As part of Push and Pull there will be a site-specific performance by Bridget Moser. Michael Vickers, Nikki Woolsey and Joan Wilson. This event is free and all are welcome.

Thursday 27 February 2014, 7PM

Join Joan Wilson for an intimate view of Kelly’s studies and current practice. Refreshments will be served. Free for Sustaining Members and above; open to other members and select non-members for $25. Space is extremely limited. RSVP to York Lethbridge, Director of Operations & Development, at yl@mercerunion.org or by calling 416.536.1519.

THE ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Bridget Moser
Bridget Moser graduated from the University of Victoria in 2003 with a BA in Studio Art. She was a resident at the Banff Centre with Michael Portnoy, Ieva Miseviciute and Reggie Watts in 2012 and was selected to participate in the Artist Research Laboratory at the Fundraimentale in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium. Moser was a resident at the Banff Centre with Michael Portnoy, Ieva Miseviciute and Reggie Watts in 2012 and was selected to participate in the Artist Research Laboratory at the Fundraimentale in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium. Moser performs regularly at Doored, a monthly performance art and comedy show with Michael Vickers, Nikki Woolsey and Joan Wilson. Her work has exhibited in galleries and artist-run centres across Canada, including La Centrale, Montreal; VIVO Media Arts, Toronto; Doris mainland; Push and Pull (Toronto); The Media Centre for Arts, Hollywood; and the Art Gallery of Toronto. Her work has been exhibited internationally in San Francisco, Mexico, Mumbai, Paris, and London, UK. She was a resident at the Banff Centre with Michael Portnoy, Ieva Miseviciute and Reggie Watts in 2012 and was selected to participate in the Artist Research Laboratory at the Fundraimentale in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium.

Michael Vickers
Michael Vickers completed his BMus BM in Visual Art at the University of Ottawa and MA in Art History at the University of Toronto in 2013. Select recent exhibitions include: That Came Great War Home to You, Truck Gallery, Calgary (2013) (solo); Everything and Nothing, Nlaka’pamux, Toronto, University of Toronto, Toronto; Niki. Fifty-Five Fifty Centre, Vancouver, BC (2012) (solo); Alliance of Five, Sura Art Institute, Seoul, South Korea (2012); The Billboard Art Project, Installation on Bloor St. E. (2013); along with the Bent, the Evergreen Brick WorksGallery and Toronto (all 2013); with Pleasure Dome (Toronto), Mercer Union (Toronto), Gallery TPW (Toronto) and Tokyo Cube Video (Tokyo) (2011). His work has been exhibited in Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy; Greece; Israel; Korea; Russia; Japan; New Zealand; New York; South Africa; Switzerland; and the UK.

Nikki Woolsey
Nikki Woolsey graduated from the Ontario College of Art and Design in 2008. Recent exhibitions include; That’s Not a Run in Your Stocking, it’s a Hand on Your Leg, Narwhal, Toronto; Man’s Gotta Do, The Billboard Art Project, Installation on Bloor St. E. (2013); along with the Bent, the Evergreen Brick WorksGallery and Toronto (all 2013); with Pleasure Dome (Toronto), Mercer Union (Toronto), Gallery TPW (Toronto) and Tokyo Cube Video (Toronto) (2011). His work has been exhibited in Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy; Greece; Israel; Korea; Russia; Japan; New Zealand; New York; South Africa; Switzerland; and the UK.

IN STUDIO with Jean-Paul Kelly
Thursday 27 February 2014, 7PM

Join Joan Wilson for an intimate view of Kelly’s studies and current practice. Refreshments will be served. Free for Sustaining Members and above; open to other members and select non-members for $25. Space is extremely limited. RSVP to York Lethbridge, Director of Operations & Development, at yl@mercerunion.org or by calling 416.536.1519.

Jean-Paul Kelly (Canadien, b. 1977) creates videos, drawings and photographs that are often displayed together. His work has exhibited at The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery (Toronto), Vox Populi (Philadelphia), Strong Island Gallery (Southampton), Museum London (London), Edinburgh Bennie Museum of the West (Edinburgh), Mercer Union (Toronto), and VIVO Media Arts (Vancouver). His work has been exhibited at the Banff Centre with Michael Portnoy, Ieva Miseviciute and Reggie Watts in 2012 and was selected to participate in the Artist Research Laboratory at the Fundraimentale in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium. Kelly was a guest artist at the 2012 Robert Fisk and Foley Seminar. Other recent screenings include: Edinburgh Bennie Museum (Edinburgh), Mercer Union (Toronto) and VIVO Media Arts (Vancouver). Kelly’s work has received funding from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Ontario Arts Council and the Toronto Arts Council. From 2008 to 2010, Kelly was Program Director and Curator of Trinity Square Video (Toronto). He holds a Master of Visual Studies from the University of Toronto (2005) and lives and works in Toronto.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Bridget Moser
Bridget Moser graduated from the University of Victoria in 2003 with a BA in Studio Art. Her work has been exhibited in galleries and artist-run centres across Canada, including La Centrale, Montreal; VIVO Media Arts, Toronto; Doris mainland; Push and Pull (Toronto); The Media Centre for Arts, Hollywood; and the Art Gallery of Toronto. Her work has been exhibited internationally in San Francisco, Mexico, Mumbai, Paris, and London, UK. She was a resident at the Banff Centre with Michael Portnoy, Ieva Miseviciute and Reggie Watts in 2012 and was selected to participate in the Artist Research Laboratory at the Fundraimentale in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium. Her work has exhibited in galleries and artist-run centres across Canada, including La Centrale, Montreal; VIVO Media Arts, Toronto; Doris mainland; Push and Pull (Toronto); The Media Centre for Arts, Hollywood; and the Art Gallery of Toronto. Her work has been exhibited internationally in Toronto, San Francisco, Mexico, Mumbai, Paris, and London, UK. She was a resident at the Banff Centre with Michael Portnoy, Ieva Miseviciute and Reggie Watts in 2012 and was selected to participate in the Artist Research Laboratory at the Fundraimentale in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium. Her work has exhibited in galleries and artist-run centres across Canada, including La Centrale, Montreal; VIVO Media Arts, Toronto; Doris mainland; Push and Pull (Toronto); The Media Centre for Arts, Hollywood; and the Art Gallery of Toronto. Her work has been exhibited internationally in San Francisco, Mexico, Mumbai, Paris, and London, UK. She was a resident at the Banff Centre with Michael Portnoy, Ieva Miseviciute and Reggie Watts in 2012 and was selected to participate in the Artist Research Laboratory at the Fundraimentale in Antwerp, Flanders, Belgium.

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In their in-betweenness each of the artists explore, negotiate and re-imagine the status quo. Questioning how we perceive objects and place value, and disrupting existent systems of knowledge, forms acknowledging the precarity of their formation and labour.

In his classroom in the 1940s German/American abstract painter Hans Hofmann reiterated the necessity to activate the pictorial space, displacing the singular viewpoint and opening up the parameters of the canvas from any single point of view. He repeated the instructions, ‘to use colour and form to create spatial depth, combining the two-dimensional with the three-dimensional, and pushing and pulling the elements into space and time’.

While Hofmann identified the necessity to activate the pictorial space, displacing the singular viewpoint for a fresh experience, the tensions of colour and form were folded and pulled into a sense of colour for his students, and jurors alike among them. Indeed, the New York exhibition was titled Hans Hofmann and His Students and Kaprow’s work, Field and Fork an (Chromatic) Compendium. Suggesting a potential fusion of ideas in the mid-2000s, sociologist Bruno Latour and artist/curator Peter Weibel revived the German concept of "Push and Pull.”

Push and pull.

Push and Pull: A Furniture Exhibition

First Blue

Michael Vickers, Florida (2013)

Hans Hofmann and His Students

Push and Pull

First Blue

Michael Vickers, Florida (2013)

Push and Pull

First Blue

Michael Vickers, Florida (2013)

Push and Pull

First Blue

Michael Vickers, Florida (2013)