



Contemporary Art Gallery

Vancouver, BC

Corbin Union

OSOSO

January 22 to May 2, 2021

B.C. Binning Gallery

Christine Howard Sandoval

A wall is a shadow on the land

January 22 to May 2, 2021

Alvin Balkind Gallery and off-site at Yaletown-Roundhouse Station

Nicole Kelly Westman

muddled mirage of memories escaping encapsulation

January 22 to August 29, 2021

CAG Façade

Corbin Union

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B.C. Binning Gallery

Corbin Union (founded in 2012) is an artist collective comprised of core members Miruna Dragan, Jason de Haan and Warren McLachlan, working site-responsively to the ghost town of Corbin, BC on the unceded lands of the Sinixt, Ktunaxa, Secwepemc, and Syilx Nations. Past Corbin Union projects have been presented at Museo de la Ciudad de Querétaro (2019); Unit/Pitt, Vancouver (2016); Untitled Art Society, Calgary (2015); Bond House Projects, London, UK (2013); and Easts St. Arts, London, UK (2013). In 2021 Corbin Union will present a new iteration of OSOSO at Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Querétaro (MACQ), accompanied by a monograph co-published by CAG and MACQ.

Miruna Dragan (Bucharest, 1975) is a multidisciplinary artist settled in Mohkinstsis/Calgary on traditional Blackfoot and Metis lands since 2009. Exhibition venues include u's, Diamond Valley (2020); Living Art Museum, Reykjavík (2019); Museo de la Ciudad de Querétaro (2019); Blackwood Gallery at University of Toronto (2018); Nickle Galleries at University of Calgary (2017); Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge (2016); Nanaimo Art Gallery (2015); G Gallery, Toronto (2014); Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton (2013); Esker Foundation, Calgary (2013); Museo de la Ciudad de Querétaro (2012); Kyber ICA, Halifax (2011); and Truck Contemporary Art, Calgary (2010). Dragan received an MFA from Rhode Island School of Design in 2001 and is Associate Professor at Alberta University of the Arts.

Jason de Haan (Edmonton, 1981) is a multidisciplinary artist settled in Mohkinstsis/Calgary on traditional Blackfoot and Metis lands. de Haan received an MFA from Bard College, NY in 2015. Exhibition venues include u's, Diamond Valley (2020); Kling & Bang, Reykjavík (2019); Clint Roenisch Gallery, Toronto (2018); Esker Foundation, Calgary (2017); MASS MoCA, North Adams (2016); De Fabriek, Eindhoven (2016); Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton (2016); Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (2014); Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax (2014); Oakville Galleries (2012); and Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge (2012). de Haan's work has been reviewed in Canadian Art Magazine, Art in America and Artforum, and in 2020 he was co-awarded the Sobey Art Award representing the Prairies and the North.

Corbin Union is a Vancouver- and Calgary-based artist collective that has gathered annually since 2012 in the deserted East Kootenay coal-mining town of Corbin, BC to create both individual and collaborative works. Under a conceptual framework of excavation and entombment, mirroring and refraction, the collective's three core members—Miruna Dragan, Jason de Haan and Warren McLachlan—bring together a range of interwoven experimental object and image forms in OSOSO.

Central to the exhibition is an expansive installation informed by the vernacular architecture of Corbin's original townsite, its alpine graveyard and surrounding natural and industrial landscapes, particularly the now-abandoned Coal Mountain pit mine operation. This installation, with its suggestion of underground ossuaries, extraction sites and mausoleums, transforms the gallery into a labyrinthine space and offers the housing for a multitude of other standalone video, sound, cast paper, and sculptural works. In their insistence on multiplicity, the collective confounds viewers' easy image consumption, offering instead a dark, askance glimpse into experiences of materials, site and space. OSOSO extends the collective's ongoing, place-based examination of violent and often hidden histories of resource extraction, environmental destruction and immigrant labour unrest; the folly of the settler paradigm; and the movement of matter and populations (both human and non) across geological time.



Warren McLachlan (Calgary, 1975) is a multidisciplinary artist settled on the unceded ancestral territories of the Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Musqueam Nations. McLachlan received an MA from Chelsea College of Art and Design, London, UK in 2007 and a BFA from Alberta College of Art and Design in 2001. Exhibition venues include Burnaby Art Gallery (2020); Museo de la Ciudad de Querétaro (2019); CSA Space, Vancouver (2018); Field Contemporary, Vancouver (2017); Unit/Pitt Façade, Vancouver (2016); The Tetley, Leeds, UK (2014); Supermarket Kulturhuset, Stockholm (2011); Cell Project Space, London, UK (2010); and Manton Lightbox, Tate Britain (2008). McLachlan curated exhibitions and events as a member of Dynamo Arts Association, Vancouver from 2012 – 2020.

Co-curated by Julia Lamare and Kimberly Phillips

Corbin Union

Opposite

Untitled (Venuta's), 2020
digital image

Above

Black Powder Shot (detail), Corbin, BC, circa 1914
Big Showing Mine documentation photograph

The artists gratefully acknowledge the support of the Alberta University of the Arts, Calgary Arts Development, Canada Council for the Arts, and Denbigh Fine Arts.

Christine Howard Sandoval

A wall is a shadow on the land

January 22 – May 2, 2021

Alvin Balkind Gallery and off-site at
Yaletown-Roundhouse Station

Christine Howard Sandoval is an interdisciplinary artist of Obispeño Chumash and Hispanic ancestry. Her work challenges the boundaries of representation, access and habitation through the use of performance, video and sculpture. Howard Sandoval has exhibited nationally and internationally at The Museum of Capitalism (Oakland), Designtransfer, Universität der Künste Berlin (Berlin), El Museo Del Barrio (Bronx), and Socrates Sculpture Park (Queens). She is currently Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Art at Emily Carr University, Vancouver.

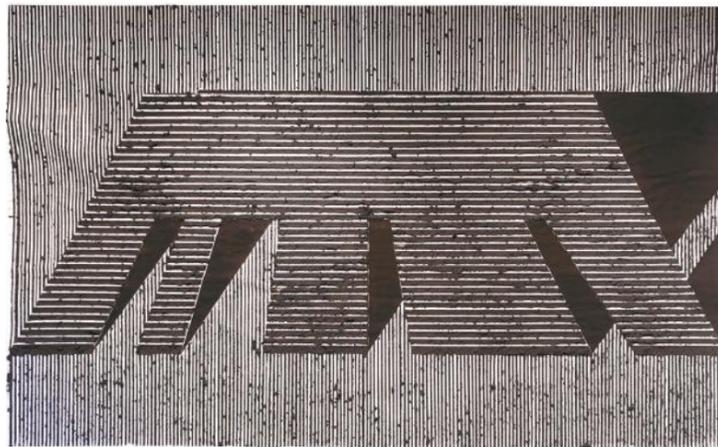
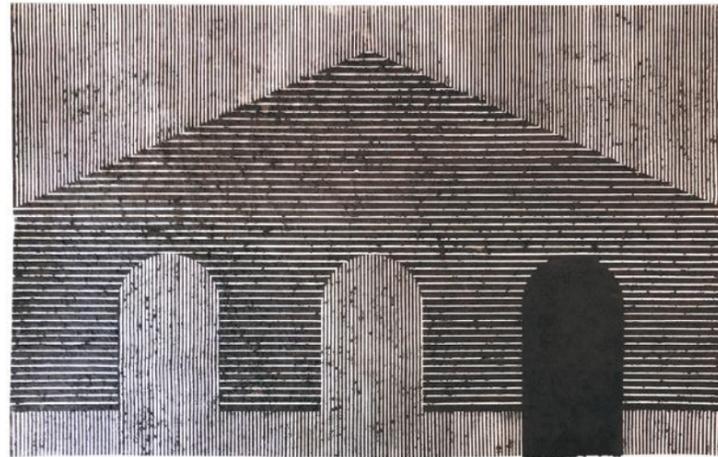
Co-curated by Julia Lamare and
Kimberly Phillips

This exhibition is generously supported by the
Audain Foundation.

Howard Sandoval's work *Archival—for Rosario Cooper and my 10 year old self*, installed off-site at Yaletown-Roundhouse Station, is presented in partnership with Capture Photography Festival and the Canada Line Public Art Program, InTransit BC.

In a meditation on land, language and architecture, Vancouver-based Obispeño Chumash and Hispanic artist Christine Howard Sandoval re-considers the insidious meaning-making power of the archive in her solo exhibition *A wall is a shadow on the land*. Through the use of adobe, a desert building material made from clay, sand and soil and deeply connected to her own family's histories and practices, Howard Sandoval considers how land is and has been inhabited, the stories embedded in it and the potential futures it holds.

Howard Sandoval reconfigures the typology of Spanish mission architecture in a series of new adobe sculptures and large-scale drawings. Brought together with archival documents and the artist's own fourth-grade school report on the California missions, she works to dislodge the deep-rooted colonial fictions that narrate the histories of her ancestral homeland in Alta California. *A wall is a shadow on the land* points to the ways in which narratives of colonial erasure are rehearsed within the public school system, and how the ongoing physical presence of mission sites on unceded Indigenous land in the western US are markers of the systemic proliferation of the imperial project and its persistent conditions today.



Christine Howard Sandoval

Above and below

From *A wall is a shadow on the land*, 2020
adobe mud and graphite on paper

Opposite

From *A wall is a shadow on the land*, 2020
adobe mud, tape and postcard



Nicole Kelly Westman

muddled mirage of memories escaping encapsulation

January 22 – August 29, 2021

CAG Façade

Nicole Kelly Westman is a visual artist of Métis and Icelandic descent that recognizes with indebted gratitude the artists that came before her and strenuously forged space, the curators that place care at the fore of their labour, the communities that foster confidence in her practice, and the institutions and organizations that implement policies prefacing relations of trust. As an artist, she enjoys practices of listening, watching, hosting, poeticizing, foraging, and sharing.

Curated by Matthew Hyland

Nicole Kelly Westman

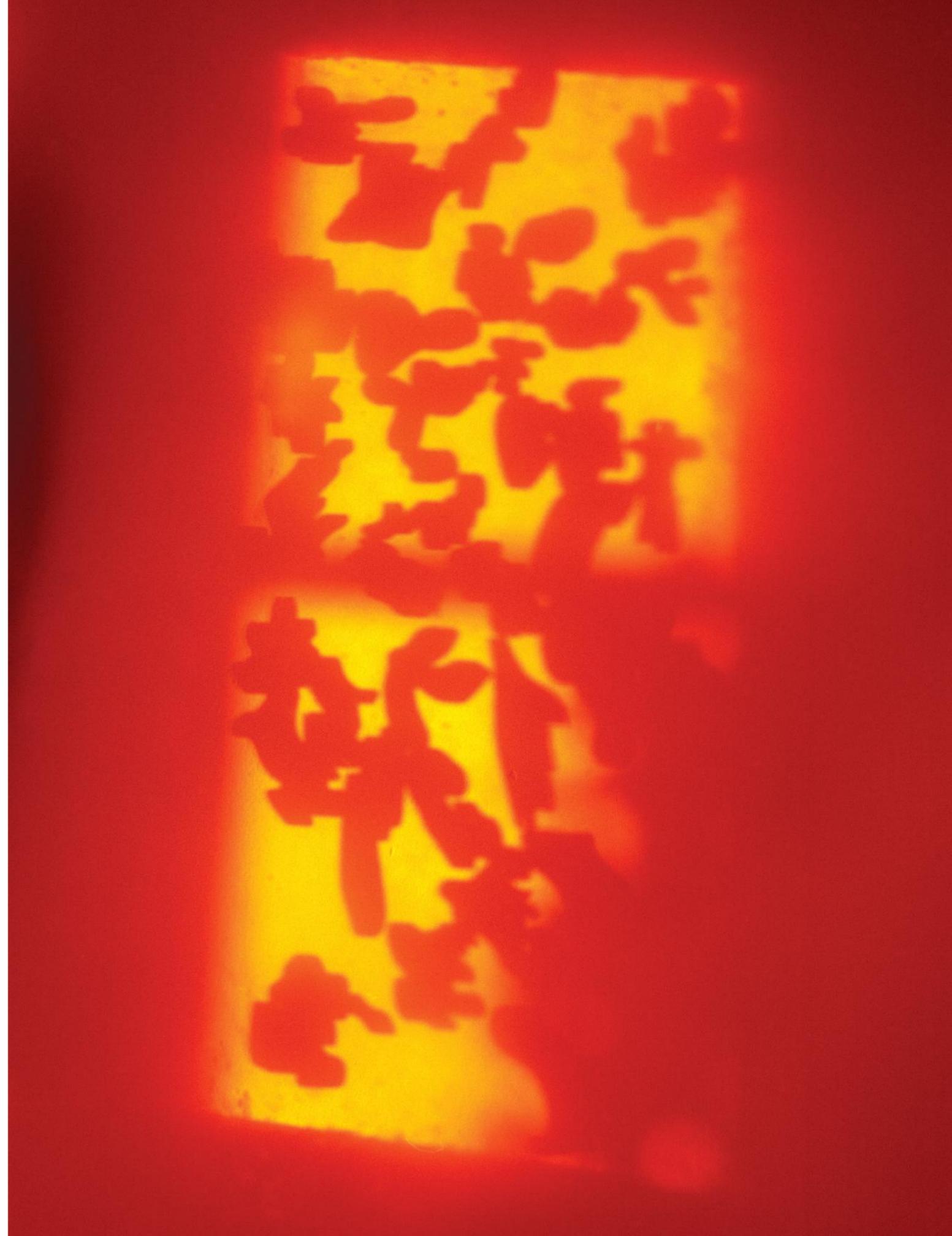
Below and opposite

muddled mirage of memories escaping encapsulation (process images), 2020
film scan

The practice of Nicole Kelly Westman is anchored in an ongoing concern with the conditions of image-making. Despite only occasionally using cameras or producing anything akin to a photograph, Westman's work deftly engages the tools, techniques and principles of photography to question the objectivity of the recorded moment.

Light, in particular, is an essential collaborator for Westman. The glow of a sunbeam filtered through treetops; a city street at night, awash in the haze of sodium vapour lamps; the chromatic brilliance of a sunset: light for Westman is an opportunity to index the energies and intimacies that constitute any given moment and the ways in which it is perceived, documented and assigned meaning.

In *muddled mirage of memories escaping encapsulation*, Westman presents a series of three works across CAG's façade windows, each of which nods to the ways memory is shaped, staged and recalled. Referencing the backdrop, the mirror, the gel, and the cucoloris—each used in the photographic process to produce “ideal” images—these works offer a patient counterpoint to the fixity of the standalone photograph, drawing our attention to the felt structures found in light and shadow, sentiments that often elude being captured, shot or taken.



Talks and Events

In light of ongoing precautions related to COVID-19, CAG is pleased to deliver talks and events online this season. Please refer to each event listing for details.

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

For more information about these events visit www.contemporaryartgallery.ca/whats-on

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. Details on upcoming editions to be announced throughout the season.

For more details or to register, visit www.contemporaryartgallery.ca

Christine Howard Sandoval in conversation with Kimberly Phillips

Saturday, February 6, 11am PST

Online via Zoom

Join exhibiting artist Christine Howard Sandoval and curator Kimberly Phillips for a conversation around the concerns of language, material and the archive that underpin the exhibition *A wall is a shadow on the land*.

Corbin Union Talk

Saturday, April 10, 11am PST

Online via Zoom

Join Corbin Union members Miruna Dragan, Jason de Haan and Warren McLachlan as they talk through their exhibition *OSOSO* and speak about the collaborative nature of their practice over Zoom.

January CAG Reads

Patrick Cruz presents Phylos the Thibetan

Saturday, January 31, 4 – 5.30pm PST

Online via Zoom

This January, Filipino-Canadian artist Patrick Cruz invites us to read Book 1 (pages 24-225) of the fantasy fiction novel *A Dweller on Two Planets* by Phylos the Thibetan, also known as Frederick Spencer Oliver. Published in 1905, the novel portrays the social, technological and religious structures that shape society in the lost city of Atlantis. Presented as a true account channelled by the spirit Phylos the Thibetan, *A Dweller on Two Planets* is acknowledged as source material for many new age belief systems, and has been highly influential as an early work of occult science fiction.

February CAG Reads

Laiwan presents Ursula K Le Guin

Sunday, February 28, 4 – 5.30pm PST

Online via Zoom

March CAG Reads

Christine Howard Sandoval presents Deborah A. Miranda and Ariella Azoulay

Tuesday, March 30, 7 – 8.30pm PST

Online via Zoom

Opposite

Family Day, 2019
Photography by Four Eyes Portraits

Video Visits

All videos will be available for viewing as of March 1.

Visit www.contemporaryartgallery.ca for more details.

Join us online this season for CAG's Video Visits, in which we present a variety of perspectives on our current exhibitions.

Presented in five languages—English, Cantonese, French, Mandarin, Spanish—these videos offer short takes on the exhibitions of Corbin Union, Christine Howard Sandoval and Nicole Kelly Westman.



Open Studio with Nicole Preissl

Nicole Preissl is an explorative designer who uses natural materials to influence her work. She is a member of Stó:lō Nation from the Leq'á:mel Band; she also has roots from Skwxwú7mesh Nation, as well as settler Canadian heritage. Nicole's work focuses on ancestral, land-based, tactile, and natural material practices. She incorporates traditional artistic customs into her practice as a means of connecting to her culture. In her art practice, she uses natural fibres and materials to create textile-based designs.

Visit www.contemporaryartgallery.ca for more details.

CAG is delighted to welcome Nicole Preissl as our Open Studio guest artist for Winter 2021. Open Studio presents a series of art-making videos for families inspired by contemporary art practices and CAG's current exhibitions. Videos will be released on our website and social media platforms on the third Saturday of the month from February to April.

Free material kits will be available in limited quantities for pick-up from CAG as of the day of each video release.

Saturday, February 20

Saturday, March 20

Saturday, April 17

Online Events Calendar

Jan 31	CAG Reads with Patrick Cruz	4 – 5.30pm
Feb 6	In Conversation: Christine Howard Sandoval and Kimberly Phillips	11am
Feb 20	Open Studio with Nicole Preissl	12pm
Feb 28	CAG Reads with Laiwan	4 – 5.30pm
Mar 20	Open Studio with Nicole Preissl	12pm
Mar 30	CAG Reads with Christine Howard Sandoval	7 – 8.30pm
Apr 10	Corbin Union Talk	11am
Apr 17	Open Studio with Nicole Preissl	12pm

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Open Tuesday to Sunday 12 – 6pm
Free admission
Visit us at www.contemporaryartgallery.ca for more information

Contemporary Art Gallery Team
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Jessica Evans, Retail & Publications Coordinator
Danielle Green, Curator of Learning & Public Engagement
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Julia Lamare, Acting Associate Curator
Ellie Nixon, Marketing & Communications Officer
Shayla Perreault, Operations Administrator

To make an appointment to use the Abraham Rogatnick Resource Library please email contact@contemporaryartgallery.ca.

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.

At the Contemporary Art Gallery, we carry out our work on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkwəyəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (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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THE AUDAIN FOUNDATION



For more details regarding public programs at the Contemporary Art Gallery please visit the events page at www.contemporaryartgallery.ca/whats-on



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ARTS COUNCIL
An agency of the Province of British Columbia



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CAG Elsewhere

Nadia Belerique, Jeneen Frei Njootli, Kathy Slade
Kunstverein Braunschweig
November 7, 2020 to February 14, 2021

Co-produced by the Contemporary Art Gallery and the Kunstverein Braunschweig, this extensive exhibition brings together the work of three Canadian artists—Nadia Belerique, Jeneen Frei Njootli and Kathy Slade—at the Kunstverein's historic Villa Salve Hospes.

This exhibition is generously supported by the Canada Council for the Arts and the British Columbia Arts Council.

Cover

Nicole Kelly Westman
*muddled mirage of memories escaping
encapsulation (process image), 2020*
film scan

www.contemporaryartgallery.ca



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