

Tracking Following Piece

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A play-by-play of people's activities as they go about their routines in New York is the focus of a new exhibit opening Wednesday at Blackwood Gallery at University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM).

For a month in 1969, performance/conceptual artist Vito Acconci tracked individuals through the streets of his native New York.

Each chase, lasting a few minutes or a few hours, was documented with photos and text, and only ended when the person "goes private," such as entering a residence or a car. Acconci remained public, unnoticed and unidentified throughout the work.

The result was the artist's *Following Piece*. Thérèse Mastroiacovo took it a step further: *Following Following Piece* is the result of exhaustive research by Mastroiacovo, who tracked every instance in which images of the work have appeared in print.

She then meticulously draws the entire page including images, texts and page numbers.

"*Following Following Piece* is a work tuned in re-, the prefix of return, rewind, repetition," said Blackwood curator Christof Migone. "This artistic take on bibliographic research opens a discussion on the legacy of conceptual art broadly stated."

Mastroiacovo received a fine arts degree from York University and her master's degree from Concordia University.

The exhibit continues until March 6.

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Nursery Exhibition. Curator Christof Migone and staff at TUM's Blackwood Gallery prepare a series of drawings by Thérèse Mastroiacovo entitled "*Following Following Piece* (July 8, 2008 to June 2, 2010) for the opening Wednesday January 26. *Rob Beintema*

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