

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art presents

ARENA: Road Game

Roderick Buchanan, James Carl, Scott Conarroe, Michael Davey, Thierry Delva, Greg Forrest, Jean-Pierre Gauthier, Chris Hanson and Hendrika Sonnenberg, Wanda Koop, Tim Lee, Craig Le Blanc, Jason McLean, Leah Modigliani, Charles Pachter, Graeme Patterson, Ron Terada, Diana Thorneycroft, and Colleen Wolstenholme.

Organized and circulated by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

September 10 – November 1, 2009

Opening reception: Thursday, September 10, 7 – 10 p.m.

Toronto, August 26, 2009 - The Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art (MOCCA) is pleased to present ***ARENA: Road Game***, a travelling exhibition organized and circulated by the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. ***ARENA*** examines Canada's fascination with the game of hockey. Using the game as a starting point, the exhibition explores hockey within the wider context of ideas and issues related to contemporary culture.

The exhibition includes works in diverse media such as video projection, sculpture, installation, painting, printmaking and photography and features some of Canada's leading contemporary artists: Sobey Art Award winners Jean-Pierre Gauthier and Tim Lee, established artists such as Wanda Koop and James Carl, and others at varying stages of practice such as Greg Forrest and Graeme Patterson, and international artists Hanson+ Sonnenberg, and Roderick Buchanan.

The works in *ARENA* investigate the construction of such concepts as hero-worship, desire, sacrifice, and the sublimation of violence in the creation of group identity through sport. Sub-themes include the culture of spectacle in Western society, the role of sport in the creation of male identity, and the role of athletes as screens for the projection of desire and aspiration. Pathos, humour, reverence, irreverence, competitiveness and team spirit are all elements of the works that will be on display.

Thanks to the generous support of the Hal Jackman Foundation, visitors can view *ARENA: Road Game* until 9 p.m. every Thursday and Friday evening for the duration of the exhibition.

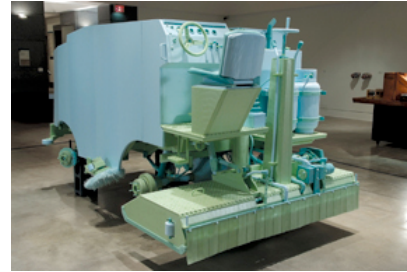
All programs and activities of the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art are supported by Toronto Culture, the Ontario Arts Council, BMO Financial Group, individual memberships and private donations.

Press Ready Images + Captions

The following press ready images are available for download from our website. Please email Fayiaz Chunara at fchunara@moCCA.ca for access.



James Carl
The Original Six, 1998
 Corrugated plastic
 Collection of the artist
 © James Carl



Chris Hanson + Hendrika Sonnenberg
Zamboni, 2005
 Polystyrene
 Collection of Nyehaus, New York
 © Chris Hanson + Hendrika Sonnenberg



Charles Pachter
Hockey Knights in Canada, 1984.
 Collection of the artist.
 © Charles Pachter



Jean-Pierre Gauthier
Nul/Flirting with the Puck (detail), 2008.
 Courtesy of the artist.
 © Jean-Pierre Gauthier
 Photo Credit: Carlton Parker



Greg Forrest
Anything Else is a Compromise, 2004
 Bronze
 Collection of Andrew Danyliw
 © Greg Forrest



Tim Lee
Untitled (No.4, 1970), 2008.
 Courtesy of the artist.
 © Tim Lee