

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Harbourfront Centre presents Visual Arts Exhibitions Winter 2017, opening January 21, 2017

TORONTO, ON (December 13, 2016) – Harbourfront Centre’s winter exhibitions explore aspects of work through a variety of media, including fashion, lighting, jewellery and photography. Curated by **Alessandro Guerriero** and featuring work by world-renowned designers such as **Vivienne Westwood**, **Issey Miyake** and **Coop Himmelb(l)au**, *Workwear (Abiti da lavoro)* touches on issues of globalization, political discourse, fashion and the individual while asking the viewer to imagine unusual occupations and the clothing that could be worn to perform them. Complimenting *Workwear* are four exhibitions exploring tools used by artists, objects used to illuminate our lives, the search for cultural memory, and jewellery for everyday wear.

Exhibitions include:

- **Workwear:** An exhibition of playful and cutting-edge fashion design that offers an alternative approach to uniforms and daily workwear. Curated by Milan-based architect, designer, and artist **Alessandro Guerriero**, *Workwear* features work by 40 artists, designers and architects, including **Issey Miyake**, **Vivienne Westwood**, and **Coop Himmelb(l)au**. *Workwear* is a co-production with the Italian Cultural Institute – Toronto and the Milan Triennale, **closing April 23, 2017**.
- **Everyday Lighting:** Harbourfront Centre’s Craft & Design Studio Artists-in-Residence explore illumination for practical use. Curated by designer **Katherine Tessier**, **closing June 18, 2017**.
- **The Essentials:** A group exhibition devoted to the contemporary jewellery we wear everyday. Curated by **Melanie Egan**, **closing June 18**.
- **Workaday:** A group exhibition that examines the process of creation by presenting works in various mediums alongside the tools used to create them. Curated by **Patrick Macaulay**, **closing April 23**.
- **Tong Yan Gai:** A record of **Morris Lum**’s journey with a large-format camera on a search for cultural memory and Chinese identity. Curated by Patrick Macaulay, **closing June 18**.

“We are excited to mount an exhibition that features the work of some of the most respected designers of our time. The viewer is playfully challenged to consider work uniforms for re-imagined jobs, while the accompanying exhibitions offer a variety of perspectives on work, work life and work-related objects,” comments Harbourfront Centre CEO, Marah Braye.

The public is invited to the **opening party** at Harbourfront Centre on **Friday, January 27, 2017** from 6–10pm. The exhibitions are free to attend.

For additional information about Visual Arts Winter Exhibitions, please visit <http://www.harbourfrontcentre.com/visualarts/2016/work-visual-arts-exhibitions-winter-2017/> or call 416-973-4000. For information about getting here, please visit harbourfrontcentre.com/gettinghere/.

MEDIA CONTACT

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HARBOURFRONT CENTRE

Harbourfront Centre is a Canadian charity operating the 10 prime acres of Toronto's central waterfront as a free and open public site. We celebrate the multiplicities of cultures that comprise Canada and enliven the city through the creative imaginations of artists from across the country and around the globe.

THE ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA

The Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Cultural Section of the Consulate General of Italy in Toronto was established in 1976. It supports cultural exchange between Italy and Canada, and is a centre for cultural and academic activities, a school of Italian language and civilization, a source of information about contemporary Italy and its cultural heritage, as well as a venue for art exhibitions, lectures, films and video screenings.

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