

# koffler gallery

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## **First and second generation Canadian artists explore immigration in the ambitious group exhibition *Yonder* at the Koffler Gallery and Artscape Youngplace**

**Toronto, ON, August 23, 2016** – The **Koffler Gallery** proudly presents *Yonder*, a group exhibition featuring twenty Canadian artists of diverse cultural backgrounds whose works examine the immigrant condition.

Running from **September 21 to November 27, 2016**, *Yonder* opens with a free public reception on **Wednesday, September 21, 2016 from 6 to 9 PM**. The Koffler Gallery is located at Artscape Youngplace, 180 Shaw Street, Toronto.

Featuring recent and new works in a variety of media – including site-specific installations developed for the context of the exhibition – *Yonder* explores themes of intercultural translation, displacement and identity construction. Approaching the notion of immigration through a process of “personal sociology,” and moving from an investigation of subjective inquiries to larger questions and shared experiences, the artists in *Yonder* – all first and second generation Canadians – draw upon their own narratives while inviting responses based on commonalities and differences.

Artists in *Yonder* include **Sarindar Dhaliwal, Brendan Fernandes, Rafael Goldchain, Jérôme Havre, Luis Jacob, Esmond Lee, Julius Poncelet Manapul, Sanaz and Mani Mazinani, Divya Mehra, Zinnia Naqvi, José Luis Torres, 2Fik, Blue Republic, Diana Yoo, Jinny Yu, and Z’otz\* Collective**. *Yonder* is curated by **Matthew Brower and Mona Filip**.

Offering many voices and perspectives, the works in *Yonder* invite a deep reflection on the dislocations and adaptations triggered by the complex decision to uproot oneself and to cross borders, reaching for a yonder home. By foregrounding these intimate presentations over globalizing political positions, the exhibition intends to support a meaningful dialogue between artworks and audiences, enabling visitors to find points of resonance between identities and experiences of the artists while making connections to their own individual stories.

*Yonder* expands from the Gallery into the broader space of Artscape Youngplace: works in the exhibition will be found both in the Koffler Gallery and throughout the shared public areas of the entire building – the hallway galleries of all three floors, stairwells, and the building’s exterior.

For more information and a full list of the Koffler’s Fall 2016 programs, please visit [kofflerarts.org](http://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.

*Yonder* is generously supported by Partners in Art, Lead Exhibition Sponsor. The Koffler Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of the Toronto Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, and the Canada Council for the Arts.

### **ASSOCIATED PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

#### **KOFFLER GALLERY FALL EXHIBITION OPENING RECEPTION**

**Wednesday, September 21, 2016 | 6–9 PM | FREE** | Join us at Artscape Youngplace and be among the first to experience *Yonder*.

#### **PERFORMANCE BY 2FIK: *My Name is Ludmilla-Mary***

**Wednesday, September 21, 2016 | 5:30–6:30 PM | FREE**

**Performance starts in Trinity-Bellwoods Park and leads back to the Koffler Gallery**

At the crossroads between art, politics and fashion runway, 2Fik’s performance as Ludmilla-Mary, his gender-bending character sporting a hijab and a beard, invites viewers to confront their apprehensions and preconceived

ideas. Challenging both cultural and gender stereotypes, Ludmilla-Mary walks and poses silently through public spaces while displaying messages on an iPad that raise questions about difference and otherness.

**ARTIST-LED EXHIBITION TOUR: Saturday, September 24, 2016 | 2 PM | FREE**

Join us on a tour through *Yonder* led by with the artists featured in the exhibition.

**ARTIST WEBSITES**

Sarindar Dhaliwal: [http://ccca.concordia.ca/artists/artist\\_info.html?link\\_id=883](http://ccca.concordia.ca/artists/artist_info.html?link_id=883)

Brendan Fernandes: <http://www.brendanfernandes.ca/>

Rafael Goldchain: <https://rafael-goldchain.squarespace.com/>

Jérôme Havre: <http://www.galeriedonaldbrowne.com/>

Luis Jacob: <http://birchcontemporary.com/artist/luis-jacob>

Esmond Lee: <http://www.esmondlee.com/>

Julius Poncelet Manapul: <http://cabinetofqueeriosities.blogspot.ca/>

Sanaz Mazinani: <http://www.sanzmazinani.com/>

Mani Mazinani: <http://manimazinani.net/>

Divya Mehra: <http://www.divyamehra.com/>

Zinnia Naqvi: <http://www.zinnianaqvi.com/>

José Luis Torres: <http://www.joseluistorres.ca/>

2Fik: <http://2fikornot2fik.com/>

Blue Republic: <http://bluerepublic.ca/>

Diana Yoo: <http://www.dianayoo.ca/>

Jinny Yu: <http://www.jinnyyu.com/>

Z'otz\* Collective: <http://zotzcollective.blogspot.ca/>

**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.

- 30 -

**For further information and high resolution images, contact:**

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