

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO NIGHTSCHOOL

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery curator Barbara Fischer, Blackwood Gallery curator Seamus Kealy and Nightschool participant Darren O'Donnell give the scoop on one of Nuit Blanche's most promising events.

A brief but coherent description of what you're planning:

Fischer: Hart House (7 Hart House Circle) is going to be the centre of Nightschool. There will be installations, projections and video works by artists — William Wegman, John Baldessari, Amos Latteier, Toni Latour, Martha Rosler, Will Kwan, Dean Baldwin, Lisa Neighbour — who have a distinctly estranged and humorous perspective on pedagogy.

Kealy: I've invited French artist Thierry Geoffroy, a.k.a. le colonel, to do a version of his internationally produced "Emergency Room" at U of T Art Centre (15 King's College Circle). Geoffroy oversees an event where artists produce artwork, in the Emergency Room, that responds to current political events.

O'Donnell: My project is called *Slow Dance With Teacher* and it's happening at the Great Hall in Hart House. There will be 24 teachers, romantically lit, protected by security guards, who will keep the viewers behind velvet ropes. Sexy music will be supplied by DJ Nicholas Murray from LAL and the audience will raise their hands if they would like to slow dance with a teacher. Teachers will choose whomever they feel like slow dancing with.

Why will this year's Scotiabank Nuit Blanche be even awesomer than last year's?

Kealy: I've always preferred the number 29 to 30. And it will still be September when the event ends. Last year

it was October.

O'Donnell: Because all the people who thought it was a stupid idea last year and stayed home will not miss it, which will double the turnout.

If you had to choose a theme song for your project, what would it be and why?

Fischer: The theme song from *To Sir with Love*, by Lulu. We're in school; that's why!

If you had been given an unlimited budget, what would your dream project have been?

Kealy: To turn the entirety of downtown Toronto into an Emergency Room.

O'Donnell: To pay every single artist in the city to stop making work for one night so we could all rest.

LOCATION: THROUGHOUT U OF T'S ST. GEORGE CAMPUS.