

# koffler gallery

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Koffler Gallery presents *Erratics* featuring archive-based installations by novelist Martha Baillie and artist/curator Malka Greene with writer Alan Resnick

Toronto, ON, March 19, 2015 – The Koffler Gallery opens its Spring 2015 season at its downtown home at Artscape Youngplace, 180 Shaw Street, Toronto, with *Erratics*. The exhibition runs from April 16 to June 14, 2015, opening with a free public reception on Thursday, April 16, from 6 to 9 PM.

Curated by Koffler Gallery Director/Curator **Mona Filip**, *Erratics* explores the tensions between memory and fiction by bringing together two archives where photography takes a central role in an attempt to uncover hidden narratives. Staged as museological displays conveying two personal stories, these collections of images, texts and records reveal both the impossibility of fully knowing the past and the effectiveness of literary imagination in grappling with history.

Toronto author **Martha Baillie** adds further layers to her most recent book, *The Search for Heinrich Schlägel*, through a multi-media installation. In Baillie's hypnotic novel, an archivist seeks the truth about Schlägel's life through letters, documents and photographs providing glimpses into his journey from a small German town to exploring the Canadian North and finding himself lost in time. Over six hundred postcards, voice recordings and a musical composition created by Nic Gotham give material substance to Baillie's literary plot that addresses our fraught relationship to the historic past.

In *His Father Over Time*, Toronto artist and curator **Malka Greene** mines a store of materials belonging to the late Dr. Morris Resnick – a World War II reconnaissance photographer who also avidly documented his life and times. Similar to an archivist, Greene pieces together the threads of this private story, working with television writer and satirist **Alan Resnick**, Morris's son. Resnick explores his relationship with his father and family through the process and responds with a personal series of texts. Where information may lack or memories fail to fill the gaps over time, fiction takes over.

*Erratics* is a Featured Exhibition in the 2015 Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival.

For more information and a full list of the Koffler's Spring 2015 programs, please visit [kofflerarts.org](http://kofflerarts.org)

**Regular exhibition hours:** Tuesday to Friday, 12 PM to 6 PM; Saturday and Sunday, 11 AM to 5 PM. Closed Mondays, statutory holidays and May 6. Admission is free.

The Koffler Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of the **Toronto Arts Council**, the **Ontario Arts Council**, and the **Canada Council for the Arts**.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Martha Baillie** is the author of five novels, including *The Search for Heinrich Schlägel*, a *Globe and Mail* Top 100 book for 2014. Her previous, *The Incident Report*, was nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, was a *Globe and Mail* Top 100 book for 2009 and is being adapted into a screenplay. She has written about contemporary visual art for *Brick* magazine and other publications. Baillie studied at the University of Edinburgh, the Sorbonne in Paris and at the University of Toronto. She lives and works in Toronto. ([marthabaillie.ca](http://marthabaillie.ca))

**Malka Greene** is an artist and independent curator with a particular interest in photography and new media. Her work explores many themes, including history, relationships, connections and the grey areas between the known and the unknowable. Malka's work is included in several private collections and publications, including *Flava: Wedge Curatorial Projects (1997-2007)* and *Chart* magazine. She holds a BFA (Hons.) in New Media with an English Literature minor from Ryerson University and a Diploma

(Hons.) in Applied Photography from Sheridan College. She is on the Board of Directors of Gallery TPW and is based in Toronto.

**Alan Resnick** is a TV Comedy Writer who has written for live action and animation. He has won three Gemini Awards and was an original writer on *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* (CBC). Whether on television or in his literary blog *Welcome to Kafkaville (Pop. 1)*, Resnick explores the nuance of relationship, themes of love and loss, using off-beat humour and satire. He was born in Ottawa and he currently lives and works in Toronto.

### **KOFFLER CENTRE OF THE ARTS**

The Koffler Centre of the Arts is a Jewish cultural organization that presents a cross-disciplinary, contemporary arts program that encourages inquiry and exploration. We promote an inter-cultural dialogue that engages our Jewish identity with diverse perspectives and global voices. The Koffler Gallery and its administrative offices are located at Artscape Youngplace, in Toronto's vibrant downtown West Queen West art and design district.

Koffler Centre of the Arts acknowledges the support of the Koffler Family Foundation, UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, Cultural Season Sponsor CIBC Wood Gundy, the Ontario Arts Council through the Community and Multidisciplinary Arts Organizations Program, our patrons and donors.

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**For further information and high resolution images, contact:**

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