



Blackwood Gallery turns up the volume

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Galleries are generally in the business of offering their visitors things to look at. But for its next exhibition, the Blackwood Gallery is embracing another of the senses: sound.

Volume: Hear Here, which opens on Jan. 16, is an exploration of the experience of sound that includes well-known Canadian artists like John Oswald, Charles Stankievecch, Marla Hlady and Rafael Lozano-Hemmer.

Montreal based Lozano-Hemmer's contribution will be from his remarkable *Lost Breath* project, a device that stores a single breath and circulates it over and over some 10,000 times a day.

The breath that will be used in *Volume: Hear Here* will be that of renowned American composer and accordionist Pauline Oliveros.

The exhibition is the latest in a series of moves by the gallery, which is based at the University of Toronto Mississauga, to reach out and find new ways of connecting with audiences.

"The mandate of the gallery is contemporary Canadian and international art," said curator Christof Migone, "but I'm still trying to find ways of engaging with and responding to the community of the city we're located in."

Saying that he wanted the gallery's work to be accessible, he continued, "I want the gallery to be a platform equally for artists, students and the community."

Migone also highlighted another of the gallery's projects, *Door To Door*, which started in 2011 and sees artists literally heading out into the community to work.



Hear Here . A visitor examines Rafael Lozano-Hemmer's Last Breath, part of the Volume: Hear Here installation at the Blackwood Gallery in Mississauga. *Supplied photo*

"For the first one, Camilla Singh went to local businesses and did a cheerleading routine for the workers," said Migone.

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