The Power Plant invites visitors to respond to art through action for its Summer 2016 Season, on view from 25 June – 5 September 2016.

For The Power Plant’s Summer 2016 Season, visitors will be immersed in the physical and aesthetic experience of works presented in solo exhibitions by German artists Franz Erhard Walther and Ulla von Brandenburg, as well as a new performance by American artist Emily Mast.

The Power Plant opens the exhibitions with a FREE Opening Party for all on Friday, 24 June 2016 from 8-11PM.

Visitors to The Power Plant’s Summer 2016 Exhibitions will be invited to disrupt the space and landscapes of the works – either as contributors to the works’ final form, or as active explorers in the exhibition’s display.

Whether as key contributors to the artwork’s final form or as active explorers in the show’s displays, visitors to The Power Plant’s Summer 2016 Season will be invited to disrupt the space and landscapes of the exhibitions. In Call to Action, Franz Erhard Walther’s first major solo exhibition in Canada, artworks from the 1950s to the present offers insight into the seminal artist’s radical ideas about the relationship between space, object and the human body. Visitors will have the opportunity to activate select artworks on display and become a part of the living sculpture. For her exhibition It Has a Golden Red Sun and an Elderly Green Moon, Ulla von Brandenburg has developed a new film and a site-specific installation which mirrors the space in which the film was shot, the Théâtre des Amandiers in Nanterre, France, and viewers will find themselves entered into the scene of the projection. In an exhibition display designed by the artist, the gallery will also present a survey of von Brandenburg’s film works. Emily Mast’s performance The Cage is a Stage incorporates bodies, movement, sound, and light to examine some of the deep-seated compulsions of the human species. Presented in partnership with Blackwood Gallery, the performance is a part of a multi-compositional project also comprised of two gallery exhibitions, a billboard and a short performance at Blackwood Gallery.

Exhibitions will be on view through Sunday, 5 September 2016. The Power Plant has also planned a series of public programs to engage its diverse audience in furthering the dialogue around contemporary art.
Franz Erhard Walther

Call to Action

Curator: Gaëtane Verna

Call to Action, Franz Erhard Walther’s first major solo exhibition in Canada, will offer insight into the seminal German artist’s radical ideas about the relationship between space, object and the human body.

The exhibition brings together a selection of Walther’s work produced between the 1950s to the present that highlight his interest in the body, and the emphasis on the artist’s and viewers’ shared role in shaping material form. Throughout the duration of the exhibition, visitors will be invited to activate select fabric works and use their bodies and movements to disrupt the space of the work’s display. These activations will occur both inside and outside of the gallery, thus challenging the audience’s perceptions of the role of art in the built environment and the landscape, and reminding audiences that the work is meant to be physically experienced through their active participation. The placement of artworks throughout the gallery space— including The Power Plant’s Fleck Clerestory — will reference human proportions and their spatial configuration. Along with a presentation of Walther’s video and drawing documents, the potential for action and the importance of audiences in contributing to the artworks’ final forms will be evoked in all aspects of the exhibition.

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Ulla von Brandenburg

*It Has a Golden Red Sun and an Elderly Green Moon*

Guest Curator: Alexandra Baudelot, Co-Director, Les Laboratoires d’Aubervilliers, France and Director, ROSASCAPE, Paris
Assistant Curator: Clara Halpern, RBC Curatorial Fellow, The Power Plant

*It Has a Golden Red Sun and an Elderly Green Moon*, Ulla von Brandenburg’s first solo exhibition in Canada, brings together five recurring themes in her work: colour, ritual, movement, stairs and textiles. The inspiration for these themes range from the architecture of modern theatre and stage designs, to movement theory and John Cage’s musical constructions. The exhibition unfolds in a large, site-specific installation that operates simultaneously as both a stage set and a film. Titled *It Has a Golden Sun and an Elderly Grey Moon* (2016), the film was shot on the stage of the Théâtre des Amandiers in Nanterre, France, which is mirrored by the installation at The Power Plant. Spectators are integral, being caught in the film’s images and the physical, scenographic setting. Alongside this new work, The Power Plant will present a survey of von Brandenburg’s earlier films. A concurrent exhibition will be on show at the Darling Foundry, Montreal.

The exhibition is also accompanied by the publication *It Has a Yellow Sun and an Elderly Grey Moon*, edited by Alexandra Baudelot. Between a monograph and an artist’s book, this publication brings together texts by various authors exploring the five themes of the exhibition, which are also present in Ulla von Brandenburg’s wider work. *It Has a Yellow Sun and an Elderly Grey Moon* is published by Mousse and co-produced by the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA), Melbourne; The Power Plant, Toronto; Aarhus 2017: European Capital of Culture, Denmark; and Museum Haus Konstruktiv, Zurich.

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Emily Mast

*The Cage is a Stage*

Co-Curators: Julia Paoli, Associate Curator, The Power Plant and Christine Shaw, Director/Curator, Blackwood Gallery

The Power Plant and Blackwood Gallery are pleased to present *The Cage is a Stage*, a co-commissioned project by Los Angeles-based artist Emily Mast. In her choreographed performances and installations, Mast incorporates bodies, movement, sound and light as live sculptural material. Her work emerges from a collaborative practice that involves participants from varied disciplines including
visual art, theatre, dance and poetry, and often unfolds in chapters, presenting iterations and offshoots of the same piece in various sites.

_The Cage is a Stage_ is a multi-compositional project that includes an evening-length performance that premieres on stage at Harbourfront Centre Theatre, co-presented with the Blackwood Gallery. By scrutinizing animality, the project will examine some of the deep-seated compulsions of the human species such as the need to control, tame, punish and play. Mast will construct a landscape of stylized vignettes in order to expand on ideas that John Berger put forth in his essay “Why Look at Animals” (1977), in which he compares zoos to art galleries. In her collaborative work with the cast, Mast has generated scores that serve as “frames” in which to explore and examine both the political implications of marginalization and the behaviour of humans through a cultural understanding of animal nature.

In conjunction with the performance are two exhibitions, a billboard and a short performance at Blackwood Gallery.

**Performances at Harbourfront Centre**
29 & 30 June 2016, 8PM
Tickets available at harbourfrontcentre.com

**Concurrent Exhibition at the Blackwood Gallery**
22 June – 18 September 2016
University of Toronto Mississauga, 3359 Mississauga Road
FREE opening reception and performance, 25 June, 2-5PM

**In Partnership With**
Blackwood Gallery

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**About the Artists**

_Franz Erhard Walther_ (born 1939 in Fulda, Germany, lives and works in Fulda) is one of Germany’s seminal artists whose practice has expanded the wider discussion of contemporary art practices. His work has been featured in a number of significant exhibitions including: *Out of Actions: Between Performance and the Object*(1949-79), Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (1988); *Spaces*, MoMA, New York (1970); documenta V, VII and VIII, Kassel (1972, 1982 and 1987); and *Live in Your Head: When Attitudes Become Form*, Kunsthalle Bern; Museum Haus Lange, Krefeld; and Institute of Contemporary Arts, London (1969). Recent exhibitions of Walther’s work include _Franz Erhard Walther: The Body Draws_, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle (2015); _Franz Erhard Walther_, MUDAM, Luxembourg (2015); _Franz Erhard Walther, The Body_
Decides, WIELS Centre d’Art Contemporain, Brussels (2014) and CAPC Musée d’Art Contemporain de Bordeaux (2014); and Franz Erhard Walther, Work as Action, Dia Art Foundation, New York (2010-12). Walther’s work was included in group exhibitions in Canada at a very early stage, including the Musée d’art contemporain de Montréal (1989), the Art Gallery of Hamilton (1983), the Institut d’art contemporain de Montréal and National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa (1977).


Emily Mast (born 1976 in Akron, Ohio) recently staged a solo “choreographed exhibition” called Missing Missing at La Ferme du Buisson in Noisiel, France, and an 18-part roving procession of performances based on the poetry of Joan Brossa at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). In addition, her video, installation, and performance work was part of the Hammer Museum’s Made in L.A. Biennial (2014). Mast’s performances have been exhibited at venues including: China Art Objects Galleries, Los Angeles (2015); Mona Bismarck American Center, Paris (2015); Silencio, Paris (2015); Night Gallery, Los Angeles (2014); Robert Rauschenberg Foundation Project Space, New York (2013); Public Fiction, Los Angeles (2012); REDCAT, Los Angeles (2012); MUHKA, Antwerp (2011); Human Resources, Los Angeles (2010) and Performa, New York (2009). Mast has received numerous awards including a Harpo Foundation Grant (2013), Center for Cultural Innovation Investing in Artists Grant (2013), Franklin Furnace Fund Grant (2013) and a California Community Foundation Fellowship (2012). In 2009 Mast graduated with a Masters in Fine Arts from the University of Southern California and has been an artist-in-residence at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture, the Headlands Center for the Arts in Sausalito, and Yaddo in Saratoga Springs.

Upcoming Programs and Events

PRIMARY EDUCATION SPONSOR: CIBC
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During each exhibition season, The Power Plant is committed to welcoming a diverse public to engage with the artworks as well as artists, curators and other cultural producers. Besides the gallery’s ever-popular Sunday Scene series of talks, audiences will have the chance to hear Ulla von Brandenburg speak personally about her work in an intimate Artist Talk. The Power Plant will host the first Public Reading of Franz Erhardt Walther’s drawn semi-autobiographical
novel *Dust of Stars* in English. The artist will be present at the reading, joined by other notable persons from Toronto’s arts communities. Additionally, Walther will host one of the gallery’s bi-monthly Power Kids art workshops for children and their adult companions. Last but not least, in association with Canada’s National Ballet School, gallery-goers will also be treated to an interactive *Live Dance Performance* within the gallery space that will result in the creation of a new dance work.

**OPENING PARTY**
Friday, 24 June, 8PM  
FREE, The Power Plant  
Be among the first in the city to experience the new exhibitions. Celebrate the launch of the gallery’s Summer 2016 Season in the highly anticipated Opening Party and have a chance to meet the artists. Cash bar available all evening.

**ARTIST TALK**  
Ulla von Brandenburg  
Tuesday, 21 June, 7PM  
FREE, Studio Theatre, Harbourfront Centre  
Hear artist Ulla von Brandenburg give insight into her artistic approach and speak about her exhibition at The Power Plant, *It Has a Golden Red Sun and an Elderly Green Moon.*

**PUBLIC READING**  
Franz Erhard Walther: *Dust of Stars*  
Saturday, 25 June, 1PM  
FREE, The Power Plant  
A public reading of Franz Erhard Walther’s semi-autobiographical drawn novel *Dust of Stars* – a monumental cycle of 524 sheets filled with pencil drawings and inscribed by hand – will take place for the first time in English, with the artist and other notables from the Canadian arts community present.

**POWER KIDS**  
With Franz Erhard Walther  
Sunday, 26 June, 3–5PM  
FREE, The Power Plant  
Join Franz Erhard Walther in this special Power Kids session. Tour Walther’s first solo exhibition in Canada, engage with sculpture and the institution in new ways and design your own imaginative fabric sculpture.

**LIVE PERFORMANCE**  
Arthur Stashak: *License to Disturb*  
Thursday, 21 July, 7PM  
FREE, The Power Plant  
As Franz Erhard Walther has created artworks intended to be activated in a prescribed manner so that participants become part of the art, Stashak invites
the audience to be involved in the staging of a new dance work in this live performance. Presented in association with Canada’s National Ballet School.

Full list of programs and events and further details will be available at: thepowerplant.org/ProgramsEvents.aspx

About The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery

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 though exhibitions, publications and public programming that incorporates other areas of culture when they intersect with visual art.

ADMISSION
ALL YEAR, ALL FREE
presented by BMO FINANCIAL GROUP

Providing as many people as possible with access to these programs and events remains the gallery’s top priority. The initiative leading these efforts is a renewed partnership with BMO Financial Group, whose support of the ALL YEAR, ALL FREE initiative is vital to expanding and diversifying audiences by eliminating the cost of admission to its exhibition program.

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For more information please visit:
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