

natureinthegarage *Exploding Wonder*

is a project by 10 International and Canadian artists who have been invited to address nature and the environment employing a standard garden shed placed in six locations throughout downtown Toronto. The shed, a common storage space found in residential backyards, becomes the dream sphere where visitors can experience the narratives and allegories we bring to the natural world.

The interactive nature of the exhibition is promoted by its very public downtown locations – City Hall, Harbourfront Centre, Fort York, the courtyard at 952 Queen St. W, the Drake Hotel and Gallery 1313. Artists include: Mary Anne Barkhouse, Catherine Bodmer, Maria Fernanda Cardoso, John Dickson, Noel Harding, Yvonne Lammerich, Gwen MacGregor, Rod Strickland, Noboru Tsubaki and Diing-Wuu Wu Walis.

Nature is everywhere. It holds secrets that we cannot find. It surprises and it inspires.

Garden sheds – like garages – hold many things, from garden tools to family stories. They can be a place to hide or a place to dream. The artists in **Nature in the Garage** explore their own stories: camouflaged insects that look like tree branches; a forest path; invisible animals; a bustling pad for wildlife; archaeological observations; uncontrolled growth; a Shangri-la; global politics; a bat cellar; and a bush blowing in the wind.

Coinciding at Gallery 1313 is the exhibition **No Such Place** with artists Stan Denniston, Andreas Hagenbach, Carolyn White and Walter Willems. The photographic works in this exhibition expand on the ephemeral experiences and associations we have to landscape.

Janet Bellotto, 2006

Nature in the Garage, curated by Janet Bellotto, is a project by liveARTs, in association with Gallery 1313 and in partnership with the City of Toronto.

Janet Bellotto is an artist and writer, currently working in Toronto. Bellotto's own work involves sculpture, installation and photography, and her practice has included the organization and realization of several projects in Montreal, Toronto and Mexico City with various artist collectives like yellowhat, Fresh Air and Sonnet Projects, as well as publications such as *Impulse Archaeology*.

COURTYARD (952 Queen St W) 24/7

Mary Anne Barkhouse (Minden, Ontario) “cellarium”

Born in Vancouver, B.C., Barkhouse belongs to the Nimpkish band, Kwakiutl First Nation. Barkhouse works in various media such as sculpture, photography and jewellery, that examine environmental concerns and indigenous culture through the use of animal imagery juxtaposed against a diversity of background situations. As she has exhibited widely across Canada, her work can be found in various collections and she has also completed several public art installations.

HARBOURFRONT CENTRE (235 Queens Quay W)

Mon – Fri: 9 – 5pm Sat – Sun: 12 – 5pm

Catherine Bodmer (Montreal, Quebec) “Pause”

Born in Switzerland, Bodmer's work involves installations, site specific interventions and photographic works that are characterized by a reflection on everyday practices related to cleanliness, purification and identity. Since 1997, she has shown her work in many collective and solo exhibitions in Québec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, Mexico and Taiwan.

Noel Harding (Toronto, Ontario) “A Chirp” 24/7

Often acknowledged for his monumental scale public art projects and environmental sculptures that address the role and plight of nature in the midst of 21st century urbanization, his work has been exhibited internationally and is found in various public collections. Harding's recent projects insert themselves into the city planning process as a statement about the role of art in both public space and public consciousness.

Yvonne Lammerich (Toronto, Ontario) “Island” 24/7

Born in Germany, and currently completing a doctorate in Art History (UQAM), Lammerich has exhibited in Canada and Europe since the 1980s. Lammerich is interested in redefining the terms we bring to painting by taking into consideration the simultaneity by which the body navigates real and projected space. Based in Montreal for many years, she has been involved in many international projects and her writings have appeared in several leading national and international art magazines.

GALLERY 1313 (1313 Queen St W)

Wed – Sun: 1 – 6pm

Maria Fernanda Cardoso (Sydney, Australia)

“A Garden of Insects that Look Like Plants”

Born in Columbia, Cardoso is well known for her unconventional use of materials and the use of animals as inspiration. Her work reveals her longstanding fascination with the natural world and the complexity of our relationship to it. Best known for her project the “Cardoso Flea Circus”, Cardoso's work has been selected for major international survey exhibitions, the Venice Biennale, and has showed in many solo and group exhibitions.

DRAKE HOTEL (1150 Queen St W)

Wed – Sun: 1 – 8pm

Rod Strickland (Windsor, Ontario) “Parkesine House”

Strickland's work explores themes found in continually evolving and complex linkages within the natural and built environment. These themes explore the frictions implicit in our knowledge of historical landscape intermingled with our experience of the contemporary post-industrial and urban development. Strickland has exhibited sculpture, installation and digital imagery throughout North America.

CITY HALL lobby level (100 Queen St W)

Wed – Sun: 1 – 4pm or <http://anj.or.jp/una/>

Noboru Tsubaki (Kyoto, Japan) “UNshop”

Since 1995, Tsubaki has opened many workshops and began creating objects that would question society – not superficially, but by the existence of the work itself. Tsubaki has exhibited internationally with his huge, at times inflatable, sculptures, at sites including the Venice Biennale, throughout Europe and the United States.

FORT YORK main entrance (100 Garrison Rd)

Wed – Sun: 1 – 5pm

Gwen MacGregor (Toronto, Ontario) “Nonreturnable (version 2)”

MacGregor is well known for her work in various media – sculpture-installation, photography and video – that records temporal environments revealing the wondrous and uncanny in the familiar. Her work reflects a close observation of time as it is manifested in objects, acts and movement. MacGregor has participated in gallery exhibits and projects in unusual sites across Canada and in Mexico City, London, Prague, Venice, Shanghai and Los Angeles.

Diing-Wuu Wu Walis (Taipei, Taiwan) “free invisible animals”

Of aboriginal descent, Walis is an artist and graphic designer who has been focusing his work in the direction of aboriginal history, and the maintenance of aboriginal cultural assets by using digital media art tools against the invasion of mainstream culture in Taiwan and the Western World. He has exhibited extensively in Taiwan and France and has participated in various conferences on digital media and published several books.

John Dickson (Toronto, Ontario) “Diorama”

Dickson's kinetic sculpture and installations have explored humanity's tenuous relationship with the natural world. He is particularly interested in exhibiting work in non-gallery situations which has led to his involvement with collective projects such as Nether Mind, Persona Volare, and alternative venues like THE TREE MUSEUM. He has shown across Canada and internationally.

(Map not to scale)

MAP

		Yonge St.		
		Bay St.		
	1	York St.		
Queen St. W.		Bathurst St.	2	Queens Quay W.
	4	Givins St.		3
	5	Beaconsfield Ave.		
		Brock Ave.		
	6	Lansdowne Ave.		

LOCATIONS

1. CITY HALL (100 Queen St. W.)
2. HARBOURFRONT CENTRE (235 Queens Quay W.)
3. FORT YORK (100 Garrison Road, off Fleet St., east of Strachan Ave., west of Bathurst St.)
4. COURTYARD (952 Queen St. W.)
5. DRAKE HOTEL (1150 Queen St. W.)
6. GALLERY 1313 (1313 Queen St. W.)

Greyhound Canada NatureontheBus TOUR

Bus tours begin inside City Hall in front of the Rotunda, and continue to Harbourfront Centre, Fort York, Courtyard at 952 Queen St. W, Drake Hotel and Gallery 1313.

JULY 12 5pm General tour
7pm A talk and tour with critic/curator Corinna Ghaznavi and CCCA director Bill Kirby, with a focus on the works at City Hall, Harbourfront Centre and the Courtyard.

JULY 13 2:30pm + 4:30pm General tours

JULY 19 5pm General tour
6:45pm A talk and tour with Curator Janet Bellotto and Gallery 1313 Director, Phil Anderson with a focus on Fort York, Drake Hotel and Gallery 1313.

OTHER TOURS & ACTIVITIES

JULY 13 The Paper Place Origami Workshop at Gallery 1313

AUGUST 2 7:30pm Gallery 1313
Talking **Nature in the Garage + No Such Place** with New York Curator Koan Jeff Baysa and host Steve Rockwell, Publisher, d'ART Magazine, Toronto.

For all tours and workshops, or to book a public walking tour, contact the gallery: 416.536.6778

Gallery 1313 1313 Queen St W Tor, ON M6K 1L8

Live video viewing of locations!
www.natureinthegarage.ca



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June 29 to August 6, 2006

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- Catherine Bodmer
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Curated by Janet Bellotto