

THE FRONT

STAN DOUGLAS

Still from *Doppelgänger*, 2019. Courtesy of the artist, Victoria Miro, and David Zwirner.

DEBUTED AT THE 2019 Venice Biennale, *May You Live in Interesting Times*, *Doppelgänger* by Stan Douglas is a stunning two-channel video installation. The looped narrative is set in an alternative present in which a solitary astronaut, Alice, and her other-world counterpart each arrives “home” to find that everything is the reverse of what she once knew. Douglas intentionally heightens the viewer’s feeling of displacement through a continual sense of reversal and mirroring, both in the form and content of his installation. Since the early 1990s, multi-channel video installations have been an integral part of Douglas’s practice, allowing for the simultaneous presentation of multiple, overlapping narratives or vantage points, and with *Doppelgänger*, he extends his ongoing exploration of both nonlinear narratives and alternate histories: the omnipresent sense of doubling that is built into the structure of the work implicitly suggests the possibility of simultaneous, diverging experiences and realities.

Stan Douglas was born in 1960 in Vancouver, where he continues to live and work. He studied at Emily Carr College of Art in Vancouver in the early 1980s.

In 2016, *Stan Douglas: Luanda-Kinshasa* was presented at Pérez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), and *Stan Douglas: The Secret Agent* was exhibited at Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg. *Stan Douglas: Interregnum* was on view at WIELS Centre d’Art Contemporain, Brussels, and Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon, in 2015. In 2013, a major survey of the artist’s work, *Stan Douglas: Photographs 2008–2013*, was presented at Carré d’Art – Musée d’Art Contemporain in Nîmes, France. It travelled as *Stan Douglas: Mise en scène* through 2015 to Haus der Kunst,

Munich, followed by Nikolaj Kunsthal, Copenhagen, and Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin.

Other major solo presentations of the artist's work include those held at The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh (2014); Minneapolis Institute of Arts (2012); Staatsgalerie Stuttgart and Württembergischer Kunstverein, Stuttgart (2007); The Studio Museum in Harlem, New York (2005); Serpentine Gallery, London (2002); Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris (1994); and Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto (1987). The artist's work was featured in the Venice Biennale in 1990, 2001, 2005, and 2019, and in documenta in 1992, 1997, and 2002.

Douglas's first multimedia theatre production, *Helen Lawrence*, debuted at the Arts Club Theatre Company, Vancouver, in March 2014 and has subsequently been hosted by the Münchner Kammerspiele, Munich; Edinburgh International Festival; Canadian Stage, Toronto; Brooklyn Academy of Music, New York; deSingel, Antwerp; and Center for the Art of Performance, University of California, Los Angeles (co-organized by Los Angeles County Museum of Art).

Douglas has been the recipient of notable awards, including the Audain Prize for Visual Art (2019); the Hasselblad Foundation International Award in Photography (2016); the third annual Scotiabank Photography Award (2013); and the Infinity Award from the International Center of Photography, New York (2012).

Work by the artist is held in major museum collections, including the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; The Israel Museum, Jerusalem; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; The Museum of Modern Art, New York; National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa; Pérez Art Museum Miami; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Tate Gallery, London; Vancouver Art Gallery; and the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis.

Douglas has been selected to represent Canada at the 2022 Venice Biennale.