Contemporary Art Gallery
Vancouver, BC

Opening reception:
Thursday, April 30, 7-10pm

Julia Dault
May 1 to June 28, 2015
B.C. Binning and Alvin Balkind Galleries

Shannon Bool
May 1 to June 28, 2015
Off-site
The Contemporary Art Gallery presents a major solo exhibition by Toronto-born, New York–based artist Julia Dault. Through a selection of new and recent works, the exhibition reveals the importance to Dault of balancing spontaneous gesture with responsiveness to rules, logic and the constraints of materials. Physical negotiations are central to Dault’s textured paintings and improvised sculptures; both are exhibited in Blame It On the Rain.

Dault is interested in ‘embodied knowledge’ — how making is thinking — and reinserts the artist’s hand into a minimal aesthetic primarily interpreted as distanced and industrial. The artist’s rule-based painting involves responding to mass-produced elements — patterned silks, pleather, unmixed paint straight from the tube — with unconventional tools, such as squeegees, rubber combs and sea sponges. The limitations of these objects create quasi-standardized gestures that allow Dault to skirt the line between expressive abstraction and cool, machine-like facture. Erasure of her paintings’ topmost layers, which allows viewers to ‘see into’ the painting process, is as important to Dault as paint application.


Dault is represented by Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York; Jessica Bradley Gallery, Toronto and China Art Objects Galleries, Los Angeles.

Cover image:

Julia Dault
Drama Queen (2014) (detail)
Acrylic and oil on canvas

Opposite:

Julia Dault
Chasing Waterfalls (2014)
Acrylic and oil on canvas, painted wood frame

Right:

Julia Dault
Untitled 29, 2:30pm–5:45pm, May 7, 2013 (2013)
Formica, Plexiglas, Everlast boxing wraps, string
Photograph by Dawn Blackman
Photographs by Jason Wyche

Sky (2014) (detail) Canvastextile, acrylic paint on printed cotton, printed felt in painted wood frame
Images courtesy of Marianne Boesky Gallery, New York; Jessica Bradley Gallery, Toronto and CRAC, Altkirch, France;


The graffiti, some of which is over 100 years old and ranges from tourist scribbles, love declarations and Italy’s first Labour Party, is mirrored to emphasize its materialization and the artist’s handwork. These energetic gestures of incision, gouging and defacing subvert the benches’ functionality by drawing attention to the individual experiences of the Piazzale’s visitors who chose to leave their own marks instead of consuming the magnificent handwork. Carrara marble, signifying wealth and high renaissance material values, is subjected instead to the everyday banality of Florentine life and tourism, where the public turns away from its master narrative and carves its own signature.

Located near to the gallery entrance is Michelangelo’s Place, the final version in a series of marble benches Bool has recently produced. The sculpture references the benches found circling the elevated Piazzale Michelangelo in Florence, built in 1869 to showcase copies of Michelangelo’s most famous works and to provide a panoramic view of the city.

At the Contemporary Art Gallery, Bool’s sculpture references the benches’ scale and appropriates the graffiti that covers them. The graffiti, some of which is over 100 years old and ranges from tourist scribbles, love declarations and Italy’s first Labour Party, is mirrored to emphasize its materialization and the artist’s handwork. These energetic gestures of incision, gouging and defacing subvert the benches’ functionality by drawing attention to the individual experiences of the Piazzale’s visitors who chose to leave their own marks instead of consuming the magnificent views of the Renaissance. Carrara marble, signifying wealth and high renaissance material values, is subjected instead to the everyday banality of Florentine life and tourism, where the public turns away from its master narrative and carves its own signature.
Performance
NURSE

Saturday, April 25
and Sunday, April 26, 12–6pm

The Contemporary Art Gallery presents a weekend of epic sound working with Vancouver based NURSE. Performing two six-hour presentations, this group of tonal alchemists intend to create free improvisational music or Free-Continuum Music. The performances will be ongoing throughout the day, the sound reacting to and in response to the environment as it unfolds over time, a constantly evolving texture throughout the building.

Youth Programs

2015 Summer Intensive: Visual Arts

August 4 to 21
Ages: 14–19
Tuition subsidies available from the Ken and Anne Woods Scholarship Fund

Applications are available at: www.artsumbrella.com
Application deadline: Friday, June 5

This unique and ambitious series of workshops introduces students to Vancouver’s art community. Activities include: drawing, printmaking and ceramic exploration with open studio time at Arts Umbrella; exhibition-making and creative writing at CAG; and a large-scale sculpture project at SFU Woodwards. The course has been specially designed for teens with an interest in the visual arts.

Studio Residency Program

Burrard Marina Field House
1655 Whyte Avenue

Throughout spring 2015 the CAG is hosting a series of artists-in-residence, each continuing research toward participatory projects to be realized throughout 2015–2016. The Field House Studio is an off-site artist residency space and community hub organized by the Contemporary Art Gallery. Running parallel to the residency program are ongoing series of public events for all ages.

The Field House Studio Residency Program is generously supported by the Vancouver Park Board and the City of Vancouver. We gratefully acknowledge the generosity of many private and individual donors toward this program. Please visit our website for a full list of supporters.

For more details about the Field House Studio Program, all forthcoming residencies and associated events visit our website at www.contemporaryartgallery.ca and follow the Field House blog at www.burrardmarinafieldhouse.wordpress.com

Maddie Leach is an artist based in Wellington, New Zealand. Recent projects include spaced 2: future recall, Western Australian Museum, Perth (2015); The Walters Prize 2014, Auckland Art Gallery, nominated for If you find the good oil let us know (2012–2014); Spike Island artist in residence, Bristol, UK; and spaced 2: future recall, artist in residence, Mandurah, Western Australia, International Art Space, Perth, Australia (both 2014); Scape 7 Public Art Biennial, Christchurch, New Zealand; if you were to live here ..., The 5th Auckland Triennial, Auckland, New Zealand (2013); and Evening Echo, Shalom Park, Cork City, Ireland (2011).

Maddie Leach
June to July, 2015

Taking up residency in June, Maggie Leach will begin research towards a Vancouver-based project. Leach’s practice is one that seeks ways of making artworks as a means to interpret and respond to specific context, through a lengthy process of enquiry and social interaction establishing relationships between form, materials, locations, histories, events, individuals and communities.

In 2014 she was nominated for the Walters Prize for If you find the good oil let us know (2012–2014), created during a two year residency at Govett-Brewster Art Gallery in New Plymouth, a town known for its oil and gas exploration on New Zealand’s North Island. The project centered on 70 litres of supposed ‘whale oil’. With layered and complex associations to whaling from indigenous sustenance to colonial/capitalist industry, whale oil speaks to New Zealand’s past and evokes its new economic boom in crude oil exploration. Leach sought to return this mythic substance to the sea, beginning a tangential journey that ended with a cube of cement made from the firing of 70 litres of mineral oil relocated to the seabed several kilometres off the coast. Through such ephemeral aesthetic actions and an unfolding public dialogue, this search for the authenticity of the ‘whale oil’ connected fragmented industrial and cultural narratives central to the context of New Zealand. Sharing her unfolding research, Leach then invited fourteen individuals to offer written letters as responses to the work, the only stipulation being to begin the letter with ‘Dear.’ The texts became a series of ‘Letters to the Editor’ in the Taranaki Daily News developing a curious narrative composed by multiple authors, from scientists to sailors, cement workers to oil-industry executives.

Maddie Leach

Taranaki Daily News

‘If you find the good oil let us know’, 2012-2014

Maddie Leach

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Public events
All public events are free and suitable for a general audience.

Unless otherwise stated all take place at the Contemporary Art Gallery.

For more information about public programs at the CAG visit the learning section of our website: www.contemporaryartgallery.ca

Exhibition openings and receptions
Opening reception: Thursday, April 30, 7-10pm
Join us to celebrate the opening of our new exhibitions.

Talks and Special Events
Shannon Bool
Wednesday, April 22, 7pm
Join us for talk by Canadian artist Shannon Bool. Bool will discuss her recent installation at the Yaletown-Roundhouse Station, Flight of the Medici Mamluk and her new CAG commission Michelangelo’s Place alongside recent projects.

Julia Dault in conversation with Michelle Jacques, chief curator at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria
Saturday, May 2, 1pm

Meriç Algün Ringborg and Erdem Taşdelen
Investigations on Artistic Subjectivity
Saturday, May 16, 2–4pm
Join us for this reading and book launch to celebrate a new publication, a collaborative project by Turkish artists, Algün Ringborg, who exhibited at the CAG in 2013 and will be included in this year’s Venice Biennale, and Vancouver-based Taşdelen.

Maddie Leach
Thursday, June 11, 7pm
Burrard Marina Field House
1655 Whyte Avenue
Burrard Marina Field House artist-in-residence Maddie Leach will present her recent projects including the Walters Prize nominated If You Find the Good Oil Let Us Know.

Liz Park
Tuesday, June 16, 7pm
CAG welcomes our new curator Liz Park who will share recent projects made as Whitney-Lauder Curatorial Fellow at ICA Philadelphia.

Feedback series
This series invites cultural and critical producers to present thoughts and ideas rooted in their own interests and practices, and invites audiences to join in the conversations that will explore relevant contemporary issues, theories, ideas and culture.

Feedback Talk: Close Readings — Julia Dault
Mark DeLong, Richard MacFarlane and Brynn McNab
Tuesday, May 12, 7pm
An invited group of local producers offer responses in the form of readings, images or video, providing diverse and layered conversations on Dault’s work.

Tad Hozumi
Saturday, June 6, 13 and 27, 4pm
Hozumi is a Vancouver-based artist and hip hop therapist, involved in local street dance culture and currently working on a body of photo, installation, social intervention and performance work examining the history of struggle as coded in the subversive vocabulary of street style dances. Responding to the pop culture references of Julia Dault’s paintings he will select a collection of records, on June 6 and 13 conducting a series of participatory movement workshops. On June 27 Hozumi will give a talk on the practice of crate digging (AKA record collecting) and play a live set.

Vancouver Draw Down
Saturday, June 20, all day
Locations and details to be announced
Vancouverites of all ages are invited to take part in free hands-on drawing workshops, presented across the city in community centres, museums, art galleries and on the street. Workshops, developed and led by professional artists, offer the opportunity to rediscover drawing in everyday life. This day-long, city-wide celebration focuses on the process, pleasure and diversity of drawing, rather than on skill and technical ability. For info on Vancouver Draw Down visit www.vancouverdrawdown.com
Family Days

Presented in collaboration with ArtStarts on Saturdays. For more details visit: www.artstarts.com/weekend

We acknowledge the generous support of the Hamber Foundation for our Family Day program.

For more details regarding these and all public programs at the Contemporary Art Gallery visit the events page at www.contemporaryartgallery.ca

Guided visits

Guided visits are open to the public, providing free opportunities to engage with exhibitions and develop new skills for interpreting contemporary art.

We also encourage visits from primary and secondary schools, ESL groups, university and college students and community groups.

For more information or to book a guided visit for your group, contact learning@contemporaryartgallery.ca or telephone 604 681 2700.

Saturday, May 30 and June 27, 12-3pm
On the last Saturday or each month, the CAG invites all ages to drop-in for short exhibition tours and free art making activities that respond to our current exhibitions.

May 30: Material Play
Responding to Dault’s sculptures participants will create their own assemblages.

June 27: No Paint Brushes Allowed
Based on Dault’s experimental painting practice participants will create improvised paintings from unconventional tools such as forks, combs, toothbrushes, cotton balls, etc.

Mike Bourscheid
Saturday, May 9, 1pm
A guided visit in French by artist Mike Bourscheid.

Jas Lally
Saturday, May 9, 3pm
CAG Programs Assistant, Jas Lally leads a tour of current exhibitions.

Kate Dayoung
Sunday, May 17, 3pm
A guided visit of the exhibitions on display in Korean led by Kate Dayoung.

Shaun Dacey
Saturday, May 23, 3pm
CAG Curator, Learning and Public Programs, Shaun Dacey leads a tour of current exhibitions.

SFU Philosopher’s Café Art Salon
Saturday, June 6, 3pm
Participate in an in-depth guided tour and conversation of current exhibitions with CAG Director Nigel Prince.

Jaclyn Bruneau
Saturday, June 13, 3pm
CAG Visitor Assistant, Jaclyn Bruneau leads a tour of current exhibitions.

Jill Henderson
Sunday June 28, 3pm
CAG Marketing and Communications, Jill Henderson tours the works on display and explores the history of the CAG.

Contemporary Art Gallery
555 Nelson Street, Vancouver
British Columbia, Canada V6B 6R5
Tel. 00 1804 881 2700
contact@contemporaryartgallery.ca
www.contemporaryartgallery.ca

Open Tuesday to Sunday 12–6pm
Free admission

To make an appointment to use the Abraham Rogatnick Resource Library please email library@contemporaryartgallery.ca

The Contemporary Art Gallery is generously supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the City of Vancouver and the Province of BC through the BC Arts Council and the BC Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch. We are also grateful for the support of Vancouver Foundation and our members, donors, and volunteers.

We acknowledge the generous multi-year support from BMO Financial Group.

Education and Outreach founding sponsor Connor, Clark & Lunn Investment Management Ltd.

Opening reception sponsors: Kronenbourg 1664.

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CAG elsewhere

Grace Schwindt
*Only A Free Individual Can Create A Free Society*
Calgary Contemporary
March 12 to April 19, 2015
Argos, Brussels
March 18 to March 29, 2015
Tramway, Glasgow
May 2 to June 7, 2015
Commissioned by FLAMIN Productions through Film London Artists’ Moving Image Network, with Eastside Projects, Birmingham; The Showroom, London; Badischer Kunstverein; Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver; Site Gallery, Sheffield; Tramway, Glasgow; ICIA, University of Bath; and Zeno X Gallery, Antwerp.

Ryan Gander
*Make every show like it’s your last*
OK Offenes Kulturhaus/Center for Contemporary Art, Linz
February 13 to April 28, 2015
Organized by the Contemporary Art Gallery, the exhibition and publication is produced in collaboration with Frac Île de France—Le Plateau, Paris; Manchester Art Gallery, UK; CCA, Derry–Londonderry, Northern Ireland; OK Offenes Kulturhaus/Center for Contemporary Art, Linz, Austria; Aspen Art Museum, Aspen, Colorado and Musée d’art contemporain de Montréal.

Aurélien Froment
*Fröbel Fröbeled*
Heidelberger Kunstverein, Germany
April 23 to June 28, 2015
In collaboration with Villa Arson, Nice; Spike Island, Bristol, UK; Frac Île de France—Le Plateau, Paris; Heidelberger Kunstverein, Germany. A publication will be developed in 2015 bringing together this new body of work and the various presentations in the tour.

www.contemporaryartgallery.ca