

A man in a white t-shirt and dark pants is sitting on a set of concrete steps. He is leaning forward, looking at a laptop computer that is open on the steps in front of him. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a metal railing and a building.

# IN-SITE TORONTO

YZO + WT  
ART ON WIRELESS  
NETWORKS

## In-Site Toronto

Artists: Jeremy Bailey, Brian Joseph Davis, Dave Dymont, Willy Le Maitre, Fedora Romita, Swintak

Curated by Michelle Kasprzak

Produced by Year Zero One and Wireless Toronto

Media partner: Spacing

March 31 2010 - December 31 2010

In-Site Toronto is a series of newly commissioned artwork that will be presented on the portal pages of wireless internet hotspots in the Wireless Toronto network. Artists Jeremy Bailey, Brian Joseph Davis, Dave Dymont, Willy Le Maitre, Fedora Romita, and Swintak have created works that enhance how we perceive familiar places in Toronto, and comment on our contemporary online experiences. The works can be accessed by simply logging in to your free Wireless Toronto account.

## **Jeremy Bailey**

### **About the work:**

A CAPTCHA ("Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart.") is a type of challenge-response test used in computing to ensure that the response is not generated by a computer. The process usually involves asking a user to complete a simple test generated randomly by a computer. The most common type of CAPTCHA requires that the user type letters or digits from a distorted image that appears on the screen. These are often just random codes, but to help humans discern more complicated distortions, recognizable words are sometimes used. Random shapes and lines are often applied over codes to decrease the likelihood of a computer decoding them and background images are often used to complicate compositions further.

These seemingly random compositions can often bear a resemblance to works of art. For this project I have decided to exploit this tendency and have modified freely available CAPTCHA software to generate

unique, sometimes controversial, artworks. Because a computer has no ability to discern appropriate juxtapositions between words and images, inappropriate outcomes are inevitable. This work challenges the audience to interact with the computer interface in a way that transcends function, asking them instead to consider what images produced by computers might actually signify ergo, what any image might signify and how does computer interaction mediate this relationship.

**Biography:**

Jeremy Bailey is a video and performance artist whose work is often confidently self-deprecating in offering hilarious parodies of new media vocabularies. His work has been featured in numerous exhibitions and festivals internationally. He received his MFA in Art Media Studies from Syracuse University in 2006.

**Locations and credits:**

This work appears whenever a Wireless Toronto user requests a reminder of the password for their account.

## **Brian Joseph Davis**

### **Five Stories:**

Five monologues performed in the manner of radio plays. Considering where and how you're listening to them, it's a very anachronistic relationship to sound and narrative. Just go with it.

### **Biography:**

Brian Joseph Davis is an artist and writer based in Toronto. He's the author of *Portable Altamont* (Coach House), the novel *I, Tania* (ECW), and the upcoming short fiction collection, *Ronald Reagan, My Father*.

*L.A. Weekly* recently declared, "Davis has an amazing head for aural experiments—creating expansive compositions out of found sounds and computer manipulations—that are smart on paper and fascinating in execution." *Slate.com* called *I, Tania*, "The book of your fever dreams."

He is the co-founder of [Joyland.ca](http://Joyland.ca).

## **Locations and credits:**

(Harbourfront Centre)

“The Bourguignon Prize”

Written and produced by Brian Joseph Davis

Performed by Kathleen Phillips

(The Burger Bar)

“The Libertine”

Written and produced by Brian Joseph Davis

Performed by David Dineen Porter

(Alternative Grounds)

“Ordinary People”

Written and produced by Brian Joseph Davis

Performed by Rebecca Applebaum

(Woody's)

“Five Minutes To Sexy Hair”

Written and produced by Brian Joseph Davis

Performed by David Dineen Porter

(Cafe Taste)

“Bury My Heart At Tatouiune”

Written and produced by Brian Joseph Davis

Performed by David Dineen Porter

## **Dave Dymant**

### **About the work:**

Dave Dymant's piece for In-Site Toronto is a series of found texts, originally posted as boast, heresay, rumour and slander, about celebrity encounters. They were compiled from a variety of online forums, blogs and comments pages. By collecting these online texts, and then returning them to the context of the web as though fragments of found poetry, the texts both perpetuate and undermine the legends of various celebrities. The work interrogates notions of celebrity and how this has expanded vastly through online channels, generating masses of information that is both fascinating and banal.

## **Biography:**

Dave Dymant is an artist living and working in Toronto, Canada. His work encompasses audio, video, performance art, curating and writing. He has curated projects for Nuit Blanche, the winter Olympics, YYZ Artists' Outlet, Art Metropole and Mercer Union, where he was the Director of Programming and Publications for four years. In 2008 he was the artist-in-residency at the Glenfiddich Distillery in Dufftown, Scotland. His work has been exhibited in Edmonton, Ottawa, Halifax, New York City, Toronto, Philadelphia and Dublin. Examples of his sound work can be heard on the YYZ/Walter Phillips Gallery publication "Aural Cultures", and on "New Life After Fire," a collaboration with Lee Ranaldo of Sonic Youth. He is represented in Toronto by MKG 127.

## **Locations and credits:**

Teriyaki Experience - Brampton

Teriyaki Experience - Heartland Town Centre

Teriyaki Experience - Meadowvale

Teriyaki Experience - RioCan Marketplace

Teriyaki Experience - Scarborough (Eglinton)

Teriyaki Experience - Scarborough Town Centre

Teriyaki Experience - Smartcentres Morninguard

Teriyaki Experience - Smartcentres Vaughan

Teriyaki Experience - Dixie Auto Campus

## **Willy Le Maitre**

### **About the work:**

Art Drugs are ingestible objects used to induce art works within their consumers. The artworks are life size sculptures of the world. The drugs posit their consumers into a myriad of world states. When an Art Drug is ingested it augments perception, emphasizing certain attributes of their origin, description and chemical composition. While Art Drugs do alter perception, they cannot be considered psychotropic. Art Drugs are vessels for ideas that are absorbed and processed in blood and guts before entering the mind. Versions of the drugs synthesize different combinations of places and states - word events in the world's history.

dRT is an art drug designed to be taken in the city of Toronto. Samples of dRT are now available for public consumption through In-Site. The drug is derived from aggregate compounds sourced from materials originating in Toronto.

[worldinside.us](http://worldinside.us)

**Biography:**

Willy Le Maitre has created media art works since 1988. His work is oriented to video as a live form that has served as a pivot point in his collaborations with musicians, writers, and visual artists. Currently based in Toronto. His work has been presented at The New Museum, the Kitchen, FIMA in Victoriaville Quebec., ICMC and ISEA. His work has received numerous grants and awards including LIFE 3.0 in Madrid and The Telefilm Canada prize at the Images Festival, 2000, Toronto.

<http://www.w----e.net/>

## **Fedora Romita**

### **About the work:**

This piece is a recording of a collection of information and measurements describing the location that is considered to be Yonge and Dundas Square. Employing tools of measurement and descriptive strategies prevalent in both real and virtual space these observations and were taken over the course of one month. Throughout the course of this exhibition the artist will seek out participants to record their own production of her description of Yonge and Dundas Square to be included as part of the repertoire of this work. All inquiries will be warmly received at [makememeasure@gmail.com](mailto:makememeasure@gmail.com)

**Biography:**

Fedora Romita is a Toronto based interdisciplinary artist. Her practice includes performance, interactive drawing projects, video, installation and a dance/choreography collaboration. Her work concentrates on process and can be understood through its construction over time. She received her BFA from the Ontario College of Art and Design in Sculpture Installation and also participated in the Future of Idea Art residency at The Banff Centre. Her work has been included in festivals such as Nuit Blanche Toronto. She has exhibited in a Solo show at The Agnes Etherington Art Centre and Sleepwalker Projects as well as in group shows at Western Front, Xpace, YYZ Artists Outlet, Spin Gallery, Gallery 1313 and the Toronto Free Gallery.

**Locations and credits:**

Dundas Square

## **Swintak**

### **About the work:**

A series of Wanted Posters distributed through St. Lawrence Market, in both printed and online form. The posters advertise for people from specific occupations to participate in a range of unlikely, amoral, or impossible hypothetical collaborative public art projects. Intended to incite curiosity from the public, as well as to initiate critical reflection on the nature of artists working with non artists, the Wanted Poster series explores hypothetical projects that ask too much from collaborators; proposing various amoral scenarios that inevitably benefit the artist more than the non-artists involved. Several of the posters advertise for trades persons that are located within the physical location of the hotspot, linking the actual, virtual, and hypothetical. The Wanted Posters series will begin as pop-up ads and grow over time to include quick time video and/or other integrated media.

## **Biography:**

Christine Swintak is a Toronto-based visual artist who works in a number of media including performance, intervention, installation and multimedia. She has exhibited at galleries, festivals and museums across Canada and internationally. Swintak has also presented numerous independent public interventions and relational happenings in places like Amsterdam, Vancouver, Teslin, New York, Salt Lake City, Death Valley and Los Angeles. Her projects include building a full scale ship through collective improvisation, running an election party campaign for the Irish underworld, transforming a dumpster into a luxury boutique hotel, creating architectural forms from naturally occurring messes, moving almost entire cottage by hand from one location to another, attempting to give a shed a consciousness, and producing a series of impossible project proposals.

## **Locations and credits:**

St. Lawrence Market

<http://year01.com/insitetoronto>

**Supported by the Canada Council for the Arts**