



art+
school
{DISMISSED}

An exhibition of work by teachers
Curated and produced by Heather Nicol

Friday May 14 – Sunday May 16, 2010

Noon to 8 pm daily
The {decommissioned} Shaw Street School, 180 Shaw Street, Toronto

www.artschooldismissed.com

Art School {Dismissed}

Art School (Dismissed) celebrates artists who extend their creative practices into the realm of education. It takes place in the historic Shaw Street Public School, built in 1914, which feels frozen in time and forgotten since its decommissioning in 2000. The exhibition explores the rich interface between teaching and learning with wide ranging projects that are complex, witty, irreverent, nostalgic, haunting, and sweet.

The school's breezy classrooms and wide hallways serve as the palette and context for new works in the fields of site specific installation, sculpture, video and new media, drawing, painting, as well as many hybrid forms that blend and cross boundaries. There is an abundant program of dance, music and performances which expands the conversation. While recognizing the ways that "the arts" are often broken down into subject-driven teachable units, artists often disregard these categorizations, and instead share influences and methodologies across disciplines. Indeed, the school has inspired many of the participating artists to experiment outside of their typical modes of production and presentation.

As both makers and teachers, the artists in *Art School (Dismissed)* are uniquely situated to explore and question notions of authority, history, memory, and the dissemination of knowledge. Childhood and play have inspired many of their works.

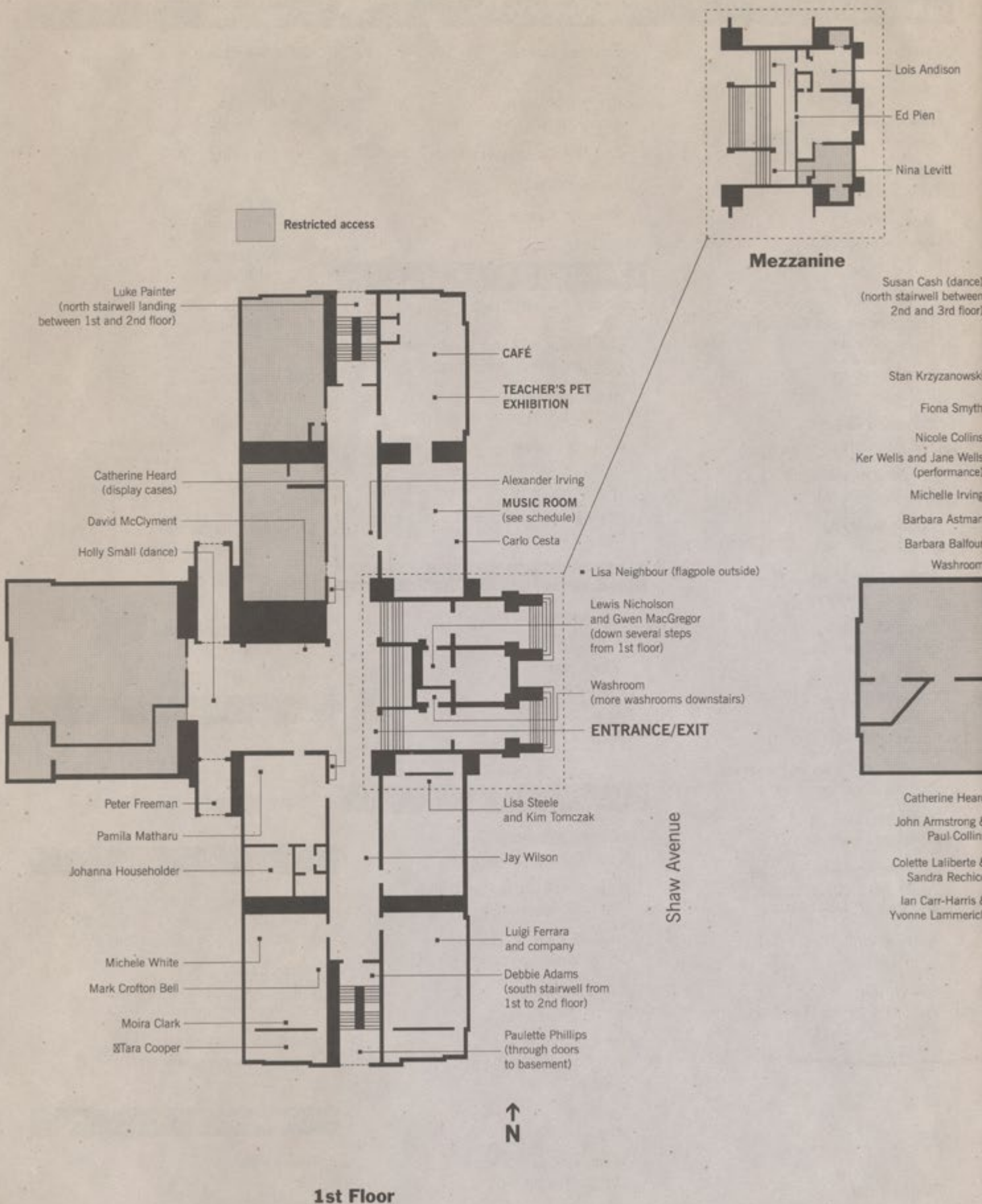
The dynamic gathering of faculty, drawn from a wide range of regional education institutions, can be seen as a portrait of the current art-educational landscape. It is an opportunity to reflect on some of the most important voices influencing young artists in the region.

The artist-as-educator identity is one that often intersects the economic necessity for artists to have a "job" with a deep passion for discourse and inquiry. *Art School (Dismissed)* pays homage artist-educators, who are typically mid-career and established artists juggling their exhibition and performance schedules with the demands of teaching. The important role of mentorship is given form in *Teacher's Pet*, an emerging artist component of the show.

A celebration of artists who educate, *Art School (Dismissed)* finds a perfect setting in the Shaw Street Public School. The neglected building is a potent backdrop for inspired new works in many disciplines, demonstrating the fertile connections that exist within teaching, learning, and creating.

Heather Nicol
Curator

Location of Works



Teacher's Pet – Artists

Asal Aslemand
Mark Bain
Ryan Bastedo
Lauren Caldwell
Robert Canali
Terence Clayton
Linda Cui
Mallory Diaczun
Ryan Dodgson
Rachel Ellison
Alex Froese
Stephanie Hagendorn

Jacquelin Heichert
Vika Hlizer
Angie Hostelier
Era Javier
Miriam Johnson
Simon Kay
Valent3n Kliavin
Brendan George Ko
Cameron Lee
Drew Lesiuczok
Paddy Leung

Robert Looije
Faye Mullen
Kamilla Nikolaev
Johnson Ngo
Dylin North
Erin Parton
Tharmila Rajasingam
Sabrina Russo
Christine Roditis
Paola Savasta
Nicole Schlosser

Walter Segers
Gurpreet Sehra
Valerie Severino
Stephanie Sirant
Miles Stemp
Polina Teif
Jol Thomson
Brad Tinmouth
Jessica Valletin
Sarah Waldman-Engel
Rachel Wallace

Acknowledgements



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THE LAKEVIEW



TEAM

Heather Nicol Exhibition curator and project producer
Nicole Schlosser Chief intern and coordinator of many things
Jessica Vallentin Intern and *Teacher's Pet* coordinator
Bob Stevenson Music programming
Debbie Adams, Adams + Associates Design Consultants Inc. Graphic / Website Design
Michelle Irving Webmaster
Matt Maegher, Museum Pros; David Hoekstra Installation technical advisors
Lakeview Catering

Core Volunteers **Peg Evans, Bill Gentles, Barbara Kerr, Tor McGlade**

Core Student Volunteers **Matthew Marie-Rhodes, Paola Savasta, Emily Smit-Dicks,**

THANKS TO

Barbara Sellers-Young York University, **Chris Bolton** TDSB trustee, **Pat Colosimo** The Ossington,
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