

## media release

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### **Alternative Identities**

**A group exhibition of work created by the alter ego  
May 15 – June 27, 2009**

Featured Artists: Dr Anna Freud Banana, Robinson Crusoe, Big Dada, Circle T, The Clown, Nancy Normal, The Scientist, Countess Renee Snork-Snoutberger and MW Snerdling

**Alter ego: 1. An intimate and trusted friend. 2. A person's second or alternative personality.**

COQUITLAM, BC – This month, the Art Gallery at Evergreen will be transformed into a laboratory of experimental creative and artistic expression by nine British Columbia artists who share a common reality: they have all used alternative identities to produce work, or created those identities through their art.

Opening May 15 and running to June 27, **Alternative Identities** explores the commonality and diversity of the artists' approaches and offers a showcase of their expression of ideas through a variety of media including video, performance art, sculpture, acrylics on canvas, collage, silkscreen print and more.

The exhibition is co-curated by Marci Katz (aka Nancy Normal) and Ed Varney, aka Big Dada, artist, poet, critic, editor, and more notably associated with the "Mail Art Network" since 1984. In his opening comments Varney describes the premise of the exhibition:

"Alternative identities (alter egos, persona) or what might be also termed "authorship displacement" is a method of distancing, displacing, concealment, (and perhaps denial of responsibility) that enables an artist to explore areas of expression outside of his/her habitual or recognized modes.

It enables the artist to transcend (consciously or unconsciously) self imposed restrictions and personality and allows role playing, impersonation, obsession and camouflage to liberate the imaginative distance between artist and audience."

The opening reception for Alternative Identities takes place on **Sunday, May 24** from 4 – 5:30pm. It will be a viewing of the works of art as much as a display of artists-in-attendance, arriving as their alter ego of course!

In conjunction with the exhibition, Anna Banana will be leading an artist trading card workshop and demonstration on Wednesday, June 3 from 7 – 9:30pm. Learn tips from a pro and make your own ATCs to keep and trade. Cost is \$10. Registration 604.927.6552.

For more information visit [www.evergreenculturalcentre.ca](http://www.evergreenculturalcentre.ca)