

**INSTANT COFFEE**

**Artist Collective**



## Instant Coffee Bio

Instant Coffee [IC] is a service oriented curatorial and artist collective based in Toronto and Vancouver. Instant Coffee developed, in part, as a response to the division and exaggerated difference between studio and exhibition practice. Through formal installations and event-based activities, IC builds a public place to practice, where ideas, materials and actions can be explored outside of the isolated studio and in a manner that renegotiates traditional exhibition structures, but is still supported by them.

Instant Coffee has an extensive art practice, spanning over ten years. As an artist collective Instant Coffee has been invested in combining the social with the aesthetic, and as such have worked in public spaces to engage large audiences. They have shown internationally and have exhibited in many prominent art institutions as well as produced numerous Public Art projects. Instant Coffee recently produced three installation/performance projects, *Puff Puff*, *The Hero and The Villan* and *Take the Easy Way*. In 2012 two wall murals, *Perpetual Sunset*, a sequin sunset and *Blanket Mural* a sculptural wall mural for the City of Edmonton. Also in 2012 a colourful environment for the Southhill Community in Vancouver. As part of the City of Vancouver's Cultural Olympic programme, the Collective opened *Light Bar* a full-spectrum light bar installation and venue for light therapy, light lectures, light shows, light reading and light rock. In 2009 Instant Coffee exhibited the *Disco Fallout Shelter*, at the Toronto Sculpture Garden, and as part of Subvision, Hamburg; *Nooks* as part of How Soon is Now, Vancouver Art Gallery; Light Bar as part of Assume Nothing, New So-

cial Practice, Art Gallery of Greater Victoria; *Bright Future* as part of 88 Blocks Art on Main a Public Art Commission by Translink. Other residencies and exhibitions include, Artist In Residence, Sølyst, Denmark, *Light Bar* Research and Residency, Hotel Maria Kapel, The Netherlands, Kuenstlerhaeuser Worpswede, Germany, Flaggfabrikken Kunsthall, Bergen, Norway; *If You Lived Here You'd Be Home By Now*, Henry Art Gallery, Seattle; *Wish You Were Here*, Casa del Encuentro MDE07 encuentro internacional, Medellin, Colombia. Instant Coffee's current members are Jinhan Ko, Kelly Lycan, Khan Lee, and Jenifer Papararo.

Instant Coffee 2014



## Perpetual Sunset

80.5'w x 36' h x 4"d, reflective mylar disks, dibond, plastic pins, aluminum frame, Richmond BC, 2012.

Instant Coffee's shimmering mural Perpetual Sunset fills a west-facing wall, the mural made of nearly 40,000 individual reflective coloured sequins is designed to catch the natural light, most directly echoing the setting sun. This romantic gesture to portray, capture and stay the majesty of the sunset is an attempt to encapsulate a general appreciation for this natural happening, which begets an almost ritualistic representation of it. Instant Coffee builds on this shared infatuation of the sunset and the need to represent this every day event, but also wants to rival this desire by portraying it on a grand scale while simultaneously extending its physical properties. The sun rises and sets everyday, yet each occurrence is exceptional. How can something so familiar incite such awe?

- Commissioned by Camino condo development, Richmond, BC. Budget 148,000
- Permanent installation, very low maintenance required.



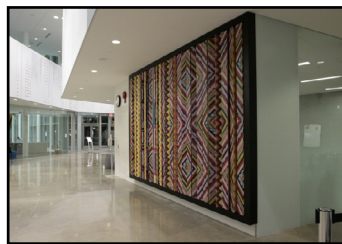
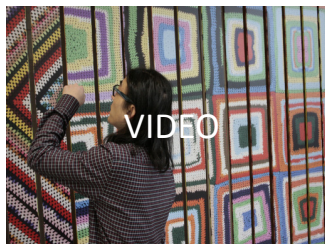


## Instant Coffee Blanket Sculpture

16'w x 9.5'h, steel, aluminum, laminated ink jet photo, Edmonton, Alberta 2012.

The completed sculpture consists of a heavy aluminum frame and triangular substrate panels where three separate photographs have been mounted mimicking common advertising boards or hand operated puzzle or coloured abstraction. Each panel can be turned individually. Three separate photographs of afghan blankets were chosen locally for their colour, design as well as other sentimental values yet still integrating Instant Coffee's own detritus and flashy aesthetics.

- Commissioned by the City of Edmonton for Commonwealth Recreation Centre. Budget 40,000
- The duration for this public art is about 10 years.





**Instant Coffee: The hero, the villain, the salesman, the parent, a sidekick and a servant.** Curated by Melanie O'brian. SFU Teck Gallery Vancouver, BC. 2013

The curtain closed on the hour every hour for 45 seconds.

This installation operates as a stage or set for social framing and interaction. Testing the highly trafficked Teck Gallery as a site for socially engaged contemporary art projects, the installation blurs the lines between the work, participants and audience. The hero, the villain, the salesman, the parent, a sidekick and a servant considers theatrical histories and the title evokes stock characters in Victorian melodramas. The work will treat Teck Gallery as the public site that it is, allowing for myriad social activities and configurations to play out within its framework over time.



## Instant Coffee Light Bar

HMK, Hoorn, NL (Nov-Dec 2011) + Light Bar as part of *Bright Light*, Winter Olympic Games (Feb-Mar. 2010) + Light Bar part of *Assume Nothing: New Social Practice*, curated by Lisa Baldissera @ Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, BC (Jan-March 2009)

This installation was an elaborate and somewhat controlled setting for Light Therapy, Light Lectures, readings on Light, and Light Workshops. The open ended research and resulting installation doubled as a space where audience members were invited to simply hang out or participate as subjects of therapy, answering research questions, as well as enjoying the benefits of various light installations/therapy.

- IC Light Bar is a project commissioned by Vancouver Winter Olympic and Paralympic Public Art Program, an artist run centre and a contemporary art institution.





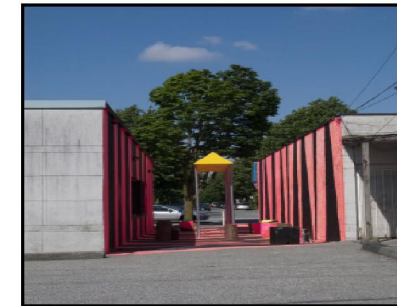


## Nothing Happens in Good Weather

Alley 16' w x 80' L, fluorescent paint, wooden stumps, Vancouver BC, 2012

The South Hill neighbourhood of Vancouver is identified as one of under served, Instant Coffee artist collective was asked to create a design or a public work to address possible urban plights while galvanizing the community for more actions. The under-used and neglected alley way has been activated by colour and movable stumps. Numerous activities now take place in the alley, : photo shoots, skate boarding, music videos, picnics, and waiting for something to happen.

- Commissioned by Other Sights for Artists' Projects and the South Hill BIA Public Art Committee. Budget 35,000.
- Duration for this public art is 2 years.







## Instant Coffee Disco Fallout Shelter DFS

Variable dimensions, metal, brick, mirror tile, video and sound system, Subvision Art Festival, Hamburg, Germany & Toronto Sculpture Garden, Toronto, ON, 2009

Instant Coffee's DFS is a glitzed-up and powder coated re-articulation of the prolific and often makeshift mid-twentieth century places built from fear. A brightly coloured pathway leads to the shelter's sparkling entrance where a low bass beat can be heard from the dance music being played inside. At the end of the path is a small viewing kiosk containing a pre recorded video feed of Instant Coffee members playing records, eating spaghetti, dancing, reading, sleeping and just hanging out in the tight confines and under the protective barrier of shelter. At play here is the tenuous relationship between this exclusive lifesaving hideaway, the nature of the collective as being selective, and the viewing kiosk where those outside can only observe and imagine what is really happening inside.

- This installation was commissioned by the Toronto Sculpture Garden, a partnership between the City of Toronto, which owns and operates it as a city park, and the Louis L. Odette family, who created a non-profit foundation to fund the exhibitions. DFS was also commissioned by Subvision Arts Festival in Hamburg, Germany. Budget 20,000.
- In Toronto the DFS was open to the public for 6 months, the grass grew very long, in Hamburg it was up for 2 weeks.



## Bright Future

Four public art works for 88 blocks Art on Main—a public art program for the Main Street corridor, Vancouver, BC, 2009

Bright Future comprised a suite of temporary and permanent public artworks. The temporary were installed on three articulated trolley buses and a bus shelter on Main Street. **Blanket Bus** completely wrapped an articulated trolley in five different crocheted afghan blanket patterns. Inside of a second trolley artworks commissioned by artists from North, Central and South America and Europe were displayed in place of the usual commercial advertisements the public were invited to text vote for their favourite artwork inside the bus. **Instant Coffee Light Bar Bus Shelter** was an installation in a bus shelter on Main Street which provides the public with S.A.D. light therapy while waiting for the bus. **Say Nothing in Bright Colours** entailed seven brightly painted sandwich boards bearing hand-painted slogans installed on the sidewalk .

- Public Art Commissioned by Translink and the City of Vancouver. Budget 42,000
- The duration of this public art was 6 months to 1 year.



## References

### Rina Greer

Art consultant and Director  
Toronto Sculpture Garden  
38 Avenue Road, Suite 713  
Toronto, Ontario M5R 2G2  
416.515.9658

### Maureen Smith, Principal

id ä Public Art Consulting  
955 West 19th Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 1X6  
604.731.3879

### Kristy Trinier

Public Art Director Edmonton Arts Council  
ktrinier@edmontonarts.ca  
10440-108 Avenue  
Edmonton, AB T5H 3Z9  
780.424.2787 ext 222

### Marianne Bos

Project Manager  
Bright Light, Olympic Project 2010  
720 E. Pender St.  
Vancouver BC V6A 1V7  
778.895.3766

### Caitlin Jones

Western Front Society Executive Director  
303 East 8th Avenue  
Vancouver BC V5T 1S1  
604.876.9343

### Barbara Cole

Executive Director Other Sights for Artists' Projects  
Principal, Cole Projects Public Art Consulting and Curating  
barbara@othersights.ca  
604 254 5598



## Instant Coffee Artist Collective CV

### 2014

- **Instant Coffee: Station Square Project, Permanent Public Commission, Burnaby , BC**
- **Instant Coffee: Pink Noise, Kamloops Art Gallery, Kamloops, BC**

### 2013

- **Instant Coffee: Take the Easy Way, MKG127, Toronto**
- **Instant Coffee: The hero, the villain, the salesman, the parent, a side kick and a servant, Teck Gallery, SFU, Vancouver**
- **IC Bunker Project, Incheon Art Platform, Incheon, South Korea**
- **Works on Paper, BigodinoFont Studio, Berlin, Germany**

### 2012

- **Good News Issue #5**, as part of Institutions by Artist: The Convention, Vancouver, BC
- **Perpetual Sunset**, public commission for the Camino Development, Richmond, BC
- **Wallpaper and Silkscreens**, Asian Pacific Business Association, Vancouver, BC
- **Bild N Sound**, a video and music event co-curated with Bernd Milla, Goethe Satellite @ Vancouver
- **Nothing Happens in Good Weather**, Commissioned by Other Sights for Artists' Projects and the South Hill BIA Public Art Committee.
- **Blanket Sculpture** public art commission as part of Northwest Community Centre, Edmonton AB
- **Feeling So Much Yet Doing So Little**, a retrospective installation and series of events featuring over 25 artists, curators, designers and musicians, Western Front, Vancouver, BC

### 2011

- **Light Bar**, an installation and three week series of events, HMK, Hoorn, Netherland
- **When Bored We Reserve the Right to Do Nothing**, as part of New Forms Festival 11, Vancouver, BC
- **There is no Romance in Taking a Risk**, MKG127, Toronto, ON.
- **Instant Coffee: Slogans**, Museum of Longing and Failure, Bergen, Norway
- **Good News Issue#3**, The FAIR, Vancouver, BC

### 2010

- **Good News Issue #2** with the Western front for No Soul For Sale, 2nd Edition, at the Tate Modern, London, UK

- **Good News Issue #1** as part of Astronomical Frontiers, Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Light Bar** a two month project of events featuring local and international artists, academics and musicians as part of Bright Light, Olympic and Paralympic Public Art Program, Vancouver
- **Urban Disco Trailer**, International Chilliwack Biennial, Chilliwack BC

### 2009

- **A Bright Future**, a public art commission as part of 88 BLOCKS/ Art on Main, part of the Main Street Urban Transportation Showcase project, jointly funded by Transport Canada, TransLink and the City of Vancouver
- **Assume Nothing: New Social Practice**, curated by Lisa Baldissera, with Superflex, Mowry Baden, Harrell Fletcher and others @ Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, BC
- **How Soon is Now** a group exhibition, Vancouver Art Gallery, BC
- **Disco Fallout Shelter @ Toronto Sculpture Garden**
- **Sum Up**, curated by SparwasserHQ with Vinyl Terror & Horror, Detroit Tree and the Ykon World Game, Subvision-Kunst-Festival, Hamburg
- **Sølyst** Artist in Residence Centre, Jyderup, Denmark

### 2008

- **Say Nothing in Bright Colours**, MKG127, Toronto
- **School of Non-Productive Learning**, including Instant Coffee, Manoa Free University, Stockyard Institute, Alexander Vaindorf @ Rum46, Aarhus, Denmark
- Residency and series of Workshop, Kuenstlerhaeuser Worpswede, Germany
- Light Workshop and Events, Flaggfabrikken/Bergen Kunsthall, Bergen, Norway
- **What We Bring to the Table**, a group exhibition, Oakville Galleries, Oakville, On.

### 2007

- **Pattern Theory**, a group exhibition, MKG127, Toronto, ON
- **Nooks + Everyone**, Mercer Union Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- **If You Lived Here You'd Be Home By Now**, a Henry Art Gallery Satellite, Seattle
- **Happy Birthday & Friendly Greetings**, MKG127, Toronto
- **MDE07 encuentro internacional** Casa del Encuentro, Medellin, Colombia

- **Romance Posters Launch**, Art Metropole, Toronto
- **Disco Ball Diorama**, York Quay Centre, Harbourfront, Toronto
- **Common Threads**, group exhibition, Confederation Centre, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island (Jun 2007) + Illingworth Kerr Gallery, AB

## 2006

- **Live Wallpaper**, Lobby Gallery, Vancouver, BC
- **Dark Hart/Disko Sauna**, collaborative installation with FASTWURMS, Hart House University of Toronto as part of Nuit Blanche, Toronto
- **Instant Coffee Rest Stop**, as part of CARMADA mobile Performance organized by Sonja Vordaimer, Los Angeles, CA.
- **Peer Pleasure I**: Instant Coffee, Royal Art Lodge and Space 1026, a group show of collectives curated by Rene de Guzman, Yerba Buena Centre for the Arts, San Francisco
- **Wrong Gallery Edition #125** a group exhibition, Lobby Gallery, Vancouver
- **Welcome to The Limelight** a group exhibition, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York
- **One is Never Enough**, Or Gallery, Vancouver

## 2005

- **Instant Coffee Spring Sale**, Paul Petro Multiples, Toronto (Dec 2005)
- **Year of Perfect Days**, a two month installation and series of events, Sparwasser HQ, Berlin
- **Instant Coffee + Everyone: UDT02 Crushing and its subsequent events**, Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art, Toronto, ON
- **UDT.05 @ TAKING PLACE**, a series cultural investigations and events organized by Red 76 Portland, Oregon.
- **UDT.05** as part of Year of Perfect Days, a series of exhibitions and events, FUSE, Vancouver Art Gallery
- **Instant Coffee: Presentables**, Hoffmann's House, Santiago, Chile
- **Instant Coffee: BASS BED** exhibition and Reading Room, 69 Pender
- **Instant Coffee Book Launch: Success and Recovery**, Gladstone Hotel, Toronto

## 2004

- **Printables**. San Juan Triennial, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- **Sorry We're Open**. Southern Exposure, San Francisco
- **BASS BED**, Urban Disco Trailer as part of Hive Magazine Launch
- **Urban Disco Trailer #1** Outdoor Screening as part of Splice This Super 8 Festival, Toronto
- **Instant Coffee Make Out Party**: Second-Base, featuring work by Darren O'Donnell, Adrian Blackwell, Simone Moir, Emily Hogg, Laura Borealis. Gladstone Hotel, Toronto

- **Instant Coffee: Stencils**, featuring stencil designs by Acamonchi, Michael Barker, Cecilia Berkovic, Michael Buckland, James Carl, Kelly Coats, Timothy Comeau, Dave Dymont, Fastwurms, Jill Henderson, Instant Coffee, Luis Jacob, Jinhan Ko, Nestor Kruger, Colleen Langford, Kate Monro, Will Munro, Richard Moszka + Juan Pablo Garcia, Jade Rude, Jon Sasaki, Kika Thorne, and Holly Ward; launch at Art Metropole, Toronto

## 2003

- **Concept Album: Mexican Pop Videos**, I.C. curated a video programme featuring the work of Gabriel Acevedo (GAP), Andrea Ferreira, Ximena Cuevas, Miguel Calderon, Yoshua Okon, Galia Eibenschutz, Alexis Zabe, Ilian Gonzalez, Pedro "Zulu" Gonzalez, Sylvia Gruner, Renato Ornelas, Xavier Rodriguez; Centro de la Imagen, Mexico City
- **Triple X**, Jin's Banana House curated by Instant Coffee, Natural Light Window, Toronto
- **Make Out Party**, one night event with an intervention by Emily Hogg and a performance by Darren O'Donnell, Revival, Toronto
- **8th Habana Biennial**, I.C. curated a video including work by General Idea, Kika Thorne, Kevin Schmitt, Jinhan Ko, and Jon Sasaki as part of 4D, organized by the artist collective RAIN, Cuban Pavilion, Havana
- **Get Social or Get Lost**, a five day series of events curated by Instant Coffee and The Americas Society including a launch of Instant Coffee: Stencils at Printed Matter; Alchemy and Mysticism: a Painting Show at Momenta Art, Brooklyn; video screening of IC video programme at Participants Inc. and public discussion with 16 Beaver Group as part of AS A Satellite for the Americas Society, New York
- **2nd.Tirana Biennial**, launch of Instant Coffee Multiple and slide show/video screening inside the Urban Disco Trailer #4; Tirana, Albania
- **Psychotopes**, a group exhibition curated by Markus Muller, YYZ Artist Outlet, Toronto, ON
- **CAFKA.03** [probing into the distance] Contemporary Art Forum Kitchener & Area, Kitchener, ON.
- **Alchemy and Mysticism**, a salon style painting show in the UDT #1 featuring 60 artists in conjunction with the launch of HIVE magazine #2, Toronto.
- **Sound Tracks**, a traveling exhibition curated by Barbarba Fischer and Catherine Crowston. Edmonton Art Gallery, Edmonton (Jun2003), The Blackwood Gallery (Oct 2003), Toronto and Mackenzie Art Gallery, Regina (Feb 2004), The Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa (Oct 2004)
- **Urban Disco Trailer: Tireless DJ**, as part of Splice This Super 8 Festival, Toronto
- **Mediatheque**, as part of SOURCE in conjunction with the 16th annual IMAGES Festival, Toronto
- **Front Room**, a group exhibition Map Gallery, Toronto
- **The I.A.E.** (International Arts Group Expo) Portland, Oregon; an exhibition organized by Red76
- **Instant Coffee: January Show**, premiering UDC and other Instant Coffee products + a slide show by artists: 21 artists, Zsa Zsa, Toronto
- **Caffeine Screens**: The Instant Coffee Screensaver Show. Launch of a CD-ROM of 40 artist projects by 34 artists. Ontario College of Art And Design, Toronto



## 2002

- **Instant Coffee: On a Stick**, featuring Instant Coffee Products + Launch of Caffeine Screens, Helen Pitt Gallery, Vancouver
- **TEKKO 02**. an exhibition of 7 wall murals designed by 7 national and international renowned designers and design firms curated by Stephen Crowhurst and sponsored by Instant Coffee @ MOCCA, Toronto
- **Re-launch of T-Shirt Catalog**, intervention at the Power Plant, Toronto during the opening of their 2002 summer exhibitions, Bounce and In Through the Out Door
- **Splice This + Instant Coffee + The Urban Disco Trailer** presenting outdoor super 8 film projection: Friendly Fire, Splice This Super 8 Film Festival, Toronto
- **Instant Coffee + The Urban Disco Trailer**; IC curated a video collection for REHAB, Cadillac Lounge, Toronto
- **The Photo Show @ the Urban Disco Trailer** in the parking lot behind 101 Niagara St, Toronto (May 2002) • **The Urban Disco Trailer**, I.C.presents an outdoor video screening for IMAGES film/video festival @ Steamwhistle Brewery, Toronto
- **Concept Album**: Mexican Pop Videos curated by Instant\_Coffee presented by Pleasure Dome, @ Cinecycle, Toronto
- **UDC and Friends** an Instant Coffee Project featuring media work of over 40 Mexican and Canadian Artists, Galeria Garash, Mexico City

## 2001

- **making leads to nothing** video screening, curated by Jenifer Papararo + Instant Coffee, La Panaderia, Mexico City, Mexico
- **A-Level Anniversary Show**, A-Level Gallery, Toronto
- **Slides and T-Shirt Catalog launch** including the work of over 50 national artists.
- **Instant Coffee, Jin's Banana House and UDT**, as part of D.O.P.E., a performance conference, SAW Gallery, Ottawa
- **Year 01: Pixel Plunder + the Urban Disco Trailer**; Web-launch @ Workplace, Toronto
- **The Soft Show and The Urban Disco Trailer** a group exhibition, **Oasis**, Liane and Danny Taran Gallery in the Saidye Bronfman Centre, Montreal
- **Instant Salon**, an informal screening of Mexico City video artists, as part of a residency programme @ Centro De la Imagen, Mexico City (Jun
- **Cock Rock**, exhibition featuring visual work and music by Andrew Scott, Laura Borealis and Rick White. An Instant Coffee Project @ Workplace, Toronto
- **waiting room**, video program featuring the work by Jin's Banana House curated by Instant Coffee and Emma Budgen. The Physics Room, Christchurch, New Zealand
- **TEKKO 01**, I.C. curated exhibition of 7 designers and 14 posters on the non client-based thematic, Instant Coffee curated by Stephen Crowhurst. Work by Buro Destruct (Switzerland), The Test Pilot Collective (US), Skilla (Canada), 1000km design buro (Canada), Planet Pixel (Germany), Hauswork (Canada), Dumb-Unit (Canada).
- **Being and Nothingness**, curated by Rosemary Heather featuring work by Holly Ward, Fergal Stapleton and SiSi Penalozza. An Instant Coffee Project, Workplace, Toronto (Apr 2001).

Instant Coffee  
109-2416 Main Street  
Vancouver, BC V5T 3E2  
us@instantcoffee.org  
www.instantcoffee.org  
604 727 1796 • 604 339 5379