

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Oakville, ON) – Oakville Galleries is pleased to announce the opening of our fall exhibition *Two Truths and a Lie*, a group show drawn primarily from the permanent collection of Oakville Galleries.

Two Truths and a Lie

18 September – 30 December 2021

Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens & at Centennial Square

We are thrilled to present *Two Truths and a Lie*, a group exhibition drawn primarily from the permanent collection of Oakville Galleries which will take place at Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens and at Centennial Square. The exhibition gathers both well-known and less familiar works by 18 artists represented in the collection, including Colin Campbell, Donna James, Spring Hurlbut, Liz Magor, Olia Mischenko, David Rokeby, Jin-me Yoon, and more. On view for the first time are a selection of new and recent acquisitions, including works by Derek Sullivan, Sojourner Truth Parsons, and Tanya Lukin Linklater. The addition of these works amplify the collecting priorities of Oakville Galleries as we continue to expand the collection in new ways.

The exhibition title, 'Two Truths and a Lie,' is an icebreaker game that involves stating three possible propositions about oneself: two that are true and one that is false. Through deception, deduction, and disclosure, the players become better acquainted with one another.

The works included in *Two Truths and a Lie* speak to the complex interactions within the pursuit of truth—personal, visual, or social. Exploring these processes as ways of knowing, the exhibition highlights the different ways in which narratives come into being. The exhibition builds on the conceit of the game, featuring artists who are concerned with self-presentation, narratology, and language. For instance, central within many works is the question of how narration contributes to self and identity. Rather than an examination of the morality between truths and lies, these works are interested in the power of personal narratives, building from the autobiographical to the autofictional, from documentary to fabrication. Other artists manipulate form to ask similar questions of where to draw a line between the authentic and inauthentic, the interior and exterior—what lies beneath the surface.

Through diverse techniques and mediums, these artists participate in the confessional as much as they slip into the hidden and fictional. Within these layers of thought, the artists also probe at assumptions and broaden the limits of understanding, guiding us towards more expansive ways of seeing and being in relations.

As a prelude to the upcoming exhibition, Oakville Galleries commissioned artist Erdem Tasdelen to create *Demagogues: 6*, a site-specific photographic print located at Centennial Square in Oakville. Displayed in the public square from 29 July – 6 September 2021, *Demagogues: 6* asked viewers to interrogate beliefs held about the image and to consider the effect of deception and the possibility of locating common truths.

As a series, *Demagogues* questions the authenticity of what is visible in the public realm. Each iteration of the work, whether a billboard or a framed print, is a photograph of the very site it is displayed in and features the following sentence translated into the local language: *If a man tells me something I believe to be an untruth, am I forbidden to do more than congratulate him on the brilliance of his lying?* Taken at face value, the image seems to document the presence of this text at the site at some earlier point in time. But in fact what's displayed is fake, as the text has been inserted into the photograph via digital manipulation.

Exhibiting artists include Stephen Andrews, Valérie Blass, Colin Campbell, Stan Denniston, General Idea, Spring Hurlbut, Donna James, Micah Lexier, Tanya Lukin Linklater, Liz Magor, Olia Mishchenko, Louise Noguchi, Sojourner Truth Parsons, David Rokeby, Lisa Steele, Derek Sullivan, Erdem Tasdelen, and Jin-me Yoon.

ABOUT OAKVILLE GALLERIES

Oakville Galleries is a not-for-profit contemporary art museum. Housed in two spaces—one alongside a public library in downtown Oakville, and another in a lakeside mansion and park—Oakville Galleries is one of Canada's leading art museums, driven by a belief in the singular power of art and artists to deepen our understanding of ourselves and our communities and move us toward a better world.

Oakville Galleries is located on Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat and the Haudenosaunee. As an institution, Oakville Galleries recognizes the importance of establishing and maintaining meaningful and respectful relationships with the original inhabitants and keepers of the land, and we are grateful for the opportunity to operate on this territory.

Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens
1306 Lakeshore Road East, Oakville

Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square
120 Navy Street, Oakville

Tuesday to Thursday: 12:00 pm–7:00 pm
Friday & Saturday: 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Admission is free.

For more information about Oakville Galleries, our exhibitions or programs, visit www.oakvillegalleries.com or call 905.844.4402.

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Oakville Galleries gratefully acknowledges the ongoing support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, an agency of the Government of Ontario and the Corporation of the Town of Oakville, along with our many individual, corporate and foundation partners.

For more information, please contact:

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