

Contemporary
Art Gallery

Winter 2022

CAG

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Alex Morrison
Nooks and Corners
January 28 → May 1

Alison Yip
Soma Topika
January 28 → May 1

Charlene Vickers
Through → March 20

Michelle Bui
Mutable Materialism
April 1 → August 28

CAG

Alex Morrison Nooks and Corners



January 28

For more than twenty years, the practice of Vancouver-based artist Alex Morrison has explored the aesthetics of utopian thought, whether as embedded in activism and counterculture or architecture and design. Highlighting the persistent ways radical ideals and impulses are historicized, distorted and repurposed over time, Morrison's work traces the means by which even the most persuasive of vernaculars cycle from avant-garde to kitsch and commodity.

In *Nooks and Corners*, Morrison presents a suite of new and recent works in painting and sculpture that extend his ongoing investigation into cultural identification and the ways identity and politics are fashioned aesthetically, particularly in the domestic sphere. Whether reflecting on the migration of once-revolutionary abstractions into the decorative and ornamental, the houseplant as an object of status and signification, or architectural revivalisms emptied of their styles' foundational integrities and optimisms, Morrison foregrounds the inevitable divergences between the original intent of a given aesthetic and its continuous, often contradictory adaptation to new social and political ends.

Alex Morrison was born in Redruth, UK and currently lives and works in Vancouver, Canada. His work has been exhibited at White Columns, New York; La Plage, Paris; Vancouver Art Gallery; Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff; and Artspeak, Vancouver, amongst other venues. His work is held by the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa; Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto; Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal; Museum Abteiberg, Germany; Zabłudowicz Collection, London, and numerous other public and private collections.



May 1

Alison Yip

Soma Topika



January 28

Across her work in painting, wall treatments, writing, and sculpture, artist Alison Yip moves between the observational and the speculative. Known for an ongoing concern with the ambiguities and ambivalences of figuration and perception, Yip's works often evoke transitional states, mystical forms and psychic or spiritual phenomena to consider the disconnected ways humans experience time, space, self, and relationships.

Reflecting on the radical systems failures and temporal shifts of the current moment, Yip's most recent body of work, *Soma Topika*, led her to look for ways to envision alternative futures. Undertaking parallel divinatory processes, Yip engaged both a neo-shaman and a psychic, posing to each an identical set of questions about her life, relationships and desires. From this, she produced two sets of intimate oil paintings, depicting herself in each as a poseable mannequin in scenes that interpret the concurrent yet contradictory predictions delivered to her. Rendered on unconventional substrates—scraps of metal for the psychic's predictions and laminate floor tiles for the neo-shaman's—Yip presents these works at CAG amidst a gallery under renovation, offering a scene that is as provisional and unfixed as the futures she seeks.

Alison Yip's multidisciplinary practice finds ways of speaking to the dispersed nature of our cognitive apparatus, often working from the psycho-phenomenal origins of figuration. Ambivalent tensions are evoked through a mix of withholding expressions, over-used or popular imagery and various pictorial modes. Yip holds a BFA from the Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary. She continued her studies at Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Germany and in 2016 received an MFA from the Hochschule für bildende Künste in Hamburg, Germany. Recent solo, collaborative and group exhibitions include Galerie Noah Klink, Berlin; Mauer, Cologne; Mécènes du Sud, Montpellier; Dortmunder Kunstverein, Dortmund; Monte Clark Gallery, Vancouver; ACUD, Berlin; and Lady Helen, London.

→ May 1

Charlene Vickers

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Through _____

Exhibition Charlene Vickers

CAG Façade and 7 Yaletown-Roundhouse Station

Encompassing a wide range of media—including painting, sculpture, performance, and installation—the practice of Charlene Vickers operates as a visionary expression of what the artist terms *embodied territory*. Giving vital form to the lands, histories and relations of her birthplace in Wauzhushk Onigum as they are felt, imagined and carried across distance, Vickers' works lucidly manifest ancestral connections, cultural reclamations and her territorial presence as Anishinaabe Kwe, while responding formally to the Coast Salish land she has resided upon for the past thirty years.

Following her fall 2021 exhibition, *Ancestor Gesture*, two of Vickers' public-facing projects remain on view this season. On the façade of CAG, the artist presents *Accumulations of Moments Spent Underwater with the Sun And Moon*, a series of outsized reproductions of her iconic zigzag paintings. Drawing inspiration in part from the quillwork embroidery of her ancestors, these works kaleidoscopically render the rhythms and patterns of the landscapes Vickers moves through, both natural and urban. At Yaletown-Roundhouse Station, Vickers offers *Felt Ovoids*, printing a series of her iconic mixed-media fibre works on the station's exterior in a scene evocative of vitality, community and exchange.

Felt Ovoids is presented in partnership with the Canada Line Public Art Program—InTransit BC.

Charlene Vickers is an Anishinaabe artist based in Vancouver. Her painting, sculpture and performance works explore memory, healing and embodied connections to ancestral lands. Recent exhibitions include a co-presentation with Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun *Lets'lo:tseltun, Macaulay & Co. Fine Art* (2021); *Rain Shadow*, Nanaimo Art Gallery (2021); Biennale nationale de sculpture Contemporaine, Quebec (2020); *the map is not the territory* at the Portland Art Museum (2019); *Speaking From Hands and Earth*, SFU Galleries (2018); *Connective Tissue: New Approaches in Contemporary Fibre Art*, MoCNA, Santa Fe (2017); and *If We Never Met*, Pataka Art Museum, Porirua, New Zealand (2016). Vickers is the recipient of the 2018 VIVA Award. She graduated from Emily Carr University of Art and Design (1994) and Simon Fraser University (Critical Studies of the Arts, 1998; MFA, 2013).

→ March 20

Michelle
Bui

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Mutable
Materialism



April 1

Exhibition Michelle Bui

CAG Façade and Yaletown-Roundhouse Station 9

Bringing both a painterly and sculptural approach to her photographic practice, Montreal-based artist Michelle Bui operates within the visual language of the still life. Working with an array of everyday, seemingly unremarkable materials, Bui creates assemblages for the camera, building alluring scenes through processes of accumulating, merging, manipulating, and resituating.

In *Mutable Materialism*, an exhibition presented on the CAG façade and at Yaletown-Roundhouse Station, Bui offers two new suites of images, each a reflection on the relationships between sense, sensation and desire. Whether referencing the seductive language of advertising, the tactility of the touch-screen, or the conventions of commercial packaging and display, Bui's works engage and confuse, coaxing incongruous forms into conversation with one another to invite reflection on the ways we connect with and consume objects and images alike.

Michelle Bui: Mutable Materialism is organized by the Contemporary Art Gallery and Capture Photography Festival. The project is co-curated by Julia Lamare, Acting Associate Curator, Contemporary Art Gallery and Chelsea Yuill, Assistant Curator, Capture Photography Festival.

Michelle Bui is a Montreal-based artist working in photography and sculpture. Her research revolves around the inseparable conjuncture between material culture and identity, opening it to a shifted place where sensory identity can unfold. Recent solo exhibitions include *Objects for an Audience*, Galerie Rad Hourani, Montreal (2020); *Spilled Plenitude*, Franz Kaka, Toronto (2020); *Centerfold*, Parisian Laundry, Montreal (2019); *Plein Soleil*, Circa, Montreal (2019); and *Pool of Plenty*, Galerie de l'UQAM, Montreal (2018). Her work was also included in group shows at Maison de la culture Claude-Léveillée, Montreal; Paul Robeson Galleries at Rutgers University, Newark; Projet Pangée, Montreal; Vu Photo, Quebec City. Bui completed her MA at Université du Québec à Montréal and at Beaux-arts de Paris, and her BFA at Concordia University.

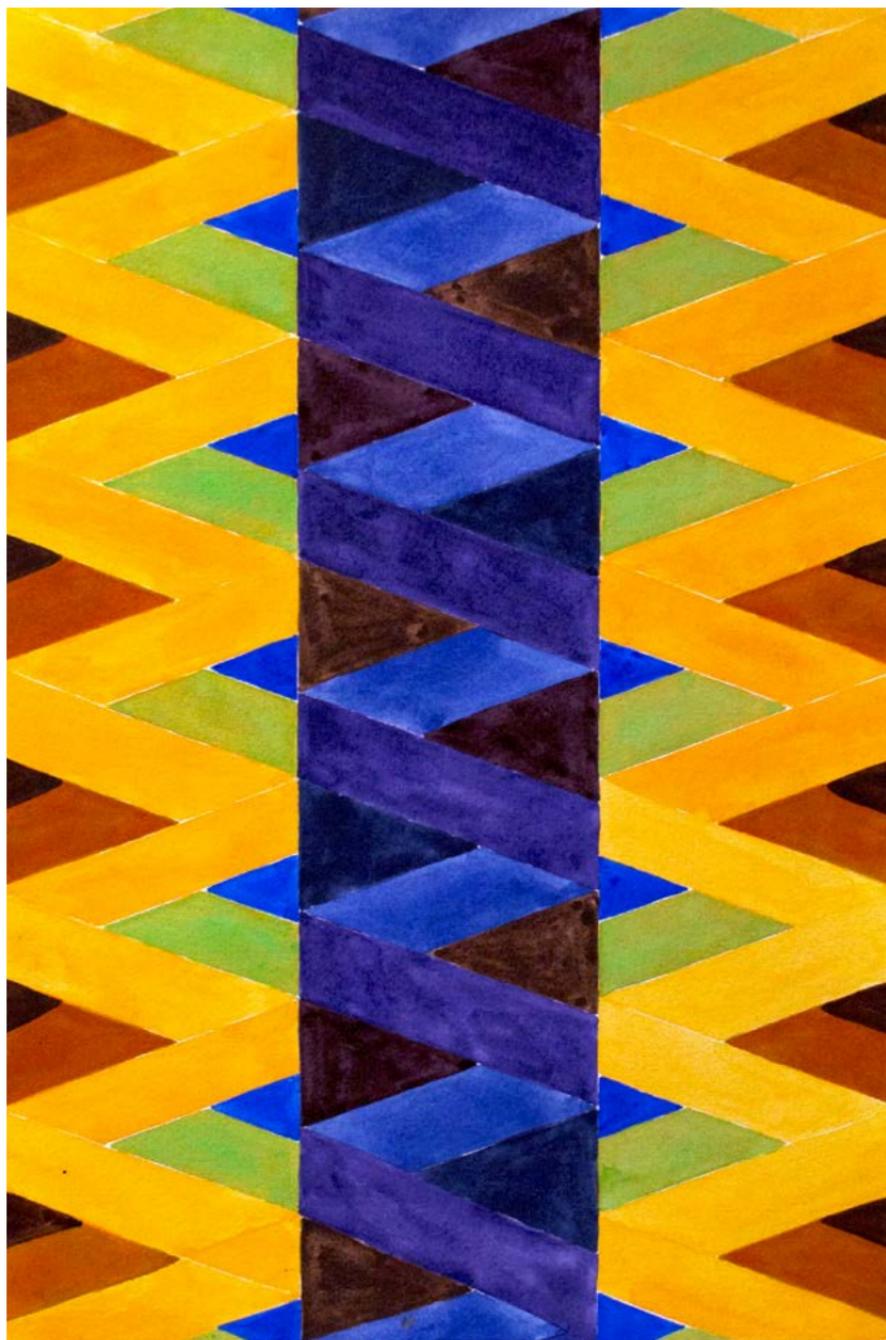


August 28

Images













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Alex Morrison
Interior with Mushroom Motif, 2018
Courtesy the artist and Monte Clark



Alex Morrison
Interior with Sculpture and Furniture, 2019
Courtesy the artist and Monte Clark



Charlene Vickers
Accumulations of Moments Spent Underwater with the Sun and Moon
(detail), 2015-2016
Courtesy the artist and Macaulay & Co. Fine Art



Charlene Vickers
Accumulations of Moments Spent Underwater with the Sun and Moon
(detail), 2015-2016
Courtesy the artist and Macaulay & Co. Fine Art



Michelle Bui
Oyster, 2021
Courtesy the artist



Michelle Bui
Glue Gunned, 2021
Courtesy the artist

Curatorial Tours

Julia Lamare

Wed 16 Feb • 6 pm

Join CAG's Acting Associate Curator Julia Lamare for a guided tour of the current exhibitions, including *Alison Yip: Soma Topika*.

Matthew Hyland

Wed 9 Mar • 6 pm

CAG's Executive Director Matthew Hyland will lead a tour of the winter 2022 exhibitions, including *Alex Morrison: Nooks and Corners*.

Chelsea Yuill

Wed 20 Apr • 6 pm

Capture Photography Festival's Assistant Curator Chelsea Yuill will welcome guests for a tour of *Michelle Bui: Mutable Materialisms*.

Saturday Sessions

One Saturday each month, CAG invites a guest host to lead walk-throughs of our current exhibitions, offering their insights and response to the works on view.

Julian Yi-Zhong Hou on Alison Yip

Sat 26 Feb • 12 pm

Alex Morrison on Alex Morrison

Sat 26 Mar • 12 pm

Karen Zalamea on Michelle Bui

Sat 9 Apr • 12 pm

All talks and events are free and suitable for a general audience.

Talks and readings held online via Zoom will be live captioned (CART).

For more information contact learning@contemporaryartgallery.ca

CAG Reads

A book club where artists invite us to read alongside them, CAG Reads welcomes an artist each month to propose a book for our collective reading pleasure, culminating in a virtual hangout grounded in their chosen reading material. Selections are announced each month on our website and through our social media channels.

February CAG Reads

Cole Pauls

Sun 20 Feb • 4 pm → 5:30 pm

Online via Zoom

March CAG Reads

Tiziana La Melia

Sun 20 Mar • 4 pm → 5:30 pm

Online via Zoom

April CAG Reads

Douglas Watt

Sun 24 Apr • 4 pm → 5:30 pm

Online via Zoom

For more details or to register, visit contemporaryartgallery.ca

Open Studio

Open Studio is a monthly program for young visitors and families inspired by contemporary art practices and CAG's current exhibitions. Workshops will take place onsite at CAG once a month from February to April. This season, CAG is pleased to welcome guest artists Jack Kenna, Svava Tergesen and semillites hernández velasco to deliver these programs.

Portrait of Your Future Self

semillites hernández velasco

Sat 12 Feb • 1 pm → 3 pm

3D Illusions and Collage

Jack Kenna

Sat 12 Mar • 1 pm → 3 pm

Food as Sculpture

Svava Tergesen

Sat 2 Apr • 1 pm → 3 pm

For more details or to register, visit contemporaryartgallery.ca

Video Visits

Following the opening of our winter season, CAG will release a series of Video Visits that offer short takes on the current exhibitions. Presented in five languages—Cantonese, English, French, Mandarin, and Spanish—these videos will present a variety of perspectives on the work of Alex Morrison and Alison Yip.

Visit contemporaryartgallery.ca for more details.

The Contemporary Art Gallery is generously supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the City of Vancouver and the Province of BC through the BC Arts Council and the BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch. We are also grateful for the support of Vancouver Foundation and our members, donors and volunteers.

We gratefully acknowledge the generous multi-year support of BMO Financial Group.



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Capture Photography Festival

At the Contemporary Art Gallery, we carry out our work on the ancestral and unceded lands of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), S^kwx^wú7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwətał/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We are engaged in an active learning process about our responsibilities to the stewards of the land we occupy.

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Calendar

Feb 12

Open Studio with
semillites hernández
velasco

1 pm → 3 pm

Feb 16

Curatorial Tour with
Julia Lamare

6 pm

Feb 20

CAG Reads with
Cole Pauls

4 pm → 5:30 pm

Feb 26

Saturday Session with
Julian Yi-Zhong Hou

12 pm

Mar 9

Curatorial Tour with
Matthew Hyland

6 pm

Mar 12

Open Studio with
Jack Kenna

1 pm → 3 pm

Mar 20

CAG Reads with
Tiziana La Melia

4 pm → 5:30 pm

Mar 26

Saturday Session with
Alex Morrison

12 pm

Apr 2

Open Studio with
Svava Tergesen

1 pm → 3 pm

Apr 9

Saturday Session with
Karen Zalamea

12 pm

Apr 20

Curatorial Tour with
Chelsea Yuill

6 pm

Apr 24

CAG Reads with
Douglas Watt

4 pm → 5:30 pm

Contemporary
Art Gallery

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Open Tuesday to Sunday, 12 pm → 6 pm
Free admission