

# PHOTO, MEDIA AND DIGITAL ART

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art  
Suite 124, Box 124  
401 Richmond Street West  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5V 3A8  
T 416.591.0357 F 416.591.0358  
info@prefix.ca www.prefix.ca

Photo Magazine. Visual, Audio and Surround Art Galleries.  
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## PREFIX.

For Immediate Release (October 3, 2016)

### PREFIX ICA PRESENTS RENOWNED ARTIST RENÉE GREEN IN HER PREMIERE CANADIAN EXHIBITION

(Toronto) – Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art is proud to present *Facing*, a solo exhibition featuring the work of renowned artist and filmmaker **Renée Green**, curated by Betty Julian. For the first time in our history, Prefix ICA has dedicated all three of our exhibition spaces – the main gallery, audio art gallery and surround gallery (the latter a ten-metre glass enclosure for the exhibition of site-specific installations) – to a single artist. With a total of four hours of time-based work, this exhibition warrants repeat visits.

An **opening reception** will be held on **Thursday, October 6** 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 26, 2016.

Through her rigorous artistic process, Renée Green brings forth complex and meaningful ways of seeing and thinking about the reality of the twenty-first century. Her excavation of locations, perceptions, memory and movement is developed as a series of “nodes,” which refer to her own private acts and processes as an artist. Once transformed into a public exhibition or other presentation, each node is given a name and an association with a specific location, which has its own forms of resonance for both the artist and the audience.

This process has been an aspect of the artist's journey to Toronto. It began with *Spacing* in Lisboa, followed by *Placing* in Berlin, and then *Tracing* in Lake Como. Each node is part of an improvised and yet precise process of making and thinking, which will continue beyond *Facing* in Toronto with *Pacing* at a future residency at the Carpenter Centre at Harvard University.

Anchored by the extraordinary digital film projection *Begin Again, Begin Again* (2015), *Facing* also features sound works, space poems and a print, as well as an extensive selection of digital films from the artist's ongoing body of work.

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#### About the Artist

**Renée Green** is an internationally renowned artist and filmmaker. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1959, she studied art at Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT), with an intermediary year at the School of Visual Arts in New York, graduating with a BA in 1981. She also attended the Radcliffe Publishing Procedures Course at Harvard University (Cambridge, MA). In 1989, she was a participant in the Whitney Museum of American Art's Independent Study Program. Her work has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions organized by museums such as the Fundació Antoni Tàpies (Barcelona), the Institute of Contemporary Art (Boston), the Museum of Contemporary Art (Los Angeles), Portikus (Frankfurt am Main) and Vienna Secession, as well as numerous group exhibitions, including at the International Center of Photography (New York), Institute of Contemporary Art (London), Centre Georges Pompidou (Paris), MACBA (Barcelona) and the Museum of Contemporary Art (Chicago). Her work has also been featured in the biennial exhibitions of Berlin, Istanbul, Johannesburg, Kwangju, Seville, Venice and the Whitney, as well as at Documenta 11.

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Her work as a visual artist is enhanced by her equally important endeavours as a writer, social critic and theorist. Her books include *Other Planes of There*, *Endless Dreams and Time-Based Streams*, *Ongoing Becomings*, *Negotiations in the Contact Zone* and *Shadows and Signals*, among many others. She has published essays and fiction in *Frieze*, *October*, *Sarai Reader*, *Texte zur Kunst* and *Transition*, among other magazines and journals. Her essays have also appeared in a wide range of international cultural and scholarly books. In addition to her work as an artist and writer, Green is an educator. Currently, she is a professor at the Art, Culture and Technology (ACT) Program, School of Architecture and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge, MA), and guest faculty of Maumaus-Escola de Artes Visuais (Lisbon). She currently lives in Somerville, MA.

### **About the Curator**

**Betty Julian** is an independent curator of contemporary art with a specialization in photography and media art. Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, she currently lives and works in Toronto as a trained psychoanalytic therapist. She began her professional arts career in 1988 when she assumed the role of director of A Space, a pioneering artist-run centre in Toronto. She was a founding member of the New Initiatives in Film programme for Aboriginal Women and Women of Colour at Studio D, National Film Board of Canada. She was also a founding member of the national Advisory Council for *Prefix Photo* magazine, where, until 2004, she brought her wealth of curatorial knowledge to the process of reviewing photographer's submissions for publication. Since 2004, she has been a member of the Curatorial Council for Prefix ICA, where she curated *31* by Lorna Simpson in 2004 and the group exhibition *Trade Marks* in 2013. Until 2015, she was a photography instructor at OCAD University (Toronto). Currently, she is developing an integrated programme of research and study on photography as a contemporary art form, for which she is exploring critical issues of representation, the politics of aesthetics and psychoanalytic thought.

### **About Prefix ICA**

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 through exhibitions, publications, public programmes and related activities.

### **Acknowledgements**

Prefix Institute of Contemporary Art gratefully acknowledges the assistance of its patrons, donors and volunteers, as well as the City of Toronto through the Toronto Arts Council.

For their assistance with *Facing*, Prefix gratefully acknowledges the in-kind support of Felt Studio, Gallery 44 Centre for Contemporary Photography, Justina M. Barnicke Gallery and YYZ Artists' Outlet; its Official Hotel Sponsor Le Germain Hotel; and the Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council for the Arts.

For more information, print-ready images or to schedule an interview with the artist or curator, please contact Alysha Rajkumar, Gallery Manager, at:

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E info@prefix.ca  
www.prefix.ca

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