

PHOTO, MEDIA AND DIGITAL ART

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Photo Magazine. Visual, Audio and Surround Art Galleries.
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For Immediate Release (August 9, 2012)

ANDREAS FOGARASI EXAMINES ARCHITECTURE, SIGN SYSTEMS AND CULTURAL HISTORY IN NEW EXHIBITION AT PREFIX

(Toronto) – Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art is proud to present the first solo exhibition in Canada of the work of acclaimed Austrian artist **Andreas Fogarasi**. Curated by Scott McLeod and titled **2018**, this exhibition refers to a year in the future, too near to be of utopian value, yet too far to be clearly imagined. Presenting three works in photography, video and installation, the exhibition features the world premiere of a new work produced by Prefix.

An opening reception will be held on **Thursday, September 20 from 7 to 10 PM** at Prefix, located at 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 124, Toronto. The artist and curator will be present. The gallery is open from Wednesday to Saturday, 12 to 5 PM, and admission is free. The exhibition continues until **November 24, 2012**.

North American International Auto Show 2010 (2012) features an array of freestanding V-shaped structures loosely arranged within the gallery. On the surface of each structure is a colour photograph depicting the dismantling of this massive trade fair. These images capture aspects of this process without ever showing them in their entirety, forming an intricate network of associations. The piece serves as a metaphor for the collapse of the auto industry, while also holding out hope for change and renewal.

Monument to the Year 2000 (2011) is a small model for a public space, depicting what is at once a stage, a studio and a lookout. On the floor of the space is a marble pedestal, its shape reminiscent of a monument or tombstone. Punched into the space's wall is the number "2000," a designation once celebrated as a symbol of the millennium to come, now relegated to obsolescence.

Constructing/Dismantling (2010) is a three-screen video installation depicting a trio of locales in the legendary city of Santiago de Compostela, capital of Galicia in northwest Spain. Santiago – the centuries-old destination of pilgrims and a UNESCO World Heritage Site – is also the site of the controversial City of Culture, a complex of cultural buildings designed by architect Peter Eisenman. Conspicuously positioned on a hilltop outside of the picturesque city, this decade-long building project continues to be the subject of intense debate and criticism on account of its cost, scale and location.

In one video, Fogarasi navigates the margins where the construction area and the city meet, capturing the landscape that separates the future complex from the ancient city centre. In another, the camera weaves through a Santiago fairground in the midst of being dismantled, underscoring the temporal nature of such structures. The final video loops between the sweeping away of a floral carpet bearing the year "2010" and a chalk outline of the year remaining on the pavement beneath – a moment of change suspended in a never-ending limbo.

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About the Artist

Andreas Fogarasi is a visual artist based in Vienna. He studied architecture at the University of Applied Arts Vienna, where he was a collaborative organizer and student of the Freie Klasse (Free Class), and he completed his studies at the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna. His work consists of videos, photography, installations and art in public spaces, combining architectural and typographic research and analysis with spatial interventions. He has participated in several important international exhibitions of contemporary art, including Manifesta 4 (Frankfurt am Main), the 6th Gyumri International Biennial of Contemporary Art (Gyumri, Armenia) and the 52nd Venice Biennale, where his exhibition at the Hungarian Pavilion was awarded the Golden Lion for best national participation. His recent solo exhibitions include Museo Reina Sofia (Madrid), Ludwig Forum für internationale Kunst (Aachen) and MAK Applied Arts/Contemporary Art (Vienna), while his group exhibitions include Grazer Kunstverein (Graz), CAC Contemporary Art Centre (Vilnius), Museum of Contemporary Art (Zagreb), Queensland Art Gallery/Gallery of Modern Art (Brisbane) and Kunstverein Düsseldorf (Düsseldorf). Since 2001, he has been co-editor of *Dérive: Journal of Urban Research*. He is represented by Georg Kargl Fine Arts (Vienna).

About the Curator

Scott McLeod is a writer, curator and arts administrator. His work focuses on contemporary practices, with a specialization in photography, media and digital art. Since 2000, he has been the director and curator of Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, where he also serves as the editor and publisher of *Prefix Photo* magazine.

About Prefix

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art is a public art gallery and arts publishing house based in Toronto. A registered charitable organization, Prefix fosters the appreciation and understanding of contemporary photographic, media and digital arts. In 2010, Prefix celebrated ten years of programming excellence.

Acknowledgements

For their support of Andreas Fogarasi's 2018, Prefix gratefully acknowledges its Official Catering Sponsor à la Carte Kitchen and its Official Hotel Sponsor the Delta Chelsea Downtown Toronto. Prefix also acknowledges the assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Toronto Arts Council.

For more information, print-ready images or to schedule an interview with the artist, please contact:

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