallery in 2023.

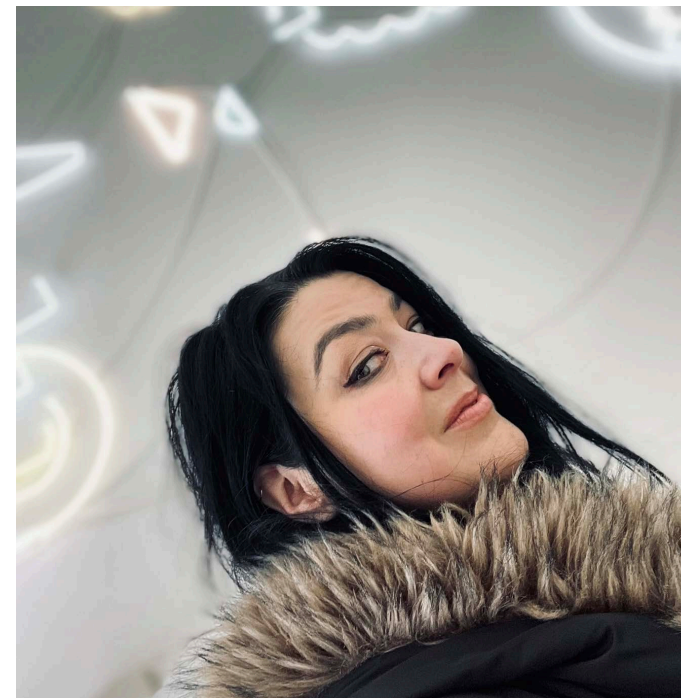


Image: Tarralik Duffy. Courtesy the artist

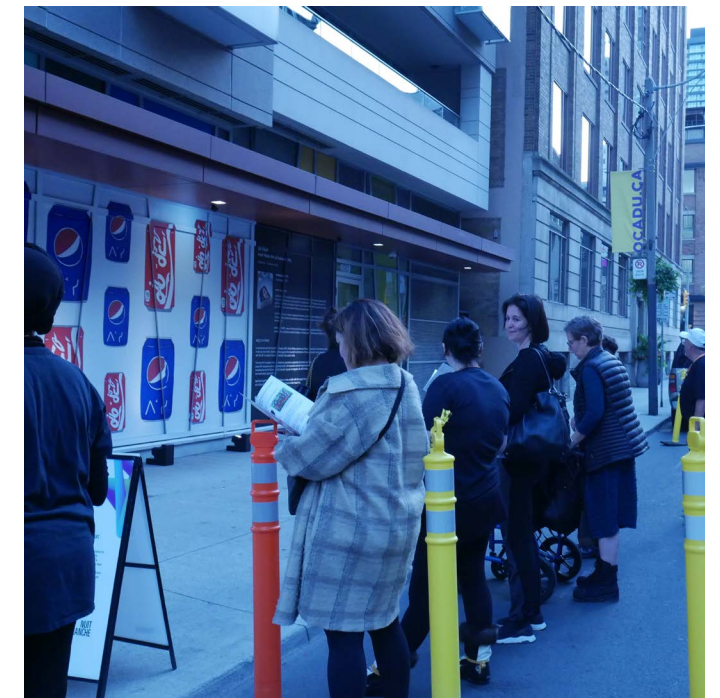


Image: Nuit Blanche 2023 at Onsite Gallery, in-person, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Anna Tran

Up Front: Inuit Public Art



Image: Jessica Winters *Hopedale* (2023) mural at Onsite Gallery in Toronto, Photo by Brian Medina

JESSICA WINTERS

HOPEDALE

(2023)

Digital-print vinyl mural

On display from January to April 2024

Curated by Ryan Rice

Inuk artist Jessica Winters is a painter, biologist and curator raised in Makkovik, Nunatsiavut and is currently based in St. John's, Newfoundland. Her work focuses on translating seemingly regular instances of Inuit life into something provoking and nostalgic. In her paintings, she draws upon vivid memories, intense curiosity and lived experiences detailing deep connections to place and community.

Winters says, “my work is a deeply profound response to my culture, my family and the land that nurtures us.”

In her commissioned mural, *Hopedale*, Winters celebrates the land and people that build the foundation of home, the space that provides a depth of sustenance, responsibility and enduring connections.

She says, “Every time I return to Nunatsiavut from the south, I can find something special about the place and the people that I took for granted as a kid growing up immersed in that life. It often feels like I am seeing something for the first time again.”

Hopedale is jointly commissioned by Bonavista Biennale 2023, the Inuit Art Foundation, Inuit Futures in Arts Leadership: The Pilimmaksarniq / Pijariuqsarniq Project, and Onsite Gallery at OCAD University.



Image: Jessica Winters. Photo by Jennifer Taylor

Up Front: Inuit Public Art



Image: Glenn Gear *TakKik rising* (2023) mural at Onsite Gallery in Toronto, Photo by Polina Teif

GLENN GEAR *TAKKIK RISING*

(2024)

Digital-print vinyl mural

On display from May to August 2024

Curated by Ryan Rice

In the following artist's statement, Gear provides insights into his working practice, his influences, and the impetus for the work presented at Onsite Gallery.

"Much of my work stems from a materials-based practice that is informed both by traditional Inuit work inspired by sealskin sewing, beadwork, and hands-on craft making, as well as digital processes such as video projection, drawing, animation, and collage across different media. I move freely from intimate, vulnerable spaces into larger, mural-scale works that envelop and transport audiences to spaces of reflection, reverence, remediation, and meditation. Throughout my work there is often a sense of play, wonder, and magic - both life-giving and haunting - running slow and steady like an underground stream; a common ancestral thread connecting past to present; a vital sinew stitched through time with love and questions in the knots. - Glenn Gear

The mural, *TakKik rising* is a digital collage that explores themes of symmetry, geometric design, and the artist's personal connection to traditional Inuit craft. The mural is part of an ongoing exploration of these themes, which are rooted in the natural environment and informed by the artist's materials-based interdisciplinary practice.

The artwork originates with photographs of beadwork and sealskin projects, juxtaposed with collected and gifted natural objects like driftwood, caribou antler, and mussel shells. These images serve as the foundation for digital kaleidoscopic designs, drawing inspiration from the natural symmetry found in snowflakes, particularly their six-fold symmetry.

TakKik rising is a celebration of the moon and the natural cycles of time as six faces gaze inward in a close huddle. Inspired by the colours of the sea and sky, the concentric beaded rings radiate outwards, while also attracting inwards with its hypnotic repetition of pattern and forms. This energy invites viewers to immerse themselves in its intricate design, amplifying the beauty of nature.

TakKik is moon in Labrador Inuttut - often written as *taqqiq* in Nunavut.

power

June 15 to December 09, 2022

Curated by Lisa Deanne Smith

Artists: Natalie King, Jamiyla Lowe, Khadijah Morley, Ekow Nimako, Rajni Perera, Fiona Smyth and Rocky Dobey.

“power” presented artworks that challenge the model of power being gained by force and might to one evoked through care and compassion. power prioritized healing and the strength in diversity within overarching intersections focused on survival. *power* was an opportunity to commission new work from all the artists and designers and was supported by a Canada Council for the Arts project grant.



Image: *power*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Fiona Smyth, installation View. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *power*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. From Left: Natalie King, “body as kin, continuation, a constellation of ancestors”, “beloved tresses of unity”, “tapestry of strength”, “rainbow road trip”, “ribboned reverie”, “illuminating sisterhood”, “flourishing and triumphant futures”, “earths daughters”, “rooted radiance”, “acrylic and aerosol paint on canvas”, 36 x 48 in each. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *power*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Ekow Nimako, *Maame Wata*, 2023, 64 x 40 x 45 in, LEGO:registered., metal armature. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *power*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation view: Rajni Perera, *Only enough air for myself*, 2023, polymer clay, pearls, acrylic paint, 72 x 60 x 32 in. Photo by Em Moor.



Image: *power*, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Jamiyla Lowe, installation View. Photo by Em Moor.

January 24 to May 18, 2024

Guest curated by Linda Grussani

Artists: Taqralik Partridge

Featuring new work by Taqralik Partridge, *Mawadishiwewin (Visits)* addressed the challenges for various forms of communities to gather and locate a significant sense of community amidst a global pandemic. Collapsing distances between places (physical and virtual) this exhibition built on ideas of visiting, cultural continuity, community building and networking in Indigenous ways of knowing and being. *Mawadishiwewin* is supported by the Ontario Art's Council's Curatorial Projects: Indigenous and Culturally Diverse grant.



Taqralik Partridge: >ᓵᓂᓯᓐᓐ (Pulaaqatigiit), 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. *Taqralik Partridge, qangattasuut (they fly)* (detail), 2024, beaded appliqué (glass beads on cotton canvas and poplin), reanimated wedding dress fabric, hula hoop, tulle fabric, dimensions variable. Photo by Em Moor



Taqralik Partridge: ᑭᓐᕈᒃᔪᑦ (*Pulaaqatigiit*), 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. *Taqralik Partridge*, *Tea with Daisy*, 2024, reanimated chairs covered in fabric, artificial flowers, a table, vintage teacups and saucers, rug, bowl of foil-wrapped candies, an accordion, two curtain panels and curtain rods, dimensions variable. Photo by Em Moor.



Taqralik Partridge: ᑭᐱᓇᓴᓕᓂᓄᓗ (*Pulaaqatigiit*), 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Taqralik Partridge, *Tea with Daisy* (detail), 2024, reanimated chairs covered in fabric, artificial flowers, a table, vintage teacups and saucers, rug, bowl of foil-wrapped candies, an accordion, two curtain panels and curtain rods, dimensions variable. Photo by Em Moor.



Taqralik Partridge: ᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦᑭᑦ (*Pulaaqatigiit*), 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. *Taqralik Partridge, qangattasuut (they fly)*, 2024, beaded appliqué (glass beads on cotton canvas and poplin), reanimated wedding dress fabric, hula hoop, tulle fabric, dimensions variable. Photo by Em Moor.



Taqralik Partridge: ᑲᐱᔭᓴᕈᕋᒃ (*Pulaaqatigiit*), 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Installation View. Taqralik Partridge, *ataatagilaurtaga* (*one who was my father*) (detail), 2024, canvas, found materials, glass beads, acrylic paint, yarn and thread, 76 ¾" x 102 ½". Photo by Em Moor.

Programming and Events

Each exhibition was complemented by a fulsome schedule of free public programming designed to activate the exhibitions curatorial premise, related topics and advance diversity priorities.

Our achievements respond to systemic deficits in the arts and culture sector, and we welcomed greater representation and diversity in our approach with all activities.

Grants received from Canada Council for the Arts produced the exhibitions *power* and *On Americanity & Other Experiences of Belonging*.

Ontario Arts Council grant supported *Mawadishiwewin* series (Taqralik Partridge).

Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery, was supported by Inuit Art Foundation partnership and grants from the City of Toronto and Toronto Friends of the Visual Arts, and SHRCC funding.

We continue to receive operating grants from Toronto Arts Council and Ontario Arts Council.

We also partnered with Native Women in the Arts who generously sponsored two programs for *Mawadishiwewin* series.

ON AMERICANITY AND OTHER EXPERIENCES OF BELONGING EXHIBITION

JUNE 14 TO DECEMBER 09, 2023

Curated by Analays Álvarez Hernández (Montreal) and Colette Laliberté (Toronto) featuring eight artists from Bogotá, Montréal and Toronto who explore and reflect upon the concept of Americanity. Considering the complex and different, yet similar, colonial / decolonial histories across the Americas, this exhibition offered an insight into a variety of strategies of territorial appropriation and re-appropriation.

ON AMERICANITY AND OTHER EXPERIENCES OF BELONGING EXHIBITION OPENING PUBLIC RECEPTION

JUNE 14, 2023

HIDDEN CITY CAMPUS 1

JULY 28, 2023

Onsite Gallery hosted a series of workshops centered around the *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging* exhibition tailored for children aged 8 to 14

DURATIONAL WORKSHOP: “BECOMING AND MOVING”

JULY 29, 2023

“*Becoming and moving*” was a plant-based movement improvisation workshop in response to Alexandra Gelis’ installation “*Migrant Superpositions: convertirse en.*” Participants explored themes of migration, discrimination, transformation, and the control of both humans and plants, in collaboration with dancer and choreographer Victoria Mata, artist/designer Maxyne Baker, and Alexandra Gelis.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging, Becoming & Moving Workshop* with Alexandra Gelis, Victoria Mata & Maxyne Baker, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging, Becoming & Moving Workshop* with Alexandra Gelis, Victoria Mata & Maxyne Baker, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.

HIDDEN CITY CAMPUS 2

AUGUST 11, 2023

Onsite Gallery hosted a series of workshops centered around the *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging* exhibition tailored for children aged 8 to 14



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging, Summer Workshop*, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.

HIDDEN CITY CAMPUS 3

AUGUST 18, 2023

Onsite Gallery hosted a series of workshops centered around the *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging* exhibition tailored for children aged 8 to 14

HIDDEN CITY CAMPUS 4

SEPTEMBER 01, 2023

Onsite Gallery hosted a series of workshops centered around the *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging* exhibition tailored for children aged 8 to 14

TARRALIK DUFFY : UP FRONT: INUIT PUBLIC ART @ ONSITE GALLERY

SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2023

Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery is a series of commissioned digital murals by Inuit artists. The fourth artist of *Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery* is Tarralik Duffy.

CURATORS TOUR WITH ANALAYS ÁLVAREZ HERNÁNDEZ AND COLETTE LALIBERTÉ

SEPTEMBER 08, 2023

Recorded in-depth curatorial tour of *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*. A multi-lingual tour conducted in French & Spanish.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, French & Spanish Curatorial Tour, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.

CURATORS TOUR WITH ANALAYS ÁLVAREZ HERNÁNDEZ AND COLETTE LALIBERTÉ

SEPTEMBER 09, 2023

Recorded in-depth English curatorial tour of *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*.

NUIT BLANCHE AT OCAD UNIVERSITY 2023 - UP FRONT: INUIT PUBLIC ART @ ONSITE GALLERY

SEPTEMBER 23 – SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

Unveiling of Tarralik Duffy’s Up Front digital mural, *Fresh Pop*, and gallery opened to the public to enjoy *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*

LATIN AMERICAN MEDIA ARTS SYMPOSIUM (LAMAS) - ON LOSS: MIGRANT RELATIONALITIES WITH ALEXANDRA GELIS

OCTOBER 06, 2023

Onsite Gallery supported LAMAS Festival by sponsoring artist’s panelist fees

CURATOR’S TOUR OF PUBLIC ART MURAL: PI’TAWITA’IEK: WE GO UP RIVER BY JORDAN BENNETT WITH LISA DEANNE SMITH

OCTOBER 06, 2023

Curatorial tour of Jordan Bennett’s *pi’tawita’iek: we go up river* by with Lisa Deanne Smith at the mural site, Butterfield Park, 100 McCaul St.

IMAGINENATIVE FILM AND MEDIA FESTIVAL ANNUAL ART CRAWL 2023

OCTOBER 18, 2023

Every year imagineNATIVE works with established and local artist-run galleries in the downtown Toronto area to present national and international exhibitions featuring Indigenous artists who continue to push the boundaries and expectations of what Indigenous storytelling is.



Image: ImagineNATIVE Film + Media Arts Festival, in-person, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama

OCAD UNIVERSITY GALLERY CRAWL

OCTOBER 21, 2023

OCAD University campus wide event that showcased students and professional artists, exhibitions and artwork including painting, sculpture, new-media, photography and live performance for free

LUNCHTIME TALK WITH ESTEY DUCUARA AND ALEXANDRA GELIS

OCTOBER 26, 2023

Lunchtime Artist Talk with two exhibiting artists, Estey Ducuara and Alexandra Gelis, whose works were featured in the exhibition *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, Lunchtime Artist Talk with Alexandra Gelis and Estey Ducuara, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.

WORKSHOP: PASSING THROUGH THE HEART

OCTOBER 27, 2023

This workshop was informed by the ongoing collaboration between Patricio Dávila and Immony Mèn, who collect recipes and approaches to cultural food practices from immigrants and refugees in Canada. The workshop built an understanding of how diasporic voices and recording technology can form intimate markers for narratives of settlement, refuge, remembering and loss.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, Passing Through the Heart Workshop, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.

CROSSED PERSPECTIVES ON AMERICANITY IN FRANCOPHONE CONTEXTS

NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Live-streamed and recorded panel discussion. Crossed Perspectives On Americanity in Francophone Contexts was an online panel discussion coinciding with Onsite Gallery’s exhibition *On Americanity & Other Experiences of Belonging*. In light of their life and intellectual journeys, guest speakers Louise Vigneault, exhibiting artist Eddy Firmin and the exhibition’s co- curator Analays Álvarez Hernández, examined the notion of Americanity in different spaces of the Francophonie. The panelists discussed ‘What does it mean to be aware of one’s Americanity and others in Québec or Guadeloupe?’



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, Crossed Perspectives On Americanity in Francophone Contexts, French Virtual Panel, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.

ANCHORING EXPERIENCES OF BELONGING THROUGH CREATIVE PRACTICES

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Anchoring Experiences of Belonging Through Creative Practices was an online recorded panel discussion coinciding with Onsite Gallery’s exhibition *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging*, Panelists Khadija Aziz, Herman Pi’ikea Clark, JJ Lee, and Julius Poncelet Manapul each delved into their experiential belonging through their distinct creative practices, which connect deeply with their identities, and communities. Through their art, they narrated about their sense of belonging or disconnection within diasporic and Indigenous contexts. The discussion was moderated by Susan Jama, Programs and Community Coordinator.



Image: *On Americanity and Other Experiences of Belonging, Anchoring Experiences of Belonging Through Creative Practices in Arts Based Participatory Learning*, IBPOC Virtual Panel, 2023, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama.

JESSICA WINTERS: UP FRONT: INUIT PUBLIC ART @ ONSITE GALLERY

JANUARY 01 TO APRIL 31, 2024

Outdoor public digital mural artwork *Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery* is a series of commissioned digital murals by Inuit artists. The fifth Inuit artist of *Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery* is Jessica Winters. In her commissioned mural, *Hopedale* (2023), Winters celebrates the land and people that build the foundation of home, the space that provides a depth of sustenance, responsibility and enduring connections.

POWER EXHIBITION

JANUARY 24 TO MAY 18, 2024

power offers artworks that challenge dominant capitalist and state capitalist worldviews. These Toronto-based artists use their eloquent sculpture, drawing, painting, installation, and video practices to inspire and reflect ways of being that reposition the meaning of power to be grounded in respect, cooperation, and emotional intelligence.

>ᐸᖃᑎᓯᐅ (PULAAQATIGIIT)

JANUARY 24 TO MAY 18, 2024

Mawadishiwewin (visits) is a year-long two-part collection of solo exhibitions that delve into the connections we form through visiting, creating, and sharing. The first exhibition, >ᐸᖃᑎᓯᐅ (*PULAAQATIGIIT*), featured artwork by Taqralik Partridge, contemplating a space to honour and visit with loved ones that have moved beyond the physical realm.

POWER, >ᐸᖃᑎᓯᐅ (PULAAQATIGIIT) & JESSICA WINTERS | UP FRONT: INUIT PUBLIC ART @ ONSITE GALLERY –OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION

January 24, 2024

simultaneous opening of *power + >ᐸᖃᑎᓯᐅ(Pulaaqatigiit) + Up Front: Inuit Public Art @ Onsite Gallery* with Jessica Winter

POWER + >ᐸᖃᑎᓯᐅ (PULAAQATIGIIT)& JESSICA WINTER | UP FRONT: INUIT PUBLIC ART @ ONSITE GALLERY EXHIBITION CLASS TOURS

January 24 to May 18, 2024

To date, Onsite Gallery staff and gallery attendants conducted 28 class tours.

POWER - HUMAN LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 16, 2024

In co-presentation and partnership with RBC Centre for Emerging Artists & Designers (CEAD), 16 registered participants borrowed andengaged in a meaningful conversation with the *Human Library*, an interactive event where power artists became “living books,” sharing their personal stories, experiences, and unique perspectives. During this 3-hour event, participants “borrowed” a book, represented by one of the power artists, and engaged in a meaningful one-on-one conversation.



Image: *power - Human Library*, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Kesa Smith

ONSITE GALLERY BLACK HISTORY MONTH CURATORIAL LECTURE - JANET DEES: NOTES TOWARDS A BLACK FEMINIST CURATORIAL PRACTICE

FEBRUARY 22, 2024

Onsite Gallery hosted its inaugural Black History Month annual guest lecture featuring curator Janet Dees, followed by a conversation with Andrea Fatona, independent curator and an associate professor at OCAD University.



Image: Janet Dees: *Notes Towards a Black Feminist Curatorial Practice: Contemplation, “Difficult Knowledge,” and “Radical Friendship”* in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Víctor R. Medina Vázquez

RE-WRITING OUR NARRATIVES: RECLAIMING POWER THROUGH AFROFUTURISM + INDIGENOUS FUTURISM

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

Panelists each explored the transformative power of speculative reclamation, Afrofuturism, and Indigenous Futurism in their creative practices and artistic works. Delving into these captivating realms, they tapped into alternative narratives of history, identity, and culture, challenging stereotypes, breaking barriers, and empowering agency. The discussion was moderated by Susan Jama, Programs + Community Coordinator.



Image: *power – Reviving Narratives: Exploring the Transformative power of Speculative Reclamation Afrofuturism and Indigenous Futurism through Creative Practices*, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Kesa Smith.

POWER CURATORIAL TOUR WITH LISA DEANNE SMITH

MARCH 15, 2024

power exhibition curator provided an in-depth tour of the exhibition to the public.



Image: *power – Curator’s Tour* with Lisa Deanne Smith, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama

ARTIST MONOGRAPH / BOOK LAUNCH: WENDY COBURN: FABLE FOR TOMORROW

APRIL 13, 2024

Onsite Gallery launched its first published catalogue with the writers of the book: Andrea Fatona and Caroline Seck Langill, Rebecca Garrett and b.h. Yael, and Lisa Deanne Smith.

ARTIST / CURATOR TALK: TAQRALIK PARTRIDGE IN CONVERSATION WITH LINDA GRUSSANI

APRIL 17, 2024

In partnership with Native Women in the Arts, >ᓇᓂᓯᓐ (PULAAQATIGIIT) artist Taqralik Partridge and curator Linda Grussani discussed their experience recognizing the resilience of human connections they developed during a global pandemic and the richness of Indigenous wisdom bridging physical and virtual spaces.



Image: >ᓇᓂᓯᓐ (Pulaaqatigiit) - Artist / Curator Talk with Taqralik Partridge and Linda Grussani, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Kesa Smith

BEADING + VISITING WORKSHOP

APRIL 18, 2024

>ᓇᓂᓯᓐ (Pulaaqatigiit) curator Linda Grussani facilitated a beading workshop paired with the Mawadishiwewin (visits) exhibition series that explored the critical role of creative teachings to build relationships through visiting, creation, presentation, and sharing. During the workshop, Linda discussed the exhibition and work by Taqralik Partridge.

ARE YOU CALLING ME A RACIST? WHY WE NEED TO STOP TALKING ABOUT RACE AND START MAKING REAL ANTIRACIST CHANGE BOOK LAUNCH BY DR. SARITA SRIVASTAVA

APRIL 25, 2024

Onsite Gallery supported the *Are you calling me a racist? Why We Need to Stop Talking about Race and Start Making Real Antiracist Change* book launch by Dr. Sarita Srivastava by donating the space and services free of charge.

GLENN GEAR | UP FRONT: INUIT PUBLIC ART AT ONSITE GALLERY

MAY TO AUGUST 2024

The Inuit Art Foundation and Onsite Gallery present Up Front: Inuit Public Art at Onsite Gallery, a series of commissioned digital murals by Inuit artists. In this iteration, Montreal-based artist Glenn Gear presented his mixed media work Takkik rising (2024).



Image: Glenn Gear *Takkik rising* (2023) mural at Onsite Gallery in Toronto, Photo by Polina Teif

BUILDING BEYOND: AN INSTRUCTIONAL LEGO® WORKSHOP W/ EKOW NIMAKO

MAY 03, 2024

In partnership with OCAD University’s Office of Diversity, Equity and Sustainability Initiatives (ODESI), we hosted a three-hour workshop with *power* artist Ekow Nimako, where high school and post-secondary students engaged in hands-on exploration by selecting and assembling one of the specially designed LEGO® kits. These kits served as canvases for participants to bring to life speculative visions of African legacies and dynasties. In the second half of the workshop, a human library session with arts professionals across the field was offered.



image: *power* – Building Beyond: An Instructional LEGO® Workshop with Ekow Nimako, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Lion Sher



Image: *power* – Building Beyond: An Instructional LEGO® Workshop with Ekow Nimako, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Lion Sher



Image: *power* – Building Beyond: An Instructional LEGO® Workshop with Ekow Nimako, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Lion Sher

EXPLORE & DISCOVER ROCKY DOBEY’S STREET ART WORKS

MAY 04, 2024

Led by exhibition *power* artist, Rocky Dobey, participants embarked on a guided walk to discover and learn about many of Dobey’s public artworks on the streets of Toronto. His works brings crucial focus to societal and civic concerns, including justice reform, globalization, neighborhood gentrification, Indigenous sovereignty, drug rehabilitation, and homelessness.



Image: *power* – Explore & Discover Rocky’s Public Art Works, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Kesa Smith

GLENN GEAR ARTIST TALK | UP FRONT + BONAVISTA BIENNALE CATALOGUE LAUNCH

MAY 11, 2024

In partnership with Inuit Art Foundation, Onsite Gallery hosted an artist talk with Glenn Gear and launched the 2023 Bonavista Biennale catalogue.



Image: Glenn Gear Artist Talk | Up Front + Bonavista Biennale Catalogue launch, in-person, 2024, Onsite Gallery, OCAD University, Toronto. Photo by Susan Jama

**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.**

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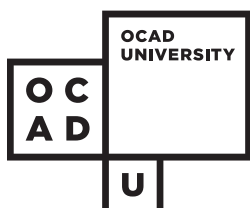
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OCAD University acknowledges the ancestral territories of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabeg and the Huron-Wendat, who are the original owners and custodians of the land on which we work, stand and create.



ONSITE GALLERY
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THE DELANEY FAMILY

THANK YOU!