Justina M. Barnicke Gallery University of Toronto Art Centre

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

sel

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

pleasurehome: desiring queer space at the Art Museum at the University of Toronto explores the unique textures of queer belonging in an online exhibition

Toronto, ON (January 6, 2022)—In conjunction with the Jackman Humanities Institute's 2021-2022 theme of *Pleasure*, the Art Museum at the University of Toronto is pleased to present the online exhibition *pleasurehome: desiring queer space*. Navigating the complexities of queer home, four artists present new works in a variety of media, exploring the unique textures of queer belonging by creating an intimate online space.

The Art Museum online exhibition is curated by Master of Visual Studies student Logan Williams and unfolds over the course of four consecutive months, starting January 6 to April 30, 2022.

The works in *pleasurehome* respond to queer desire, prompted by Catherine Opie's 1993 photograph *Self-Portrait/Cutting*. Carved in childish scrawl on the artist's back is a vision of home, two women, hand in hand, in front of a house, under a timid sun. Oscillating between desire and violence, the image establishes a politics of pleasure that guides the presentation of

1 of 4





Justina M. Barnicke Gallery University of Toronto Art Centre

four new artworks, released in sequence over a four-month span. One by one, each artist thoughtfully weaves their own experience of queerness into various forms (video, photography, painting, and digital arts), resulting in a textured exploration of home. Audiences will have the opportunity to view each work on a month-by-month basis through an accessible online portal, converging at the hearth of queer home through its many extensions and interpretations. We look forward to having you over.

pleasurehome: desiring queer space January 6–April 30, 2022 Curated by Logan Williams Online on Art Museum's website artmuseum.utoronto.ca/exhibition/pleasurehome-desiringqueer-space

Works by Catherine Opie, John Greyson, Evan Sproat, Kaeten Bonli, Shawné Michaelain Holloway

About Logan Williams

Logan Williams is a queer performance-maker, writer, producer, and scholar working in visual culture, theatre, and curatorial studies. Logan aims to relocate the drama of the theatre to alternative spaces through explorations in embodiment and intimacy. His research combines affect theory, queer ethics, and performance studies through curatorial projects that investigate

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery University of Toronto Art Centre

contemporary conceptions of home. Williams holds a BA in Visual Culture and Performance Studies from Simon Fraser University and is pursuing an MVS in Curatorial Studies at The University of Toronto.

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 originates and organizes 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 Jackman Humanities Institute

The Jackman Humanities Institute (JHI) advances humanities scholarship, generates interdisciplinary ways to understand human experience, and provides opportunities for scholars to learn from each other by creating new research and study networks (both virtual and physical) that complement and go beyond the mandates of individual disciplines; providing funding to faculty members to bring arts and humanities out of the classroom and into the public domain through events and exhibitions; offering scholarships to students and faculty at all career stages from all three University of Toronto campuses and other universities. The JHI enables humanities research to reach outside the university walls and engage with the wider public.

Justina M. Barnicke Gallery University of Toronto Art Centre

Our Supporters

The Art Museum gratefully acknowledges operating support from the Canada Council for the Arts and the Ontario Arts Council, with additional project support from the Jackman Humanities Institute.

Media Contact

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

Follow us: @artmuseumuoft