



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

TORONTO, ON – Tangled Art + Disability presents its final exhibition of 2017 - Home : Body, a series of live performances featuring Jessica Leung [Vancouver, BC], Jenelle Rouse [London, ON], and Cindy Baker [Edmonton/Lethbridge, AB]. Each of these artists distinctively shapes space and place through the body. All performances will be held at Tangled Art Gallery.

HOME : BODY EVENT LISTING

Media Preview:

December 7, 4:00-5:00pm

For this preview, media will get the opportunity to meet one of the three artists within Home : Body - Jessica Leung, a Deaf emerging artist of colour, who will be exploring poetry within their performances.

Opening Reception:

December 7, 6:00-8:00pm

Tangled Art Gallery S-122, 401 Richmond St W, Toronto, ON

During our opening reception, Vancouver-based Deaf emerging artist Jessica Leung will perform a selection from “Meeting Jessica Leung”: a community driven presentation connecting Jessica with Toronto Deaf, Black Indigenous and person of colour communities. Leung’s performance includes poetry-based work exploring voice, signing and movement. Tamyka Bullen, Toronto-based Deaf artist and poet has been serving as Jessica’s advisor for this series. As part of this opening for Home : Body, Bullen will share a selection from her poetry.



Home : Body

Jessica Leung and Jenelle Rouse Evening Performance:

December 8, 7:00-9:00pm

Tangled Art Gallery S-122, 401 Richmond St W, Toronto, ON

Deaf emerging artist Jessica Leung [Vancouver] and Deaf dance artist Jenelle Rouse [London, ON] will perform new selections from poetry and original dance work reflecting their experiences as Deaf people of colour. Themes of community, intersectionality, and navigating a hearing-centric society inform the individual performances within the presentations.

Second Saturday Social:

December 9, 2:00-4:00 pm

Tangled Art Gallery S-122, 401 Richmond St W, Toronto, ON

Second Saturday Socials are part of the newest public programming for Tangled, centering our blind and low vision communities. In connection with Home: Body series, Deaf dance artist Jenelle Rouse will perform a solo, which will be live described. Following the performance, Jenelle will lead a brief movement workshop. Sweet and savoury refreshments will be served to deepen the social interactions.

Home : Body

Jessica Leung and Jenelle Rouse Live Described

Performance:

December 9, 7:00-9:00pm

Tangled Art Gallery S-122, 401 Richmond St W, Toronto, ON

Jessica Leung [Vancouver] and Jenelle Rouse [London, ON] will each perform new selections from poetry and original dance work reflecting their experiences as Deaf people of colour. Themes of community,



intersectionality, and navigating a hearing-centric society inform the individual performances within the presentations. This performance will be live described and include ASL interpretation.

Home : Body

Cindy Baker Performances:

December 14, 1:00-4:00pm

December 15, 1:00-4:00pm

Tangled Art Gallery S-122, 401 Richmond St W, Toronto, ON

Performance Artist Cindy Baker [Edmonton/Lethbridge, AB] develops a new iteration of her noted work “Crash Pad”, within the confines of the gallery space. Crash Pad centralizes the artist’s “failing,” disabled, or otherwise socially taboo body. Central to the performance is a large sculptural object which functions as a bed, modeled after a single-pill blister pack. The precarious balance offered by the pseudo-resting place in this quiet performance exaggerates the difficulty in going to bed and getting up, and the unease of finding a comfortable resting position.

FADO Performance: Academy

December 16, 2017 2:00–4:00pm

The Commons S-440, 401 Richmond St W, Toronto ON

In conjunction with Home : Body, Tangled Art + Disability partners with FADO Performance Art Centre to present Cindy Baker. On Saturday December 16, Baker will be part of FADO's Performance: Academy. This newest recurring series for FADO Performance Art Centre takes on the abstract form of a school, a university, a workshop, a class or a course, depending on the artist. Performance: Academy is not a workshop and it's not a school either. It's best understood as a public engagement opportunity with an artist who is invested in inverting



notions of authority in practice, research, and pedagogy. All are welcome to join Cindy Baker as she explores her version of an “academy”. This one-time engagement will occur on the fourth floor of the 401 Richmond Street West building, in The Commons. ASL interpretation, accessible seating and personal attendants will be available.

Cindy Baker Live Described Performance:

December 16, 7:00-9:00pm

Tangled Art Gallery S-122, 401 Richmond St W, Toronto, ON

Performance Artist Cindy Baker [Edmonton/Lethbridge, AB] develops a new iteration of her noted performance work “Crash Pad”, within the confines of the gallery space. Crash Pad centralizes the artist’s “failing,” disabled, or otherwise socially taboo body as a part of the work. Central to the performance is a large sculptural object which functions as a bed, modeled after a single-pill blister pack. The precarious balance offered by the pseudo-resting place in this quiet performance exaggerates the difficulty in going to bed and getting up, and the unease of finding a comfortable resting position. For this intimate presentation, Live Description will occur. Seating and resting areas will be available for viewers to experience the performance as Baker moves throughout the gallery. Viewers are also welcome to join Baker and Tangled’s Artistic Director for a dialog directly after this evening’s presentation.

About Space Shapes Place

Space Shapes Place is a national exhibition series of commissioned works by Deaf, Mad and disability artists, supported by Ontario 150 and the Toronto Arts Council’s Open Door program. Spanning ten months in Tangled Art Gallery, the series will feature multidisciplinary creations by artists from across the country, exploring themes of disability identity, history, culture, community and lived experience across Canada.



Curated by Artistic Director Barak adé Soleil, the commissioned artists were selected from a nationwide call for proposals.

About The Home : Body Artists:

Jessica Leung

Jessica Leung is a Deaf, Asian, Taiwanese and Chinese, gender neutral emerging artist of colour currently living as a settler on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded Coast Salish Territories of the Indigenous people of Vancouver, BC.

Jenelle Rouse

Jenelle Rouse is a self-taught Deaf artist working in movement and dance, passionately living her dream as a kindergarten teacher in London, Ontario. In 2006, she became involved in Picasso Pro, an organization dedicated to facilitating opportunities for artists with disabilities and Deaf artists in performing and media arts, and performed in live artworks since 2010: Talking Movement (dancer); Withered Tree; (choreographer and dancer); and Perceptions; (choreographer and dancer). She also performed in a short dance film, Perceptions (2015). When she's not teaching, studying, researching, or dancing, Rouse enjoys travelling, drawing, writing, nature walks, and reading.

Cindy Baker

Based out of Lethbridge and Edmonton, Alberta, Cindy Baker's practice is informed by a commitment to ethical community engagement and critical social inquiry, drawing from queer, gender, race, disability, fat, and art theories. She has exhibited and performed across Canada and internationally, including in Los Angeles, Minneapolis, St Louis, and Finland, and is represented by Dc3 Projects in Edmonton.



About Tangled Art Gallery

Tangled Art Gallery is Tangled Art + Disability's newest platform for advancing the conversation on Deaf, Mad and disability aesthetics, and Canada's first fully accessible disability arts gallery dedicated to accessible programming and curatorial practices. Tangled Art Gallery is proud to be barrier-free, cost-free, and open to the public. All events include ASL Interpretation, Attendant Care, and trained sighted guides. Service animals are welcome. We ask that you help us make our events scent free.

About FADO

Established in 1993, FADO Performance Art Centre is a not-for-profit artist-run centre based in Toronto, Canada. FADO provides a stage and on-going forum in support of the research and development of contemporary performance art practices in Canada and internationally. As a year-round presentation platform, FADO exists nomadically, working with partner organizations and presenters, and utilizing venues and sites that are appropriate to individual projects. FADO presents the work of local, national and international artists who have chosen performance art as a primary medium to create and communicate provocative new images and perspectives. FADO is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Toronto Arts Council and the Department of Canadian Heritage.

CONTACT / INTERVIEWS

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