



Bread and Butter

Curated by Sandy Saad in collaboration with Barbara Fischer

Featuring works by Iain Baxter, Ron Benner, Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge, Christian Jankowski, and Cole Swanson.

Jackman Humanities Institute

170 St. George Street, 10th Floor

13 September 2012 – 15 May 2013, 9:00–5:00 pm

Opening: Thursday 13 September, 4:00–6:00 pm

Today most of the food-energy consumed by the world population is supplied by food industries. Multinational corporations apply intensive farming and industrial agriculture toward maximum system output and profit. The exhibition *Bread and Butter* brings together artists whose works address the complex relationships between labour, sustenance, industrial food production, and the increasing impact of globalization on the availability and dissemination of food.

Toronto artists Carole Condé and Karl Beveridge's photographic series presents an eloquent account of the harsh experience of migrant farmers in Ontario and the destructive impact of industrial farming, while Cole Swanson's miniature paintings depict roadside emblems that identify regional communities by agricultural and natural resources. London-based artist Ron Benner's installation is based on his extensive research into indigenous cultivations of corn and other staples, and finds their migration rooted in the trajectories of colonialism and imperialism. Based in Windsor, Ontario, Iain Baxter's singular picture highlights the year-round, global availability of exotic foods in the depths of Canadian winter; and German artist Christian Jankowski's video suggests the alienation from food production, where hunting and gathering has migrated from the wild to bargain-hunting in the supermarket.

Concerned with seed circulation and farming methods, local community and globalization, each artist in the exhibition provides a unique and critical perspective on essential elements of contemporary food systems.

Produced by the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, the project is financially supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council and the Jackman Humanities Institute at the University of Toronto, as part of the Institute's 2012/2013 Program for the Arts on the theme of Food.

Image credit: Ron Benner, *Transend: Meeting Room*, 2012, installation including dried corn, fruit, flowers, photographs, books, cardboard boxes and various media. Photo credit: Jesse Boles



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