



DesignTO Festival 2027

HOST VENUE INFORMATION PACKAGE

For use in conjunction with the *Call for Guest Designers*.

This document is organised by the three (3) types of venue spaces available:

- A window installation runs the whole duration of Festival Week, and is visible to the public 24 hours a day from the outside of your venue. Depending on the space, the installation may also be viewable from inside your venue during regular business/gallery hours. **See venues # W1 - W8.**
- An event runs one day during Festival Week, for a set period of time. For example, events can include a talk, tour, product launch, film screening, party, or workshop. **See venues # V1 - V10.**
- An exhibition runs more than one day during Festival Week. It is open to the public during regular business/gallery hours, and may include a window component. It can start before Festival Week and/or end after Festival Week. It may also include an opening or closing reception, or artist/designer's talk. **See venues # X1 - X16.**

Please identify your top 3 venue choices with your submission.

We will try our best to pair you with one of these choices. Please note that while we try our best to create successful outcomes for all artists/designers, we are not able to guarantee that everyone will be paired.

Email any questions to Programs Assistant Markhan Hussain at markhan@designto.org with this subject line: **Artist/Designer Call + your name.**

Version 1 - July 2026

DesignTO Festival | January 22 - 31, 2027 | DesignTO.org

WINDOW INSTALLATION

A **window installation** runs the whole duration of Festival Week, and is visible to the public 24 hours a day from the outside of your venue. Depending on the space, the installation may also be viewable from inside your venue during regular business/gallery hours.

W1. Swipe Design | Books + Objects

401 Richmond Street West

Window Installation

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: Visible from the exterior on Richmond Street West

Dimensions: 72h x 71w inches (12 inch deep inner brick sill)

Preference: No damage to bricks or other heritage building features.

Website: www.swipe.com



W2. Haworth Toronto Showroom

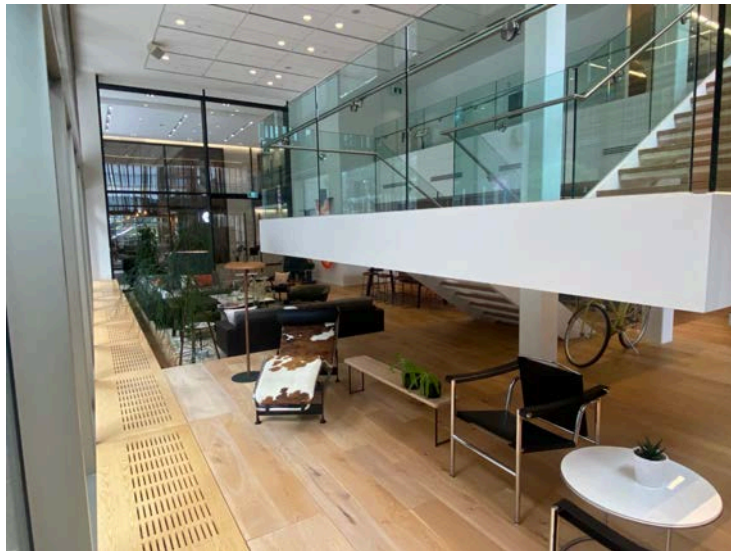
55 University Ave

Window Installation

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description:

Area 1 University Ave - 16' L x 5' W x 18' H: This area faces University Avenue and is situated on the platform area in front of the stairs. As shown in the photos, there are slits on the floor—these are part of the HVAC system, which the platform is built over. While the platform is safe to walk on, designers/artists should ensure that the slits are not entirely covered, as air flows through them. This area can be combined with Area 2 to accommodate a larger installation. Please note that the window frame protrudes into the space.



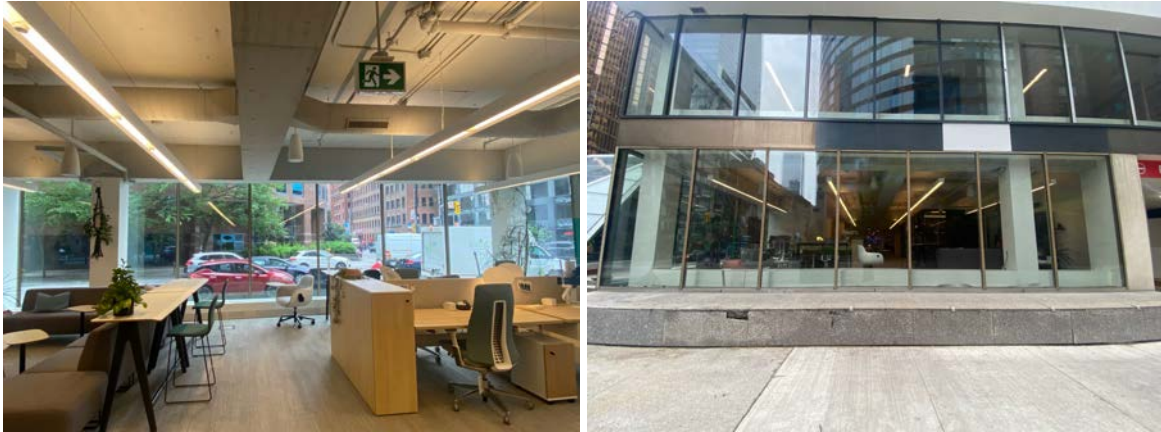
Area 2 University Ave - 33' L x 3' W x 18' H:

This area shares the same window as Area 1 and faces University Avenue. It is located at ground level and features the same HVAC system, encased in wood at the same height as the platform in Area 1. Artists should take this into account, as it does impact the usable floor space. Additionally, the window frame protrudes into space.



Area 3 Wellington Street - 35' L x 3' W x 9' H:

This area faces Wellington Street. A metal HVAC unit, approximately 1.5 feet in depth, sits on the floor in front of the window, which the artist will need to consider in their design. The window frame protrudes into the space, and there is a large TV screen next to the window that the artist is welcome to use.



Preference: As a corporate furniture manufacturer and supplier, the company prefers that any installation does not compete with its products. A piece that leans more toward the artistic side may be more appropriate. The company's website provides a reference for the types of products it carries.

Website: <https://www.haworth.com/na/en.html>

W4. gravitypope

1010 Queen Street West

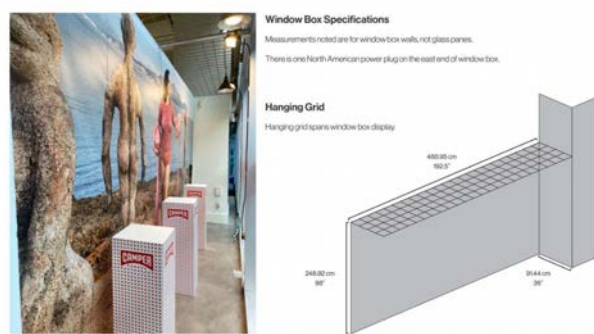
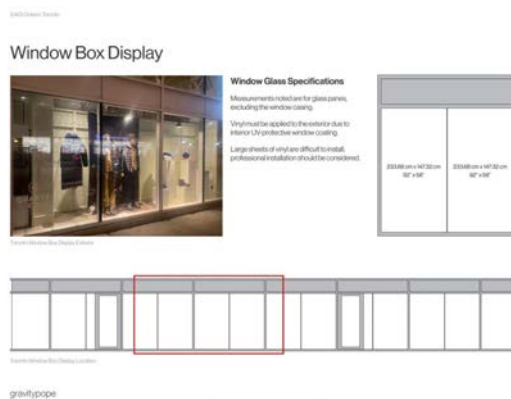
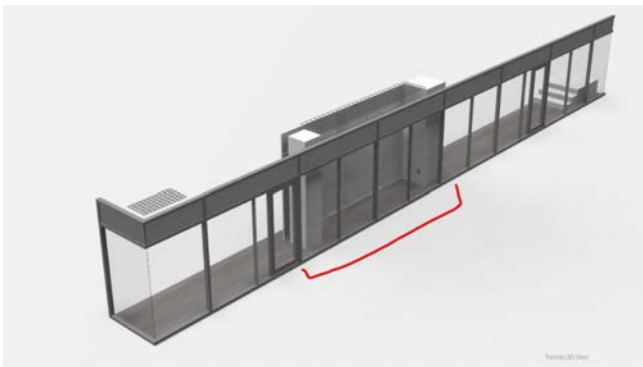
Window Installation

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The available window with a wall behind it is facing Queen Street West near the corner of Ossington. The vestibule is rectangular. The ceiling area is open and slightly larger than the top of the window frame. There is a power outlet and screen available. Small light fixtures are hanging down into the space. See pictures for dimensions.

Preference: Preference would be to partner with a designer who has an interest in fashion or textiles. However, it is open to all types of designers and themes. Also, the installation cannot have loud noise as it's a retail store.

Website: www.gravitypope.com



W5. Urbanspace Gallery

401 Richmond West

Window Installation

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Dimensions: 8 Heritage Windows

- 6 facing west 86 x 52 in.

- 2 facing north 86 x 40.5 in.

Only the window is available for use. No heritage features may be used for installation.
Installation plans will be developed with staff.

Website: www.urbanspacegallery.ca



W6. The Neon Needle

647A Bloor Street West

Window Installation

Description: There are 4 large windows on the 2nd floor facing bloor st. w

- The top 1/3 of each window is a sliding glass panel that can open to the outside (no screens)
- The 1st window on the left is narrower (31.5" W) than the 2nd, 3rd, 4th (48" W)
- They are all 65" H
- Inside, there is a ledge running the length of the windows (wall to wall) which is 12" deep

This is approximately the available space for installation but can be open to wall space depending on design. A minimal amount of drilling is acceptable if required. The space must be restored to its original condition following the installation.

Preference: It can only be seen from street level, so probably art is best.

Website: www.theneonneedle.com



W7. Living Beauty

672 Dupont Street

Window Installation

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Dimension: 47.5" W × 70" H (No drilling holes)

Website: <https://living-beauty.com/>



W8. The Textile Museum of Canada

55 Centre Ave

Window Installation

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The window display has a base of 19" depth x 85" width x 55" height and is viewable from the street but also inside of the Museum. Externally, the window is divided into three panels, each 26.5" wide x 48" tall. This could be a vinyl application or suspended works from the existing hooks in place. Above those three windows is another set of windows, separated by a shelf. It's not the most visible, but if they were of interest, they are 26.5" wide and 38.5" tall. There are no hooks or install points here, so this space would likely only be used for vinyl decals. Overall, the window space install would have to be damage free and rely on existing hooks. It is also a space that does not have staff physically present to monitor. The lobby is largely used for guests waiting for their friends, to finish any food or drinks, or event registration. There is potential to install a back wall behind the work to close it in, however that would come at the cost of the artist.

Preference: Textile related work is mandatory, but this could be textiles explored through mixed media or new media (i.e. textile impressions on ceramic, digital renderings of textile adjacent work, vinyl installation of textile textures or designs, etc). This is flexible, but ideally incorporates textiles in some way.

Website: www.textilemuseum.ca



EVENT

An **event** runs one day during Festival Week, for a set period of time. For example, events can include a talk, tour, product launch, film screening, party, or workshop.

V1. University Club of Toronto

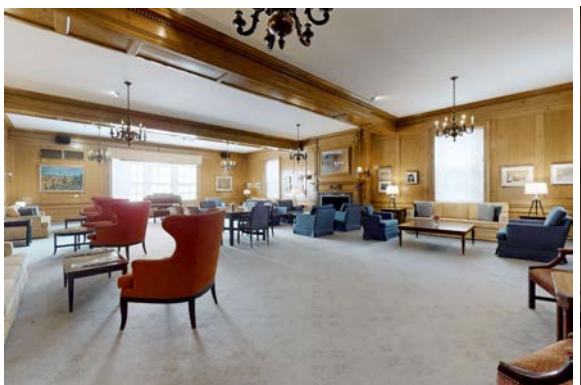
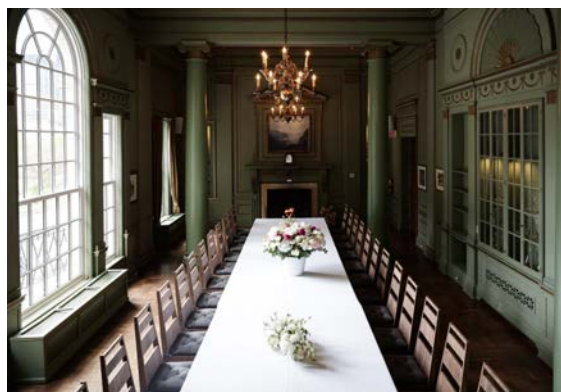
380 University Avenue

Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The venue has a full building to consider. Please review rooms/spaces here:
<https://universitycluboftoronto.com/the-clubhouse/corporate/>

Website: universitycluboftoronto.com



V2. ARD Outdoor Showroom

3019 Dufferin

Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: It's a 2 story showroom (13000 sq feet), can accommodate up to 300 guests. Has plenty of seating and dining furniture, kitchen and 3 bathrooms.

Preference: Prefer any event attended by architects and interior designers and a careful use of the space and furniture.

Website: www.ardoutdoor.com



V3. Canapy Furniture

326 Davenport Rd

Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: Can accommodate maximum 50 people. Mobile tv screen is available. Standing and some sittings can be provided.

Preference: Interested in hosting design-focused work that aligns with Canapy's aesthetic and community. This could include product design, furniture and interior design, contemporary art, textile or material-based work, ceramics, lighting, or other creative practices connected to craftsmanship, lifestyle, and meaningful design. Open to work that creates an inspiring experience for guests and complements the atmosphere of the showroom.

Website: www.canapyfurniture.com



V4. Prema Coffee & Bar

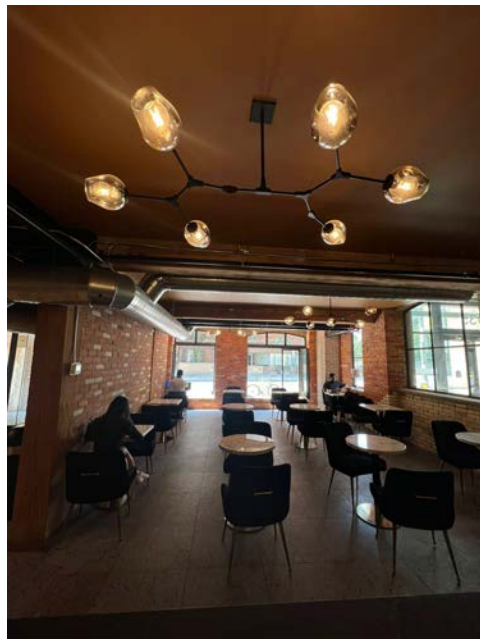
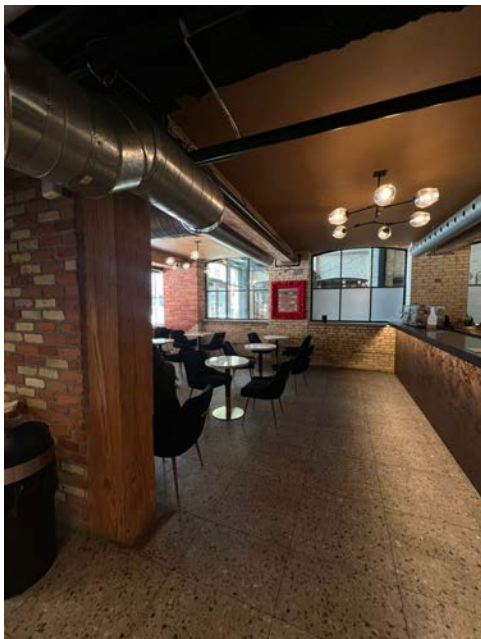
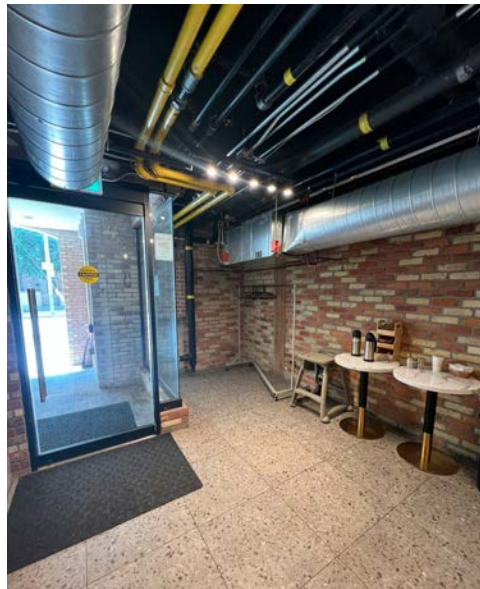
35 McCaul Street

Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: This venue can accommodate 60+ people, the space consisting of a bar, main room, and hallway to wheelchair accessible washroom. The main room is about 240" x 180" and the hallway is about 420" x 150" inches containing a 20ft long sofa and 9ft long standing bar. There are a total of 29 chairs available, 2 windows in the main room able to open and a projector available. The main room also has 5 window ledges and a red mirror. Projector, projection screen, and Sonos speakers are available.

Website: <https://prematoronto.ca>



V5. The Catalyst, Toronto Metropolitan University

80 Gould Street

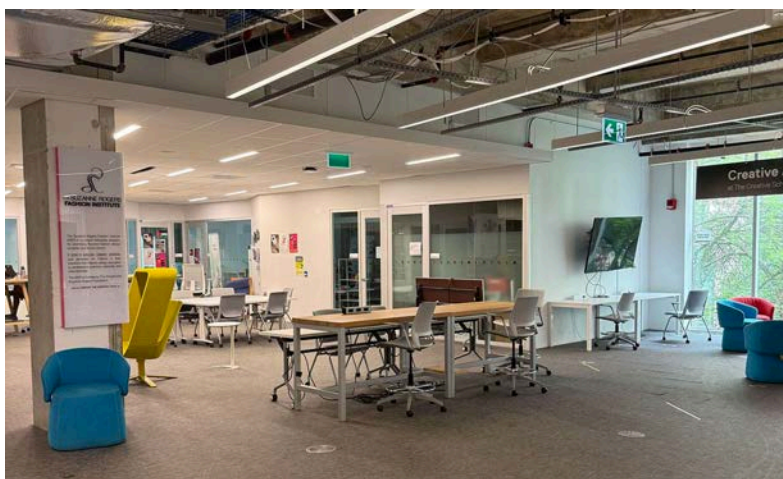
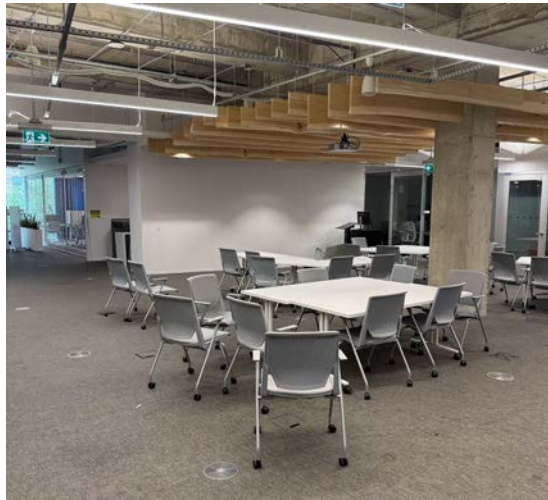
Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The Catalyst is a series of spaces including one large open space with a projector and media equipment, a boardroom, meeting room, kitchenette, and a multipurpose space that can be used for displays. The main space can hold a maximum of 100 people for an event, and approximately 75 seated for a talk. The event should not have super loud music and food is allowed but should be purchased from our on-site facility.

Preference: The space is quite flexible and can accommodate panel discussions, artist/designer talks, events, workshops, roundtables, etc. Ideally content would relate to the following topics: Design Futures, Sustainability, or Housing.

Website: <https://www.torontomu.ca/the-catalyst/>



V6. Living Beauty

672 Dupont Street

Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The space can hold a maximum of 60 people standing for an event, and approximately 35 seated. Sound System is available. No drilling holes.

Website: <https://living-beauty.com/>



V7. Ghost Rocket Makerspace

388 Carlaw Ave

Event

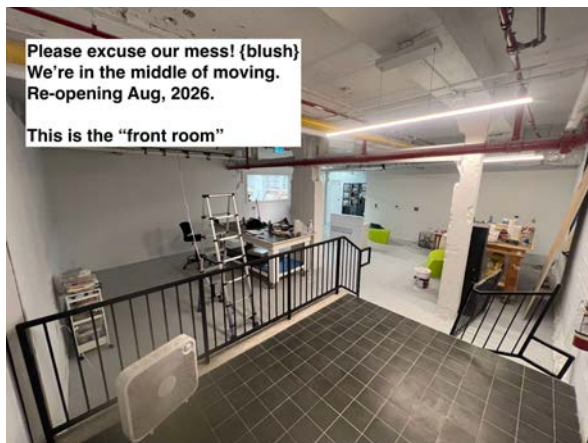
Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: There are a few different areas for the event;

- The front room (~800sqft. w obstructions) can accommodate about 20-30 seated and 50-60 standing. It has a large, flat, white wall that can be used for projection (projector available). It's usually set up as a multi-purpose craft room with large and small work tables and chairs/stools that can be used or removed.
- The classroom (~225 sqft) can accommodate about 6 seated and 10 standing. It's equipped with a projector. Set up with 2 long colla tables + chairs which can be used or moved.
- The main shop (~2,000 sqft) is the largest room but also houses most of the tools and equipment. This room can be used with safety ensured.

There are a bunch of chairs throughout the shop that can be used for events. The plan is to keep most fixtures modular so that there is flexibility within the space. For the event, keep music levels reasonable, no lingering in the hallway, no leaving trash, etc. Food and drink may be acceptable.

Website: www.GhostRocketMakerspace.ca



V8. Taglialatella Galleries

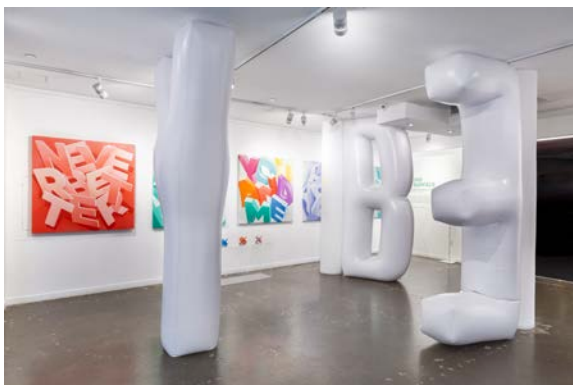
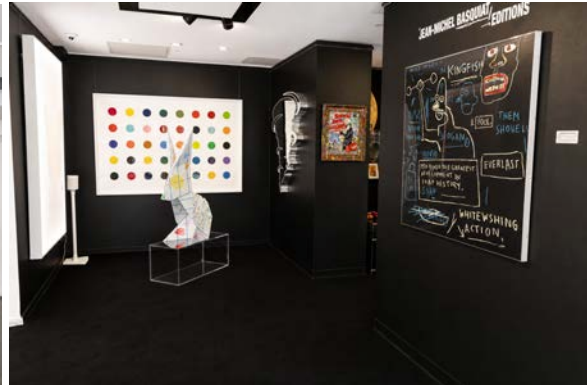
99 Yorkville Ave

Event

Description: The gallery consists of two connected rooms with approximately 1,700–1,900 sq. ft. of usable event space. The overall space measures approximately 648 inches × 720 inches (54 ft. × 60 ft.) at its widest points, although the layout is irregular rather than rectangular.

For events, the space can comfortably accommodate approximately 120 people standing or 75 people seated, depending on the setup, aisle requirements, and placement of artwork or equipment. The gallery also features several recessed/display walls and multiple entrances/exits between the spaces. Projector availability and the exact number of chairs available can be confirmed separately but for this event they will only be using the first room.

Website: Tagto.ca



V9. Frette

12 Hazelton Avenue

Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: About 20 people to stay comfortable and keep something intimate, where their Sales Associates have the time to answer the questions of the guests. A sound system and TV are available.

Preference: Product Design or anything related to the home. No red wine or loud music.

Website: frette.com



V10. BSH Experience & Design Centre

334 King St E

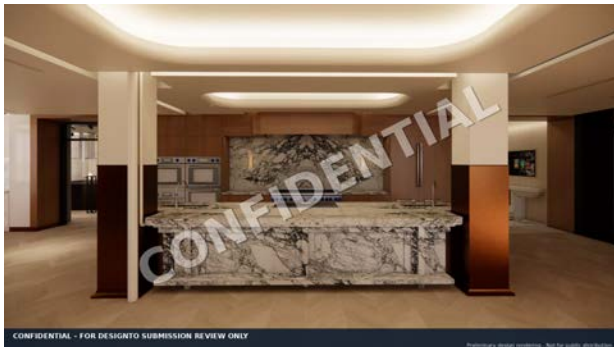
Event

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The Toronto Experience and Design Centre is approximately 6000 sq. ft. Depending on the event format and installation footprint, the space can comfortably accommodate approximately 100 guests standing or 40 guests seated. The venue includes flexible event areas, multiple premium kitchen displays with fully operational appliances, configurable seating for approximately 40 guests, large-format digital presentation screens and integrated audio. There is no traditional projector. All installations and event layouts must maintain clear access to emergency exits, appliance displays, and primary circulation routes. Final capacity may be adjusted based on the proposed installation and event configuration.

Preference: All proposed installations must be reviewed and approved in advance by the BSH internal team. Drilling, permanent alterations, or the use of materials that could damage walls, glazing, millwork, appliances, or other finished surfaces is not permitted. Any items attached to windows or other surfaces must use approved, fully removable mounting methods. Installations must not obstruct emergency exits, fire-safety equipment, appliance displays, or primary circulation routes. The space must be returned to its original condition following the exhibition or event.

Website: <https://www.thermador.ca/en/experience/showrooms>



EXHIBITION

An **exhibition** runs more than one day during Festival Week. It is open to the public during regular business/gallery hours, and may include a window component. It can start before Festival Week and/or end after Festival Week. It may also include an opening or closing reception, or artist/designer's talk.

X1. North Ridge

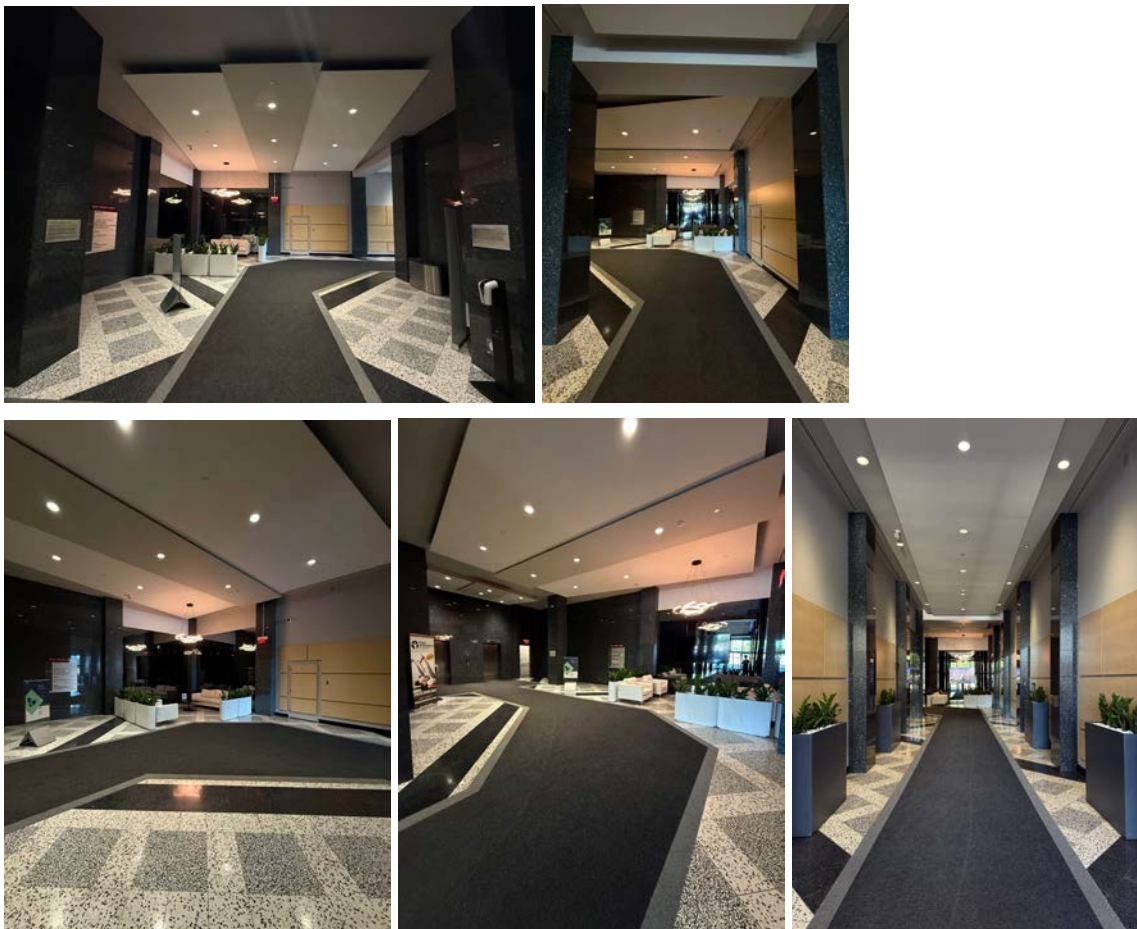
1835 Yonge Street

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The area available for use is the corner space at the end of the hallway entrance and leads to the main elevators. It is a modern design with a clean aesthetic with dark polished granite walls giving the space a sleek, premium appearance. There are also large columns of the same clad as the walls creating strong vertical lines, emphasizing the tall ceilings. The floor combines a main centralized black carpet with white and black terrazzo stone flooring. The terrazzo features a geometric pattern with large black stripes as well. The tall ceilings are lit by LED lights as well as a chandelier over the lobby space. There is a TV at the lounge area with white arm chairs and a couch. They are encased by white planters to create a nook for the lobby. The floor area itself is 29.4ft x 28.3ft while the ceiling is 16ft.

Website: thenorthridge.ca



X2. The Japanese Paper Place

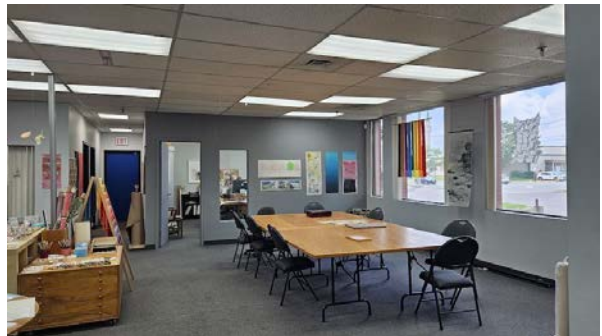
103 The East Mall, Unit 1

Exhibition

Description: A magnetic gallery wall and can also offer the ceiling (both standard and warehouse height). There is a showroom and warehouse. There are large windows in the showroom, however they are tinted and do not offer much visibility from the outside, nor is the exterior suitable for walk-up viewing. The magnetic gallery wall is in the showroom. The showroom is also part of active work space and must be able to accommodate customer visits, so floor installations are not a practical consideration.

Preference: The artist/designer must use Washi (Japanese paper) from their stock. They will provide consultancy services to the artist. Washi has a long history of use in lighting, room dividers, wall covering, and even textile applications. If there is interest in creating washi-covers for fluorescent lighting, that would be great. That said, they are excited to see what the person chosen has to suggest.

Website: <https://www.japanesepaperplace.com/>



X3. Youngplace Hallway Galleries

180 Shaw Street

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: First Floor Hallway Galleries Vitrines:

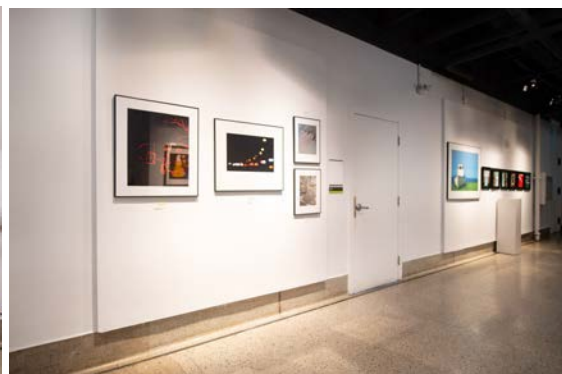
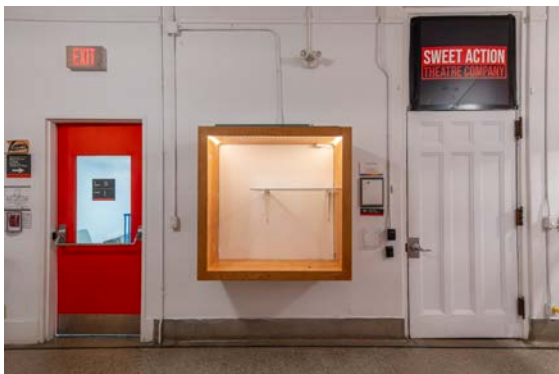
Four large vintage wooden wall mounted vitrine cases, with internal lighting and optional glass shelves. Covered with plex fronts and lockable with security screws. Best for small 3D work. Varying sizes. Located in a public and high traffic hallway. Ceiling Mount projector with sound available, can not be moved and requires a device with HDMI compatibility.

Second Floor Hallway Galleries:

White gallery walls, prepared with drywall on plywood, with flexible gallery lighting. Walls are of varying sizes. Power is located above each wall, and the venue has an assortment of plinths that can be reserved. Located in a public medium traffic hallway. A wall mounted TV 43" can be provided

Preference: No loud music. All work must be family-friendly. Overtly photographed nudity, violent or graphic imagery, and depictions of sexual acts will not be permitted for exhibition.

Website: <https://youngplace.ca/>



X6. Evergreen Brick Works

550 Bayview Avenue

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The site is varied and multifaceted.

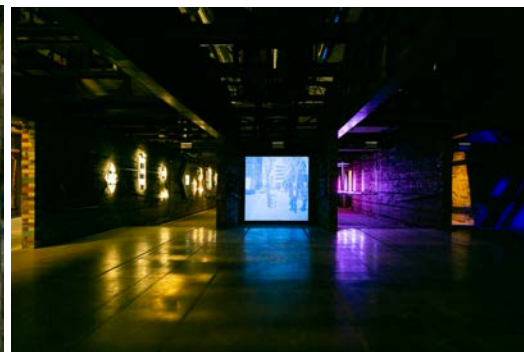
Many of the spaces can be viewed via virtual tour:

<https://www.evergreen.ca/evergreen-brick-works/host-your-event/event-spaces/>.

One specific location onsite is City Builder's Gallery, an indoor industrial space.

Preference: Ideally, work that aligns with their mandate around green, climate-ready public programming that benefits the health of people and our planet and strengthen local communities. Also, it's a historical site, so only some locations are suitable for drilling, nails or other ways to affix work. No loud music.

Website: <https://www.evergreen.ca/evergreen-brick-works/>



X7. Hot House Restaurant

35 Church Street

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The mezzanine level offers a unique exhibition space overlooking the main dining room. The walls are lined with framed artwork, which can be removed and replaced with the artist's pieces for the duration of the exhibition. The space benefits from consistent foot traffic throughout lunch, dinner, brunch, and special events, making it an ideal setting for showcasing artwork. Floor display opportunities may also be considered, subject to size and operational requirements. All artwork should ideally be ready to hang and suitable for a public dining environment but can discuss further as the restaurant is quite large.

Preferences: No outside food or drinks, no drilling holes or excessive change of placements of furniture, no loud music as the restaurant would remain operational to regular lunch or dinner service.

Website: <https://www.hothouserestaurant.com/>



X8. University Club of Toronto

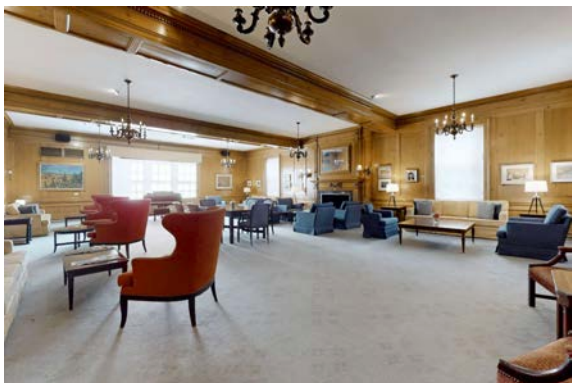
380 University Avenue

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The venue has a full building to consider. Please review rooms/spaces here:
<https://universitycluboftoronto.com/the-clubhouse/corporate/>

Website: universitycluboftoronto.com



X9. Ace Hotel Toronto

51 Camden Street

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: There are various locations available for use depending on the artist's vision.

- Interspace: 1352 sq. ft with 10 foot high ceilings w/10 ft high ceilings. If the pre-function is used, there will be an additional 600 sq. ft. This space is well suited for a group show and panel discussion.

<https://visitingmedia.com/app/properties/3621/all-assets-share?asset=223819>

- Ace Suite: 700 1352 sq. ft w/10 ft high ceilings.

- Lobby: 1300 sq feet.

- Form: 834 sq. ft. w/10ft ceilings. Works well for panel discussions, workshops, or group shows.

<https://visitingmedia.com/app/properties/3621/all-assets-share?asset=223818>

No drilling in the walls or ceilings.

Preference: Would like to explore group shows if possible

Website: <https://acehotel.com/toronto/>



X10. Canapy Furniture

326 Davenport Rd

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: Can host an exhibition. Can accommodate a maximum of 50 people. Mobile tv screen is available. Standing and some sittings can be provided.

Preference: Interested in hosting design-focused work that aligns with Canapy's aesthetic and community. This could include product design, furniture and interior design, contemporary art, textile or material-based work, ceramics, lighting, or other creative practices connected to craftsmanship, lifestyle, and meaningful design. Open to work that creates an inspiring experience for guests and complements the atmosphere of the showroom.

Website: www.canapyfurniture.com



X11. Akb Architects

182D St. Helens Avenue

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Dimensions:

Exhibition space measures roughly 22'W x 12'D x 16'H

2 large walls and 1 small wall available for exhibition measuring roughly as follows:

Wall 1: 11.5'W x 10'H

Wall 2: 13'W x 10'H

Wall 3: 5'W x 10'H

Preference: Would like to be paired with an emerging or established artist whose work aligns with theirs. Strong conceptual intent, poetic, ephemeral. A focus on sustainability or nature could align well but open to anything that may resonate with them.

Website: <https://www.akb.ca>



X12. The Avenue in the Bakery

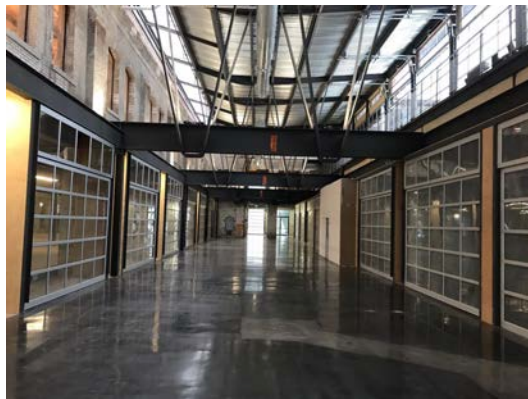
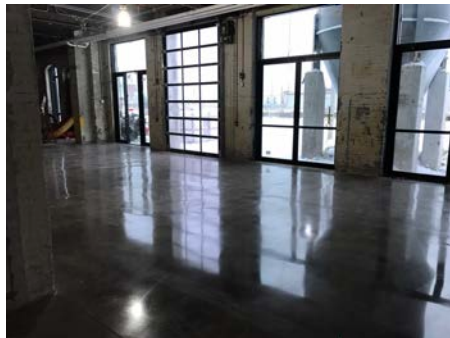
2 Fraser Avenue

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The Avenue runs the length of the building. Plan attached in photos.

Website: <https://www.yorkheritage.com/>



X13. STACKT market

28 Bathurst Street

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

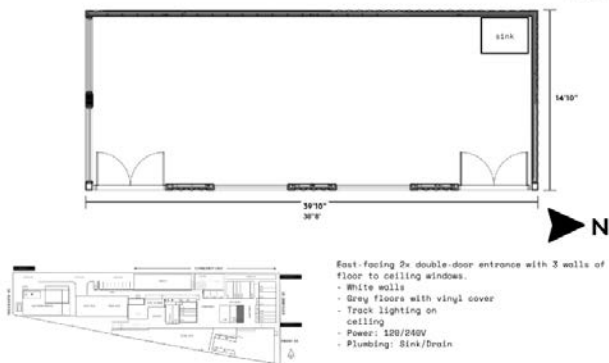
Description: There are five spaces available (see the floor plans and photos for details). Nothing may be attached to the windows without prior authorization from senior management. The HVAC units and electrical panels are also marked on each floor plan. STACKT's operating hours are 12:00–8:00 p.m. daily and it is closed on Mondays.

Preferences: Ideally, nothing explicit, as the environment is intended to remain family-friendly. Interactive and immersive exhibits tend to resonate best with the demographic. Tactile artwork that is accessible to visitors with visual impairments would also be highly encouraged.

Website: <https://STACKTmarket.com/>

2-106

STACKT

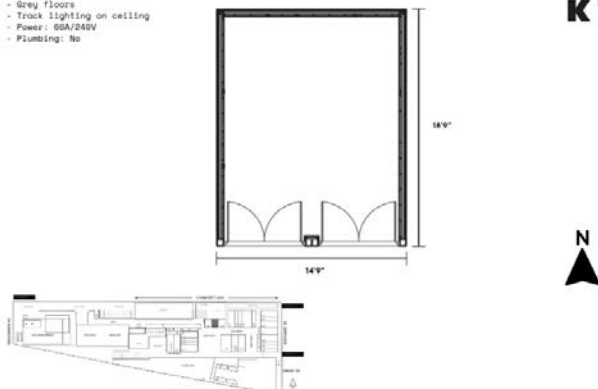


4-103

STACKT

South-facing 2x double-door entrance.

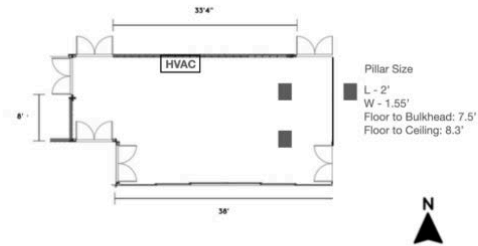
- White walls
- Grey floors
- Track lighting on ceiling
- Power: 60A/240V
- Plumbing: No



NORTH HALL GALLERY

1,200 sq.ft.

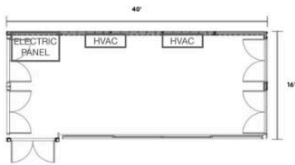
STACKT



SOLARIUM

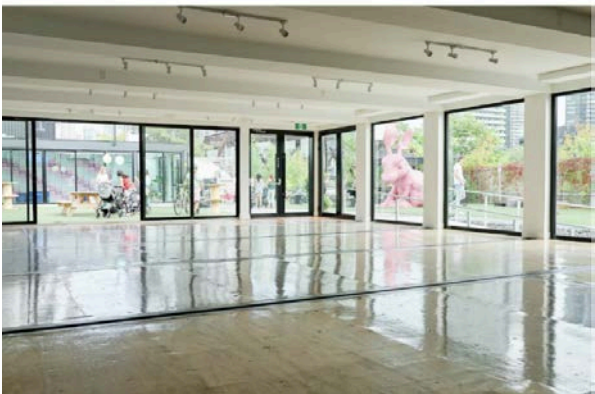
585 sq.ft.

STACKT



UNIT 3-101
The Studio
1600 sq.ft.

STACKT



X14. Living Beauty

672 Dupont Street

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: Walls and floor available for display; exact floor dimensions and ceiling height to be confirmed. No drilling holes.

Website: <https://living-beauty.com/>



X15. Relative Floors & Walls

68 Tycos Drive, Unit 6

Exhibition

Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

Description: The floor and ceiling areas are available

Dimensions: Size: 500/1000 sqft

Ceiling height: 18ft

Website: www.relativefw.com



X16. Manulife Centre

55 Bloor Street West

Exhibition

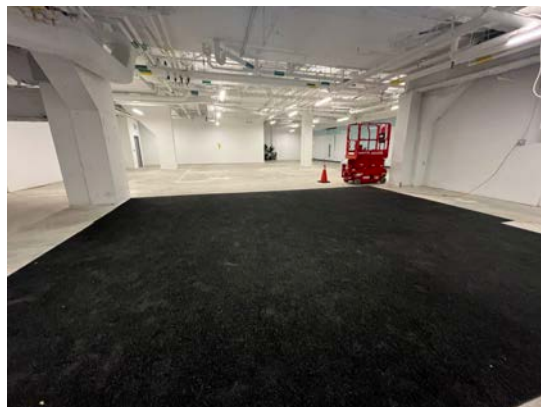
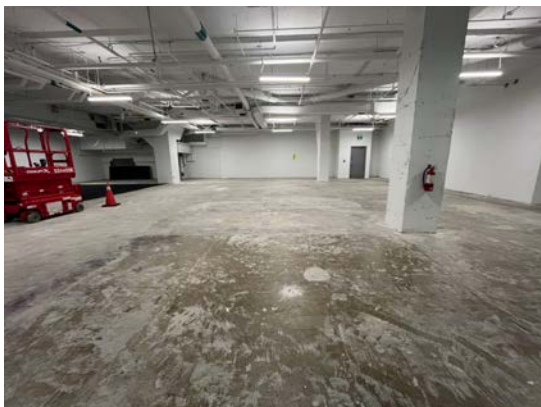
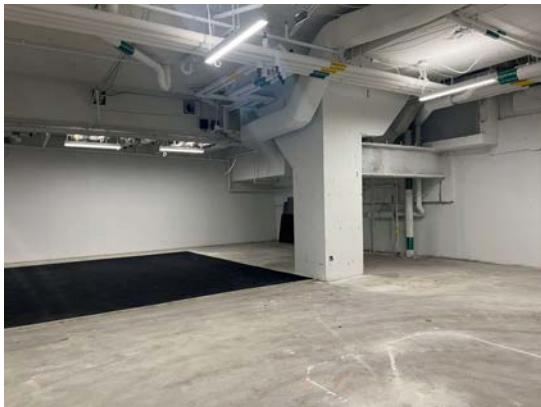
Barrier-free venue / wheelchair accessible from the street

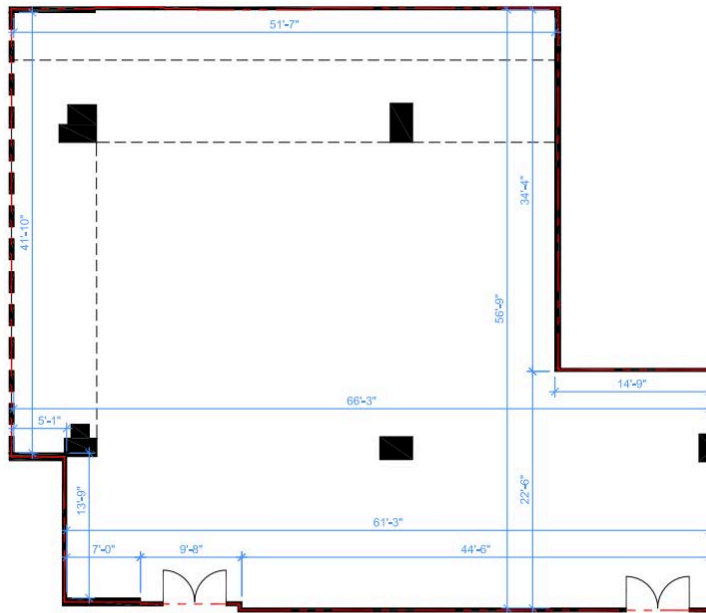
Description: All artwork should be suitable for all age groups. Artwork should not include content that is lewd, overly provocative, violent, overtly political, or likely to infringe on intellectual property rights, including brand spoofs or caricatures.

Artists will only be restricted if there is a confirmed conflict of interest with the client, the company, or any of its tenants. Any potential conflict of interest will be confirmed once the artist is chosen.

Dimensions: Estimated ceiling height is 14ft. Please see the floor plan below for all the dimensions.

Website: <http://manulifecentre.com/>





- - - - - PROPOSED DEMISING WALL
 - - - - - MEASURE LINE

SUITE 02
 USABLE AREA = 3,222 SF