

Communiqué de presse / Press release

For immediate distribution

The CCA exhibition *It's All Happening So Fast: A Counter-History of the Modern Canadian Environment* to be presented at the University of Toronto Art Centre.

The exhibition explores the contradictory relationship between Canada's idealized wilderness and its simultaneous exploitation. It is curated by CCA Director Mirko Zardini and was first shown from November 2016 to April 2017 at the CCA. It is open at the University of Toronto Art Museum from 3 May to 15 July, accompanied by a curatorial tour by Mirko Zardini on 4 May.



Contaminated soil bags at the Lower Base DEW Line site, Cape Dyer, 2013. Photograph by Margo Pfeiff

Montréal, 2 May 2017 — The Canadian Centre for Architecture (CCA) is pleased to announce that its exhibition ***It's All Happening So Fast: A Counter-History of the Modern Canadian Environment*** is presented by the Art Museum at the University of Toronto in conjunction with the Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival from 3 May to 15 July 2017.

It's All Happening So Fast is purposely presented on the occasion of Canada's 150th anniversary. In an age of unprecedented human impact on the planet, certain countries stand out for their privileged positions and the complexity of their relationships with regard to the land. Canada's stories follow the discovery and appropriation of vast and varied natural resources, yet today, the country's environmental record is one of the poorest among wealthy nations. It is a fact that suggests ambivalence and the actions of competing interests, which



are most often exposed through disasters—moments of disorder, and disregard for the unexpected consequences of managing the country’s seemingly endless bounty. The exhibition’s narratives span a history of Canada’s relationship with the land since 1945 to expose complex connections among different interests, competing cultural myths, an evolving legal context, changing ideas of environmental risk, resurgent Indigenous Peoples, and the impact of the environmentalist movement. As a call for action, the project illustrates the necessity to take positions in the face of the climate crisis, from radical efforts like David Suzuki's *Carbon Manifesto* to more contemporary and diverse engagements by architects, landscape architects, urban designers, artists, and activists.

Publication and public programming

The exhibition is accompanied by the publication *It’s All Happening So Fast*, edited by Lev Bratishenko and Mirko Zardini, co-published by the CCA and Jap Sam Books, and designed by Christian Lange.

Exhibition opening, Wednesday 3 May at 7–9 pm.

Curatorial Talk with Mirko Zardini, Thursday 4 May at 6 pm.

University of Toronto Art Centre
15 King’s College Circle
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3H7
artmuseum.utoronto.ca

THE CCA

The CCA is an international research centre and museum founded by Phyllis Lambert on the conviction that architecture is a public concern. Based on its extensive collection, exhibitions, public programs, publications and research opportunities, the CCA is advancing knowledge, promoting public understanding, and widening thought and debate on architecture, its history, theory, practice, and role in society today.

ART MUSEUM AT THE UNIVERSITY

Comprised of the Justina M. Barnicke Gallery and the University of Toronto Art Centre, the Art Museum organizes and presents an intensive year-round program of exhibitions and events that foster — at a local, regional, and international level — innovative research, interdisciplinary scholarship, and knowledge of art and its histories befitting Canada’s leading university and the country’s largest city.

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