



## FIBRED OPTICS

Frances Dorsey  
Jérôme Havre  
Ed Pien  
Michèle Provost

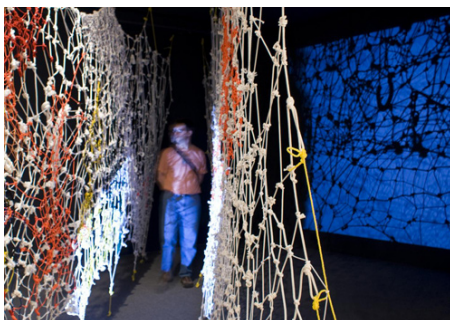
Guest Curator: Andrea Fatona

SUPPORTED BY



**Richmond Art Gallery**  
**June 24 – August 28, 2011**  
**Opening: Thursday June 23 at 7pm**

Richmond Art Gallery is pleased to present, *Fibred Optics* a contemporary textiles exhibition previously shown at the Ottawa Art Gallery in 2009. Guest curated by Andrea Fatona, *Fibred Optics* features four artists whose work incorporates natural and synthetic fibres, old and new technologies, and methodologies from the world of craft and contemporary art. Produced through laborious processes of knotting, stitching, and weaving, the works in this exhibition invite viewers to contemplate the ways in which multi-sensory information can be sutured and layered to produce meaning about the worlds we inhabit. Each artist uses fibre — a three-dimensional, quotidian material — to produce and transmit individual and collective narratives that are at once coherent and fragmented, visible and invisible.



Frances Dorsey works with textile as a way to weave together personal memories and marginalized histories, thus illuminating local and global concerns. Drawing largely from her experience of living in Saigon, Dorsey's large-scale work functions as an imaginative reconstruction emerging more from memory than from history.



Jérôme Havre's toy-like, soft-nylon mythical sculptures are reminiscent of Yinka Shonibare's aliens. These fantastical patchwork sculptures encourage the viewer to reflect on the 'us' and 'them' divide, acts of suturing, as well as processes of synthesis and hybridity.

1. Frances Dorsey
2. Jerome Havre,
3. Ed Pien
4. Michele Provost

Constructed from ropes, video, and drawing, Ed Pien's walkthrough installation *The Corridor* (2009) creates a sense of movement, journey, containment and exchange. Comprised of two net-like curtains of knotted and layered coloured rope, the installation transforms spectators into participants as they journey through its network.

Michèle Provost's *ABSTRACTS/RéSuMÉS* humorously convert writing from art magazines and curatorial essays into visual art. By painstakingly appropriating texts from their original sources, and meticulously stitching and stamping the borrowed textual codes on to fabric and paper, Provost creates Dadaist visual and sound poetry that begs the viewer to consider how coherence is produced in an era of globalization.

The following artists will be in attendance at the opening reception:  
Frances Dorsey, Jérôme Havre, Ed Pien and Guest Curator, Andrea Fatona.

City of Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie will also be in attendance.

Richmond Art Gallery would like to thank the **Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel** for their generous support. The Richmond Art Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of the City of Richmond, the British Columbia Arts Council and the Province of British Columbia.

#### EXHIBITION RELATED PROGRAMMING

##### **Free Drop-in Knitting & Stitching Circles**

##### **Fridays in July & August, 3–5pm**

Drop-in to the Art Gallery with your knitting, crocheting, embroidery or other textile projects. Bring your own materials and tools, and join us for a weekly session! Anyone from novice to the seasoned stitching-pro are welcome.

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

**Frances Dorsey** was educated at the Ontario College of Art and Design at the University of Michigan. She now lives in Halifax where she maintains her studio and teaches at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

[www.francesdorsey.com](http://www.francesdorsey.com)

**Jérôme Havre** studied at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts in Paris. He was awarded three scholarships that enabled him to pursue different art practices: silk printing techniques New York, Printing techniques in Barcelona and painting and video in Berlin.

[www.foreignbodies.org/jeromehavre](http://www.foreignbodies.org/jeromehavre)

**Ed Pien** received his BFA from University Western Ontario and MFA from York University. Among his extensive exhibition history Pien has exhibited at the Drawing Centre, New York; La Biennale de Montréal; Centro Nacional de las Artes, Mexico City; The Goethe Institute, Berlin; Bizart, Shanghai; and the National Art Gallery of Canada. His work is included in numerous public and private collections, including the Fine Arts Museum in Montreal, Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the National Art Gallery of Canada. Pien teaches part-time in the Visual Studies Department at the University of Toronto.

[www.edpien.com](http://www.edpien.com)

Born in Montreal **Michèle Provost** is a long time resident of the Ottawa area, where she first studied and worked as a parliamentary translator before digressing in to visual arts. Her labour intensive artwork, which encompasses various improvised media, is part of several private and public collections, including those of the Cities of Ottawa and Gatineau, The Canada Council Art Bank and the Ottawa Art Gallery and has been featured in numerous group and solo exhibitions across Canada.

# Richmond Art Gallery Press Kit

[www.richmondartgallery.org](http://www.richmondartgallery.org)  
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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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### **Gallery Hours**

Monday to Friday, 10am to 6pm  
Weekends, 10am to 5pm  
Closed for statutory holidays

### **Richmond Art Gallery**

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