

THE GRUNT GALLERY & ATSA

WELCOMES YOU TO



With the amiable collaboration of the Carnegie Center

Holidays are fast approaching, do your thoughts turn to dreams of an all-inclusive getaway, complete with exterior swimming pool and deck chairs? What perfect timing! **COME VISIT OUR FIVE-STAR FREE FACILITY IN THE HEART OF VANCOUVER!**

**20-21 MAY 2011**

**2 TO 10 PM**

**AT PIGEON PARK (CORNER OF HASTINGS AND CARRALL)**

**THE PIGEON'S CLUB** is an **ALL-INCLUSIVE event** complete with tourist iconography in the heart of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, an area where social exclusion and human suffering is among the most intense in Canada but also where there is the greatest concentration of mutual aid and frontline services...

**The GOs of THE PIGEON'S CLUB** will **greet its VIP guests** between 2 and 10 P.M., giving voice to citizens by way of **open mic, karaoke, free games and art performances promoting social interaction**. The event is supported by an advertising campaign inviting all Vancouverites to come join in the game!

**ALSO IN THE LINE-UP IS THE PREMIERE OF THE FILM *IN THIS MEAN TIME***, an impressionist montage of ATSA based on images from their residence in Vancouver in the summer of 2009 with **the grunt gallery**, blending urban solitude and loss, the fullness of nature, and the daily goings-on at the Carnegie Center. The film will be screened in continuous loop on an outdoor screen at the **PIGEON'S CLUB** starting at sunset.

**What happens when we don't quite fit into the "package"?** Can we in fact resist or refuse to be "included"? What forms can this refusal take? These questions are vital and in keeping with ATSA's approach, which is to induce a confrontation, a visual clash that serves to convey the meaning behind the message.

**In addition to creating a forum where society's outcasts can meet and speak out, ATSA** sets the stage for a thought-provoking critique of the big lie perpetrated by a society built on the facade of happiness and propped up by shiny, sleek tourism—a commentary on the marketing whitewash which reached its peak during the city's 2010 Winter Olympics.

A satirical critique of the glossy, squeaky-clean view of the world championed by travel agency brochures, which extol happiness as an all-inclusive package deal, ATSA is providing its own outrageous take on the whole aesthetic of the ALL-INCLUSIVE to better pull people's strings and stir up debate.

Beyond the **ALL-INCLUSIVE**, **ATSA aims to emphasize respect, integration and coming together: the ALL INCLUDED.**

Founded in 1998 by artists Pierre Allard and Annie Roy, ATSA creates urban interventions in response to current issues of concern to them. ATSA is the recipient of the **Pratt & Whitney Nature de l'art** prize from the **Conseil des Arts de Montréal**, the **Citoyen de la Culture 2008** prize from **Arts et la Ville** for État d'Urgence, and the **Artistes pour la Paix 2008** prize.