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**Françoise Thibault’s Mirror-Drawing Project Debuts
at The Works Art & Design Festival**

VANCOUVER, BC— Local artist Françoise Thibault announced today that her participatory performance piece, “I See You,” has been selected as a Festival Commissioned Program to appear next month at The Works Art & Design Festival in Edmonton. The piece will be available for participant interaction throughout the Festival, which runs June 19 through July 1, 2014, and will appear as well during the Festival’s Media Conference on June 2.

“I See You” explores subjectivity, identity, and perception through an interactive, participatory experience in which pairs of Festival-goers draw quick, simultaneous portraits of each other on opposite sides of a shared glass panel. At first seeing a subject *through* the transparent canvas greatly facilitates the act of drawing, and appears to eliminate questions of artistic ability and “interpretation.” But as both portraits co-emerge, their marks start to block each from the other, and their commingling on the shared panel creates a third presence in the dialog between participants, a visual projection of their contrasting perceptions of each other. Festival-goers are encouraged try “I See You” with a friend, lover, or stranger—even an enemy if one’s at hand!—and have the option to contribute their final double-faced portraits to the live onsite exhibit as well as to an online public gallery of “I See You” artwork.

“I See You” is part of Françoise Thibault’s “Two-Way Mirror” series of perceptual experiments that center on simple, innovative drawing devices. Across the series, drawings *on* glass of things viewed *through* the glass act as a tangible metaphor for the self’s subjective experience of the allegedly objective (“real”) world.

About the Artist. Françoise Thibault is a visual artist and art model whose art explores questions of subjectivity and objectivity, representation and projection, seeing and knowing. Before pursuing her career in Vancouver, she trained in painting and photography at the University of Moncton, New Brunswick. For more information: www.francoisethibault.com.

About the Festival. The Works Art & Design Festival is hosted annually by The Works International Visual Arts Society, which seeks to advance the development and appreciation of art and design in Canada. It is the largest free, outdoor art and design festival in North America. For more information: www.theworks.ab.ca.

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