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**Canada's leading contemporary art gallery The Power Plant presents *Power Ball: Old/New World*, Toronto's most anticipated art party, on Thursday, 5 June, 2014**

**23 April 2014, Toronto, ON** - The Power Plant, Canada's leading contemporary art gallery, presents **Power Ball: Old/New World**. On **Thursday 5 June**, more than 1,500 guests will attend the city's most anticipated annual art party, raising vital funds for its exhibitions and public programs throughout the year.

This year's Power Ball theme "**Old/New World**" pays tribute to the revolutionary time when digital technology developed from an analogue world, transforming everything from music, art, fashion and food. The event will celebrate the best of the old and new world with outstanding work by local and international artists that will surround partygoers with playful and spectacular environments. For ticket information visit: <http://bit.ly/1jbUja4>.

Setting the standard as the most influential, vibrant and original contemporary art party since its inception in 1999, **Power Ball** has grown to become the gallery's largest annual fundraiser, attracting a crowd including artists, fashionistas, celebrities, and financiers from creative industries.

"When you attend **Power Ball**, you join a family of gallery supporters," says Director of **The Power Plant Gaëtane Verna**. "**Power Ball** is the largest annual fundraising event for **The Power Plant**. It is the engine that supports the exhibitions and public programming the gallery offers all year. I thank all sponsors of this year's event and our invaluable co-chairs **Aris Andrulakis, Laurent Fort, Philippe Meyersohn** and **Georgia Scherman**, who are supported by our hard-working committee. We are truly grateful to everyone, and we look forward to celebrating the power of the arts with you."

The VIP experience of the party happens exclusively between 7 and 9 PM for all guests with a ticket to the Lounge. This early portion of the evening will feature a private performance by award-winning British artist **Naomi Kashiwagi**. During the multi-disciplinary performance entitled *Gramophonca*, guests will be wowed by live gramophone glitching as Kashiwagi plays 78rpm records re-appropriated on a wind-up gramophone, demonstrating the potential to transform sounds from one era to another.

The party begins at 9 PM and continues late into the evening with outstanding artist projects. Rising international star **Jon Rafman** is an award-winning

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Contemporary Art Gallery

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[thepowerplant.org](http://thepowerplant.org)

Montréal artist who will premiere new work at Power Ball that blurs the distinction between virtual and physical realities. Furthermore, the evening will also feature an installation of **BYOB (Bring Your Own Beamer)**, a one-night exhibition that hosts a number of artists and their projectors; New York-based artist duo **CONFETTISYSTEM** who will create a site-specific installation in line with their extraordinary set designs; work by artist **Christine Davis**, who has exhibited extensively across the globe with work that addresses the contemporary in relation to critical junctures within modernity; and **Oli Sorenson**, a multi-media and performance artist who promotes the practices of sampling and sharing.

For more information, visit [The Power Plant](#) website and follow the discussion on Facebook and Twitter at **ThePowerPlantTO**. Join the conversation using **#PowerBallTO**.

#### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Thursday, 5 June, 2014

The Power Plant, 231 Queens Quay West at Harbourfront Centre

Lounge

7 -9 PM, the VIP experience of the party with participating artists

**\$300 Lounge tickets**

Party

9PM - late

**\$150 Members of The Power Plant, \$165 Non-Members**

Party packages and artist packages are available

**Tickets for this event are extremely limited. To purchase, visit**

<http://bit.ly/1jbUja4>

#### **CO-CHAIRS**

Aris Andrulakis

Laurent Fort

Philippe Meyersohn

Georgia Scherman

## CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS

### BYOB

BYOB (Bring Your Own Beamer) is a series of one-night-exhibitions initiated by Rafaël Rozendaal and curated by various people across the globe. Each BYOB event hosts a number of artists, who activate the space with their mobile projections. Rozendaal describes the event as “a celebration of the new world we live in and a glimpse of what computing could look like in the future. Today, the internet is confined to screens. Tomorrow, information will surround us, composing our surfaces, defining our spaces, enmeshing itself with the ether. A moving image is never an object, and when it is coupled with the increased flexibility of portable projection, the realm of experience quickly expands.” The first BYOB was organized by Rozendaal and Anne de Vries, and was held in the Bureau Friederich projectstudio, Berlin on 20 July 2010. It has seen innumerable incarnations in venues around the world, including at Daikanyama AIT Room, Tokyo (2014), O’NewWall, Seoul (2013), Lightbox Studio, Moscow (2013), The Glue Factory, Glasgow (2013), El Parche, Bogota (2013), and Riad Biba, Marrakesh (2013).

This iteration of BYOB is organized by Toronto-based artist Aamna Muzaffar.

### CONFETTISYSTEM

CONFETTISYSTEM is Nicholas Andersen and Julie Ho, a duo working as artists, stylists, and designers from their studio in Manhattan. Sharing a love of communal celebration and craft-making, they create bespoke party décor, set designs and jewelry. CONFETTISYSTEM transforms simple materials such as tissue paper, cardboard, and silk into interactive objects that create a point of focus and occupy the space between the ephemeral and the permanent, evoking a sense of nostalgia and lighthearted fun.

CONFETTISYSTEM has created installations for fashion brands Lanvin, Lane Crawford, Opening Ceremony, United Bamboo, and J.Crew. Their work extends to include sets for music industry clients such as Beyoncé, Yeah Yeah Yeahs and Beach House. In addition to decorating for private celebrations and working as creative consultants for numerous private labels, CONFETTISYSTEM has created custom design work for PS1/MOMA, American Ballet Theatre, Mercedes Benz, Partners & Spade, Other Criteria, and Pop Magazine with Gagolian Gallery. CONFETTISYSTEM’s line of jewelry and festive objects are sold internationally through Opening Ceremony, Bergdorf Goodman, and Le Bon Marche and the duo have been exhibited in art galleries and museums in New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Japan, and Holland.

### **Christine Davis**

Christine Davis (born Vancouver, 1962) lives and works in Toronto and New York. She holds a B.F.A. from York University, Toronto, and attended the College International de Philosophie in Paris. Davis served on the board of directors of The Power Plant and YYZ Artists' Outlet, Toronto, and she is a founding editor of the international journal *Public: Art/Culture/Ideas*. Her work seeks to retrieve the past through the lens of the present and establish a dynamic where meanings from disparate historical and pedagogical moments collide, addressing the contemporary in relation to critical junctures within modernity. To this end, the work refutes recognizable style in favour of the conceptual mobility of materials; from words laser etched on contact lenses to slide dissolves onto morpho butterflies and video projected through mesh satellite dishes.

Davis has exhibited extensively across the globe, including exhibitions at Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal (2009), the Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton (2008-2009), Olga Korper Gallery, Toronto (2006), Presentation House Gallery, Vancouver (2005) Musée de beaux arts de Montreal (2003), Seoul Museum of Art (2003), The Power Plant, Toronto (2000). Her work is held in numerous collections including the National Gallery of Canada, Le Musée d'Art Contemporain de Montréal, Collection Helga de Alvear, Madrid and the Yvon Lambert Collection Avignon.

Davis is represented by Olga Korper Gallery, Toronto.

### **Naomi Kashiwagi**

Naomi Kashiwagi is an award-winning artist from the United Kingdom whose practice playfully provokes the fringes of disciplines and genres, the intersections and impacts of visual art and music upon one another and the cyclical nature of obsolescence and technological innovation. She works through reinvention- recycling the redundant and that of the established order to reveal the ordinary as being inherently extraordinary.

Notable exhibitions include Innsbruck International: Festival of the Arts, Innsbruck, Austria (2013); *SOUNDWORKS*, ICA, London (2012); *Progress Reports: Art in an Era of Diversity*, INIVA, Rivington Place London (2010); and *The Intertwining Line: Drawing as Subversive Art*, Cornerhouse, Manchester (2008).

### **Jon Rafman**

Jon Rafman (born Montréal, 1981) lives and works in Montréal. He received his M.F.A. in Film, Video and New Media from the School of Art Institute of Chicago and he also holds a B.A. in Philosophy and Literature from McGill University. Inspired by the rich contradictions that technology presents, his work examines the effects of digital media on individual consciousness and social and cultural memory. Mixing irony, humour and melancholy, his work explores the paradoxes of modernity. He has been the recipient of awards from the Canada Council for the Arts (2012, 2008), National Film Board of Canada (2010) and Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (2008).

Rafman has exhibited extensively across the globe, including solo exhibitions at Zach Feuer Gallery, New York (2013), Seventeen Gallery, London (2013), Future Gallery, Berlin (2013), The Photographer's Gallery, London (2013), and New Museum, New York (2013). His work is held in public collections in the United States, Italy, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Rafman is represented by Zach Feuer Gallery, New York, Seventeen Gallery, London, M+B Gallery, Los Angeles, Future Gallery, Berlin, and Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran, Montréal.

### **Oli Sorenson**

Oli Sorenson (born Los Angeles, 1969) lives and works in Montréal. He is a multimedia and performance artist who is fascinated by the overabundance of online content, which he thinks inhibits the creation of new or original work and instead promotes the practices of sampling and sharing. Recognized as one of the world's top ten VJs between 2003 and 2008 by *DJ Magazine* (UK), Sorenson describes his approach as that of a remix artist.

Sorenson gained international acclaim under the moniker "VJ Anyone" and collaborated with numerous bands such as Leftfield, MIA, Bloc Party, Talvin Singh and more, while continuing his studio production. Sorenson has exhibited internationally, including audiovisual performances and screenings at Quartier Des Spectacles, Montréal (2011), Pause Festival, Melbourne (2011), British Film Institute, London (2010), Club Spoutnik, Geneva (2009), KuenstlerHaus, Vienna (2008), Tate Britain, London (2008). His work is in notable collections such as the Canada Arts Council, Arts Council England, FRAC Collection in Orléans, France and the ZKM collection in Karlsruhe, Germany.

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### **About Power Ball:**

Power Ball is the gallery's largest annual fundraiser. From its inception in 1999, Power Ball has set the standard as the most influential, vibrant and original contemporary art party. Attracting a sophisticated "who's who" crowd of artists, fashionistas, celebrities, and financiers from the world of film, advertising, music, design, and art, this is one sensational party providing vital funds to the exhibition and public programs at The Power Plant.

### **About The Power Plant:**

The Power Plant is Canada's leading public gallery devoted exclusively to contemporary visual art. It is a vital forum for the advanced artistic culture of our time that offers an exceptional facility and professional support to diverse living artists while engaging equally diverse audiences in their work. The Power Plant pursues its activities through exhibitions, publications and public programming. It fulfills its mandate by generating: exhibitions that represent the range of advanced practice in visual arts; publications that increase knowledge of contemporary art; lectures and symposia that encourage debate and further understanding; interpretative tools that invite visitors to question, explore and

reflect upon their experiences; programming that incorporates other areas of culture when they intersect with visual art.

For more information, please visit the [The Power Plant](#) website.

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**Available for interviews:**

Gaëtane Verna, Director, The Power Plant  
Select participating artists

**Media Contacts:**

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