

Art Museum
University of Toronto
—
Justina M. Barnicke Gallery
University of Toronto Art Centre

7 Hart House Circle
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3H3
artmuseum.utoronto.ca

Art Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Art Museum at the University of Toronto presents the 2022 MVS Studio Program Graduating Exhibition

Toronto, May 5, 2022—The Art Museum, in partnership with the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design at the University of Toronto, is pleased to exhibit the graduating projects of the 2022 Master of Visual Studies graduate students **Arezu Salamzadeh, Kevin Schmidt, Anran Guo, and Jeremy Laing**. The new works demonstrate a capacious invocation of craft, utilizing techniques that critique the historical present and imagine worlds otherwise.

The exhibition is on view at the University of Toronto Art Centre from **May 11–July 30, 2022**, with a public opening reception on Wednesday, May 11, 5pm–7pm.

The exhibition is produced as part of the requirements for the MVS degree in Visual Studies at the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design, University of Toronto.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Arezu Salamzadeh (she/they) is a “queer,” “neurodivergent,” “mixed race,” Mississauga-based artist who creates objects, performances, music, and spaces for people to interact with and

1 of 4



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

HartHouse



UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE

move through. They ask questions about nostalgia, selfhood, power, desire, and loneliness through a language of humour and play. She received her BFA, Honours, from the School of Visual Arts, New York, in 2016. They have since exhibited at galleries, museums, and unconventional venues throughout Canada, the US, Italy, and the UK.

Kevin Schmidt lives and works on the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, Seneca, and Mississaugas of the Credit, as well as the unceded territory of the Secwepemc. His practice functions as a critical and subjective examination of spectacle. His works often conflate and displace, providing alternate vantage points on genres such as landscape, “how-to” instruction, or museum display. Schmidt’s recent solo exhibitions include 2018’s *We Are the Robots* at the Vancouver Art Gallery and *Reckless*, a public art installation on North Vancouver’s Polygon. In parallel to the 2022 MVS Thesis Exhibition, he has a solo exhibition at the Musée d’art de Joliette. Kevin Schmidt is represented by Catriona Jeffries.

Anran Guo is a female queer artist currently based in Hamilton and Toronto. She grew up in China and came to Canada in 2014. Guo is primarily focused on sculptures and installations; her works are critical and playful, offering layered readings, and are usually in response to political issues and social issues.

Jeremy Laing makes objects, spaces, and situations for embodiment and relation. Through the synthesis of craft, conceptual, and social modes, their work explores the interrelation and transitional potential of people and things,

materials and meanings, and questions the normative logics of who and what matters, is valued, or not.

2022 University of Toronto MVS Studio Program Graduating Exhibition

May 11–July 30, 2022

University of Toronto Art Centre

Works by Arezu Salamzadeh, Kevin Schmidt, Anran Guo, and Jeremy Laing

Read more: artmuseum.utoronto.ca/exhibition/2022-university-of-toronto-mvs-studio-program-graduating-exhibition/

Public Opening Reception

Wednesday, May 11, 5pm–7pm

Read more: artmuseum.utoronto.ca/program/opening-reception-mvs-studio-program-and-mvs-curatorial-studies-program-graduating-exhibitions/

About the Art Museum at the University of Toronto

The Art Museum is one of the largest gallery spaces for visual art exhibitions and programming in Toronto. The Art Museum organizes and presents an intensive year-round program of exhibitions and events that foster—at a local, regional, and international level—innovative research, interdisciplinary scholarship, and knowledge of art and its histories befitting Canada’s leading university and the country’s largest city.

Art Museum
University of Toronto
—
Justina M. Barnicke Gallery
University of Toronto Art Centre

Our Supporters

The Art Museum gratefully acknowledges project support from The Valerie Jean Griffiths Student Exhibitions Fund in Memory of William, Elva, and Elizabeth. Additional project support was provided by the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

Media Contact:

Marianne Rellin, Communications Assistant
marianne.rellin@utoronto.ca

Follow us:

@artmuseumuoft