

Sascha Braunig

Lay Figure

Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens and at Centennial Square | 2 October – 30 December 2022

PRESS RELEASE

For the fall exhibition season, on view until 30 December, Oakville Galleries is thrilled to present *Lay Figure*, a solo exhibition of work by Portland, Maine-based artist Sascha Braunig (born Qualicum Beach, BC, Canada, 1983). Exercises in colour, form, and illusion, Braunig's works cite an artistic lineage that stretches from the Pictures Generation through to the Chicago Imagists and horror-movie practical effects. Her sometimes barbed, tubular, netted, or neon-lit forms speak of many of the tensions of the current moment, such as being a subject within the grid of digital or gender systems.

For her first solo exhibition at a museum in Canada, the artist brings together new and recent paintings and drawings that are based on the compositional motif of figures engaged in conflict with a dress-like structure. These works use material qualities to analogize an immaterial idea: the feeling of struggling with a system more powerful than you, in which you are also deeply entangled.

Also included in the exhibition is a display of the three-dimensional models she builds and uses as visual aids in the making of each large painting. Because of this observational painting practice, Braunig sees her work as being linked to the academic nineteenth-century painter's use of the "lay figure," a jointed doll, not quite to-scale, that artists used as a stand-in for a live model in the studio. *Lay Figure*, the title of the show, refers to this historical practice, but the artist extends its meaning to the schematic wiry figure that recurs in her recent work. Braunig imagines the lay figure coming into its own life, pushing against a system in which it is also embedded and resisting its status as the inanimate muse in patriarchal painting's history.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a publication of new writing on the work of Sascha Braunig, published by Oakville Galleries in partnership with Triangle Books, Belgium. Contributors include curator Frances Loeffler and artist Lucy Kim.

Oakville Galleries | 1306 Lakeshore Road East Oakville, Ontario L6J 1L6 Canada
905.844.4402 | info@oakvillegalleries.com | oakvillegalleries.com | [@oakvillegalleries](https://www.instagram.com/oakvillegalleries)

PRESS IMAGE CREDITS BELOW

Hi-res images for print and additional information available upon request. Please contact:

Melanie Lowe, Marketing & Communications Manager

Email: melanie@oakvillegalleries.com

01. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
02. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
03. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
04. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
05. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
06. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
07. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
08. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
09. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries at Centennial Square. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
10. Sascha Braunig. *Studio Models* (installation view) Image courtesy of Oakville Galleries. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
11. Sascha Braunig. *Studio Models* (installation view) Image courtesy of Oakville Galleries. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay
12. Installation view of *Sascha Braunig: Lay Figure*. Oakville Galleries in Gairloch Gardens. 2022. Photo: Laura Findlay