



## Press Release

**January 16th to 23rd, 2015,  
at Union Station's Great Hall  
(and other locations)**

65 Front St West,  
Toronto, ON, M5J 1E6

**Press/Project Coordinator**

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**[www.villaraster.com](http://www.villaraster.com)  
[www.artmetropole.com](http://www.artmetropole.com)**

Presented by Raster  
in association with  
Art Metropole

Warsaw's Raster Gallery announces Villa Toronto  
January 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, Union Station

A roving art event that moves from city to city every couple of years, the Villa project works with international art galleries to create a temporary, ongoing art community that is dynamic and ever-expanding. This January Villa touches down in Toronto to present an exhibition of contemporary art at Union Station.

Villa Toronto, presented by Warsaw's Raster Gallery in association with Toronto's Art Metropole, brings over nineteen local and international art galleries and their artists to Union Station's Great Hall from January 16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015. Accompanying this presentation, in cooperation with local art organizations, will be a series of special events throughout the city, featuring among others a performance by Ragnar Kjartansson and a talk with Michael Snow. The one-week program is free and open to the public.

Villa Toronto is the most recent in a series of international gallery meetings initiated by Raster. Previous editions took place in Warsaw (2006), Reykjavik (2010) and Tokyo (2011). The event is not an art fair. Rather, VILLA aims to use the curatorial experience of private galleries to create encounters with the general public and local art communities that are innovative, stimulating, and not merely market driven. VILLA recognizes the decisive role private galleries play in determining the field of contemporary art and the type of explorations that take place within it. VILLA encourages the cross-cultural circulation of art, artists and cultural workers, and dedicates its resources and focus to facilitate such an exchange, throughout the project and in the years to come.

Raster Gallery is thrilled to be working with Union Station as the host venue for Villa Toronto. Toronto's main rail transportation hub, Union Station is undergoing a major revitalization. Under the auspices of developer OsmingtonInc, the Villa partnership signals a striking vision for the revitalized space, one in which art will play a significant role in the daily life of the train station. Osmington's commitment to bringing art to the site will continue with Art Metropole's upcoming mobile shop-structure at Union Station. *The AM Station at Union Station* will, starting this summer, distribute artists' and art books, magazines, multiples, as well as host art events such as readings and conversations with artists at its home base on the York Promenade. But also introduce site-specific programs, of which VILLA is the first.

A publication, Villa Toronto (2014), will accompany the project. The specially produced 128-page book features an essay, a selection of interviews as well as information about all participating organizations and artists.



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### Participants:

Art Metropole (Toronto) – Shane Krepakevich and Elif Saydam  
Jessica Bradley (Toronto) — Derek Sullivan, John Sasaki  
COOPER COLE (Toronto) — JD Walsh  
Diaz Contemporary (Toronto) — Zeke Moores  
Daniel Faria (Toronto) — Iris Häussler  
Hollybush Gardens (London) — Reto Pulfer  
i8 (Reykjavik) — Ragnar Kjartansson  
IBID Projects (London/LA) — Michael Portnoy  
LABOR (Mexico City) — Erick Beltran  
Misako & Rosen (Tokyo) — Yuki Okumura  
MKG 127 (Toronto) — Dean Drever  
Plan B (Berlin/Cluj) — Navid Nuur, Rudolf Bone  
ProjectesD (Barcelona) — Jochen Lempert, Patricia Dauder  
RaebervonStenglin (Zurich) — Dane Mitchell  
Raster (Warsaw) — Michał Budny, Aneta Grzeszykowska  
Clint Roenisch (Toronto) — Tony Romano  
Jocelyn Wolff (Paris) — Guillaume Leblon, Elodie Seguin  
ZERO... (Milan) — Hans Schabus, Gavin Kenyon

### Partners:

8 eleven, Art Gallery of Ontario, Justina M Barnicke, Kunstverein Toronto, Mercer Union, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, No Reading After The Internet, Power Plant, Scrap Metal, Vtape.

Villa Toronto warmly thanks its supporters: Toronto Arts Council, The Polish Ministry of Culture and Heritage, Osmington Inc., City of Warsaw, Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Toronto, Goethe-Institut, British Council, Gallery Express, The Drake Hotel, Wondereur, The Consulate General of France, SOCAN Foundation, Canadian Art and C Magazine.

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