

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

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artmuseum.utoronto.ca

Art Museum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Art Museum at the University of Toronto presents
the 2021 MVS Curatorial Studies Graduating Projects**

Toronto, August 30, 2021—The Art Museum at the University of Toronto is proud to present the graduating projects of the **2021 Master of Visual Studies Curatorial Studies program** students **Eli Kerr** and **Talia Golland**. The two curatorial projects share an interest in contemporary media landscapes: Eli Kerr explores the pioneering work of 1970s countercultural video collective TVTV, and Talia Golland presents the work of artists who consider the intrinsic metaphors and variant connotations of the personal desktop interface.

Curated by Eli Kerr, ***Alternative Convention: Top Value Television's Four More Years*** foregrounds a landmark work by the 1970s countercultural video collective, **Top Value Television (TVTV)**. At the foundation of the experimental documentary genre known as 'Guerilla Television', TVTV's ground-breaking tape *Four More Years* offered alternative coverage of the political processes and broadcast network reporting of the 1972 Republican Convention. Through experimentation with remediating video and disparate ephemera, the exhibition maps and centres TVTV's *Four More Years* to consider the legacies and implications of Guerilla Television in today's commodified and politically divisive user-generated media environment.

In ***Open Windows***, curated by Talia Golland, artists **Zach Blas**, **Vida Beyer**, **Ronnie Clarke**, and **B Wijshijer** consider the

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intrinsic metaphors and variant connotations of the personal desktop interface. Their work originates in or reconstructs this digital location, materially and spatially reconfiguring familiar parameters. In screen-recorded video and large-scale multi-media installations, the desktop is alternately a medium, a depository, a portal, and a stage. These staged and conditional externalizations of personal digital space gesture to queer theoretical constructions of privacy, temporality, and desire.

These projects are produced as part of the requirements for the MVS degree in Curatorial Studies at the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design, University of Toronto.

**Alternative Convention: Top Value Television's
*Four More Years***

Curated by Eli Kerr

Works by Top Value Television (T VTV)

September 8–October 9, 2021

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery

artmuseum.utoronto.ca/exhibition/alternative-convention-top-value-televisions-four-more-years/

Open Windows

Curated by Talia Golland

Works by Zach Blas, Vida Beyer, Ronnie Clarke, and B Wijshijer

October 27–November 20, 2021

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery

artmuseum.utoronto.ca/exhibition/open-windows/

About the Curators

Eli Kerr's curatorial practice consists of organizing, exhibition-making, writing, and advocating for artists. He co-founded projects VIE D'ANGE (2015-ongoing) and Parc Offsite (2020-ongoing) in Montreal and continues to develop future initiatives for contemporary art in the city. His current research revisits 20th century media communications and early video art as prescient histories reverberating in the present.

Talia Golland is a curator and writer informed by the confluence of queer theory with artistic methodologies. Particular investments of their research and practice include the materiality of moving images, queer symbologies, mixed metaphors, and the affective dimensions of internet-based visual culture. She received a BA in History and Theory of Art from the University of Ottawa and is a co-director of Bunker 2 Contemporary Art Container in Toronto, ON.

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.

About the Master of Visual Studies Curatorial Studies Program

Initiated in 2008, the Curatorial Studies stream in the MVS program at the University of Toronto is currently in its 13th year. Embedded within a rich environment of study, teaching assistantships, internships, and mentorship within the internationally renowned Daniels Faculty and the Art Museum at the University of Toronto, students immerse in recent developments in the visual arts, theory, and critical writing in an interdisciplinary context to support their research interests and curatorial engagement. In particular, the program focuses on the presentational challenges arising from the diverse and complex modes of contemporary art—from material and historical artefacts to installation, from performance to image, text, sound, and digital media—within the broader context of contemporary global culture. Significantly, the program offers students the opportunity to produce their own Graduating Exhibition for public presentation within the professional context and support of the Art Museum on the downtown campus of the University of Toronto, and at the centre of Canada's largest city.

The highly respected degree affords students access to a sustained professional network and mentorships. With an outstanding history of accomplishments of Graduating students' exhibitions, graduates of our program continually achieve successful curatorial careers and institutional positions in Canada and internationally. They include directorial, curatorial, and related positions at the Art Gallery of Ontario, the MacKenzie Art Gallery, the Toronto Biennial of Art, the

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Esker Foundation, and many other art institutions across Canada and around the world.

Our Supporters

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