

Montreal, August 29, 2017 – **MOMENTA | Biennale de l'image** (formerly Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal) presents the 15th edition of its biennale from September 7 to October 15. Wednesday, September 6 marks the beginning of the biennale with the official inauguration evening at Galerie de l'UQAM, VOX, centre de l'image contemporaine, and Artex, in the presence of the guest curator, Ami Barak, and many of the program's artists. A series of opening events in the presence of the artists takes place September 7–9 at the galleries, museums, and exhibition centres that are partnering with MOMENTA.

For its 15th edition, MOMENTA has joined forces with curator Ami Barak, who has developed an outstanding program on the theme *What Does the Image Stand For?* The 2017 edition of MOMENTA explores the concept of photographic and videographic evidence for the prosecution, whether images are still or in motion, raising the question of images as avatars and focusing on the fantastical and sublimated aspects of the reality that they convey. The 38 artists in this biennale invite us not to accept their testimony uncritically.

These artists intercede between the state of things and their possible interpretations. They are whistleblowers, and they prefer transfiguration to replication. Determined to produce differentiation, using allegories as intermediaries, they are revitalizing figuration. Their images speak of the world in different ways, but they systematically sidestep the real. The artists explore and question the porous border between reality and imagination through complex issues such as identity, territory, history and time.

This year, the biennale comprises three segments. The first, which corresponds to the central exhibition at our headquarters, focuses on the work of 23 artists and is being presented at two sites: Galerie de l'UQAM and VOX, centre de l'image contemporaine. The second consists of 14 solo exhibitions spread throughout the city. And the third is a document exhibition located at Artex.

CENTRAL EXHIBITION

Galerie de l'UQAM

- Adel Abdesslem (France)
- Luis Arturo Aguirre (Mexico)
- Seung Woo Back (Korea)
- Yto Barrada (Morocco)
- Dora Budor (Croatia)
- Sara Cwynar (Canada)
- LaToya Ruby Frazier (United States)
- Nelson Henricks (Canada)
- Camille Henrot (France)
- Terrance Houle (Canada)
- Boris Mitić (Serbia)
- Nadia Myre (Canada)
- Joshua Petherick (Australia)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Centre CLARK

- Zanele Muholi (South Africa)

Dazibao

- Akram Zaatari (Lebanon)

Darling Foundry

- Erin Shirreff (Canada)

Galerie B-312

- Artie Vierkant (United States)
- Jin-me Yoon (Canada)

Maison de la culture Frontenac

- Matan Mittwoch (Israel)
- Jonas St. Michael (Canada)

Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal

- Taryn Simon (United States)

VOX, centre de l'image contemporaine

- Mircea Cantor (Romania)
- Samuel Fosso (Cameroon)
- LaToya Ruby Frazier (United States)
- Pascal Grandmaison (Canada)
- Risa Horowitz (Canada)
- Terrance Houle (Canada)
- Frédéric Lavoie (Canada)
- Hanna Liden (Sweden)
- Liu Yue (China)
- Moshe Ninio (Israel)
- J.D. 'Okhai Ojeikere (Nigeria)
- Joshua Petherick (Australia)
- Kim Waldron (Canada)

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

- Meryl McMaster (Canada)

McCord Museum

- Jayce Salloum (Canada)

Occurrence

- David Hartt (Canada)
- Anne-Marie Proulx (Canada)

Optica

- Valérie Mréjen (France)
- Melik Ohanian (France)

DOCUMENT EXHIBITION

Artex

- David Hartt (Canada)
- Nelson Henricks (Canada)
- Micah Lexier (Canada)
- Valérie Mréjen (France)
- Erin Shirreff (United States)

OPENINGS

Galerie de l'UQAM

September 6, 5pm

VOX

September 6, 6:30pm

Artex

September 6, 6:30pm

Centre CLARK

September 8, 7:30pm

Dazibao

September 8, 7:30pm

Darling Foundry

September 8, 6:30pm

Galerie B-312

September 9, 4pm

Maison de la culture Frontenac

September 8, 5pm

Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal

September 7, 7:30pm

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

September 7, 6:30pm

McCord Museum

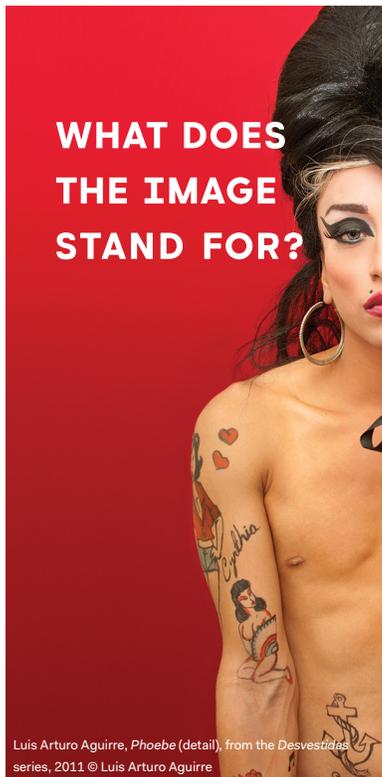
September 7, 5:30pm

Occurrence

September 8, 7:30pm

Optica

September 8, 7:30pm



MOMENTA is also a vast program of public activities to enable a wider audience to meet the artists and see their works. These activities take different forms oriented toward discovery, reflection, and creation.

MOMENTA EVENTS

Talks and lectures

MOMENTA presents a series of talks and lectures aiming to create a space for open exchanges and reflections between artists and scholars and the public, in a dynamic and accessible way.

Sujets a: desire – appeals • September 9, 10am – 3:30pm, Canadian Centre for Architecture

Sujets a alludes to a central concept behind Ami Barak's curatorial theme: Jacques Lacan's objet a. This series of discussions draws Lacan's concept into a space for conversation, in which the public is invited to engage with many artists in the biennale and reflect on some of the motivations behind their work.

In collaboration with the Canadian Centre for Architecture

Discussion focusing on the catalogue *What Does the Image Stand For?* • October 11, 5pm – 6:15pm, Arttexte

Talk by Boris Mitić • September 20, 12:45pm, Galerie de l'UQAM

Talk by Nadia Myre • November 22, 12:45pm, Pavillon Judith-Jasmin's Agora, UQAM

In collaboration with UQAM's Intervenants Culturels Internationaux (ICI) Program

Portfolio Discoveries

The public is invited to discover the portfolios of 15 off-program artists on October 14 between 11am and 4pm at the Beverley Webster Rolph Hall of the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal. This activity offers a different view of the vitality of the local art scene.

Dazibao Prize

Since 2007, the Dazibao Prize has been awarded to an artist participating in MOMENTA whose work stands out for its conceptual rigour, its relevance, and its contribution to image-based practices. The recipient of the prize is invited to produce a book for Dazibao's *Les portables* series, which is launched at the following edition of the biennale at the same time as the announcement of that edition's recipient. Dedicated exclusively to one artist's project, each title in this series acts as a travelling exhibition with unlimited circulation.

Screening nights at Cinémathèque québécoise

Three screening nights presenting works by three artists of MOMENTA 2017.

Terrance Houle • September 13, 9pm

Boris Mitić • September 20, 7pm (With the artist)

Valérie Mréjen • September 27, 7pm

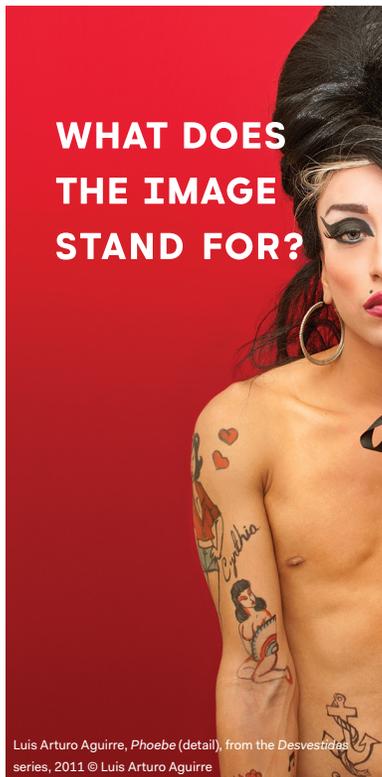
MOMENTA CREATIVE

The biennale's educational program has been designed to allow everybody to explore the many issues raised by the artists and their works. It includes stimulating creative activities that unfold throughout the biennale. Six activities are offered to families and to school, community, and other groups. These include **Images from Innu language**, inspired by Anne-Marie Proulx's series *Voix du Nitassinan*; **Stories of Identity**, in collaboration with Arc-en-ciel d'Afrique, a workshop based on Zanele Muholi's work; and **Echo of an Image**, led by artist Frédéric Lavoie and inspired by his work *Rue Notre-Dame, 1887*. In addition, three types of guided tours (**MOMENTA Tour, Mix and Match Tour, One-off Tour**) provide visitors with opportunities to discover different exhibition hubs.

SATELLITE PROGRAMMING

Public Art Tour

Presented by Art public Montréal, a photographic tour unfolds through the city. It is composed of more than 30 photographs by Québec-based artists, integrated into Montreal's public space. The photographs and their locations are listed on the **Art public Montréal website**.



Satellite Exhibitions

To extend the reflection on the image's multiple meanings, 7 private galleries present the works of artists in relation to the biennale's theme.

Galerie Antoine Ertaskiran | Dominique Pétrin, August 30 – September 30

ELLEPHANT | Elena Willis, September 6 – October 14

Galerie Hugues Charbonneau | Maria Hupfield, Chloë Lum & Yannick Desranleau, September 9 – October 21

Galerie Simon Blais | Bertrand Carrière, September 6 – October 14

Galerie Trois Points | Natasha Niederstrass, September 9 – October 28

Patrick Mikhail Gallery | Velibor Bozović, Jinyoung Kim, Thomas Kneubühler, David K. Ross, August 31 – October 14

Pierre-François Ouellette art contemporain | Chih-Chien Wang, August 31 – September 30

Talk

Within its exhibition of Quebec photographic books, the Olivieri Bookstore organizes a talk on September 27 at 7pm, inviting four actors from the photography community in Quebec and Canada to reflect on the practices of the photographic book in the space of artistic creation contemporary.

PUBLICATION

MOMENTA would be incomplete without its catalogue, co-produced with the prestigious publishing house Kerber Verlag. By considering the content and meaning of fixed and moving images, the artists and authors in this volume invite readers to cast a critical eye upon the testimonials offered. The catalogue includes essays by Mara Ambrožič, Ami Barak, Mirna Boyadjian, Françoise Docquier, Sophie Hackett, and Bénédicte Ramade, as well as a photo-based project by Micah Lexier. The publication is being launched at the inauguration of the biennale on September 6.

So you won't miss anything in the 2017 edition, a detailed program is available for free at all of our exhibition partners and on momentabiennale.com.

Providing access to all biennale activities, MOMENTA Passports are available at La Vitrine box office ([online: lavitrine.com](http://online.lavitrine.com)).

ABOUT MOMENTA

For nearly 30 years, Le Mois de la Photo à Montréal has been offering a stimulating framework within which to study current practices, evolutions, and issues associated with the still and moving image in Western culture, and to take the pulse of trends in contemporary image making. Renamed MOMENTA | Biennale de l'image in 2017, the organization plays a crucial role in the local, national, and international ecology of the visual arts community. Through its curatorial approach, renowned guest curators develop rigorous artistic programming based on relevant themes; the biennale enjoys a well-established reputation in its city and country, as well as abroad. It actively contributes to the recognition of Canadian artists – who comprise more than 50% of the artists in each edition – by presenting their work within an international context, in association with 15 exhibition partners. In 7 editions, the organization has exhibited more than 2,000 works by 400 artists, and welcomed almost 22 million visitors.

Ami Barak | Guest curator

Ami Barak is an independent curator and art critic who lives and works in Paris. He has launched numerous exhibitions and projects, including *Taryn Simon: Rear Views, A Star-Forming Nebula, and the Office of Foreign Propaganda*, Jeu de Paume (Paris, 2015); *Julião Sarmiento: la chose, même – the real thing*, Fondation Calouste Gulbenkian (Paris, 2016); and *Peter Kogler: Next*, ING Art Center (Brussels, 2016). Artistic director of the Salon de Montrouge (2016 and 2017), he is also the co-curator of *Life – A User's Manual*, Art Encounters, Contemporary Art Biennale (Timisoara, 2017).



Partenaires d'exposition | Exhibition Partners



Partenaires gouvernementaux et institutionnels | Governmental and Institutional Partners



Partenaires éducatifs | Educational Partners



Partenaire financier | Financial partner



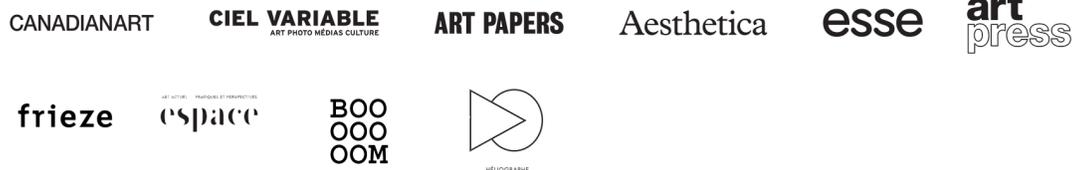
LAURENT DUVERNAY-TARDIF LILLIAN MAUER

Partenaires culturels | Cultural Partners



PIERRE-FRANÇOIS OUELLETTE ART CONTEMPORAIN

Partenaires médias | Media Partners



Partenaires de production | Production Partners



MOMENTA | Biennale de l'image
Laurence Dauphinais
relationsdepresse@momentabiennale.com
1.514.390.0383
momentabiennale.com