

**Upcoming Exhibition: Dominique Pétrin's *You won't solve the problem with an air freshener***

**October 27 – December 9, 2017**

**Vancouver B.C.** – *grunt gallery* will host an installation by Montréal-based artist Dominique Pétrin. *You won't solve the problem with an air freshener* is the artists' first solo exhibition in Vancouver, B.C.

The installation, created on-site, is composed of silkscreened paper pasted onto the gallery walls. Freely inspired by the history of ornamentation and pixelated digital aesthetics, Pétrin's installations are often riotous in execution, creating an environment both vibrant and unsettling. *grunt* curator, Vanessa Kwan, describes the work as "the installation equivalent of a click hole." In Pétrin's own words, her work "transforms rooms into a projection of what it is would be like to inhabit an online digital interface."

Rooted in her practice as a performer and printmaker, Pétrin creates immersive, highly graphic environments, often producing hundreds of individual prints for a single installation. For her exhibition at *grunt gallery*, the artist will be working to create a unique installation that acknowledges the architecture of the gallery space much like Pétrin's most recent installation commissioned by the secretive graffiti & street artist, Banksy, for his Walled Off Hotel project in the West Bank of Bethlehem earlier this year.

In discussing the evolution of her work Pétrin explains that she approaches her installations in much the same way she used to approach her stage fright as a lead singer in Montréal's punk rock band, Les Georges Leningrad: "I started my first show in the same way I started music - terrified of the white cube, and deciding to rock the space and completely erase it."

Pétrin's work—a graphic insistence of time and labour—is greatly influenced by Hairy Who & the Chicago Imagists collective of the 1960s and '70s whose work was displayed in a completely wallpapered space. Through them, she became interested more in the installation form in and of itself. In 2010, Pétrin decided to include the floor in her installations and the work "became a digital experience, [it represents] what it is like to physically experience a virtual space."

Pétrin will also be delivering an artist talk, presented in partnership with the Audain Faculty of Art's Visual Art Forums at Emily Carr University, on Halloween, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 6 pm, Rennie Hall (B2160), Emily Carr University of Art and Design, 520 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, B.C.

**ARTIST BIO**

**Dominique Pétrin** is a multidisciplinary artist living and working in Montréal, Canada. A former member of the petrochemical rock band Les Georges Leningrad from 2000-2007, she has collaborated with artists such as Banksy, Sophie Calle, the Pil & Galia Kollektiv and choreographers Antonija Livingstone, Stephen Thompson and Jennifer Lacey. Her work has been exhibited across Canada, France, the United States, Belgium and the United Kingdom. In 2014 she was longlisted for the Sobey Award. She is represented in Canada by Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran.