



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Exhibition: **STARDUST** by Chowaniec Projects

September 13 – October 14, 2017

Opening Reception: September 13, 6-8pm

OTTAWA, Canada, August 1, 2017 – WALL SPACE GALLERY's Project SPACE [Train Yards alternative gallery space] presents **STARDUST**, an interactive new media installation by Chowaniec Projects opening September 13, 2017 and running through October 14, 2017. Opening reception September 13, 2017 6pm-8pm.

*"We are all connected to each other biologically, to the earth...We are not figuratively, but literally stardust."*

- Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson, Astrophysicist

### **About Installation**

Our Canadian cultural identities are intertwined with our relationship to the landscape. We are constantly faced with conflicting issues of living in a resource-rich country, and acting as stewards for a vast land. How can we protect the environment and make good choices? We become empowered as stewards when we can visualize our individual agency and role as stakeholders in something greater than ourselves. We can be an economy of ideas not of natural resources. Our relationship to landscape, both internal, as shared cultural memories, and external, by physically inhabiting, is at the core of this. Creating sanctuary, through art and nature, is the vehicle. How we go out and care for our shared landscape and ourselves as individuals will be unique. The **STARDUST** installation is not a one-time experience but a site to initiate a practice.

The **STARDUST** installation is an interactive and educational experience in an alternative gallery space, a sanctuary in which you can be alone with your thoughts. An immersive projection environment housed in a 16' geodesic dome invites the participant to enter, alone, and sit or lay in a canoe, installed at the centre of the dome floor. Projections on the surfaces of the dome juxtapose the reflected image of the participant against a star-filled sky, creating an awareness of our interconnectedness, accountability, and potential.

Information regarding public programming will follow.

### **About Chowaniec Projects**

Chowaniec Projects is a collaboration between two sisters, co-founders Alex and Chris Chowaniec. Their relationship to landscape, both mental and physical, is at the core of their shared cultural identity and collaboration. Creating sanctuary, through art and nature, is the vehicle.

Chris Chowaniec is the Founder of Dam Good Trips based in Vancouver, BC and Alex Chowaniec is an artist based in Brooklyn, NY. Chowaniec Projects seeks to visualize the concept that we are part of something greater than ourselves; and therefore we are implicated, more aware, accountable and can create change on an individual and global level. We can be an economy of ideas not of natural resources.

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**Project SPACE, WALL SPACE GALLERY & FRAMING**  
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### **About Wall Space**

Founded in 2004, WALL SPACE GALLERY opened its location and project-driven space in the Westboro Village neighborhood of Ottawa in 2008. Committed to thought-provoking and engaging exhibitions, the gallery represents both emerging and established Canadian artists working in traditional and new media. The gallery takes pride in making contemporary fine art accessible, building community and encouraging critical dialogue.

WALL SPACE introduced **Project SPACE** in 2017, an incubator for ideas, art and art expression. Along with featuring a roster of exceptional artists, Project SPACE serves as a vessel for site-specific installation and exhibitions. Project SPACE is located within the WALL SPACE framing design centre in the Ottawa Train Yards

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