

HENDERSON LEE GALLERY
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**PARA-OPTICAL by Vlad Spicanovic Featured Inaugural Art Exhibit
of Henderson Lee Gallery from September 26 - October 19, 2019**

**Limited-edition photographic prints by former OCAD University
Dean of Faculty of Art reimagine how we see and relate to images**

(TORONTO, September 13, 2019) – In its inaugural art exhibition, Toronto's Henderson Lee Gallery (www.hendersonleegallery.com) presents **PARA-OPTICAL**, a breathtaking limited-edition photographic series by artist-educator **Vlad Spicanovic**, former Dean of the Faculty of Art at OCAD University. The show reimagines how we see and relate to images through Spicanovic's annotations of visual and material cultures.

PARA-OPTICAL runs from September 26 - October 19, 2019.

Taken during his travels to Hangzhou, Berlin and Dubai, Spicanovic's collection of photographic prints transform seemingly ordinary cityscapes and structures into extraordinary passages between observation and imagination and the poetics of *the seen* and *the unseen*. His long-time interest in cities and architecture, and his research into aesthetics and visual perception drive the photo-based works in this exhibition.

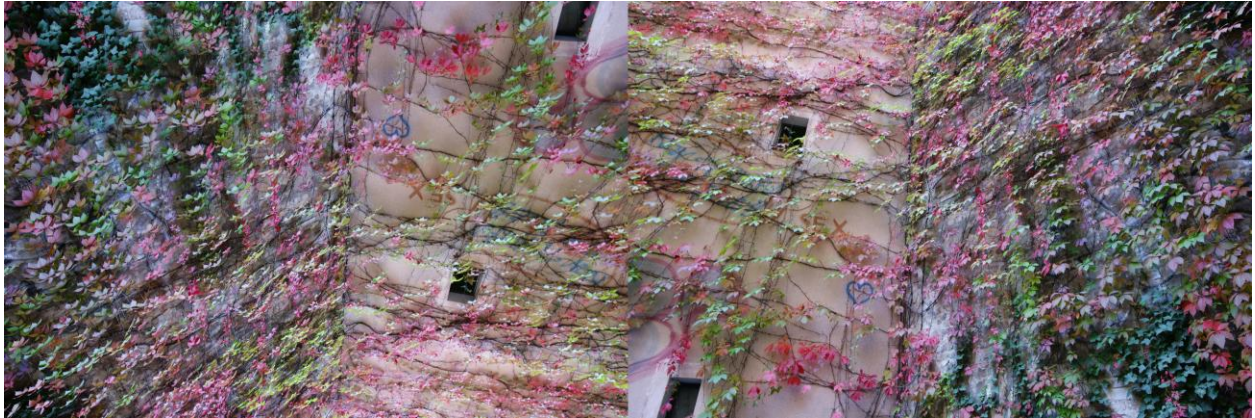


Garments and Splendors, 2019, Chromira print on aluminum composite panel, 52" x 20"

Spicanovic's artwork investigates the intersections of photography and painting and the notions of perception, temporality and critical visual literacy. In **PARA-OPTICAL**, Spicanovic explores the mechanics of vision by engaging the psychologies and para-psychologies of *looking*.

These images are more than visual representations of the once-seen. They were made with a particular method developed by Spicanovic from his practice as a painter. He calls this method "para-optical inversion", a stitched juxtaposition of two intersecting views of a single scene, one registering how we see the actual and the reflected moment, the other embodying the ways in which such scenes are understood and interpreted by the mind. According to Spicanovic, this mode of visual analysis opens up some intriguing shifts in

perception that expose the transitions between the real and the imaginary, the observation and imagination.



Mitte 5, 2019, Chromira print on aluminum composite panel, 52" x 20"

A master of pictorial language, Toronto-based Spicanovic holds a BFA in Painting & Drawing from Concordia University and an MA and PhD in Culture & Values in Education from McGill University. Since 1989, he has been exhibiting and curating art in tandem with his commitments to teaching, academic leadership, and arts advocacy. Spicanovic's work can be found in the BMO Corporate Collection, the Donovan Collection at the University of St. Michael's College, and numerous private collections. Spicanovic is a professor in the Faculty of Art at OCAD University.



Arabesque 1, 2019, Chromira print on aluminum composite panel, 52" x 20"

PARA-OPTICAL is the first exhibition of Henderson Lee Gallery. Gallery Director Tyler McDermott says of this premiere showing: "Spicanovic's exhibition presents an opportunity for art lovers to experience the innovative way the artist sees the world through the city blocks, buildings, and parks of three of the world's greatest urban landscapes, where he seeks and finds instances of breathtaking splendor."

#paraoptical, #vladspicanovic, #hendersonleegallery, #digitalphotography, #photography

Exhibition Details:

PARA-OPTICAL

Vlad Spicanovic

September 26 to October 19, 2019

**Henderson Lee Gallery
55 Sudbury Street, Toronto**

Viewings by appointment only.

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