<u>SustainableCities Connect Workshop</u>
November 22, 2024 (Fri)
John Labatt Visual Art Centre, Western University, London ON

Featuring:
A Panel [*Urban Futures: Navigating Environmental Crises in a Rapidly Changing World*]
Artist Talks [*Creative Synergies: Reimagining Urban Spaces for a Sustainable Future*]
Creative Exhibition [*Sustainable Cities: A Collective Eclipsing*]

Workshop Rundown:

9:00 – 9:30 am	VAC100	Check-in and coffee
9:30 – 11:00 am	VAC100	Panel speaker talks
11:00 – 12:00 pm	VAC100	Moderated Q&A and discussion
12:00 – 1:30 pm	Artlab Gallery	Networking lunch & exhibition visit *An environmental play titled* **Rudbeckia** *will be performed live at the gallery at 1pm.*
1:30 – 3:00 pm	Artlab Gallery	Artist talks
3:00 – 3:15 pm	Artlab Gallery	Coffee break
4:00 pm	Artlab Gallery	Closing remarks
5:00 – 7:00 pm	Artlab Gallery	Opening reception

Panel Speakers

Benjamin Gianni
**Associate Professor, Azrieli School of Architecture & Urbanism,
Carleton University**

Benjamin Gianni is an Associate Professor in the Azrieli School of Architecture & Urbanism at Carleton University where he leads the Urbanism program. Prof. Gianni received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.Arch. from Yale Uni

and most recently, the environmental nonprofit sector. She is interested in the

Artist s

Philip Gurrey

Born in York (UK) in 1984. Gurrey studied Painting and Printmaking at the Glasgow School of Art graduating with a BA (hons) in 2007. After working with Madder139 Gallery and the Pippy Houldsworth Gallery in London (UK), and working briefly in Copenhagen (Dk), Gurrey returned to the Glasgow School of Art to study a Master of Letters Degree in Fine Art Painting, graduating with distinction in 2012. In 2024 Gurrey completed his doctoral research at Western University in Art and Visual Culture which explored contemporary painting as an object-oriented concern through autopoietic improvisatory practices. Gurrey has exhibited throughout the UK, in France, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Canada and the US. His works are included in the Fondation Francès collection (Fr), the Mercer Art Gallery collection (UK) the Pathfoot Collection (UK) the British Airways Collection (UK) and private collections worldw0 (p)-S5bi31 (a)-e-5 -1 ( )-10 2l8 (io)-4 c 0.114.56 reW n(r)2 (c)3EMC /P ⚹MCID

[Exhibition]   *Sustainable Cities: A Collective Eclipsing*
Artlab Gallery, John Labatt Visual Art Centre, Western University
November 14 – December 5, 2024

This group exhibition is curated by Imogen Clendinning, and is presented as a key feature of the broader SustainableCities Connect Workshop project, organized and led by Junyu Ke.

In *Sustainable Cities: A Collective Eclipsing*, artists Theo Cuthand, Philip Gurrey, Jessica Joyce, Danielle Petti, Michelle Wilson and Brigitta Zhao form new methods of creative production which utilize technology and the sciences to cultivate exploratory systems of making. By foregrounding sustainability, relations with the Earth, and critiquing colonial systems of extraction, *A Collective Eclipsing* reckons with the various intangible collaborative dynamics that are embedded in all acts of making. These intangible systems of exchange are made visible through the ways in which each work responds to the environment around it, thematically but also through the use of solar-powered digital technologies.

Partnering with the Free Appropriate Sustainable Technology (FA T) research group in Western Engineering, *A Collective Eclipsing* features several new artworks shaped by interdisciplinary collaboration between Western's Visual Arts graduate students and the FAST lab, including Danielle Petti and Jessica Joyce's solar-powered lightboxes, in a celebration of off the grid energy technologies that require collaboration between the Sun, weather, the artist and engineer, and a 3-d printed sculpture by Philip Gurrey, which uses recycled plastics it explores the material agency or the plasticity of corn.

In Brigitta Zhao's data visualization works, she combined video and audio in a multisensory experience. Her *Fueling the Waves*