

art

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MULTIMEDIA

Library love

Koffler fetes its school connection **By FRAN SCHECHTER**

WE'RE IN THE LIBRARY at the Koffler Gallery (Artscape Youngplace, 180 Shaw), to January 19. 647-925-0643. Rating: **NNNN**

At a time when libraries are (again) under attack, Koffler Gallery inaugurates its new downtown space in Artscape's classy renovation of Shaw Street Public School with a paean to the rooms' former occupant: the school library. Curator **Mona Filip** commissioned seven local artists to comment on the building's history through themes of childhood, learning, reading, language and memory.

Sara Angelucci continues her investigation of found photography by mounting gradually darkening images of early-20th-century schoolchildren in foldout books. The haunting disappearing photos are displayed on a book trolley equipped with headphones that play children's voices reading stories.

The past is also a focus for **Adam**

David Brown, whose mesmerizing revolving circle of Encyclopedia Britannica volumes channels old playground spinners. **Barbara Astman** pays tribute to the inspirational power and poetic beauty of old books, covering a wall with pages from a beloved children's natural history text that she's overlain with coloured versions of their black-and-white illustrations.

Language is a subject for **Michelle Gay**, whose digital display of computerized (mis-)translations conjures changing modes of communication as well as the struggles of immigrants (an issue echoed in Brown's chalk-dust facsimile of the Rosetta Stone), and **Ido Govrin**, whose fuzzy wall broadcasts whispered passages from authors' final works, a kind of valedictory for the printed word.

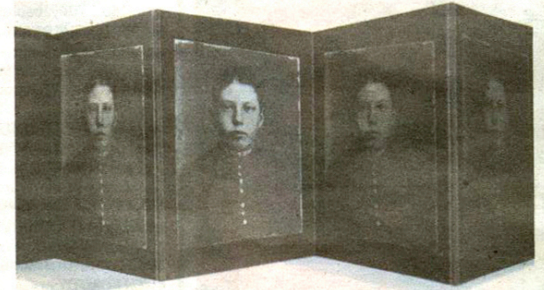


Barbara Astman's wall of pages honours the beauty of old books; Sara Angelucci combines found photography and the voices of schoolchildren.

The students of adjacent Givins-Shaw PS participated in two projects: **Vid Ingelevics** asked them to draw impressions of the 60s that might have been part of a lost mural painted at Shaw in that period, then animated them into an amusing video. In a riff on multicultural commercials, **Jon Sasaki** filmed the kids in his typical deadpan fashion; instead of enacting some kind of advertising hype, they stand around looking bored or confused.

It's a fitting debut for Koffler in the Queen West art district, showcasing some of our art scene's best and engaging the school community (a practice we hope will continue), at once looking back and forward.

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THIS WEEK IN THE MUSEUMS

ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO Aimia Photography Prize, to Jan 5. The Great Upheaval: Modern Masterpieces From The Guggenheim, to Mar 2 (\$25, stu \$16.50). Light My Fire: Portraits, to Apr 30. **Brian Jungen** and **Duane Linklater**, to Jun 15. \$19.50, srs \$16, stu \$11, free Wed 6-8:30 pm (special exhibits excluded). 317 Dundas W. 416-979-6648.

BATA SHOE MUSEUM Out Of The Box: The Rise Of Sneaker Culture, to Mar 30. \$14, srs \$12, stu \$8. 327 Bloor W. 416-979-7799.

CITY OF TORONTO ARCHIVES Life On The Grid: 100 Years Of Street Photography, to May 31. 255 Spadina Rd. 416-397-0778.

DESIGN EXCHANGE Playing Favourites II: Geometry (Textures), to Jan 3. 100% TobeUs: 100 Cars, to Feb 9 (free, todesignoffsite.com). \$10, stu/srs \$8. 234 Bay. 416-363-6121.

DORIS MCCARTHY GALLERY You Cannot Kill What Is Already Dead, to Jan 25. 1265 Military Trail. 416-287-7007.

GARDINER MUSEUM Nurielle Stern: The Art

Of The Everyday: Faience In 17th And 18th Century France, to Jan 5. Animal Stories, to Jan 12. \$12, stu \$6, srs \$8; Fri 4-9 pm half-price, 30 and under free. 111 Queen's Park. 416-586-8080.

JUSTINA M. BARNICKE Something More Than A Succession Of Notes, to Dec 20. **Céline Condorelli**, ongoing. 7 Hart House. 416-978-8398.

McMICHAEL CANADIAN ART Kim Dorland, to Jan 5. **Karine Giboulo**, to Jan 26. \$15, stu/srs \$12. 10365 Islington (Kleinburg). 905-893-1121.

MOCCA David Cronenberg: Transformations; Through The Eye, to Dec 29. 952 Queen W. 416-395-0067.

OAKVILLE GALLERIES **Sonny Assu** (Centennial Sq, 120 Navy); A Noble Line (Gairloch Gdns, 1306 Lakeshore E), to Feb 16. 905-844-4402.

ONTARIO SCIENCE CENTRE BioART: Contemporary Art And The Life Sciences, to Feb 2. \$20, stu/srs \$16. 770 Don Mills. 416-696-1000.

POWER PLANT More Than Two; Micah Lexier, to Jan 5. 231 Queens Quay W.

416-973-4949.

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM Mesopotamia: Inventing Our World, to Jan 5 (\$27, srs/stu \$24.50; Fri after 4:30 pm \$23, srs/stu \$20). **Raja Deen Dayal**, to Jan 12. BIG, to Jan 26. Carbon 14: Climate Is Culture, to Feb 2. Wildlife Photographer Of The Year, to Mar 23. \$15, stu/srs \$13.50; Fri 4:30-8:30 pm \$9, stu/srs \$8. 100 Queen's Park. 416-586-8000.

TEXTILE MUSEUM Ancestry And Artistry: Maya Textiles From Guatemala, to Jan 12. **Heather Goodchild** and **Jérôme Havre**, to Apr 13. Telling Stories, to Apr 13. \$15, srs \$10, stu \$6; pwyc Wed 5-8 pm. 55 Centre. 416-599-5321.

U OF T ART CENTRE Framing Narratives: Renaissance To Modernism, to Mar 8. 15 King's College Circle. 416-978-1838.

VARLEY Moving Side And Forward: Collection of York U; Excavations, to Jan 12. \$5, stu/srs \$4. 216 Main (Unionville). 905-477-9511.



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