

***look don't look at the Kelowna Art Gallery***

*Barrie Jones: look don't look*  
*July 23 to November 13, 2022*

**July 21, 2022 – Kelowna, BC:** Opening this weekend at the Kelowna Art Gallery is Vancouver-based contemporary artist Barrie Jones' multi-video installation *look don't look*.

Audiences can explore five playful, intimate, and multifaceted video works that will thrust them into an exploration of the complexities of portraiture and human identity.

Upon entering *look don't look*, visitors will first encounter *COUPLES* (2017 – 2021), a dual monitor video installation that features 22 real-life couples who pose and directly address the viewer, while off-camera a disruption creates tension and complicates their ability to stand still.

Projected on the wall opposite is *YOUNG ACTORS EMOTE* (2018 – 2022). It features young actors who were asked to perform different emotions or expressions, leaving audiences to wonder whether the resulting imagery is staged or authentic.

**Barrie Jones** comments, "I found it somewhat ironic and a little humorous having professional actors putting all their acting chops into performing emoji pictograms. In a way, I am asking them to turn those stylized, pictographic emotions back into the authentic human expressions from which they were derived."

Using video and projection, *look don't look* examines the changing nature of our social connections and relationships, as well as the impact of social media on who we are and how we express ourselves.

Barrie Jones holds a BFA from the University of British Columbia and an MFA from York University. Jones has long been associated with Vancouver and he spent many years teaching photography in UBC's Department of Art History, Visual Art, and Theory. Jones has an extensive exhibition record, and his work is held in numerous collections across Canada.

*look don't look* opens on July 23 and runs until November 13, 2022.

The Kelowna Art Gallery is located at 1315 Water Street, in downtown Kelowna, B.C.

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**Media Inquiries**

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