

# PHOTO, MEDIA AND DIGITAL ART

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Photo Magazine. Visual, Audio and Surround Art Galleries.  
Reference Library. Small Press. Travelling Shows.

## **PREFIX.**

For Immediate Release (June 28, 2004)

# When It Comes To Making Art, Peter Kingstone Takes It *One A Day*

**Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art** in association with **Trinity Square Video** present the exhibition ***One a Day*** by Toronto Artist **Peter Kingstone** from **July 8 to August 7, 2004**. The exhibition is curated by **Sara Matthews**. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, July 8 from 7 to 10 PM. The artist will be present. At the closing of the exhibition, a conversation between the artist and Steve Reinke will take place at Trinity Square Video on Saturday, August 7 at 2 PM.

As a member of the *One a Day* artists' collective, Peter Kingstone set himself the task of creating a work of art every day for one year. This exhibit of over 1200 photographs, 80 videos, 5 super-8 films, a charcoal drawing, several narratives, a t-shirt and one business card, chronologically organizes that body of work which he began on his birthday, June 7, 2001. By documenting the realization of artistic practice itself, Kingstone collapses the linear relations of time that differentiate the beginning of a work of art from its end. As an archive of sorts, the exhibit traces the creative journey between urge and its crystallization as artistic form. In this liminal space, the opportunity for thinking about what makes art artful is returned to the viewer who must decide between the discarded content of artistic practice and its final event.

The onlooker is not exterior to Kingstone's archive: we are invited to plunder his resource, to use it at will. His archive resonates with our own, each object a marker in time that returns us to the details of our own place in history. Certain dates call forth memories that flare up and collide with Kingstone's strangely elusive narrative structure in which the private and the collective coincide. His work draws upon that which is familiar and intimate in its specificity - the interior of a refrigerator, clothes strewn across the bedroom floor, a used condom wrapper, an unflushed toilet – the mundane evidence of life. Through interplay of image and narrative Kingstone brings these details into focus and challenges us to read their familiarity otherwise.

Kingstone's work pokes at the belief that there is, after all, some communicable experience that art might represent. In its unrelenting demand for active interpretation, his archive refuses closure, standing not as mute witness to the past but opening the future. The energies gathered together in Kingstone's archive carry us towards a promise that must always be deferred: that the tension between the *work* of art and its final expression might be resolved. In challenging this illusion Kingstone affirms the unknowable and moves the viewer towards the pleasures of pursuit. In this model of art, pursuit is not satiated by answer but rather our ability, following Andre Brink, "to fabricate metaphors – that is, tell stories – in which, not history, but imaginings of history are invented"<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>In: S. Nutall and C. Coetzee (eds) (1998) *Negotiating the Past: the Making of Memory in South Africa*. P 42. (Cape Town: Oxford University Press)

**PREFIX INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH TRINITY SQUARE VIDEO**

**PRESENT**

**PETER KINGSTONE'S *ONE A DAY***

**JULY 8 TO AUGUST 7, 2004**

**Curated by Sara Matthews**

**Opening Reception**

Thursday, July 8, 7 - 10 PM

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art, 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 124, Toronto.

Artist will be present

**Closing Conversation between Peter Kingstone and Steve Reinke**

Saturday, August 7, 2 PM

Trinity Square Video, 401 Richmond Street West, Suite 376, Toronto.

**Press Contact**

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Gallery Hours: Wednesday - Saturday, 12 - 5 PM

### **About Peter Kingstone**

Peter Kingstone is a Toronto-based artist, writer and curator. He makes video, photo-based and installation art. He writes both fiction and non-fiction, and criticism. He holds a degree in Philosophy/Cultural Studies from Trent University and recently completed his Masters of Fine Art at York University.

### **About Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art**

Founded in 1999, Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art is a non-profit contemporary arts organization based in Toronto. Prefix's mandate is to promote the appreciation and understanding of contemporary photographic, media & digital arts through exhibitions, publications and related activities.

Located at the heart of Toronto's art's district at 401 Richmond West, Prefix is a unique facility designed to increase the visibility of Canadian artists and support Canadian writers, curators and critics, while also bringing a diverse body of international work to the nation's audiences through its exhibitions, publications and community-partnered activities. The newly renovated facility consists of a visual gallery, an audio gallery, and a public reference library. Over the past year, Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art showcased a number of accomplished artist works including *Motels* by Steve Payne (nominated for a Steam Whistle Art Award for Best Photography Show of 2003); *Present-day Epics* by Wang Qingsong; *Ordinary Marvel* by Susan Kealey and David Small's *Illuminated Manuscript*. Confirmed upcoming shows include Peter Kingstone's *One a Day* and The Atlas Group's *The Fakhouri Files*.

### **About Trinity Square Video**

Trinity Square Video is a not-for-profit centre that provides artists and community organizations with video production/post-production support and services at accessible rates. Also, TSV is an artist-run centre that continues to train and help develop many emerging artists. Several noted Canadian artists including John Greyson, Lisa Steele, Ed Sinclair, Michael Balser, Kim Tomczak, Vera Frenkel and Barbara Sternberg have created video at TSV. Here since 1971, TSV is committed to providing a broad spectrum of services related to video: workshops, screenings, video-for-the-web initiatives, artist residencies and festival sponsorships.

Trinity gratefully acknowledges the support from: The Canada Council for the Arts, The Ontario Arts Council, The Toronto Arts Council and The Trillium Foundation. [www.trinitysquarevideo.com](http://www.trinitysquarevideo.com)