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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Art and Ecological Citizenship: Performance Artist Colette Urban

Together with the Department of Cultural Studies, Queen's University Fine Art Program, The Ban Righ Centre for Continuing University Education, Agnes Etherington Art Gallery, Corridor Culture, Union Gallery and the Screening Room, The Colette Urban Committee presents artist Colette Urban, visiting Queen's from February 6-9, 2012.



Dir. Katherine Knight. *Pretend Not to See Me*. Site Media Inc., 2009. Film Still.

Colette Urban is an established Canadian artist who has been practicing for over 30 years. For an artist lecture presentation at [Sheridan College](#) in 2010 Colette characterized her work as a puree of performance, drawing, costume-making, sculpture, and installation with her most recent performances inspired by the local landscape, and community members.^[i] In the documentary about her work, *Pretend Not to See Me*, she suggests that her creation of the [Full Tilt Creative Centre](#) might be her biggest performance to date. Full Tilt, with its artist residencies program and Organic Woofing farm is an intervention that has the potential to become a new kind of institution. It is also an example of Ecological Citizenship connected directly with artist practices. Colette's art practice

continues to adapt and change what art is, expanding her own and other artist's opportunities as she goes.

Day 1.

Tuesday, February 7

**Event 1: 12:00-1:00pm, Presentation at Ban Righ Centre for Continuing University Education, Queen's University
32 Bader Lane**

Lure of the Land: Adventures at Full Tilt

Colette Urban took a chance by reinventing herself at 55 by investing her energy in a farm in Newfoundland. The businesses that she now juggles include an organic market garden, an art residency program, an art gallery, a cottage rental, a painted mat business, a vehicle storage facility and a performance art practice. The challenges are endless and the endeavor fulfilling. The presentation will provide a glimpse into the life and times of an artist at large in the frontier of Newfoundland.

**Event 2: 3:00-4:30pm, Fine Art Program Artist Talk, Dunning Auditorium
94 University Avenue**

Colette Urban will talk about her thirty year art practice.

Day 2.

Wednesday, February 8

**Event 3: 11:30-1:30pm, Agnes Etherington Art Centre,
36 University Avenue**

Cultural Studies Speaks Session: *Art and Environment*, a panel with Colette Urban; *fieldwork* founder, potter and farmer Susie Osler; and PhD candidate in Cultural Studies Lisa Figge. Each presenter will discuss their respective artist practices and how they relate to environment.

Following this event, Colette Urban will be offering feedback to student artists who are presenting their work at Union Gallery (in Stauffer Library), beginning at 2:30pm.

Event 4: 7:00-9:00pm, The Screening Room, 120 Princess Street

Beginning at 7:00pm, there will be a performance of *Hoot* and Screening of *Pretend Not to See Me* At the Screening Room in downtown Kingston. Q & A to follow with Colette Urban.



Dir. Katherine Knight. *Pretend Not to See Me*. Site Media Inc., 2009. Film Still.

BIOS:

Colette Urban is a performance artist, and has taught at various Universities in Canada most recently in London, Ontario, in the Visual Arts Department at the University of Western Ontario. Colette Urban retired in 2007 and moved to Meadows, Newfoundland where she is currently engaged in developing the Full Tilt Creative Centre, a multi-disciplinary artist retreat and exhibition venue.

Susie Osler is the Project Coordinator for **fieldwork** - a public art project situated in one of the fields on her farm in eastern Ontario. She is also a ceramic artist, writer, and gardener with strong interests in sustainable food systems, farming history, and the land. Susie has a BFA from Emily Carr Institute for Art and Design.

All events are open to the Queen's and Kingston public.

FOR MORE INFORMATION please contact:

Jessica Jacobson-Konefall jessicajacobsonkonefall@gmail.com