



## The Contemporary Art Gallery and TransLink launch a major new public art project on selected B-Line buses



*How far do you travel?* bus displaying Diyan Achjadi, *NonSerie (In Commute)*, 2017/2018

**Project title:** *How far do you travel?*  
**Artists:** Diyan Achjadi, Patrick Cruz, Rolande Souliere, Erdem Taşdelen, Anna Torma  
**Dates:** January - December, 2019  
**Location:** Off-site on selected TransLink B-Line buses  
**Press preview:** Thursday, January 17, 5.30pm

The Contemporary Art Gallery and TransLink are delighted to announce the launch of a new major public art initiative, *How far do you travel?*

Simultaneously celebrating contemporary art while enhancing the experience of transit, five Canadian artists have been commissioned to graphically wrap the exterior of a series of thirty articulated buses traveling on major routes in Metro Vancouver, including the 99 B-Line, throughout 2019.

This new project invites the public to consider the role that images play in carrying ideas and meaning from one place to another. The title not only asks each rider on the bus “How far do you travel?” but also the ability of an artwork itself to transport us across time and space. Each wrapped bus contains an interior display including quotations from each artist, offering both a response to the question and an insight into their work on display.

*How far do you travel?* will launch with the work of **Diyan Achjadi**, whose wrapped buses hit the streets from January 4, 2019. The remaining four designs by **Patrick Cruz**, **Rolande Souliere**, **Erdem Taşdelen** and **Anna Torma** will follow throughout January and February, and the project will be officially launched to the public at CAG on the evening of Thursday, January 17 with one of Achjadi's wrapped buses parked outside the gallery from 5.30 - 9pm.

Throughout the year, CAG and TransLink will also present a variety of free public programming and events that take place on the buses themselves, including artist talks, performances and art-making activities for children and families.

## Artist info

**Diyan Achjadi's** artistic practice explores print media's role in the transit of knowledge throughout the world. In a nod to traditional Chinoiserie wallpaper and textiles, Achjadi envelops her buses in *NonSerie (In Commute)*, 2017/2018, a reconfiguration of historical illustrations that depict an imagined Indonesia from the perspective of the 17th and 18th century Dutch settler. As an Indonesian herself, Achjadi's project is a critical response to the cross-cultural influences and fantastical imaginings that result from the Dutch colonization.

Toronto based artist **Patrick Cruz** also displays work inspired by a personal history of migration. The artist emigrated from the Philippines in 2005, and for this project, has wrapped his buses in a variation of his installation, *Step Mother Tongue*. The pictographic imagery partially derives from a pre-colonial Philippine language which was suppressed by the Spanish during the centuries of their occupation. Cruz's work is a reflection on the time and space through which the imagery travelled to reach him, and a statement about capitalist society, globalization and an imagined post-colonial future.

**Rolande Souliere**, an Anishinaabe artist and a member of the Michipicoten First Nation, wraps her buses in a design evoking hazard tape, using the colour symbolism of the four directions of the earth in Indigenous culture. Her piece, *Frequent Stopping, Part III*, draws from an extensive body of work that uses metaphors of the road to consider claims of land, as well as how boundaries shift due to current social and political events.

**Erdem Taşdelen's** work for *How far do you travel?* is a reconsideration his collage *Essentials of Psychological Testing*, 2018. Each of the drawings, charts, diagrams and graphs in the piece have been scanned from a psychology textbook borrowed from the Vancouver Public Library, and all textual information has been removed. Lacking of any context, the collaged imagery resembles cryptic puzzles and questions the field of psychology, suggesting the impossible distance visual information must travel in order to measure what makes us who we are.

**Anna Torma's** work for her wrapped buses draws from her series *Abandoned Details*. Exploring traditional Hungarian textiles and fibre-based arts, her work presents whimsical imagery drawn from her family history, her own children's drawings, Hungarian folklore and personal memory. Torma's contribution to *How far do you travel?* considers the complex nature of diasporic experience, the desire to remember the details from one's past, and the act of both translating and transporting them into the context of the present.

## Bios

Diyana Achjadi was born in Jakarta, Indonesia to a West-Javanese father and an English-Canadian mother, and spent her childhood moving between Jakarta, Hong Kong, London, and Washington DC. She received a BFA from the Cooper Union School of Art (NY) and an MFA from Concordia University (QC). Achjadi has exhibited widely at galleries and film festivals across Canada and beyond, including solo presentations at Centre MAI (Montreal), Art Gallery of Greater Victoria (Victoria), Oboro (Montreal) and AIR Gallery (New York, NY), among others. Achjadi is the recipient of a 2017 Artist-Initiated Public Art Commission from the City of Vancouver. She is an Associate Professor at Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver, BC, teaching courses in print media, foundation, and visual arts.

Patrick Cruz is a Filipino-Canadian multidisciplinary artist known for his immersive painting, vibrant colour palette, assemblage installation style and gestural lines. Influenced by his personal experience of migration to Canada in 2005, Cruz harvests the detritus of capitalist society as actor and point of reflection on globalization, displacement and migration. In 2015, Cruz won the 17th Annual RBC Canadian Painting Competition. He has shown across North America, Europe and Asia with recent exhibitions at Projet Pangee, Montreal; Centre A, Vancouver; Project 20, Philippines; and Multiplex, Portland. His work can be seen currently at the Art Gallery of Alberta, and was presented in 2016 at the Mexico Material Art Fair. In addition to his solo work, Cruz has collaborated on numerous occasions including screenings and performances. His work has been collected by the RBC, TD Bank, and private collectors in Manila, Hongkong, Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto, and Florida.

Rolande Souliere was born in Toronto and has been based in Sydney, Australia, since 1999. She holds a practice-based PhD in Visual Arts from Sydney College of Arts at the University of Sydney. She has exhibited extensively in Canada, Australia and Europe, with solo exhibitions at Urban Shaman Contemporary Aboriginal Art Gallery, Winnipeg; the New Gallery, Calgary, and grunt gallery, Vancouver. Souliere maintains an active teaching practice. She is a member of the Michipicoten First Nation.

Erdem Taşdelen is a Turkish-Canadian artist based in Toronto. His practice is rooted in conceptualism and involves a range of media including installation, video, sculpture, sound and artist books. His diverse projects bring self-expression into question within the context of culturally learned behaviours, where he often draws from unique historical narratives to address the complexities of current sociopolitical issues. His work has been shown in numerous solo and group exhibitions internationally, and reviewed in publications including Artforum, Flash Art, ArtAsiaPacific and Canadian Art. Taşdelen was awarded the Joseph S. Stauffer Prize in Visual Arts by the Canada Council for the Arts in 2016, and the Charles Pachter Prize for Emerging Artists by the Hnatyshyn Foundation in 2014.

Anna Torma has exhibited her work internationally and is represented in many public collections, including the Museum of Arts and Design, New York; La Peau de l'Ours, Montreal; Foreign Affairs Art Collection, Ottawa; MSVU Art Gallery, Halifax; New Brunswick Art Bank, Fredericton; and Mint Museum, Charlotte. In 2005, Torma received a UNESCO Aschberg Foundation Bursary to attend a residency at Cooperations in Wiltz, Luxembourg; in 2007, she was a recipient of the Canada Council's Paris Studios Grant; and in 2008 she received the Strathbutler Award from the Sheila Hugh Mackay Foundation. Her major solo exhibition, Bagatelles, was mounted first at the New Brunswick Museum, Saint John (2012), travelled to Bellevue Arts Museum, Seattle (2013), and the Karsh-Masson Gallery, Ottawa (2014). Torma is a member of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts and was a 2014 recipient of the Lieutenant-Governor's Award for High Achievement in Visual Arts. Originally from Hungary, she lives and works in New Brunswick.

–ENDS–

## Events

### Artist Talk

**Diyana Achjadi in conversation with Kimberly Phillips**

**Sunday February 3, 2019, 3 - 4pm**

In this unique artist talk, artist Diyana Achjadi will speak about the concerns that propel her

practice aboard her wrapped bus as it tours through the city.  
**Meet at CAG at 3pm. The bus will depart shortly after.**

## Notes to Editors

**For further press information and images, please contact**

Ellie Nixon | Marketing and Communications Officer | [e.nixon@contemporaryartgallery.ca](mailto:e.nixon@contemporaryartgallery.ca)  
or

Lida Paslar | Advisor, Media Relations | TransLink | [lida.paslar@translink.ca](mailto:lida.paslar@translink.ca)

### **About the Contemporary Art Gallery**

Established in 1971 the Contemporary Art Gallery is the longest standing free public art gallery in Vancouver dedicated exclusively to presenting contemporary art. By the early 1990s the program expanded providing some of the first institutional exhibitions for many important Vancouver artists, including Brian Jungen, Geoffrey Farmer, Germaine Koh and Steven Shearer. The Contemporary Art Gallery is a publicly funded institution, 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.

### **Address**

Contemporary Art Gallery  
555 Nelson Street  
Vancouver, BC  
V6B 6R5

### **Contact info**

+1 (604) 681 2700  
[www.contemporaryartgallery.ca](http://www.contemporaryartgallery.ca)  
[contact@contemporaryartgallery.ca](mailto:contact@contemporaryartgallery.ca)

### **Opening hours**

Tuesday - Sunday, 12-6pm  
Free admission

**Facebook:** Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver

**Twitter:** @CAGVancouver

**Instagram:** @CAGVancouver

**Vimeo:** CAGVancouver

**Soundcloud:** Contemporary Art Gallery