Creation Stories: Surpernaturel The Biennale d'art contemporain autochtone 7th edition

Christian Chapman • Bronson Jacque • Uumati Kisoun-Inuarak • Casey Koyczan • Natasha Sacobie Jason Sikoak • Krystle Silverfox • Michelle Sound • Joseph Tisiga

Curators: Lori Beavis · Emma Hassencahl-Perley · Jake Kimble · Teresa Vander Meer-Chassé

Vernissage: Saturday, June 8 1 p.m. - 5 p.m

In the presence of Samuel Ojeda and the RedTail Spirit Singers

A shuttle service from Montreal will be organized by BACA to attend the opening.

Saint-Hyacinthe, May 31, 2024 – The curators for the 7th edition of La Biennale d'art contemporain autochtone (BACA) came together across Nations and territories to create a series of exhibitions with works by more than 60 artists. Our overarching theme of *Creation Stories* guided us and subthemes were identified for each participating venue. We felt the sub-theme that best fit EXPRESSION was *Supernatural*.

Beyond scientific understanding and the laws of nature, supernatural storytelling lies. Stories across our diverse communities relay ways of creation and belief systems that inform our cultural practices and ultimately, our identities. Familiar characters, such as the Trickster, appear in many communities offering us guidance and ways of challenging societal norms. Teachable moments are embedded in many of these stories, to pass along valuable lessons to future generations. And perhaps, the most common and important stories are those of creation. The stories of where we come from as Nations is what makes us Indigenous Peoples and it is within these stories that we find our beliefs, voices, and powers.

The artworks featured in EXPRESSION are, each in their own right, strong but when put together become significantly impactful and thought-provoking. Each artist brought with them striking compilations in a variety of media including installation, sculpture, painting, drawing, and video work. The mere size of many of the works are otherworldly, not to mention their content. We ask audience members to allow yourselves to be embraced by the supernatural.

The Biennale d'art contemporain autochtone (BACA) would like to thank the Canada Council for the Arts, the Quebec government – Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, Fonds d'investissement pour le rayonnement de la Métropole, Secrétariat des affaires Autochtones –, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, Tourisme Montréal, as well as its presentation and media partners.

Launched in 2012, the Contemporary Native Art Biennial (BACA) is a Montreal-based non-profit organization (registered in 2016) that promotes the work of Indigenous artists. The biennial is held in multiple venues, with each iteration focusing on a specific theme. The event is aimed at an ever-growing audience—Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike—and features both emerging and established artists. Our mission is to promote Indigenous art and to sensitize and educate the public on the cultural issues of the First Nations.

Dates and locations

DRAC – Art actuel Drummondville: March 23 – May 16, 2024, Stewart Hall Art Gallery: April 27 – June 23, 2024, Art Mûr: May 4 – June 22, 2024, Musée des beaux-arts de Sherbrooke: May 16 – September 8 2024, La Guilde: May 16 – July 14, 2024, Maison de la culture Verdun: May 18 – July 7, 2024, autumn 2024, travelling exhibition, Musée régional de Rimouski

—

Trousse créative

Get your *L'art pour emporter!* family creative kit, with creative workshops to do at home. Inspired by our art programming and the seasons that punctuate the year, our kits are filled with creative projects and illustrated tutorials for young and old alike. Through a variety of techniques and materials, experiment and develop your imagination.

Espace lecture

EXPRESSION now offers visitors the ESPACE LECTURE. It's a space where they can take the time to take a look at various publications that testify to the richness of contemporary art in Quebec and Canada. Since 2001, all exhibitions presented at EXPRESSION have been accompanied by print or digital publications containing analytic essays. The monographs that you'll find in the ESPACE LECTURE were published or co-published by EXPRESSION. Produced in close collaboration with the artists and curators, these publications help to highlight the visual arts and advances in research and knowledge in contemporary art.

In 2018, to facilitate the distribution of these books, EXPRESSION co-founded the Collectif d'éditeurs d'art contemporain (CÉAC).













Conseil des arts Canada Council du Canada for the Arts



Bibliothèques

Saint-Hyacinthe



EXPRESSION, Centre d'exposition de Saint-Hyacinthe

495, avenue Saint-Simon Saint-Hyacinthe, QC J2S 5C3 Téléphone 450 773-4209 www.expression.qc.ca Heures d'ouverture · entrée gratuite Du mardi au jeudi 10h - 17h Vendredi 10h - 19h Samedi et dimanche 12h - 17h Lundi fermé

Sources et renseignements

Véronique Grenier et Émilie Breton veronique.grenier@expression.qc.ca communications@expression.qc.ca 450 773-4209