

A/I/S/L/E/4

ABOUT

Aisle 4 is a Toronto-based curatorial collective that presents temporary public art projects rooted in social practice. We collaborate with artists from a range of disciplines to develop site-specific, thoughtful and critical art experiences that ignite public imagination and animate unsuspecting spaces.

PROJECTS

On The Table, Toronto Design Offsite Festival

January 16 - 22, 2017

A politically engaged artist multiple by Toronto-based artists Jesse Harris, Aisha Sasha John, Hazel Meyer, and Lido Pimienta aimed at inciting dialogue around gender-based violence and sexual harassment in licensed establishments. Each work was widely distributed throughout bars and restaurants across the city on recyclable beverage coasters, generating a nuanced conversation around the issues through topics such as consent, respectful behavior, and empathy.

Gallery Galleria, Galleria Shopping Centre, Toronto

May 12 - 17, 2016

An exhibition of socially-engaged, site-specific installations, performances, and related programs by artists Golboo Amani, Roy Arden, Sarah Beck & Shlomi Greenspan, Adrian Blackwell, Oliver Husain, Fraser McCallum, Jessica Vallentin and Marjan Verstappen, each responding to the mall's impending demolition and redevelopment by honouring the site as both an architectural relic and an informal social space for the surrounding communities.

Speed Acquainting, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto

May 07, 2015

A unique public program conceived specifically for AGO's First Thursdays event, this series of fast-paced, real life, face-to-face interactions programmed by artists Alvis Choi aka Alvis Parsley, Cameron Lee, Manolo Lugo, and Jon Sasaki attempted to rupture social boundaries and turn strangers into lifelong acquaintances.

MOCCA TBD Public Programming, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto

September 06 - October 26, 2014

Two unique public programs created in response to the exhibition's theme of institutional critique: *No Art Tours*, a series of exhibition tours where looking at art was avoided, lead by museum educator Laura Robb and artists Sarah Sands Phillips, Michael Vickers, and Francisco-Fernando Granados; and *Another Visitor Research Survey*, a satirical in-gallery survey conducted by performance artist Bridget Moser throughout the exhibition, complimented by a paper questionnaire stationed at the exhibition's exit.

Art of the Danforth, Toronto

May 02 - 11, 2014

A series of community-engaged, site-specific installations, performances and related programs by Sean Martindale, Rebecca Noone, Ryan Park, Mango Peeler, Mahmood Popal, and VSVSVS, each engaging local residents and revitalizing overlooked spaces and facades in Toronto's East Danforth neighbourhood.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Project Coordinators - Nuit Blanche Toronto

February 2015 – October 2016

Project management, administration, coordination, communications, programming and production support for the annual city-wide, all-night contemporary art event's Independent Projects Program, presenting up to 70 individual projects by emerging and established artists, cultural partners and major art institutions.

PANELS & TALKS

Public Art: New Ways of Thinking & Working symposium, York University, Toronto, May 19, 2017

Artist Talk: Aisle 4, NSCAD Art Bar + Projects, Halifax, March 07, 2017

Public Experiences, YYZ Artist Outlet, Toronto, February 16, 2017

Museums, Galleries and Alternative Spaces, OCADU, Toronto, November 19, 2014

AWARDS

Visual/Media Arts Projects, Toronto Arts Council, 2016

Animating Historic Sites, Toronto Arts Council, 2016

Visual Arts Projects, Ontario Arts Council, 2015

Visual/Media Arts Projects, Toronto Arts Council, 2015

SELECT PRESS

Lewis, Carly. (February 10, 2017). "Toronto groups look to combat sexual harassment, violence in city's nightlife scene." *The Globe and Mail*. Print and online.

Porter, Evan. (January 13, 2017). "Bars in Canada are using these artistic drink coasters to fight sexual assault." *Upworthy*. Online.

Pelley, Lauren. (January 9, 2017). "New initiative aims to fight sexual harassment at Toronto bars — through drink coasters." *CBC News Toronto*. Online.

Dick, Terence. (May 19, 2016). "Gallery Galleria at the Galleria Mall." *Akimblog*. Online.

Knegt, Peter. (May 12, 2016). "New art exhibition is a love letter to Toronto's relic Galleria Shopping Centre." *CBC Arts*. Online.

Clark, Katrina. (May 9, 2015). "Uniting strangers through art." *Toronto Star*. Print and online.

Hein, Jessica. (March 3, 2015). "Urban Encounters with Curatorial Collective Aisle 4." *Musagetes*. Online.

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Emily Fitzpatrick (*MVS, Curatorial Studies*) is a curator and writer living in Toronto. She has curated exhibitions at the Carleton University Art Gallery (Ottawa), the Ottawa Art Gallery (Ottawa) and the Blackwood Gallery (Mississauga). She is a member of the Programming Committee for Gendai Gallery, and she sits on the board of Art Metropole.

Shannon Linde (*MMSt, Museum Studies*) is an artist, designer and curator living in Toronto. She has presented projects at the Museum of Art+Design (Los Angeles) and Nuit Blanche (Toronto). She currently holds the position of Programming Supervisor of Special Events with the City of Toronto.

Patricia Ritacca (*MA, Art History*) is a Toronto-based curator and arts professional. She has curated exhibitions at the University of Toronto Art Centre and Art Interiors (Toronto). She has assisted in the curation of exhibitions for the City of Toronto (TO Live With Culture) and the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art (Toronto).

Renée van der Avoird (*MMSt, Museum Studies*) is a curator based in Barrie, Ontario. She has organized exhibitions at the MacLaren Art Centre (Barrie), University of Toronto Art Centre and Susan Hobbs Gallery (Toronto). Renée currently holds the position of Associate Curator/Registrar at the MacLaren Art Centre in Barrie.