

[20] We Have Been Up All Night: A Futurist Blast from the Past Mladen Ovadija - This audio work brings about an aural blast of Futurist imagery. It is a sonic exhibition/installation in which original Futurist recordings of noise music, sound poetry, synthetic radio pieces, and manifesto readings by Marinetti, Russolo, Wyndham Lewis and others meet a contemporary sensibility of the Nuit Blanche, a sleepless night in search for art. We revive this sensibility by interspersing passionate words of the founding Futurist manifesto throughout our sound collage. "The consciousness of man in this world is restless and multi-dimensional... The suffering of a man is of the same interest to us as the suffering of an electric lamp, which, with spasmodic starts, shrieks out the most heartrending expressions of colour."

[3] In-Different - Henry Navarro / Arta Gallery - This is a fashion-based performance art piece consisting of live store windows showcasing members of the Distillery District community. The live models will be selected based on their economic, intellectual or political impact within that community—business owners, artists, or teachers—rather than their sartorial prowess. They will be dressed, styled and posed to capture their characteristic daily activities. Futurism's quest for representing the dialectic character of modern life has been a constant inspirational reference in my artistic work. As a multidisciplinary artist I combine fine arts and fashion design into installations and public art pieces that expose audiences to dynamic un-mediated reflections on contemporary issues.

[3] Sacrifilm - Semco Salehi / Arta Gallery - This work is a commentary about the alienation experienced in a world where the news cycle is devoid of the human connection. We're in a future where "the beauty of speed," "omnipresent speed" feeds the excitement of the greedy masses for information. Where action is reported as detached facts devoid of meaning. Where death, revolution, disaster and chaos are presented with indifference. In this world, the speed and medium of information is being substituted for content and through consumption the viewer/spectator becomes part of the callus media machine.

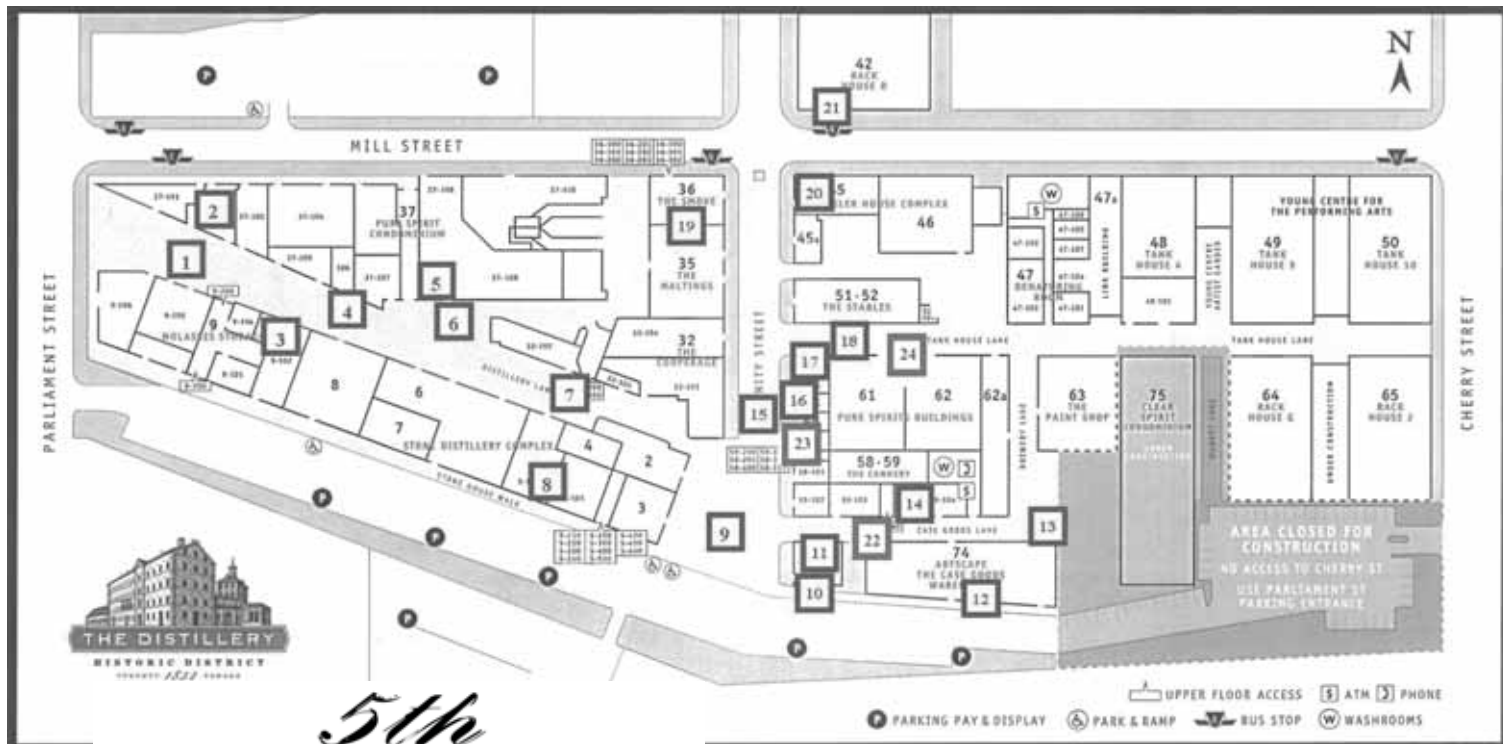
[1] Firework - Jade's Academy of Hip-Hop - There are many angles from which our piece is linked to futurism. At its base our piece concerns Youth. Youth are the future generation and instrumental in effecting change much as the futurists were young and strong and

brought about a whole new social and artistic movement. This generation of young dancers is encouraging everyone to find their inner light, to spark the flame that will ignite the fireworks to bring about these changes.

[3] Futurist Scenography - Paul J. Stoesser / Arta Gallery - The guiding principles for this investigation have been largely derived from Balla and Depero's 1915 manifesto "The Futurist Reconstruction of the Universe" as well as Prampolini's "Manifesto of Futurist Scenography" (1915) and "Technical Manifesto of Futurist Scenic Atmosphere" (1924). This work consists of a retrospective presentation of over three hundred scenographic and related arts images for the Futurist stage from the most influential theatre artists Balla, Depero, and Prampolini, as well as several other designers including Boccioni, Bragaglia, and Marchi. This exhibition illustrates the diverse styles that animate Modernolatria, the overarching theme of Futurist aesthetics, especially in its representation of those core ideas of dynamism, speed, and locomotion.

[24] Daily Collage - Barbara Astman / Corkin Gallery. This work has continually been a part of my art practice in one form or another developed out of my ongoing habit of reading the daily paper, as interested in the visual imagery as the newsworthy articles. I began saving images, which appeared in the daily papers, and would then collage selections onto pages in a small notebook. I was just responding to the images in a very direct and impulsive way. Collage as an art practice has been a major influence on my work over the years and I have been particularly inspired by the early collage works of Hanna Hoch, who was considered a Dadaist, was influenced by the Futurists and hence her influence on me.

[3] Canoe People - Richard Watts / Arta Gallery - In a canoe that is 100 years old, there are ancestral spirits. Some are the spirits that invented the Canadian version of the canoe, some those that had this particular canoe. The canoe is the second most important symbol of Canada—the first is the maple leaf. It is how this country has been travelled for thousands of years. It is a leaf that carries people and floats on water. The work is about setting aside the need for a new kind of voice, a master's touch, utopia, and instead letting the ancestors, speak. They whisper like the lines coming out of the cowed heads, in sounds like flowing water.



'Futurism Today or NOT!' will examine the artistic originality of the Futurists and how it can be reinterpreted today as a significant artistic movement of humanity's inventiveness and/or a fleeting simulacrum of an artificial optimism appropriated by the zeitgeist of its times.

THE FUTURISTIC INSTITUTE OF COLLECTIVE HAPPENINGS

PRESENTS

BLAST

EXHIBITION GUIDE

FUTURISM NOW OR NOT!

FUTURISM NOW OR NOT!

JULY 19 15
OCT 1 2011



SPONSORED BY

Curated by **Thom Sokoloski**



[1] ETCHED - Larchaud Dance Project - Passionate, mystical, and highly physical, Larchaud Dance Project guarantees to captivate all who enter their newest site-specific. Etched is an unconventional tale of an ancient lineage in a futuristic world, of the creatures that walk beside us, and of a dark power stronger than any human emotion.

[4] (L)u2 - Typecast Dance - A contemporary dance piece featuring androids. Engaging a sense of nostalgia, the human-robots long for a romantic past and dance to love songs. Futurism was the theme we worked the piece around. In dance we often perform historic dance works, and this work is a performance of what robots might dance to in the future. The work also assumes humans will eventually morph into robots.

[6] Dynamism of A Dog in a Wheelchair / Dynamism of You - Timothy Scaffidi - This project directly references the concept of Dynamism and re-creates one of the prime examples of this concept in Balla's Dynamism of a Dog on a Leash; it updates the technical side of its production for today's world, something that the progress-loving futurists would surely embrace. In the re-creation, the dog is also mechanically enhanced, another theme of futurist thought; for she can run faster than ever before in the wheelchair without her back legs slowing her down. Finally, this piece brings the concept of Dynamism directly to the viewer to experience by means of the interactive video projection segment, providing a space that encourages viewers to move about and act in non-conventional ways.

[13] Pieta'2011 - Kat Citroen - My interpretation of the classical Pieta' by Michelangelo as an absorbing conduit for the questions, fears, and anger of modern people, is at once comforting and anonymous. Contrary in many ways to our overly exposed emotions that seem to be on show everywhere (Facebook) and which seem to run parallel with a lot of the Futurists extroverted gestures, projects and ideas. We seem to be in an internationally driven extroverted mode where every gesture, idea, prank, death, birth, illness is documented, mourned or celebrated. Wyndham Lewis is someone I can relate to.

[3] The Reign of Silk Comes to an End - Arianne Pollet-Brannen & Rebecca Hannon - This collaboration between Arianne Pollet-Brannen and Rebecca Hannon is inspired by Vincenzo Fani's 1920 Futurist fashion proclamation, The Futurist Manifesto of Women's Fashion. In an effort to blend the absurd with originality and extravagance, precious materials are replaced by the mundane and unconventional. Classical routines are ditched. Asymmetry trumps balanced proportions. A dynamic shoe liner clad woman complete with a countertop necklace is born.

[11] Canadian Jet, Turbine & Sky View - Marcus Patching - Balzac's Cafe - My main inspiration came from the self-taught Futurist painter Tullio Crali. In the 1930's his artworks became more realistic and he intended to show the experience of flight and movement to the viewer. The three mixed media paintings relate to movement and technology in Toronto. With the Futurist manifesto in mind I have painted the Wind Turbine on Lake Ontario, a Canadian Jet featured in the recent Toronto Air Show and a dizzying perspective of the iconic CN Tower entitled Sky View.

[3] a little red - Victoria Ward / Arta Gallery - This is a manifesto in fairy tale form. A multi-platform text based work that is a mash up of the story Little Red Riding Hood and Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto, 'a little red' will be a book, an ebook, a website, art work, installation/exhibition and performance. You can't really talk about how the 20th century was shaped without dealing with Marx. I think my contribution to the night is that I summon his ghost and the Victorian attitudes which lead to such thinking as the Futurists.

[18] Ghosts of Futurism - Evoke Movement Theatre - This a contemporary duet performed to an original score by electric violinist, Dr. Draw. Informed by F.T Marinetti's Futurist Manifesto of Dance, the dancers will embody the machine-like movement relating to Shrapnel

as it is released from the weapon. The duet will catapult their bodies into the space and captivate their audience.

[8] The Growing Conversation - Enza Iovio / Deaf Culture Centre - As the 'white night' advances, new life-size sculptures, in white, appear. These are full-body castings of people happily greeting one another. Each sculpture is unique as each model expresses, physically, their part of the 'conversation'. My work is mostly the opposite of Futurism and so it fits nicely into the 'NOT' aspect in the Distillery District's multi-venue exploration of "Futurism or NOT".

[Various Locations] Saving US From Destruction - SUFD - In the Manifesto of the Futurist dance, F.T Marinette regards the hold of music over the movements of dance as a thing of the past. And that the noises of mechanical life will be the noises along side futurist dance. The 4 Steps are: 1.) Each person creates a movement that either builds on a previous movement, or is intuitively realized in the given space and time, incorporate sound if desired. 2.) One person creates a movement at a time. Each person teaches their movement to the group. The group practices that move a few times, until it is understood. 3.) Once everyone has contributed the dance is practiced in it's presumed entirety prior to the final video documented performance. 4.) The dance is recorded and posted online in the near future.

[11] The Great Divide - Heather Hughs / Balzac's Cafe - Which side of the brain predominately drives futurism? The division of the brain is complex, intriguing, unanswered and a profound entity. I am interested in this division; the differences housed in the characteristic traits that define the left and right hemispheres of every human brain. As an artist, I am drawn to both realism and abstraction, which is reflective of this human division. Descriptors of the left and right side brain functions such as controlled vs. uncontrolled, reality vs. fantasy, logic vs. feeling, facts vs. imagination, and words vs. symbols, all conjure a vivid vision. Inspiration came from the video "Futurism-The Dead Movement That Lives" By Andrew Hordylan.

[23] Creatures of the Night - Nexx Level Dance & Theatre - This work emphasizes glorified Futurist themes found in Marinetti's "Futurist Manifesto" including future, speed, technology, youth, uprising, warfare and violence. The piece echo's the Manifesto in its rebellion against harmony and good taste resorting to extreme violence and war as a means to abolish old, political, social and artistic traditions.

[21] Force Ratio [Beta] - Evond Blake - This media work is inspired by the Technical Futurist painters in the promotion of a fast paced, technological future that glorifies a new art form that disregards all imitation and static images of the past. This project is directly inspired by Giacomo Balla and his objective to create relative and absolute movement through dynamics and abstraction. I have coined the term NEO-DYNAMISM or POST-FUTURISM to describe this form of experimental art. The intention behind this digital motion sequence is to take the viewer on a journey into the world of the DENARY, the race of decimals digits that existed in a world of war and conflict caused by the rise of a powerful dominating force known as the GOOGOLPLEX.

[23] Lights Contacts - Scenocosme / Le Labo - The installation is essentially a machine that encourages people to touch one another. This hints at the realization that we need machines in order to remember to be human, to feel and touch one another, to notice others. It is the machine, the technology, that connects us to each other. A poignant analogy in a social media world!

[17] Futuristi - BellaLuna - This is a video collage of a theatre group based in Vancouver, British Columbia. Since 1998, BellaLuna has been creating and performing physical, comic theatre in a variety of unique venues drawing inspiration from current affairs and basing our style in the traditional masked Italian theatre of Commedia Dell'Arte and Futurism.

[14] colorium 47 - Kevin Bonnici / Caffè Furbo - colorium 47 is a minimalist/constructivist thematically conceptual work involving

paintings on wood and an outdoor, permanent futurist-tribal sculpture - how Industrial objects are inert unless they are integrated into an artistic plane.

[19] Phare/Far - Dominique Banoun - The installation's relation to the Futurists movement and its offshoots is manifold. Lighthouses were machines dependant on the lightkeeper but became more and more automated with time until now no human is needed at all. It could be seen as an illustration of the cult of the machine the Futurists fostered but also the dehumanisation brought on by its extreme where finally the machine is independant of the human being and ultimately replaces it.

[3] Self-Storage - Anthony Cristina & Natalie Viecili - We have noticed a correlation between the ideals found in modern advertising and the Futurist aesthetic towards the body, as outlined by Valentine de Saint-Point in her piece Futurist Manifesto of Lust. Saint-Point calls for lust to be realized in "full consciousness", a tactic used by cosmetic and hygiene products (i.e. Axe body spray) to appeal to our senses and desires. Futurist writers like Alberto Vianello, Escodamé, and Saint-Point see lust and the act of sex as a violent struggle. Likewise, the rejection of a conservative-Christian ethos in North American society points to sex not as an intimate experience, but one that curbs our carnal urges. It is this projection of a better life with modern commodities and technology that promise to curb the fears associated with our bodies and allow for self-mastery.

[9, 22, 10] KATA-STROPH - Nouveau Futurist Art of Noise Group - This is a sound-art performance exploring the impact of Russolo's Art of Noise manifesto on the development of sound-based artistic practices. It is an interactive noise-art installation and performance featuring custom-built tactile instruments creating an electro-industrial orchestra: the STILL HORN, the FLATBEDONATOR, the SIREN, the ELECTRO-ACOUSTIC SHEET METAL FEEDBACK PHONE, and the TRUCKOPHONE which can be played by the participants and/or the operators throughout the Futurism Today or NOT! event. There will also be the premiere of the new composition performed by members of the Nouveau Futurist Art of Noise group in a special late night concert. Walking the line of noise/sound, this performance explores complex aural emotions through physical and electronic means.

[5] The Spirit of Futurism - Kirsten Webb - One of my main sources of inspiration comes from the Italian Futurist Giacomo Balla. Through the design of Fashion, Balla was able to capture and amplify the essential qualities of Italian Futurism and translate them into form, line and colour. Balla's Anti Neutral Suit is an example of how he attempted to create a visual identity that would serve as a personal statement of Futurist beliefs. The power of Marinetti's words to convey strong visual imagery rouses the mind and whips it into a frenetic Futurist frenzy.

[3] Grim & P-38 Thundercat - Shannon Dobbs - Both pieces are futuristic concepts. Grim is an Exoskeletal Adaptive platform requiring a pilot and the P-38 is a concept for a twin turbine fighter. Grim is a combination of foam camping mats and recycled wood. the P-38 is actually recycled cardboard and foam. I think that futurism has alot to do with recycling, we have brought it into our everyday life, it should also be apart of our culture. At the same time I am drawn to the destructive forces of power and fear which is evident in my sculptures

[12] St. James Circus - Benecorpo Community - This work in its narrative context can be considered a parallel movement to Futurism, due to the setting's emphasis on youth and violence and the glorification of the rediscovery of technology and machines after an extended period of post-apocalypse. As post-apocalyptic Heritagists uncover the resplendent technological past, the St. James Circus propagates it and the ideologies associated with it across Shattered Canada, inviting wonder and resistance. It will examine issues like sustainability, the impact of social media on individual communication, the benefits and consequences of cultural hybridity and the accountability of government using sculptures,

paintings, performances, speculative fictions and an installations-within-installation motif. It is the story of a nomadic circus troupe charged with rebuilding Canadian culture in a post-post-apocalyptic world.

[2] The Desperate Tenderness of Hydraulic Displacement Kadozuke Kollektif - The instillation/performance consists of seven individual interactive prototypes which allow the audience to test the effects of certain mechanical processes on the adult female inside a closed-loop environment. Through a variety of actions, the audience will initiate a chain of events affecting performers as part of the mechanism, each one with it's own unique sensual and mechanical elements. The work is Inspired by two performances from the Futurist movement - Marinetti's "Love of Two Locomotives for the Station Master" and Prampolini's ballet "Psychology of Machines". This work examines our modern desire for sensual communication with technology, the humanization of machines and the objectification of women.

[3] Risototale - Christine Lucy Latimer - This work consists of a video loop of a never ending tunnel (seen from the front of a fast moving train) projected onto a large bowl of specially prepared rice. The rice preparation (known as RisoTotale or TotalRice) follows a classic Italian Futurist recipe created by Futurist artist Luigi Columbo (better known to his peers as Fillia). The recipe consists of cooked white rice mixed with equal portions of wine and beer. The Italian Futurists vehemently noted their disdain for the consumption of pasta in several of their manifestos. They stated that pasta contributed to weight gain and sluggishness, as well as a "typical ironic and sentimental skepticism which can often cut short enthusiasm" (Marinetti, The Futurist Cookbook).

[15] Flight into the Future - Rebecca Leonard - When exploring the wave of the Futurist movement, I was struck by the image of classic racing car with its hood ornament leading the drive forward into a new future of technology and industry. To embody the hood ornament stepped forward the goddess, Pallas Athene, who is the essence of warriorship, essential to the throwing off of the chains of the past hindering the violent and vital expressions of contemporary industrial life. Flight is freedom and passion, the passion of war and life. In this piece, danced on the aerial straps, I am the hood ornament leading the way on a path to change, I am the pilot expressing through my aviation machine. "We Futurist aviators, we love to roar up perpendicularly and dive vertically into the void..." Azari, Fedele (Futurist Pilot Aviator).

[3] Celluloid Dress - Paula John - In 1920 Vincenzo Fani (Volt) published the Futurist Manifesto of Women's Fashion in Roma Futurista. In it he declares, "Women's fashion has always been more or less Futurist. Fashion: the female equivalent of Futurism. Speed, novelty, courage of creation..." Celluloid dress is a handmade gown sewn entirely out of 16mm film and nylon mesh. Combined with a performance where a sewing machine and film projector are connected this work examines the relationship between 16mm filmmaking and sewing. There are a number of similarities between sewing and 16mm film making, the most explicit being that Singer the leading manufacturer of sewing machines also made 16mm projectors.

[15] ICQ (Inverted Cubofuturist Query) - Sean Smith (Department of Biological Flow) - See and be seen. Interpolate and interpellate. In an explicit gesture to Duchamp and the Russian Futurists, the Department of Biological Flow offers 'ICQ (Inverted Cubofuturist Query)', a performance that reconsiders the question of tempo in public space and interrogates opportunities for movement in the contemporary vision machine.

[16 & 17] Later is Now! (3 banners) - John Marriot - Futurism is a windmill to tilt at. Futurism's re-runs shaped my adolescence. Futurism's influences influenced influencers who influenced me. Futurism is a back-catalogue to remix and unpack later. When the call comes I work with it's echoes.

...over