



February 2018

Welcome to the monthly newsletter for the Vancouver Art Gallery's Weekly Family Programs. Every Sunday the Gallery offers unique activities geared towards 5 to 12 year-old visitors and their families.

Throughout February we will be exploring the exhibitions *Portrait of the Artist: An Exhibition from the Royal Collection*, *Carol Sawyer: The Natalie Brettschneider Archive*, as well as *Takashi Murakami: The Octopus Eats Its Own Leg*.

All activities are free with regular admission.



Every Sunday, 12 - 4pm

Experience the Gallery with our team of curious, funny and informed Art Agents. They engage the exhibitions with activities, hunts, questions and conversations relating to what your family notices.



Every Sunday, 12 - 4pm

The Making Place offers exploration based making activities that are inspired by the materials and processes that you see in the exhibitions. Drop in any time between 12-4pm.

Upcoming Making Places

February 4 - Carol Sawyer: Stories Told Through Gestures

Inspired by the film *fr@Zu8Kuj, c. 1981* by Carol Sawyer, create shadow puppets or attach unusual materials to your body to see how gestures and light can help you create a character that tells a story.

February 11 - Takashi Murakami's Alter Ego: Mr. DOB

Mr. DOB (short for the Japanese expression 'dobojite,' or 'why?') is a character with sharp teeth, a mouse like head and anime eyes. Murakami created Mr. DOB to represent himself as well as Japanese art forms like manga and anime. Can you see the rounded letters D and B in his ears? Do you notice the O shape of his face? He always looks different but you can still recognize him. Murakami used many different materials to create sculptures and paintings of Mr. DOB.

First take a look at the artwork *DOB in The Strange Forrest (Blue DOB)* in the Gallery. Then experiment with plasticine to design your own alter ego sculpture inspired by Murakami's.

February 18 - Traditional Materials, Contemporary Combinations.

In his early work from the 1980's, Takashi Murakami experiments with traditional Japanese materials such as washi paper, gold pigment, and straw but also uses non-traditional materials such as cardboard and acrylic paint.

Take a look at Murakami's *Picture of a Turtle* series (1982-87) in the Gallery. Experiment with washi paper, gold pigment and cardboard to create a mixed media artwork inspired by the way Murakami combines materials.

February 25 - Pop Culture Collaborations

Murakami has been involved in collaborations with many designers, artists and musicians. He designed Kanye West's album cover *Graduation (2007)* as well as creating paintings and sculptures inspired by the ideas they created together.

Think of your favourite song or musician. Design their album cover and create a signature character like Murakami's *Kanye Bear (2009)* to go along with it.