

## Toronto

**Shary Boyle, Julian Schnabel, Eva Hesse, and the Grange Prize at the AGO | Traffic: Conceptual Art in Canada at the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, the University of Toronto Art Centre, the Blackwood Gallery, and the Doris McCarthy Gallery**

posted by [Terence Dick](#) - October 18th, 2010.



N.E. Thing Co., *Simulated Photo of the Moon's "Sea of Tranquility" Filled with Water and N.E. Thing Co.'s Sign Placed Beside It*, 1969

Another history lesson is currently on display at all four of the University of Toronto's galleries and it is essential viewing (and reading) for anyone with even a modicum of curiosity about contemporary artistic practice. A massive endeavor organized by a collective of curators from every region in Canada, *Traffic: Conceptual Art on Canada 1965-1980* might not be the most visually appealing exhibition you'll see all year (which is no surprise considering it came out of a rejection of the tyranny of the eye), but is so comprehensive in its summary of artists and activities that made up the 20th Century's most radical challenge to all that came before that you can't help but immerse yourself in the documents and ephemera. Be prepared to stay for hours, working through instructional pieces, photo-documents, magazines, videos, works on paper, and more, visiting every part of the country from the North to Vancouver to Halifax to all parts in between. It's too bad there's not a dedicated website to summarize how each gallery (the **Justina M. Barnicke Gallery**, the **U of T Art Centre**, the **Blackwood Gallery**, and the **Doris McCarthy Gallery**) covers different zones, and I hope a thick catalogue is in the production to gather all this information in one handy tome. Once it shuts down in Toronto at the end of November, the whole exhibition hits the road and will make appearances across the country. Mark it on your calendar now.



**Terence Dick** is a freelance writer living in Toronto. He is currently working on a catalogue essay for urban printmaker Matthew Janisse, a review of William Eakin's found photography, and a cinematic account of the suburbs. His art criticism has appeared in *Canadian Art*, *BorderCrossings*, *Prefix Photo*, *Camera Austria*, *Fuse*, *Mix*, *C Magazine*, *Azure*, and *The Globe and Mail*. He is the editor of Akimblog.

**Art Gallery of Ontario:** <http://www.ago.net/exhibits>

Shary Boyle: *Flesh and Blood* continues until December 5.

Julian Schnabel: *Art and Film* continues until January 2.

At Work continues until January 2.

The Grange Prize 2010 continues until January 2.

Allyson Mitchell continues until November 28.

**Justina M. Barnicke Gallery:** <http://www.jmbgallery.ca/exhibitions.html>

**University of Toronto Art Centre:** <http://www.utac.utoronto.ca/current-exhibitions>

**Blackwood Gallery:** [http://www.blackwoodgallery.ca/Blackwood\\_exhibitionscurrent.html](http://www.blackwoodgallery.ca/Blackwood_exhibitionscurrent.html)

**Doris McCarthy Gallery:** <http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~dmq/>

*Traffic: Conceptual Art in Canada 1965-1980* continues until November 28.