

Wingspan Dis/arts, Culture, & Public Pedagogy

October 19 – 21, 2017



Program for Public Audience with details

October 19, 2017

Venue: the Hatch Gallery in the NEST

6133 University Blvd, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

4:00pm

Soft Opening-Photo Shows, the Hatch Gallery (*Rena Del Pieve Gobbi and Cathy Browne, Curators*)



Rena Del Pieve Gobbi is going into the Interdisciplinary PhD program in September. She has a Masters degree in Media Studies from Emily Carr University. Her body of work focuses on issues of sexual violence and recovery. Del Pieve Gobbi's four experimental 35 mm films explore these topics and protest the use of sexual violence as entertainment in mainstream media. Her other work re-affirms one's relationship with one's body while striving to heal from sexual violence.

Del Pieve Gobbi's new focus for PhD studies will be around the topic of resilience and creating methods of support for students with mental health disabilities to help them stay in university.



Cathy Browne is a lifestyle, travel, and events photographer who just happens to be legally blind. Her camera captures a world she doesn't see. Her photography page: <https://www.flickr.com/gp/cathybrowne/9h5n7a> Cathy is also a veteran PR professional, accomplished speaker and accessibility advocate – she's just started her third term with the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee for the City of Vancouver.

Recently, Cathy was interviewed by Amanda Siebert from *the Georgia Straight, Vancouver News & Entertainment Weekly*. Here is the report: <http://www.straight.com/life/880131/difference-makers-legally-blind-photographer-cathy-browne-advocates-persons-disabilities>

Cathy loves everything Apple, travel, food and wine, opera, politics, her cats, CBC Radio, Sherlock Holmes and hugs.

5:00-7:00pm

Sarah Jickling and Her Good Bad Luck, Nest (Sarah Jickling, Canadian Indie Singer Songwriter)



Sarah Jickling is a Canadian songstress and mental health advocate. Over the past few years, Jickling's whimsical indie-pop songs have been featured on radio stations across the country and in independent films. The twenty six year old uses her music to spread mental health awareness, and has opened up about her experiences with Bipolar Disorder and Anxiety Disorder on radio, local television, podcasts, blogs and at live speaking events. Her new album, *When I Get Better*, was released July 14th, 2017. She can be found in hospital waiting rooms and pole dancing studios around Vancouver, BC.

Buzz: My performance is a musical journey through bipolar recovery, featuring Sarah Jickling on vocals, piano and ukulele and Greg McLeod on violin.

October 20, 2017

Venue: The Chan Centre for Performing Arts

6265 Crescent Road, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z1

Information of Accessibility: <http://chancentre.com/accessibility/>

8:30-8:45am Audience loading, Telus Studio

8:45-9:00am Opening Remarks, Telus Studio (Audience welcome)

Prof. Andrew Szeri, UBC Provost

Prof. Blye Frank, Dean, Faculty of Education

Profs. Neil Guppy and Leslie G. Roman, Co-Chairs of the President's Working Committee on Disability Culture, Art and Equity

Video clip of Geoff McMurchy's *Wingspan Three dance, The Making of Perfect Storm* and *Shameless: Art of Disability*.

9:00-9:40am Love at Second Sight, Telus Studio (David Roche and Marlena Blavin)



Love At Second Sight is an educational video that transforms attitudes about appearance and encourages students to accept themselves and others. It's about difference and belonging, judgment and inclusion.

Facially different David Roche and his lovely wife Marlena Blavin share their stories with a spellbound middle-school audience. As they explore themes of self-acceptance (David finds his inner beauty) and accepting others (Marlena moves from revulsion to friendship), the students' reactions move from discomfort and stunned silence to laughter, delight and engagement. From their faces and feedback, it is clear that their perceptions have quickly shifted as they are encouraged to take that vital second look.

David Roche is a pioneer of disability culture, an inspirational humourist, actor, author, and keynote speaker. He has transformed the challenges and gifts of living with facial difference into a compelling message that has won standing ovations from New Zealand to Moscow, across Canada and the USA including at the White House, the Kennedy Center and the Sydney and Vancouver Olympics Arts Festivals. He was featured in *Shameless: the Art of Disability*, the iconic film from the National Film Board of Canada directed by Bonnie Sherr Klein.

David's first book, *The Church of 80% Sincerity*, (based on his signature stage show of the same name) was published by Penguin and is available on Amazon.

David and Marlena Blavin's recently released educational video, *Love at Second Sight*, is based on almost 15 years of live presentations to students across the US and Canada. They live on the Sunshine Coast of BC. Marlena Blavin is the developer, executive producer, and co-writer of *Love at Second Sight*. She and David have collaborated time after time as storytelling coaches, working with Inclusion BC, Powell River Assn. for Community Living, Burnaby Association for Community Inclusion and numerous other disability-related organizations. They especially have enjoyed partnering with Vickie Cammack and Al Etmanski in *Thinking Like a Movement*.

9:40-10:25am

Insights Unseen and Unheard: Our UBC, Atrium Gallery (Haggenson-funded art exhibit)

Audiences are welcomed to enjoy this art and photography show in the Atrium Gallery, as well as Minister Qualtrough's video message.

Atrium Gallery (Minister Carla Qualtrough Video message)



The Honorable Minister **Carla Qualtrough**, Minister of Public Services and Procurements and recent Federal Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities.

A successful lawyer, dedicated volunteer, and Paralympic swimmer, Honorable Carla Qualtrough's commitment to addressing inequality and championing diversity makes her a strong advocate for accessibility and inclusion. Committed to equity and inclusion, Carla has practiced human rights law at the federal and provincial levels. She chaired the Minister's Council on Employment and Accessibility in British Columbia, and was an adjudicator with the Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal. Carla has been visually impaired since birth.

Passionate about the power of sport and physical activity to change lives, Honorable Carla Qualtrough has volunteered locally, nationally, and internationally, including with the International Paralympic Committee and for the Toronto 2015 Pan and Parapan American Games. She has been President of the Canadian Paralympic Committee and Chair of the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. Carla was on the Board of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, and was Vice-Chair of the Delta Gymnastics Society. As an athlete, Carla won three Paralympic and four World Championship medals.

Minister Qualtrough has been inducted into the Paralympic Hall of Fame and has degrees in political science from the University of Ottawa and law from the University of Victoria. Among many awards for her work, she has been named one of Canada's Most Influential Women in Sport six times, and received a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.

10:25-11:20 am **That's Just Crazy Talk, Telus Studio** (Written & Performed by Victoria Maxwell)



Victoria Maxwell's critically acclaimed solo show *That's Just Crazy Talk* looks at both the light and dark side of living with bipolar disorder, anxiety and psychosis. It describes one woman's journey of coming to terms with mental illness within herself and in her family, uncovering long kept secrets. An intimate, yet universal story exploring the judgment we face not only from others, but from ourselves and the mysteries of family secrets. This funny and achingly truthful play both entertains and educates, exploding stigmas and portraying the love and resilience it takes to stay together as a family in the midst of illness and the beauty that can result when we face our demons. In addition, 'That's Just Crazy Talk' is endorsed by the Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) as one of the most effective anti-stigma tools in Canada.

That's Just Crazy Talk was the product of a 2 year collaborative research project funded by the CIHR toCREST.BD, CANMAT, U of T, UBC. The study involved creation and testing of the play as a method of expanding understanding of BD, and as a specific intervention to modify stigma.

Victoria Maxwell, Bachelor of Fine Arts/Bipolar Princess

At the age of 25, Victoria was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, anxiety, psychosis and disordered eating. For 5 years she refused to accept this, and in turn was in and out of the hospital. Finally, after acknowledging her disorders and with the help of her family and a good psychiatrist, she became proactive in her recovery.

Since that time, she's become a sought-after speaker on the lived experience of mental illness and recovery, wellness, creativity and dismantling stigma.

For 14 years she's presented her award-winning theatrical keynotes and workshops at conferences and organizations internationally. She's worked as a mental health worker and has blogged for Psychology Today for over 10 years. Her acting credits include roles opposite X-files' David Duchovny, John Travolta and Johnny Depp.

As a core researcher with CREST.BD, an international team studying bipolar disorder, she's published papers and lead research to improve the lives of those living with mental illness and their families.

She's appeared on CNN, CTV national, in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Women's Health UK and others. Her solo show, *That's Just Crazy Talk* was named one of the top anti-stigma interventions by the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

As Victoria also likes to say: sometimes...the harder we fall - the higher we bounce.

For more information, visit www.victoriamaxwell.com

11:20-11:45 am Coffee Break, Atrium Gallery

Live music by the band: *Digger Dan the Dirt Brigade*

Musicians: *Kristina Sheldon* (vocals)

Danny Sloan (guitar and vocals)

Graeme Wyman (bass)

Dave Symington (drums)



Digger Dan and The Dirt Brigade is a trippy bluesy funky trunk junk band out of Vancouver, BC. Digger Dan started playing guitar at 20, and was content to jam with buddies and play at the odd open mic until he was injured at 27. Music then began to take on a greater significance and was integral to his recovery. He began singing and songwriting, inspired by his university studies in social work and political science. He can and does play covers, but his focus these days is on his own original material, playing with his band Digger Dan and the Dirt Brigade and working on an upcoming album, *10 Feet Tall*.



Dave Symington is cofounder of Vancouver Adapted Music Society (VAMS). A tetraplegic as a result of a diving accident, he has worked as a disability advocate for 25 years. Dave plays electronic drums and has developed a Velcro glove to hold his sticks. He accompanied musicians at Vancouver's KickStart Arts festival, played in a number of bands for local performances and cut a video and achieved national radio airplay with Spinal Chord.

11:45-11:48 am Wingspan Project Remarks, Telus Studio (Leslie Roman & Dave Symington-Introduction of Sam Sullivan, Sam Sullivan brief welcome remarks). Video tribute to Sam Sullivan.



Sam Sullivan is MLA for Vancouver- False Creek. Sam served as a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for Vancouver-False Creek from 2013-2017. Prior to that, Sam served as Mayor of Vancouver from 2005-2008. He served as a Vancouver City Councilor from 1993 to 2002. Sam Sullivan was awarded our country's highest recognition, the Order of Canada, for the innovative nonprofit societies he founded. Sam is the founder of the Global Civic Policy Society. He currently acts as an Adjunct Professor at the UBC School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture.

Sam has received many honours and awards for his contributions to the community and for his work to improve the quality of life for people with significant disabilities. These include: Board Member of the Rick Hansen Institute, Honourary Member of the College of Family Physicians of Canada, the Christopher and Dana Reeve's Award, the Terry Fox Award, Board member of the Canadian Club of Vancouver, The Sam Sullivan Disability Foundation was founded by Sam to improve the quality of life for people with significant disabilities. To date it has raised \$20 million and served 10,000 people with disabilities throughout Canada and beyond. It consists of six nonprofit organizations: the Disabled Sailing Association, Tetra Society, ConnecTra Society, Vancouver Adapted Music Society, BC Mobility Opportunity Society and the Disabled Independent Gardeners Association.

11:48-11:58 am President Ono, video message from President Ono

11:58-noon Prof. Rachelle Hole Introduces Keynote Speaker, Dr. Catherine Frazee, Professor Emerita, Ryerson Disability Studies Program Ryerson University

BECAUSE WE ARE: Anthem for Disabled Country



Dr. Frazee will riff on the spirit of invention and resistance that animates the Wingspan program, and will tender a call for disability's place, space and future

Catherine Frazee OC, D.Litt., LLD. (Hon.) is a Professor Emerita at Ryerson University, where prior to her retirement in 2010 she served as Professor of Distinction and Co-Director of the RBC-Ryerson Institute for Disability Studies Research & Education. The Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission from 1989 to 1992, Dr. Frazee's work seeks to illuminate ableist "habits of heart" embedded in our social ethos and, in direct response, the reframing of disability as a distinct and resilient social identity. Dr. Frazee has published extensively on human

rights, precarious citizenship, and the activist resistance of disabled people. She now serves as Advisor to the Vulnerable Persons Standard.

Dr. Frazee has received honorary degrees from Dalhousie University, the University of New Brunswick and McMaster University and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2014 for "her advancement of the rights of persons with disabilities, and as an advocate for social justice".

12:20-1:30 pm Light Reception, Atrium Gallery, Audience goes out for lunch.

Minister Carla Qualtrough Video message (Atrium Gallery)

Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, The Honorable, Kent Hehr (Congratulatory video message in the Atrium)



Kent Hehr represented the residents of downtown Calgary in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for more than seven years.

Born and raised in Calgary, Kent's life drastically changed when, just shy of his twenty-second birthday, while riding in a friend's car, he was hit by a drive-by shooter leaving him paralyzed. The life-altering injury did not quash his ambitions—while still re-learning to use his fingers, Kent studied at the University of Calgary, earning his Bachelor of Canadian Studies, followed by his Bachelor of Law in 2001.

Kent has practised law at the prestigious national firm, Fraser Milner Casgrain, and became an active community leader, working with the United Way and heading the Alberta branch of the Canadian Paraplegic Association. In 2008, Kent was named one of the "20 Most Compelling Calgarians to Watch" by the Calgary Herald. Later that year, he won the race to represent Calgary-Buffalo in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, a seat he successfully defended in 2012. As shadow minister of justice, finance, education and other portfolios, Kent held the government to account while taking an active role in creating legislation for the future of Calgary and Alberta.

1:30-3:30 pm Panel Discussion and Forum, multiple spaces.

Panel Discussion-Mental Health Acts: Performing the Possible through Dis/Arts, Law and Human Rights Activism, RBC Theatre

Note: 20 minutes for each speaker, plus 20 minute Q & A.

Re-performing Mental Illness in the context of Canadian Disability Theatre

Dr. Kirsty Johnston, Associate Professor, Theatre and Film, UBC

Abstract:

For millennia, madness and mental illness themes have dominated western drama. From Bacchic frenzies to Shakespearean mad scenes, from Pirandello's *Enrico IV* to Kesey's *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, the western canon abounds with mental illness representations. Over the past three decades, many Canadian theatre artists have been deliberately challenging these traditions. Tackling commonplace and stigmatizing performance stereotypes and tropes, they have pioneered with innovative dramaturgical processes, theatre forms and networks. Their work has made strong contributions to a growing international disability theatre culture that aims to unsettle received and stigmatized understandings of disability experience. In this paper I highlight key works by these Canadian solo artists and companies. Exploring several critical productions, I hope to demonstrate how they are helping to re-imagine mental illness experience in Canada and abroad.



Dr. Kirsty Johnston is an associate professor in the Dept. of Theatre and Film at UBC where she teaches theatre history and theory and received a Killam Teaching Award in 2012. Her research centres on disability performance studies. Her monograph *Stage Turns: Canadian Disability Theatre* received the 2012 award for “Best Book in Canadian Studies” from the Canadian Studies Network and was a finalist for the Canada Prize for best book in the Humanities presented by the Humanities and Social Science Federation of Canada as well as the Canadian Association for Theatre Research book prize. Her second book *Disability Theatre and Modern Drama: Recasting Modernism* (2016) examines the centrality of disabled characters and tropes in modern drama and the ways in which disability theatre artists are innovating with these.

Figuring Rights in Culture and Education: The Anxious Intersection of Invisible Disabilities

Dr. Leslie G. Roman, Professor, Educational Studies, UBC

Abstract:

As cornerstones in the appearance of foundational certainty, the concepts of ability/disability plug into well-made walls like bricks into mortar cemented over time. Invisible disabilities confound and fracture the mortar; at the very least, they give rise to social anxieties ranging from social suspicion to deep moral panics, fears of ruination and endangerment. Press the pause button here: what makes people anxious about that which cannot see in common perceptible, dare I say, socially permissible terms? This paper explores through fictional, social, biographical, and artistic terms, a fusion of methods colliding disability studies with aesthetic probing curiosity to ask about the place of the in-between and the non-binary of ability/disability/visible/invisible. It asks about how dis/arts might offer a public pedagogy which to teach and learn about that which cannot be discerned or read easily. How might such art offer resources of hope for living

well on a finite planet – existing with joy while recognizing human difference, frailty and suffering? How might they provide pathways to figuring human rights? Drawing on paintings, poetry and other art forms, the paper will argue that the recognition of invisible disabilities is nothing short of the daring act of throwing off the cultural shackles of so-called ‘independence’ to figuring disability in terms of human rights and interdependence in a fragile, interconnected and finite world.



Dr. Leslie G. Roman (Wingspan Collaborative PI), Professor, Educational Studies, Affiliate of the Social Justice Institute, and former Killam Scholar and AESA book award-winner is the inspired co-creator with Geoff McMurchy of the Unruly Salon, UBC’s first public disability arts, culture and pedagogy series which uniquely combined professional artists and disability studies scholars to create public dialog and transform perceptions about people with disabilities and Deafness. The Unruly Salon resulted in three international special issues of scholarship and art which she either edited or co-edited. Her SSHRC, “The Burden of Imperfection: Querying British Columbia’s Participation ‘the Eugenic Atlantic’” began her journey to understand the links between medicalization and colonialism but told that story both through archival work and the Indigenous artwork of Tania Willard with her permission. She is author and editor of four books and five special issues in disability studies, cultural studies, and feminist post-colonialism. She recently launched her book, L.G. Roman (Ed.). (2016). *Hallmarks: The Cultural Politics and Public Pedagogies of Stuart Hall*. Routledge: London/New York. With the inaugural Presidential Working Committee on Disability Art, Culture and Equity to UBC’s President Santa Ono, which she co-chairs with Professor Neil Guppy, she hopes to launch the Wingspan Institute or Centre for Excellence in Research in Disability Arts, Culture, & Public Pedagogy at UBC.

Disability Art and Law

Dr. Jonas Sébastien Beaudry, Assistant Professor, Allard Law School, UBC

Abstract:

In this presentation, I will reflect on the affective roots of disability-related oppression that pervades our legal culture, and on the construction of the "disabled subject" in our social imaginary. I will then explore how aesthetics can inform our understanding of such issues in order to bring out the under-explored connection between disability aesthetics and the law.



Dr. Jonas Sébastien Beaudry completed B.C.L. and LL.B. (with Great Distinction) from McGill University in 2004, going on to earn an LL.M. degree from Harvard Law School in 2007 and a D.Phil in Law from Oxford University in 2014. His dissertation was entitled “Can Social Contract Theory Fully Account for the Moral Status of Profoundly Mentally Disabled People?” Following the completion of his B.C.L. and LL.B. degrees, he clerked under Justice Marie Deschamps at the Supreme Court of Canada and served for a year as well at the International Court of Justice under Judge Sir Kenneth Keith and Judge Peter Tomka. He worked for 15 months in the Inter-American human rights system in Argentina and Costa Rica and was a postdoctoral fellow at the McGill Biomedical Ethics Unit before joining UBC. He has been the recipient of numerous prestigious fellowships throughout his educational career, including both the Trudeau and SSHRC doctoral scholarships. He has also held Lecturer positions in law at McGill University and the Université du Québec à Montréal, as well as teaching appointments at St. Catherine’s College, Oxford. His publications include a book on freedom of expression in Latin America and articles in a number of areas, including bioethics, legal history, human and indigenous rights and family law. He has presented at academic series and conferences across North America and in the UK

1:30-3:00 pm Forum-Difference, Mental Health and Body Image Literacy, Great Performer’s Lounge (Victoria Maxwell and David Roche)

Victoria Maxwell and David Roche will offer practical suggestions for educators working with students around developing critical literacy of mental health and body image norms and challenges. They will also hold Q & A for those who have questions following their performances.

3:10-3:35 pm Live Music with *Digger Dan the Dirt Brigade*, Telus Studio
Musicians: *Kristina Sheldon* (vocals)
Danny Sloan (guitar and vocals)
Graeme Wyman (bass)
Dave Symington (drums)

3:35-3:40 pm Introduction: Dr. *Rita L. Irwin*, Distinguished University Professor, Curriculum and Pedagogy, UBC

3:40-4:20 pm Keynote Speaker: Professor *Anna Hickey-Moodey*. ARC Future Fellow, RMIT, Australia, *Disability as Diagram: Aesthetic Histories and Cinematic Ethics*, RBC Theatre.

Abstract:

Art provides us with powerful knowledges about disability. When these knowledges are made by an artist with a disability, the work created is usually called Disability Arts. When the work is

made by someone without a disability but is about disability, the politics of the text link in to very different histories of representation. My talk discusses the history of representations of disability in art, before turning to look at the Disability Arts movement as a global phenomenon that has provided a vehicle for people with disabilities to speak back to mainstream representations and historical traditions of depicting people with disabilities. I bring this historical account of disability aesthetics to my philosophy of cinematic ethics, and articulate this through a close reading of Heather Rose and Rolf de Heer's 1998 film *Dance Me to My Song*. The film is a visceral and aesthetic re-mapping, or diagramming, of relationships between disabled and non-disabled bodies. I offer a diagrammatic cinematic ethics that takes disability aesthetics as an orientation for engagement between disabled and non-disabled.



Dr. Anna Hickey-Moody is a Professor of Media and Communications at RMIT University and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow 2017-2021. Between 2013 and 2016 Anna was the Director of the Centre for Arts and Learning at Goldsmiths College, London and Head of the PhD in Arts and Learning. Anna has also held teaching and research positions at The University of Sydney, Monash and UniSA.

4:30-5:15 pm **Thinking Dis/arts, Changing Futures with People with Disabilities, Telus Studio**

Moderator: **Dr. Gerald Fallon, Educational Studies**

Exploring a pedagogy of affect and dis/arts

Dr. Rita L. Irwin, Curriculum and Pedagogy, Distinguished University Scholar, UBC

Abstract:

A teacher as affecting body is different from a directing teacher – one aligned with traditional instruction. Instead, affecting teachers create settings where students and teachers become co-learners, both affecting and becoming affected by one another. Settings in arts rich environments become spaces of intra-actions between bodies and materials/processes. This presentation shares personal experiences of a pedagogy of affecting bodies, where learners improvise learning based on their collective intra-actions. Suggestions are made for creating spaces for dis/arts within a pedagogy of affect.



Dr. Rita L. Irwin is a Distinguished University Scholar and Professor of Art Education at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver. While her research interests include arts teacher education, artist-in-schools programs, and socio-cultural issues, she is best known for her work in expanding how we might imagine and conduct arts practice based research methodologies through self-studies as well as collaborative community based collectives. As an artist, Rita engages in painting, mixed media and photography. Her interest in extending a/r/tography into disability studies brings her to Wingspan.

These Hands Won't Play Forever" - On Physical Finitude and Spiritual Infinity

Dr. Sam Rocha, Assistant Professor, Educational Studies, UBC

Abstract:

This presentation will proceed in two parts: (1) a short explanation of the meaning of the title and introduction of its expression in music and (2) a composition played and sung on guitar and vocals.



Dr. Sam Rocha was born in Brownsville, Texas, and raised in a nomadic lay Catholic missionary family, raised in the states of Texas, Utah, Ohio and also Reynosa, Mexico. He began playing guitar at the age of five and singing soon thereafter. He attended the Baylor Debate Institute in the summer of 1998, where he discovered and fell in love with philosophy. His religious roots in the charismatic renewal movement took him to the Franciscan University of Steubenville where he completed a B.A. in philosophy and Spanish literature as a Gates Millennium Scholar in 2005. He wrote and recorded his first folk demo, *Amór*, during this time and played in music ministry and local dive bars. After graduating, he worked for one year at Transfiguration Catholic School as a Spanish teacher and explored corporate positions at Target and Medtronic for another year while completing an M.A. in Educational Leadership at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, as a Gates Fellow in 2007. He opened for “Floetry” (the opener for “The Roots”) during this time and was the bandleader of “Chema” (they recorded a demo, *Appetizers*). Rocha also began working as a regular sideman for local bands, including “Sonar.”

From 2007 to 2010 he completed an M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy of education at Ohio State University as a Gates Fellow. His dissertation, “Education, Study, and the Person,” received the Loadman Dissertation Award. During his studies at Ohio State, Rocha was a regular performing artist at Vonn Jazz Lounge, guitarist for “Gruvment” and the Worship Center of Central Ohio, and worship leader for Peace Lutheran Church contemporary services and he also co-lead “Matias-Rocha y Nueva Trova,” a Latin-Jazz quartet, with Rolando Matias, sharing the stage or billing with Othello Molineaux (Jaco Pastorius), David Hampton (Rick James), Eddie Bayard (Pharez Whitted), Joe Lovano, Eddy Martinez (Ray Barreto and Tito Puente), and others.

Rocha’s work orbits his philosophical, musical, and religious interests. In contrast to his formal training in letters, he is a folk musician, unable to read or write music. This untrained, analphabet sensibility contributes to his fascination with education, schooling, and curriculum. His nomadic

Texican ethnic heritage and ancestry have led to similar and intertwined reflections on race. A lifelong Roman Catholic, Sam’s writing often considers questions of religious identity from a confessional and autobiographical perspective, along with philosophical interventions into theology. His signature notions of pastoral philosophy and folk phenomenology continue to grow and evolve in his writing and teaching. He is committed to preserving the legacy of the humanities in education. Sam and his wife, Anne, have three children, Tomas, Gabriel, and Sofia, and are parishioners at St. Mark’s Catholic Church.

Picture the Extraordinary: Zones of Exception, Refuge, Resilience, and Artful Possibility by Students with Disabilities at UBC

Rena Del Pieve Gobbi

Dr. Leslie G. Roman, Professor, Educational Studies, UBC

Dr. Gerald Fallon, Associate Professor, Educational studies, UBC

Abstract:

This paper tells the story—no many stories of working on the Haggenson art exhibit, “*Insights Unseen and Unheard: Our UBC*”, a funded project created by scholars, Leslie Roman, Gerald Fallon with my significant and leadership role being taken seriously. Creating an epistemic space for students with disabilities to identify with learning the skills of photography and video-making while articulating pride has been a unruly goal of our project. As curator, photography and videography instructor for the first art exhibit ever held at UBC by students with disabilities, I will speak to the extraordinary process to create disability pride at a major university in which I inhabit as a doctoral student with multiple disabilities. This paper draws on the work of Rosemary Garland Thomson and Giorgio Agamben to speak to both the extraordinary “coming out” discourses of students in the midst of angst, fear, barriers, and a great eagerness to express through photography and video-making the intersections of campus life, disabilities and artful zones of exception, refuge and resilience. The paper will show how important it is to use to living artful exhibits that create a moving fête, breathing life into stale and static stereotypes of campus life for students with disabilities. Our pictures are reflexive critiques, artful possibilities and a living and breathing testament to the power of self-collectivizing expression in concert with others who move together with us.



Rena Del Pieve Gobbi has lived in Vancouver, Canada since 1994. She completed her BFA and Masters of Applied Art at Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design where the fusion of psychology, abstraction, film and animation into her art practice occurred. Since 1999 rena del pieve gobbi has continued to work in 35mm film, producing four 35mm films. Rena also studied community mental health at Douglas College.

Rena del pieve gobbi has received grants from Cineworks, a Vancouver Independent Filmmakers Society, and The B.C. Arts Council to make the film. Further support in terms of facilities equipment and supplies were forthcoming from Quickdraw Animation Society, The National Film Board of Canada and Fuji Film. She has also gratefully received financial support from Canada Council and Telefilm Canada in order to travel Internationally with her films. Since 1999 Rena Del Pieve Gobbi has continued to work in 35mm film, producing four 35mm films. Her films have played in film festivals in 14 countries.

Dr. Gerald Fallon is an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Studies (Faculty of Education) at the University of British Columbia. His research focuses on issues of school and educational system management and cultural diversity, with specific threads related to education law, educational policy, sustainability, educational leadership, community development and intercultural relations. He has co-authored two books in 2010 and 2015 in addition to 20 peer-reviewed articles and four chapters in English, French, and Spanish. The first book in 2010 is a critical analysis of policy directions affecting First Nations education since 1986. The second book in 2015 is a critical analysis of policy issues regarding access, quality and governance of education in Haiti. Dr. Fallon is also Co-Director of the research group Educación y Diversidad Internacional (EDI) based at the Universidad de Antioquia in Medellin, Colombia. This research group works in the field of community-based development and cultural diversity in rural areas of South America, especially in Colombia. He is also a member of the Scientific Committee of the Sustainability and Education Policy Network (SEPN). This research group focuses on the analysis and development of sustainability policy and practice in education to support the transition to more environmentally sustainable societies. Prior to his appointment to UBC, Dr. Fallon has occupied various school- and district-based leadership positions over the last 22 years. During those years, he has been in the development and teaching of courses in educational management and leadership and curriculum design and implementation at the University of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan.

Dr. Leslie G Roman (see page 10)

Dis/a/r/tography as Invention, Resistance and Renewal: Painting through Motherhood, Trauma, Activism and Scholarship

*Jewelless Smith, Doctoral Student, UBC Okanagan (unable to travel, may publish later)
Chairperson, Council of Canadians with Disabilities (CCD)
Director at large, National Educational Association of Disabled Students (NEADS).*

Abstract:

As a feminist disability activist, mother, and scholar, I will speak to the power of art and specifically, my paintings to narrate the intersections of social identities and rights-based work. This paper will invite audiences to take another look at the ways in which disabled women, rights-based activists and mothers who live across all of these identities, paint the complexities and contradictions of our lives. Much like the work of Frida Kahlo and Käthe Kollwitz, I engage art to create conversations about trauma, disability, renewal and resistance. I will discuss the ways in which paintings (and art) can be used to process and engage theory, and in turn, challenge ableist ideas about disabled women's stories, human rights work, and resistance.



Jewelless Smith is a strong voice for human rights in Canada; she is a feminist disability activist, scholar, writer, and artist. She has received specific training in human rights monitoring, women's human rights justice, and methods in using legislation, policy and human rights treaties to challenge inequality. She is passionate about leadership and mentors a number of young women in Canada.

Jewelless is Chairperson of the Council of Canadians with Disabilities and is on the board of directors for the National Educational Association of Disabled Students. Currently a PhD student at the University of British Columbia Okanagan, her dissertation will document narratives of disabled mothers in Canada from a human rights perspective.

Smith has published articles on women, mothering, and disability in academic journals, mainstream magazines, and newspapers. She has presented at numerous conferences and events on these topics, and participated in countless radio interviews.

NB: Sends regrets.

5:20-6:05 pm **Disability on Stage and Screen, Telus Studio** (James Sanders, Actor, Play writer, TV producer)



James Sanders is the founding Artistic Director of Realwheels. In 1998, James graduated as valedictorian earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from Simon Fraser University.

His professional career includes acting, writing, and producing for the stage and screen. Quadriplegic from a spinal cord injury, James is committed to positive and accurate representations of disability in the media. His goal is to represent characters with a disability in stories where issues of disability are not the central source of conflict. His favourite compliment for his acting was when he performed the role of Uncle Ernie in *The Who's* musical, *Tommy*. An audience member asked the director, "Why didn't James stand up during the curtain call?"

James lives and works in Vancouver with his amazingly supportive wife Barbara and adorable son, Max.

October 21, 2017

Venue: Ponderosa Commons Ballroom in the Education Centre
2075 Lower Mall, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6T 1Z2, Canada

10:00-10:10 am

Opening Address

Prof. Blye Frank, Dean, Faculty of Education

Prof. Ali Abdi, Department Head, Educational Studies, Faculty of Education

10:10-11:15 am

Winning the Struggle for Inclusion and Accessibility for People with Disabilities in Canada

Co-sponsored by Wingspan, Educational Studies and the Allard Law School

10:10-10:15am

Introduction: *Dr. Jonas Sebastian-Beaudry, Assistant Professor, Allard Law School, UBC*

10:15-11:00am

Keynote Speaker: *Prof. David Lepofsky, University of Toronto, Osgood Law School, and Queen's University and Chair of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Alliance.*

Abstract

In this keynote lecture, David Lepofsky will share practical lessons and strategies from the front lines of campaigns advocating for inclusion, accessibility and full participation for people with disabilities, across Canada, and elsewhere around the world. This includes such things as choosing what to campaign for, how to bring people with disabilities and others together in

common cause, and how to effectively press forward and bring the message to governments, media and the public. This will be especially topical, as B.C.'s new Government is pressed by disability advocates to agree to enact a British Columbians with Disabilities Act to tear down the many disability accessibility barriers that impede people with disabilities in their efforts to fully participate in life in B.C.



Dr. M. David Lepofsky (born 1957) is a Canadian lawyer and disability advocate. Now retired from his position as General Counsel in Toronto, Lepofsky teaches at the University of Toronto and at Osgoode Hall Law School. Blind for much of his life, Lepofsky was named one of Canada's most influential lawyers in 2010.

He obtained a Masters of Law from the Harvard Law School in 1982. He was admitted to the Ontario Bar in 1981. From 1982 to the end of 2015, he practiced law in Toronto with the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General, in the areas of constitutional, civil, administrative and most recently, criminal law. In 2004, he was appointed to the position of General Counsel. This is the highest promotion in the Ontario Public Service (outside management). Reserved for only a handful of the 2,000 lawyers in the Ontario Public Service, it is reserved for the most senior counsel, to recognize career achievement in handling the most complex work, demonstrated diversity of expertise, creativity, professional leadership, judgement, and mentoring/role modelling.

From 1982 to 1988, he served as counsel in the Crown Law Office Civil, conducting civil, administrative and constitutional litigation on behalf of the Ontario Government. From 1989 to 1993, he served as counsel in the Constitutional Law and Policy Division, conducting constitutional litigation on the Government's behalf. From 1993 to the end of 2015, he served as counsel in the Crown Law Office Criminal, conducting criminal appeals in the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. He has appeared on at least 30 cases in the Supreme Court of Canada in his career, as counsel or co-counsel, and in some 200 cases in the Ontario Court of Appeal. He retired from his position with the Ontario Public Service at the end of 2015.

Since 1991, he has served as a part-time member of the University of Toronto, Faculty of Law, where he teaches an advanced constitutional law seminar on freedom of expression and press. From 1987 to 2005, he served as Associate Head of the Ontario Bar Admission's Course's Public Law Section.

Starting in January 2016, he serves as a part-time visiting professor of legal ethics and public interest advocacy on the faculty at the Osgoode Hall Law School.

He was a founding member of, and served as co-chair of Barrier-Free Canada, a community coalition that advocates for the enactment of a national Canadians with Disabilities Act.

11:00-11:15 am Q&A

11:15-11:30 am Break

11:30-11:32 am Introduction of Keynote Speaker: *Dr. Catherine Frazee, Professor Emerita, Ryerson Disability Studies Program Ryerson University, Dr. Tim Stainton, Professor, the School of Social Work, and Dr. Rachelle Hole, co-director of the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship (CIC), UBC*

11: 32-12:02 pm. Prof. Catherine Frazee, ***BECAUSE WE ARE: Anthem for Disabled Country***



Dr. Frazee will riff on the spirit of invention and resistance that animates the Wingspan program, and will tender a call for disability's place, space and future

Catherine Frazee OC, D.Litt., LLD. (Hon.) is a Professor Emerita at Ryerson University, where prior to her retirement in 2010 she served as Professor of Distinction and Co-Director of the RBC-Ryerson Institute for Disability Studies Research & Education. The Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission from 1989 to 1992, Dr. Frazee's work seeks to illuminate ableist "habits of heart" embedded in our social ethos and, in direct response, the reframing of disability as a distinct and resilient social identity. Dr. Frazee has published extensively on human rights, precarious citizenship, and the activist resistance of disabled people. She now serves as Advisor to the Vulnerable Persons Standard.

Dr. Frazee has received honorary degrees from Dalhousie University, the University of New Brunswick and McMaster University and was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2014 for "her advancement of the rights of persons with disabilities, and as an advocate for social justice".

12:02 -12:10pm General Discussion

12:10-1:00pm Light Lunch, Ponderosa Oakhouse, Commons Ballroom

1:00-2:00pm Crip Times: Queer/Crip Art Activism and Resistance in the New World Order?

1:00-1:05pm Introduction: *Dr. Kirsty Johnston, Associate Professor, Theatre and Film, UBC*

1:05-1:45pm Keynote Speaker: *Dr. Robert McRuer, Professor, Department of English, George Washington University*

Abstract

This presentation uses a crip theory analytic to approach both the global promise of 2011, a year marked by radical activist movements around the world, and the bitter disappointments globally of 2016, a year that ended with the election of Donald Trump, who infamously labeled the U.S. ‘Crippled America’, as president of the United States. Arguing that disability is an undertheorized central component to both a global austerity politics and a now-fracturing neoliberal consensus, I use the term “Crip Times” both to mark the harshness of the contemporary moment for disabled people and disabled communities and to point toward the hope and creativity that have been generated by disabled artists and activists working to resist neoliberalism and austerity politics. Like many contemporary representations of queerness, some representations of disability—that appear to emphasize inclusion and unity—can be quite useful to the architects of austerity politics. Those problematic representations, however, differ markedly from other, more resistant, appearances of disability in an age of austerity that challenge the logic upon which an austerity politics is based. After putting forward a queer critique of disability incorporation (into state, media, market), the presentation turns toward emergent, vibrant forms of global queer/crip activism. In the process, I consider the complex and contradictory life of the keyword *resistance* in contemporary queer and crip theory.



Dr. Robert McRuer is Professor of English at The George Washington University in Washington, DC, where he teaches disability studies, queer theory, and critical theory more generally. He is the author of the forthcoming book *Crip Times: Disability, Globalization, and Resistance* (NYU Press, 2018). His other books include *Crip Theory: Cultural Signs of Queerness and Disability* (NYU, 2006) and *The Queer Renaissance: Contemporary American Literature and the Reinvention of Lesbian and Gay Identities* (NYU, 1997). With Anna Mollow, he co-edited the anthology, *Sex and Disability* (Duke, 2012). Most recently, with Merri Lisa Johnson, he co-edited a special double issue of the *Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies* on “Crip-epistemologies.”

1:45-2:00pm Q & A

2:00-2:15pm Break

2:15-3:15pm Panel Discussion

Creative & participatory approaches: Are we being accessible in making space for historically marginalized voices?

Laura Yvonne Bulk, Doctoral Student, Faculty of Medicine, UBC

Dr. Tal Jarus, Professor, Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy, UBC

Abstract

How can arts-based and participatory methods be used effectively in research to make space for the voices of those most impacted by what we are exploring? How might our best intentions as scholars and artists (disabled or not) lead to using methods that may exclude some for not being accessible? Participatory approaches using arts-based methods have become increasingly popular in scholarship involving historically marginalized groups, including disabled persons.

Photovoice in particular is a commonly used approach, and has strengths both for including participant voices and for reaching the hearts of people we wish to impact. But how might this creative approach exclude some individuals? In this presentation, we will review art-based research methods, discuss accessibility and voice as they relate to those methods, and open discussion about alternative approaches, such as audiovoice. We will demonstrate some of those concepts by presenting two projects: 'Picture This: the Lived Experience of Stroke Survivors', and 'Being Blind in a Sighted World'.



Laura Yvonne Bulk is a passionate advocate, a public scholar, an enthusiastic teacher and mentor, an occupational therapist (OT), and dedicated volunteer. She is a person of seeming contradictions: she is compassionate and assertive; a leader and a servant; a community member and scholar; a knowledgeable expert and humble learner; an analytical thinker and an artist.

Laura's doctoral work focuses on using collaborative and creative approaches to enhance diversity and understanding, and promote human dignity and flourishing. Nearing secondary school graduation, Laura articulated her goals: to help disadvantaged people gain the skills and confidence to lead the lives they desire, and to contribute to a more equitable and welcoming society. As an OT, she does this with individuals; however, she chose to pursue a PhD realizing that people with the skills and confidence to flourish sometimes don't due to social, policy, and institutional barriers. As a public scholar, Laura is pursuing work that will benefit the wider community as well as the academic community, making purposeful social contributions and employing innovative forms of collaborative scholarship. Her aim is to preserve and promote the dignity of all – not regardless of, but rather, in celebration of differences.

Laura has always had an interest in creativity and the arts. She recognizes that creativity is vital - it is just part of who she is, whether it is revealed in her approach to problems and research, her desire for collaboration, or the way she integrates creativity into her endeavours.

Laura is coming to this retreat as a proud blind person, a scholar, an artist, a teacher/mentor, and a curious heart.



Dr. Tal Jarus is a Professor at the Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy department at the University of British Columbia. Her research stem from the disability studies, focusing on investigating barriers to full participation of diverse groups of people with disability. Her most recent endeavour is heading an international interprofessional consortium working to increase the inclusion of people with disabilities in the health and human service workforce in particular, and in society in general, and thus impact on quality of life, social justice and development of human capital. Tal use innovative technics in her research, including art, such as photovoice or photojournalism.

Sex, Lies and Citizenship: Using participatory theatre to promote sexual citizenship among adults with intellectual disabilities

Dr. Rachelle Hole, co-director of the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship (CIC), UBC
Dr. Tim Stainton, Professor, the School of Social Work, UBC

Abstract:

Individuals with intellectual disability (self-advocates) face unique challenges to sexual health and sexuality. Negative attitudes and stigma in society typically result in views of people with intellectual disability as asexual or sexually deviant. To complicate matters, research points to a lack of education for self-advocates, and what education does exist typically focuses on concerns about safety and preventing sexual abuse; and, resources typically exclude information on positive sexual expression/sexual agency as well as information about sexual diversity. This is highly problematic. Individuals with ID are not asexual (although some may identify as such) or sexually inactive. In fact, we know, in Michael Gill's words, that self-advocates are "already doing it." Many self-advocates desire to have sexual agency and sexual citizenship: they desire to develop into sexually expressive, fulfilled persons.

In this presentation, we discuss an ongoing participatory theatre research project, that engages self-advocates including those who identify as LGBTQ and allies to build knowledge and capacity around sexual health and sexual diversity through research and participatory theatre. Practitioners of participatory theatre are committed to innovation, collaboration, capacity building and social transformation. As such, it is a well-suited approach for addressing the sexual rights of adults with intellectual disabilities whose sexual agency is often overlooked, or worse stifled. Embedded throughout this project, is our underlying commitments to promoting positive sexual expression and sexual diversity and to challenging the stigma and attitudes that contribute to the barriers self-advocates face when it comes to sexual rights and sexual citizenship.



Dr. Rachelle Hole is the co-director of the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship (CIC), the only university based research centre in Canada with a dedicated focus on intellectual disability policy and practice. The CIC was established as a partnership between the University of British Columbia, government, and community living organizations and supporters seeking to further the inclusion and full citizenship of people with intellectual disabilities and their families, locally, nationally, and globally. More specifically, the CIC was created to meet an identified need to conduct research to influence and inform policy and practice through learning, research, and knowledge exchange [visit – <http://cic.arts.ubc.ca>].



Dr. Tim Stainton is Professor at the School of Social Work and Director of the Centre for Inclusion and Citizenship (<http://cic.arts.ubc.ca/>), University of British Columbia. He holds a PhD from the London School of Economics on disability rights and social policy. He was a service broker with the Community Living Society in Vancouver from 1980-1985 where he assisted individuals to return to the community from Woodlands institution and was introduced to the ideas of brokerage, individualized funding and social networks which have been the core idea of his work ever since. He has consulted internationally and published widely on individualized funding, rights based social service structures, disability rights, history, ethics and theory. In 2016 he was a ‘thinker in residence’ to the disability services commission of Western Australia. In 2016 he was named a fellow of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. He is a former board member of the Canadian Association for Community and Chair of the CACL Values and Ethics Task Force. He was appointed to the Expert Panel on Medical Assistance in Dying in 2017. He lives in Tsawwassen British Columbia and has four children, one of whom has an intellectual disability.

Q & A

*If you require accommodations, please contact Access and Diversity by visiting: <http://students.ubc.ca/about-student-services/access-diversity> or contact Janet Mee, Director, Access and Diversity Office, Email: janet.mee@ubc.ca Tel: 604-822-8950