

**Art Toronto Announces Programming and Projects for 2018 Fair**

**Toronto, ON (October 2018)** – Art Toronto is excited to announce the programming and projects for this year’s fair. As part of its programming section, Art Toronto presents the **PLATFORM Speaker Series**, an original series of lectures and panel discussions from prominent art world figures, including 11 talks that look at the art world in Canada and beyond. This includes **POWER TALKS**, a series of lectures organized in partnership with *The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery*.

This year’s projects include a series of installations, as well as “The Park” - a video works project with a landscape theme featuring both Canadian and Californian artists, including works by Shannon Bool, Nathalie Boujold, and Kandis Williams.

**PLATFORM Speaker Series Highlights**

**/ POWER TALKS: Social Engineer, The Artist as Bridge Builder with Cannupa Hanska Luger**

Presented by The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery

Friday, October 26, 4:00PM

Cannupa Hanska Luger is a multi-disciplinary artist working to respond to timely and site-specific issues through social collaboration. Raised on the Standing Rock Reservation in North Dakota and famed for his work on the front lines of the Standing Rock protests, Luger explores how in our politically polarized world, an artist can work to build communities and connect people that may not have engaged with one another otherwise.

**/ Isuma Screening and Curator’s Talk**

Presented by the National Gallery of Canada

Friday, October 26, 6:00PM

This exciting talk is presented by the National Gallery of Canada, who recently announced that the artist collective Isuma - led by Zacharias Kunuk and Norman Cohn - will represent Canada at the 58th International Art Exhibition in La Biennale di Venezia in 2019. The Isuma POWER TALK includes a screening of a recently completed episode of “Hunting with My Ancestors” and a discussion about the recently reopened Canada Pavilion in Venice.

**/ POWER TALKS: Why Museums Does Exist? With Sandra Guimarães**

Presented by The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery

Sunday, October 28, 2:30PM

This talk will consider questions about the role of museums today – their proximity to the inhabitants of a city, and ability to create a space in which production can occur. Since August 2015, Guimarães has served as Director of Programs and Chief Curator at the Remai Modern, Saskatoon, following 11 years at the Serralves Museum in Porto, Portugal.

**/ Art in the Cloud**

Presented by C Magazine

Friday, October 26, 2:30PM

Art in the Cloud will be moderated by New York-based writer and co-host of *Red Scare*, Anna Khachiyan. Acting as a companion piece to her essay *Art Won't Save Us* (Open Space, 2018), this talk examines the stakes of art's infatuation with digital platforms and asking what part, if any, art has in posing a political challenge to capitalism.

**/ Of National Importance**

Presented by the Art Dealers Association of Canada (ADAC)

Sunday, October 28, 1:00PM

A recent judgment by the Federal Court of Canada on what constitutes Cultural Property challenges the meanings of "national heritage," and "national importance." This roundtable discussion will probe the

essence and ramifications of the decision, both for the Canadian art market and the future of national public collections. Moderated by Independent Art Historian Gregory Humeniuk, this talk is presented by the Art Dealers Association of Canada (ADAC).

**Projects Highlights**

**/ Curtis Santiago, *Ancestor Rocks***

Presented by COOPER COLE

Born and raised in Edmonton, Canada, Toronto-based artist Curtis Talwst Santiago explores issues of trans-culturalism, memory, and ancestry in the contemporary diasporic experience. Santiago's presentation for Art Toronto will include a selection of paintings and rock sculptures, as he contemplates unknown ancestors and genetic imagination through the rocks and their connection to the earth. Santiago uses these surfaces to imagine his ancestors and the landscape that traced their lives.

**/ Karen Tam, *Morning Blossom***

Presented by Galerie Hugues Charbonneau

Karen Tam's installation explores how Chinese spaces and material culture are formed and interpreted in the West. The title of this work is taken from the memoirs of Lu Xun (considered the most influential writer in modern Chinese literature), in which he recounts stories of his childhood and shares his views on memories and their fallibility.

**/ Derya Akay & Anne Low, *Butter and Breads***

Presented by Unit 17

Unit 17 will present new and recent works by Derya Akay and Anne Low together for the first time. As two important artists from the gallery's roster, they highlight a commitment towards contemporary Canadian sculpture and installation. Both artists are driven by a deep curiosity of how things are made – they explore the means of production of non-art objects, and how these processes or presentations find confluence within their art making. These non-art objects become works themselves, engaging in questions of self-sufficiency, self-reliance and process.

**/ THE TABLE X ART METROPOLE X ART TORONTO**

Brittany Shepherd is an interdisciplinary artist who uses video, photo, sculpture and installation to explore notions of private and public space, class and perception. As an extension of her art practice, she is the founder and director of the experimental art platform “*The Table*” in Toronto – a platform which invites artists, writers and curators to create private one-night happenings with the aim of fostering engagement and participation amongst the guests. This year *The Table* will be physically transported to the Art Metropole booth at Art Toronto where it will remain for the duration of the fair. Two performances will take place in which a curated group of sixteen artists, writers and poets will be invited to read around *The Table* in groups of eight on two separate occasions.

The readings will be streamed live on the Instagram accounts of Art Metropole and The Table for the general public to see.

**Performance Timing:**

Friday, October 26, 4:00-6:00PM

Sunday, October 28, 4:00-6:00PM

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**About Art Toronto**

Founded in 2000, Art Toronto is Canada’s international contemporary and modern art fair, located at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre in the city’s downtown core. Providing unique access to the Canadian art market, the fair is one of the most important annual art events in Canada. Now in its 19th year, Art Toronto presents important artwork from leading Canadian and international galleries combined with PLATFORM, our engaging series of lectures and panel discussions from prominent art world figures, curated projects, an extensive VIP Program, and top-tier cultural offerings throughout the city.

**Art Toronto 2018**

October 26-29, 2018

Metro Toronto Convention Centre

North Building

255 Front Street West

**Opening Night Preview**

Thursday, October 25, 2018

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