



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MAY 10, 2011

## The Power Plant has awarded its 2011 Commission to Toronto artist Derek Sullivan

This fall The Power Plant presents a major new project by Canadian artist **Derek Sullivan**. The new installation, comprised of publications and drawings, will be presented as a solo exhibition entitled *Albatross Omnibus* and will be on view from **24 September - 20 November, 2011**. The exhibition is the last to be curated by outgoing Director Gregory Burke.

Sullivan's Commission for The Power Plant involves the production of fifty-two different artists' books which will be hung from the ceiling in a grid formation. The publications' contents will explore Sullivan's interest in the relationships between book, library and garden design, as well as the realm of concrete poetry. Each book will be distinct and each will explore a single concept, but they will all be unified in terms of their identical pocketbook size and their design. A second component of the exhibition will see a large accordion-shaped wall snake through the gallery spaces on which will be displayed a range of "poster drawings" and illustrations that Sullivan is currently working on. The exhibition will be accompanied by a catalogue featuring critical texts, full-colour images and other material, as well as a special limited edition collecting all fifty-two of the artist's books in the exhibition in an elaborate handmade case.

The new work by Sullivan marks the seventh installment of The Commissioning Program at The Power Plant, an ambitious ongoing program that aims to develop and premier major new works by the most exciting Canadian and international artists at work today. The commissions reflect international, national and local dialogues. This has occurred in terms of the content of the commissions, which have referenced the specificity of Toronto's historical past and a more global cultural present, and through their production, which has involved the local arts community and the general public. Past commissions have attracted thousands of visitors to The Power Plant and have created tremendous excitement around contemporary art in Toronto. Commissioned works have been acquired by local collecting institutions where

The Power Plant  
Contemporary Art Gallery

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they will be seen by hundreds of thousands, tour to significant galleries around the world, and make a lasting contribution to the cultural life of the region.

A subsequent release will be issued this summer with complete information about the exhibition and the diverse range of public programming scheduled for fall 2011.

### **Derek Sullivan Background**

Derek Sullivan (born 1976, Toronto) draws upon overlapping histories of modernist design, abstraction and conceptual art to unsettle notions of meaning and authorship. Sullivan uses drawing and sculpture, in addition to producing various ephemeral conceptual projects, to explore his interest in reinterpreting familiar forms in order to open up new areas of inquiry. Sullivan received his MFA from the University of Guelph, 2002. His work is included in the collection of the National Gallery of Canada and he is represented by Jessica Bradley Art + Projects, Toronto

Recent solo exhibitions include *We May Be Standing on the Shoulder of Giants but Some of Us Are Looking at the Stars* at the Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge (2008), *Le Poeme de l'angle droit* at Tatjana Pieters/OneTwenty Gallery, Ghent (2008), *Bulletin Board* at White Columns, New York (2008), *It is more difficult to hit a moving target* at the University of Waterloo Art Gallery (2010), and *Young Americans* at Kiosk, Ghent (2011).

Sullivan has participated in numerous group exhibitions, including *Dedicated to you, but you weren't listening* (2005) and *We Can Do This Now* (2006) at The Power Plant, *On Being an Exhibition* at Artists Space, New York (2007), *Gasoline Rainbows* at the Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver (2007), *P2P* at Casino Luxembourg (2008), and *Out of Print* at Mercer Union, Toronto (2011).

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## Upcoming Programs and Events

### International Lecture Series

#### Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle

**Wednesday, 25 May, 7 PM**

Studio Theatre, Harbourfront Centre

FREE Members, \$12 Non-Members

Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling +1.416.973.4000 or at the door.

Madrid-born, Chicago-based artist Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle, whose works *Phantom Truck + Always After* are currently on view at The Power Plant, discusses his internationally renowned practice.

### Power Ball: Thirteenth Floor

**Thursday, 16 June, 8:30 PM**

The Power Plant

\$155 Members, \$165 Non-Members

Tickets can be purchased in advance by calling +1.416.973.4018 or by visiting [www.thepowerplant.org](http://www.thepowerplant.org)

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### Current Exhibitions

on view through 29 May, 2011

**Thomas Hirschhorn: Das Auge (The Eye)**

**Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle: Phantom Truck + Always After**

**To What Earth Does This Sweet Cold Belong?**

Andrea Carlson (Minneapolis); Annie MacDonell (Toronto); Kevin Schmidt (Vancouver); Jennifer Rose Sciarrino (Toronto); and Erin Shirreff (New York).

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For more information on exhibitions and all public programs, call  
**+1.416.973.4949** or visit [www.thepowerplant.org](http://www.thepowerplant.org)

**The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery at Harbourfront Centre  
231 Queens Quay West, Toronto**

**Admission:**

FREE Members  
\$6 Adults  
\$3 Students / Seniors  
BMO **FREE** Wednesday Evenings from 5 - 8 PM

**Gallery Hours:**

Tuesday to Sunday 12 - 6 PM  
Wednesday 12 - 8 PM  
Open holiday Mondays

-30-

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