



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Theatre Theatre

Opening Reception Saturday, Sep 10 3pm-5pm

Exhibition Dates: Sep 10 – Oct 30

At the Art Gallery at Evergreen Cultural Centre

**IN BRIEF:** The Arts Gallery at Evergreen kicks off its twentieth anniversary with an exhibition that brings together four video works that live in the space where visual art meets theatre in the moment just before the curtain rises and the moment just after it falls.

Contributing artists Deborah Edmeades, Adad Hannah, Oliver Husain and Carol Sawyer.

Exhibition opens Sep 10 through Oct 30. Attendance at the exhibition is free.

**COQUITLAM, BC** – The Art Gallery at Evergreen kicks off its twentieth anniversary season with *Theatre Theatre*, an exhibition from 10 September 2016 through 30 October 2016 that brings together four video works that live in the space where visual art meets theatre in the moment just before the curtain rises and the moment just after it falls. Building upon the Evergreen Cultural Centre's unique position as home to the only professional theatre and professional art gallery in the region, the exhibition will draw together the multiple disciplines that have come to define the Evergreen's artistic history and contribution to the communities its programs serve.

*Theatre Theatre* takes the theatrical curtain as its starting point. In the theatre, prior to a performance, the curtain hides from the view of the spectator the material facts of a performance: actors, props, sets, etc. or, in other words, it obscures the scene of the action. The spaces behind or in front of a closed curtain are spaces of anticipation about what is to come once the curtain is raised. The four videos are presented in a unique *mise en scene* within the gallery, the works create an intriguing *mise en abyme* in which alone and together, the works refer to the setting that they have created. That is, each video is presented in its own particular setting. Yet, all the works share the same gallery space simultaneously with the interplay of light and sound from each work creating the environment for each and every other work. And, the installation is both front of house and back of house at the same time.

Toronto artist Oliver Husain joins Vancouver artists Deborah Edmeades, Adad Hannah and Carol Sawyer in a unique *mise en scene* within the gallery, the works create an

intriguing mise en abyme in which alone and together, the works refer to the setting that they have created.

**Brief descriptions of the work:**

In Deborah Edmeades *This (and this and this...)*, (2014), a pair of hands manipulates a series of imaginary objects in a theatrical training exercise. The background and imaginary object keep changing colour. <http://deborahedmeades.com/projects/this-and-this-and-this.html>

Adad Hannah's *The Sculptor*, 2016, a sculptor sits poised to strike a chisel to shape a sculpture. The sculpture is in progress. The figure is paused and poised in real time – it's not a video still. The sculptor and sculpture are bathed in colours that keep changing.

Oliver Husain's *Purpled Promises* (2009) opens on a closed curtain. Zoom through the curtain to reveal another identical curtain, then a series of other curtains open. In the final moments of the video, a disembodied voice describes a situation in which the audience may find itself. [http://www.husain.de/portfolio/purpled\\_promises.html](http://www.husain.de/portfolio/purpled_promises.html)

Proscenium by Carol Sawyer was filmed on the boards of the decrepit boards of the once glamorous now demolished Pantages theatre in Vancouver. An infamous Vaudeville house a series of performers and impromptu actions appearing and disappearing in the centre of the stage. <http://www.carolsawyer.net/work/proscenium/>

The Art Gallery at Evergreen is free to visit. Contact the Evergreen at 604-927-6555 or visit [artgalleryatevergreen.com](http://artgalleryatevergreen.com) for more information.

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**For high resolution images and more info, contact:**

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**About Evergreen Cultural Centre**

The centre houses a 257-seat, flexible black box theatre and a 1500 square foot public art gallery. The Rehearsal Studio and several art or meeting studios provide an additional 5000 square feet of space for Evergreen's classes, workshops and rentals while the spacious glassed-in Lobby offers a spectacular view of Lafarge Lake.

Website: [evergreenculturalcentre.ca](http://evergreenculturalcentre.ca)

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