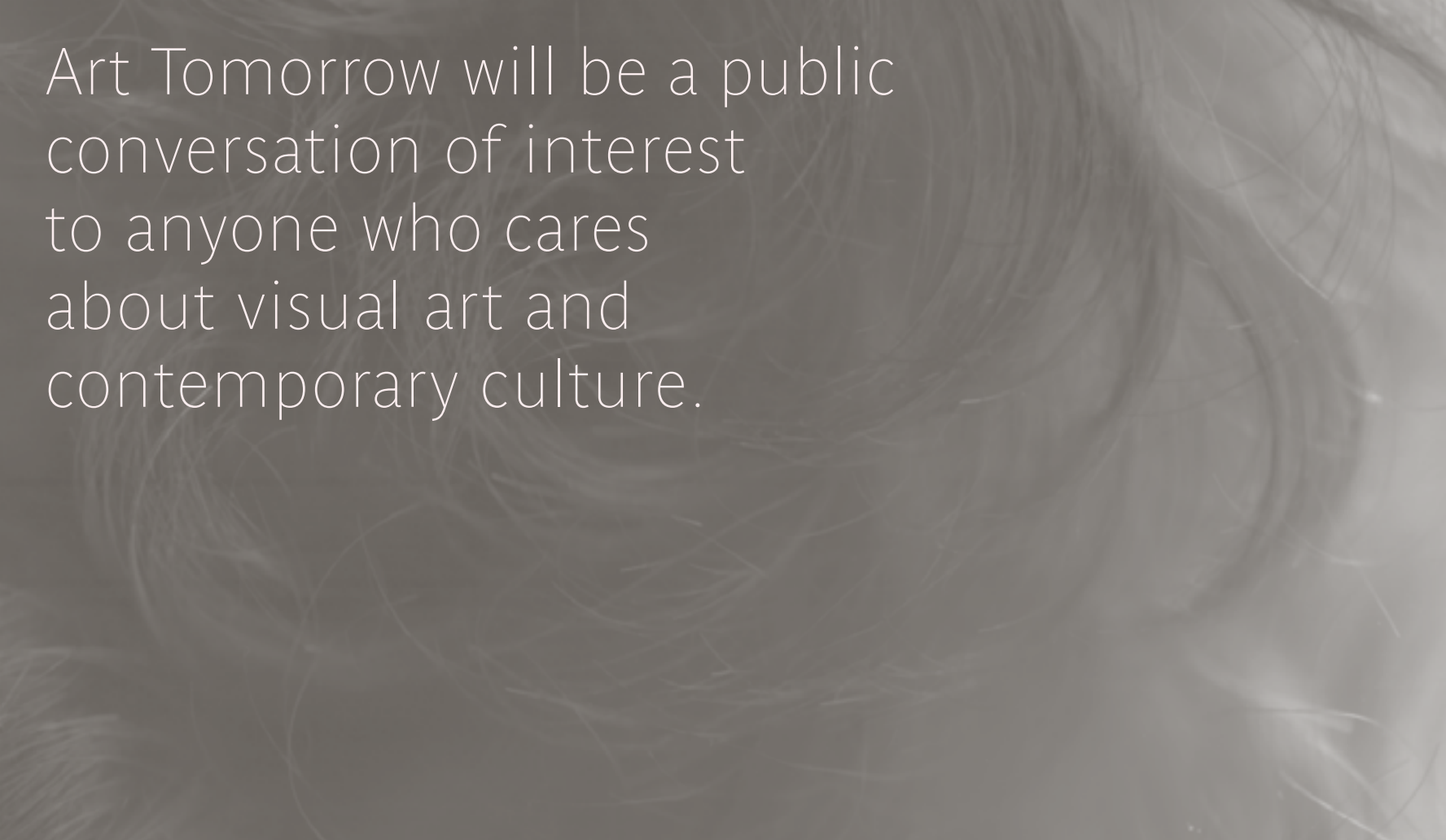


ARTTOMORROW

Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art
Forum on the future of contemporary art institutions

Nov 1 – 3 2007
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

AGENDA



Art Tomorrow will be a public conversation of interest to anyone who cares about visual art and contemporary culture.

ARTTOMORROW

Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art Forum on the future of contemporary art institutions

November 1 to 3, Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art (ICA) presents the forum **Art Tomorrow**, exploring the future of contemporary visual arts institutions in Canada. As Canada's first and oldest ICA, Plug In has organized this event to explore and articulate the role of this dynamic form of arts institution in the Canadian context.

The Art Tomorrow forum will bring together experts from across Canada and internationally to discuss the possibilities and challenges of institutions that research, present and document contemporary art. The forum will investigate the history and development of the contemporary art institute, its relationship to other arts organizations, educational institutions, artists and communities. The panels and discussion groups will highlight new ideas in the presentation of art and culture, Canada's historical context in visual arts, and develop possibilities for the development of the ICA in Winnipeg, Manitoba and Canada over the coming decade.

Winnipeg has become renowned internationally for its dynamic visual arts community, fostering the development of numerous artists, writers, architects and filmmakers. Plug In ICA is in the preliminary design and feasibility stage of planning new facilities and expanded programs, residencies and publishing, and plays a leading role in Winnipeg and Canada for the development of contemporary visual arts.

This forum is free and open to the public, but participants must register to attend by **October 26 at (204) 942-1043**. (Registering includes the option to order lunches at the Fort Garry Hotel, host of this event). Everyone welcome!

Plug In ICA would like to thank and acknowledge its funders, partners, participants, staff and volunteers. Art Tomorrow was made possible with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Canada Council for the Arts, as well as the Experimental Media Centre (University of Manitoba) and the Thompson Rivers University SSHRC Community Research Alliance, Measuring the Quality of Life in Small Cities project (Kamloops). Plug In is also generously supported by the Manitoba Arts Council and Winnipeg Arts Council, the WH and SE Loewen Foundation, Investors Group, CanWest Global Communications, and individual donors. Plug In ICA is a registered federal charity, for more information on donations please visit our website or contact the gallery.

Plug In ICA

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Thursday, November 1, 2007

7 pm Art Tomorrow Reception,

Registration and Book Launch

Plug In ICA, 286 McDermot Avenue

Welcome: Noam Gonick, President, Plug In ICA
and Anthony Kiendl, Director, Plug In ICA

Exhibition: *Scratching the Surface: The Post-Prairie Landscape*
(on view in the gallery and satellite space at 290 McDermot Avenue)

Book Launch: Jeanne Randolph: *Ethics of Luxury* co-published by YYZ Books
(Toronto) and Plug In Editions. The author will be in attendance to sign books
and give a brief account.

Performance to be announced. Everyone welcome.

Plug In VIP lounge November 2 & 3

9 am to 5 pm (Friday and Saturday)

Fort Garry Hotel, 222 Broadway Avenue, Salon "A"

Visit the Plug In VIP Lounge in the Fort Garry's Salon A throughout the forum to
relax, meet, or meditate. The Lounge features couches, artwork, videos, displays and
publications exploring Plug In ICA past and present.

Friday, November 2

9 am Continental Breakfast

9.30 am Opening Art Tomorrow

Fort Garry Hotel, 222 Broadway Avenue, Mezzanine Level

Introductory remarks: Anthony Kiendl, Director, Plug In ICA
Su Ditta, Consultant, Art Tomorrow Project

Case Studies in Contemporary Art Institutions: Guest Speaker Presentations

Topic 1: Where it's at?! Contemporary art institutional structures and practices:
focus on history, context, approaches to contemporary art programs.

10.15 am Introduction to panel by moderator Su Ditta

More than anonymous, objective and purely administrative frameworks, the institu-
tional structures that house, create and document contemporary art are inextricably
linked to art's meaning, reception, interpretation and enjoyment.

This panel will discuss ICAs and other institutional models in an historical and inter-
national context. Areas of exploration include: What institutional value does the ICA
concept have at present? How is it distinct from commercial, artist-run, and private
galleries or museums? How are exhibition and other presentation programs devel-
oped and delivered in this context? How do ICAs imagine and construct audience and
community? What management and governance structures are in place, and what
are their strengths and weaknesses? How do these organizations develop and sustain
themselves? What can we learn from the past and the experience of others?

The purpose of this session is to gather information (through case studies) from a
range of international consultants and experts in the field regarding alternative struc-
tures, management and governance practices at a range of institutions with similar
or related functions, programs and structures. How does this information allow us to
imagine alternative structures and possibilities for organizational development?

Panelists:

10.30 am AA Bronson, Director, Printed Matter (New York), artist.

10.50 am Kitty Scott, formerly Chief Curator, Serpentine Gallery (London)
Director, Visual Arts, The Banff Centre

11.10 am Michelle Jacques, Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art,
Art Gallery of Ontario (Toronto)

11.30 am Steve Loft, Director, Urban Shaman Gallery (Winnipeg)

11.50 pm Discussion forum on Topic 1: Moderator, Su Ditta

Su Ditta will provide a brief analysis of critical concepts and pose questions. Discussion and questions to focus on critical analysis of structures, models and organizational value.

12.20 pm Lunch (audience participants must pre-register for lunch)

Case Studies in Contemporary Art Institutions: Guest Speaker Presentations

Topic 2: Contemporary art institutions and cultural contexts:

Focus on Winnipeg and its environments.

1.25 pm Introduction to panel by moderator Wayne Baerwaldt, Director, Illingworth Kerr Gallery (Calgary) introduced by Suzanne Gillies

Contemporary art institutions can be an essential part of any community's fabric, providing a meeting place, a site for research, contemplation, production, learning and provocation—through new and challenging ideas. Contemporary art plays a crucial role in the creativity, literacy and health of our communities. At times an austere monument to international art, or alternately a “community centre” focusing on local values, each institution consciously and at times unconsciously, may establish an atmosphere reflective of, contrary to, or complexly intermingling associations, meanings and sensibilities.

Using Winnipeg—and the prairies—as a case study, this panel will explore a variety of questions including how does place, infrastructure, history and social context affect the reception, production, and interpretation of contemporary art? What is the role of artists, public, curators, educators, tourists, business, and government in arts institutions? What case studies might we consider in finding utopian or alternative models for contemporary art?

Panelists:

1.35 pm Steven Matijcio, Curator, Plug In ICA (Winnipeg)

1.55 pm Sigrid Dahle, unaffiliated curator (Winnipeg)

2.15 pm Lori Blondeau, Founder and Director of TRIBE,
Centre for Aboriginal Art (Saskatoon)

2.35 pm Eleanor Bond, artist, former president of Plug In (Winnipeg/Montreal)

2.55 pm Paul Butler, artist, Director of Other Gallery and Collage Party (Winnipeg)

3.15 pm Discussion forum on Topic 2: Moderator: Wayne Baerwaldt

Wayne Baerwaldt will provide a brief analysis of critical concepts and pose questions. Discussion and questions to focus on critical analysis of social, historical and environmental contexts in structuring and understanding ICAs.

3.45 pm Coffee and Tea break

4.00 pm Guest Speaker Presentation: Jens Hoffmann, Director of the CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts in San Francisco, former Director of Exhibitions, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK.

4.30 pm Critical issues discussion groups

Guest speakers and audience participants will form small groups to exchange ideas generated by the day's discussion and explore future possibilities.

Group 1: ICAs, Artist-run Centres and Museums. Facilitators:

Theo Sims, Program Coordinator, Ace Art (Winnipeg)
and Jenny Western, Assistant Director, Urban Shaman (Winnipeg)

Group 2: Art, Institutions and Publishing. Facilitators:

Meeka Walsh, Editor, Border Crossings (Winnipeg)
and Rob Labossiere, Editor, YYZ Books (Toronto)

Group 3: Supporting Interdisciplinary Practices. Facilitators:

Sandee Moore, Director, Video Pool (Winnipeg)
and J.J. Kegan McFadden, Director, Platform (Winnipeg)

Group 4: Art Production and Institutions. Facilitators:

Sheila Spence, Director, Martha Steet Studios (Winnipeg), and TBA

5.30 pm Plenary Review and share group findings: Moderator Su Ditta

6.30 pm Dinner Break

8.00 pm Art Tomorrow Cabaret and Vav Jungle CD Release

"Vav Jungle is the grooviest most compact act I've ever seen!"
- The Millionaire, Combustible Edison

The Art Tomorrow Cabaret and Vav Jungle CD Release takes place on Friday November, 2, 2007 from 8.00pm to 1.00am at the Fort Garry Hotel basement lounge (formerly Broadways) (222 Broadway Avenue).

Whatever Art Tomorrow ends up becoming, Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art is committed to making sure it will be fun. For that reason, Plug In and Vav Jungle team up to organize the Art Tomorrow Cabaret and CD Release event. Eve Rice, also known as DJBeeKeeni, of Vav Jungle provides the music for the night off her forthcoming, never before heard album 'Pap Rock' along with other tunes from around the world.

The night also features performance art, screenings and the chance to win one of several door prizes, including one of five original works of art, from the edition "Picturing Winnipeg" by Paul Butler, Catherine Collins, Simon Hughes, Bonnie Marin, and Karen Schulz, Plug In ICA paraphernalia, such as tote bags and aprons and various Plug In publications, such as *Beck and Al Hansen Playing with Matches*, Janet Cardiff and George Bures Miller's *The Paradise Institute*, and John Körmeling's *A Good Book*.

Tickets can be purchased at Plug In ICA in person (286 McDermot Avenue), by phone (204-942-1043) or at the door the night of the event for \$20.00 or \$15.00 for students. Cash bar. Everyone welcome. Limited capacity, buy tickets now.

Saturday, November 3

9.00 am Continental Breakfast

9.30 am Announcements and Introductions

Fort Garry Hotel, 222 Broadway Avenue

Guest Speaker Presentation:

9:40 am Glen Murray, Urban Strategist, AuthenticCity, and former Mayor of Winnipeg

Case Studies in Contemporary Art Institutions: Guest Speaker Presentations.

Topic 3: Back to School: Focus on research, education, training and professional development, artists' residencies, creation and production.

Like Plug In ICA, many contemporary art institutions prioritize research as a primary activity, from which they derive programs in the form of exhibitions, publications, public events, etc. This panel will explore the institutional resources that support innovative research and programs. What is the nature of contemporary art research, and how do institutions outside of the university context realize meaningful research? What collaborations or partnerships exist with other academic institutions and what are their strengths and weaknesses?

How do artist residency programs function in visual arts or fine arts research? How is practice-led research understood and facilitated? How is it shared with the public, and disseminated? What is the role of an ICA in supporting artistic creation?

What role do artist-residency programs play in research, critical inquiry, and knowledge production? How can such programs be integrated into the community? How are visual arts research and related activities evaluated and better understood, especially outside the arts?

10:30 am Introduction by Moderator: Anthony Kiendl

Panelists:

10.35 am Ashok Mathur, Canada Research Chair, Director Centre for Cultural Inquiry, Thompson Rivers University (Kamloops)

10.55 am Barbara Fischer, Director, J.M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, University of Toronto (Toronto)

11.15 am François Dion, Director, Artext(e) (Montreal)

11.35 am Joseph del Pesco, Curator, Artists Space (New York)

11.55 am Pablo Helguera, artist, head of adult public programs, Museum of Modern Art (New York)

12.15 pm Discussion Forum on Topic 3. Moderator: Anthony Kiendl

Discussion will allow for critical analysis of the role of education, art production, residencies, interdisciplinary practices, and professional development in ICAs. It will examine the role of process versus presentation in institutional programs in the context of contemporary art production over the coming decade.

12.45 pm Lunch (audience participants must pre-register for lunch)

Case Studies in Contemporary Art Institutions: Guest Speaker Presentations

Topic 4: State-of-the-Art-Infrastructure: Shaping Institutions and Architecture

Since Frank Gehry's Guggenheim in Bilbao there is a resurgence of new buildings for contemporary art and cultural spaces, and their consequent impact in shaping our cities. Some of the critical questions emerging from these new facilities are: Is the architecture there for the art? Is the architecture there to celebrate itself? Haunting this discussion is the concept of infrastructure "as" art. Clearly contemporary art institutions are central and crucial in constructing our cultural and physical urban spaces. What is the position of architecture in the redefinition of our urban infrastructures? How do questions concerning site, community context or other environmental factors assist proposed curatorial practices? Ultimately, what are the conversations between art and architecture in connection to the spaces of contemporary art institutions?

2.00 pm Introduction and presentation: Eduardo Aquino, architect, artist, spmb_projects (Winnipeg) and Karen Shanski, architect, artist, spmb_projects (Winnipeg)

2.20 pm Presentation: Neil Minuk, architect, principal, DIN Projects and professor, University of Manitoba, and David Penner, principal, David Penner Architects (Winnipeg) Neil Minuk and David Penner will present research for a new Plug In ICA through juxtaposing alternative feasibility studies and models.

3.00 pm Discussion Forum on Topic 4: Eduardo Aquino and Karen Shanski, Moderators In this discussion architects will discuss the impact of infrastructure on realizing, influencing and reflecting institutional programs. Through the presentation of local case studies and potential projects for a new Plug In ICA, as well as a discussion of the context and contemporary thinking around the built environment and art institutions internationally, we may consider some of the utopian possibilities and practical limitations that impact program and facility infrastructures for ICAs and related institutions.

3.30 pm Coffee and Tea Break

3.45 pm Critical issues discussion groups

Guest speakers and audience participants will form small groups to exchange ideas generated by the day's discussion and explore future possibilities.

Group 1: Art Training, Alternative Art Schools, Residencies, Pedagogies and Institutions. Facilitators: Jennifer Gibson, Director, Gallery 1C03, University of Winnipeg, and Lon Dubinsky, Kamloops Art Gallery

Group 2: Architecture and Spaces for Practices
Facilitators: Nat Chard, professor, University of Manitoba and TBA

Group 3: Funding and Organizational Development.
Facilitators: Pierre Arpin, Director, Winnipeg Art Gallery and TBA

Group 4: Research and Knowledge Production in Public Institutions
Facilitators: Herb Enns, Director, Experimental Media Centre, University of Manitoba (Winnipeg) and TBA

4.45 pm Plenary Review and share group findings: Moderator Su Ditta

5.45 pm Closing remarks Anthony Kiendl and Su Ditta