

koffler gallery

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***PED.Toronto* transforms the Koffler Gallery into a bicycle station and multimedia museum, offering audio bike tours through Toronto's West Queen West neighbourhood**

Toronto, ON, June 2, 2016 – The **Koffler Gallery** presents ***PED.Toronto***, a multimedia installation that invites audiences to venture outside the white cube of the gallery with specially designed audio bicycle tours. Running from **June 23 to August 21, 2016**, the project opens with a free public reception on **Thursday, June 23, 2016 from 6 to 9 PM**. The Koffler Gallery is located at Artscape Youngplace, 180 Shaw Street, Toronto.

Continuing an exploration of urban history initiated during its Off-Site series, the Koffler Gallery invited the PED collective to create a new project for Toronto. Including Canadian artists **Millie Chen** and **Warren Quigley** and Americans **Andrew Johnson**, **Joan Linder** and **Paul Vanouse**, PED describes itself as “a full service organization slated to inform, entertain and educate” through a range of site-specific bicycle tours designed to reveal layers of a city's life. ***PED.Toronto*** also includes honorary member **David Dressner**.

PED re-imagines and transforms our experiences of familiar streetscapes, engaging a spectrum of professional and amateur narrators to populate audio tracks delivered via bicycle-mounted speakers. PED's past projects mined the geographies and civic narratives of Buffalo, NY (USA), Belfast (Ireland), Chongqing (China), Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and St. John's, Newfoundland.

For ***PED.Toronto***, the collective has created a series of bike tours through Toronto's West Queen West area that examine the city's shifting identities, multi-faceted realities and imagined potentials:

- ***Toronto the Good*** incorporates literary and filmic references revealing this city as a place rich in its own stories as well as a cinematic stand-in for other cities.
- ***Toronto the Better*** focuses on the current streetscape and local culture of the sites, start-ups, outreach organizations, businesses and personalities around the Koffler Gallery.
- ***Toronto the Best*** offers riders a transformative experience, channelling science fiction into a call to action for Toronto residents, whether they are long-time, new or even yet unforeseen citizens.

Converted into the PED Station and Museum, the Koffler Gallery serves as a bicycle terminal and information hub. Bike tours are available to anyone wishing to ride; bicycles are borrowed and returned free of charge.

Multimedia displays featuring a retrospective of past PED projects and a live feed observation centre will extend the outdoor experience and interactive engagement with the city, sparking both our subjective and collective imaginations.

For more information and a full list of the Koffler's Summer 2016 programs, please visit kofflerarts.org

Regular exhibition hours: Tuesday to Friday, 12 PM to 6 PM; Saturday and Sunday, 11 AM to 5 PM. Closed Mondays and statutory holidays. Admission is free.

The Koffler Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of the Toronto Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

KOFFLER GALLERY SUMMER EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday, June 23, 2016 | 6–9 PM | FREE | Be among the first to see *PED.Toronto*.

ABOUT THE PED COLLECTIVE

Millie Chen's installations, audio-video works and interventions are intended as sensorial experiences that prod the perceptual and ideological assumptions of the audience. Her work has been exhibited across North and South America, Asia and Europe, and is included in several public collections including the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Art Bank of Canada Council for the Arts, and the City of Toronto. She is a Professor in the Department of Art and Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, University at Buffalo, SUNY. Chen is represented by BT&C Gallery in Buffalo, NY.

Joan Linder is known for drawings packed with thousands, even hundreds of thousands of tiny, energized marks. Her large-scale images of quotidian subjects find inspiration in Linder's immediate surroundings. Past exhibitions include the Kunsthallen Brandts, the Gwangju Museum of Art, The Bronx Museum of the Arts and the Queens Museum. This summer Linder's work is featured in a solo exhibition at the Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY. She is an Associate Professor of Art at University at Buffalo, SUNY.

Andrew Ellis Johnson has addressed topics from the apocalypse to animal nature, the disasters of war and economic disparities. His work has appeared in venues and publications in the Americas, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. He studied at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA where he is Associate Professor of Art. Residencies include those at Korean National University of the Arts in Seoul, University of the Arts London at Camberwell, Fayoum International Art Center in Egypt, and Sites of Passage in Jerusalem/ Ramallah/ Pittsburgh.

Warren Quigley has exhibited across Canada, the U.S. and China, as well as France, Brazil and Japan. He has realized a number of permanent public art commissions, including ones for the City of Toronto and the Toronto Transit Commission, and his work is part of private and public collections in North America and Europe. He has taught at Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in Chongqing, China and is a lecturer in the Department of Art at the University at Buffalo, SUNY.

Paul Vanouse is an artist working in emerging technological forms and a Professor of Art at the University at Buffalo, SUNY. Interdisciplinarity and impassioned amateurism guide his art practice. His biological and interactive media projects have been exhibited in over 25 countries and widely across the U.S. His recent projects use molecular biology techniques to engage issues surrounding DNA fingerprinting, particularly the idea that the most authoritative image of our time, the DNA fingerprint, is somehow 'natural.' Vanouse has a BFA from the University at Buffalo, SUNY and an MFA from Carnegie Mellon University.

ABOUT THE KOFFLER CENTRE OF THE ARTS

The [Koffler Centre of the Arts](#) is a Jewish cultural organization that presents a contemporary cross-disciplinary arts program encouraging inquiry and exploration. We promote an inter-cultural dialogue that engages our Jewish identity with diverse perspectives and global voices. The Koffler Gallery and its administrative offices are located at Artscape Youngplace, in Toronto's vibrant downtown West Queen West art and design district.

Koffler Centre of the Arts acknowledges the support of the Koffler Family Foundation, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, Cultural Season Sponsor CIBC Wood Gundy, the Ontario Arts Council through the Community and Multidisciplinary Arts Organizations Program, our patrons and donors.

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For further information and high resolution images, contact:

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