

BIENNALE ELEKTRA ARSENAL CONTEMPORARY ART MONTREAL

2024.05.31 – 2024.07.21



7th INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL ART BIENNIAL - ILLUSION

Thursday, May 30th, 2024 – The Biennale ELEKTRA is back for its seventh edition on May 31 in collaboration with Arsenal Contemporary Art Montreal. Created in 2012, the Biennale ELEKTRA is the largest exhibition of digital contemporary art in North America, taking place until July 21, 2024.

The Biennale ELEKTRA features 41 works from 36 artists from three continents. At Arsenal Contemporary Art Montreal, audiences move through 18,000 square feet of exhibition space, questioning the very existence of certain works, their ephemeral, immaterial, or even invisible character, and shaping their own definition of reality or illusion. This 7th Biennale is, once again, a reflection on our society that is increasingly saturated and infiltrated by digital technology.

Artists and editorial

Adad Hannah, Adam Basanta, Boris Eldagsen, Chun Hua Catherine Dong, Cinzia Campolese, Collectif Hidden Edges (Lucas Paris, Myriam Bleau), Collectif Obvious, David Rokeby, Emma Forgues, Emmanuel Pire, Eric Vernhes, Garnet Willis, Johann Baron Lanteigne, Kent Monkman, Kurt d'Haeseleer, Lee Jaehyung, Lorraine Oades, Louis-Philippe Demers, Louis-Philippe Rondeau, Matthew Biederman, Navid Navab, Nicolas Baier, Oli Sorenson, PHC collective (Mark Amerika, Will Luers, Chad Mossholder), Pierce Warnecke, Robbie Cooper, Ryan Clayton, Sébastien Lacomblez, Shu Lea Cheang, Timothy Thomasson

"In our post-factual era, the proliferation of digital communication technologies and now the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools is making a major contribution to disinformation and upending the news in 2024. The denial of reality, particularly through deep fakes, perpetuated by certain politicians toward a large part of the population slows decision making on critical issues, particularly when it comes to the environment and social issues, and will have a major impact on future generations. It is now essential to address the alternative reality that is leading to the parallel realities in which many people currently live. This 7th Biennial, once again, reflects on our increasingly digitally infiltrated and saturated societies."

Alain Thibault, curator for the ILLUSION exhibition and artistic director for ELEKTRA.

ELEKTRA, 25 years

The year 2024 marks ELEKTRA's 25th anniversary. Hosted by Arsenal Contemporary Art Montreal since 2016, the main exhibition of the Biennale reinforces this convergence between the visual arts and the digital arts by presenting a new generation of artists who are working with these new tools visibly or transparently. For the 25th anniversary of ELEKTRA, we are inviting people selected from ELEKTRA's international network to join us for a week of celebrations, performances, discussions, and cultural visits in Montréal for the 14th edition of the MIAN, from June 20 to 21, 2024.

MIAN, International Marketplace for Digital Art

The MIAN is Montréal's International Marketplace for Digital Art, a series of professional days taking place during the biennial, offer discussions, panels, and performances. Since 2007, the MIAN has been facilitating professional exchanges among major actors in the ecosystem of digital art and culture internationally. Producers and curators from around the world come together to discuss issues related to the future of art and more specifically the impact of artificial intelligence on artists' works.

ELEKTRA & Arsenal Contemporary Art

Founded in 1999, **ELEKTRA** presents and promotes artists and works created at the intersections of contemporary art and new technologies, inscribed in the latest aesthetic currents of research and experimentation. Its main activities are: the ELEKTRA International Digital Art Festival which has been showcasing audiovisual, immersive, participatory and robotic artistic performances since 1999. Created in 2012, the International Digital Art Biennial is a large exhibition featuring unique and innovative works at the crossroads of new technologies and contemporary artistic creation. The International Marketplace for Digital Art (MIAN) is an annual professional gathering open to the public. Since 2007, the MIAN has been inviting to Montreal some of the major actors in the arts and digital culture ecosystem.

Arsenal Contemporary Art is a private contemporary art and cultural initiative devoted to the support, promotion and development of Canadian contemporary art through a variety of projects, including exhibitions showcasing Canadian artists alongside international artists that are organized by in-house and guest curators. Opened in 2011 in Montreal, Arsenal Contemporary Art has since expanded to Toronto (2013) and New York (2017). Although some exhibitions travel from one city to another, the programming of each art centre is tailored to the community, space and audience of its locality. <https://www.arsenalcontemporary.com/mtl/home>

Biennale ELEKTRA - ILLUSION

May 31, 2024 to July 21, 2024

Tickets on sale now: https://arsenalcontemporarysale.ticketpro.ca/en/pages/aac_bian7?aff=aac

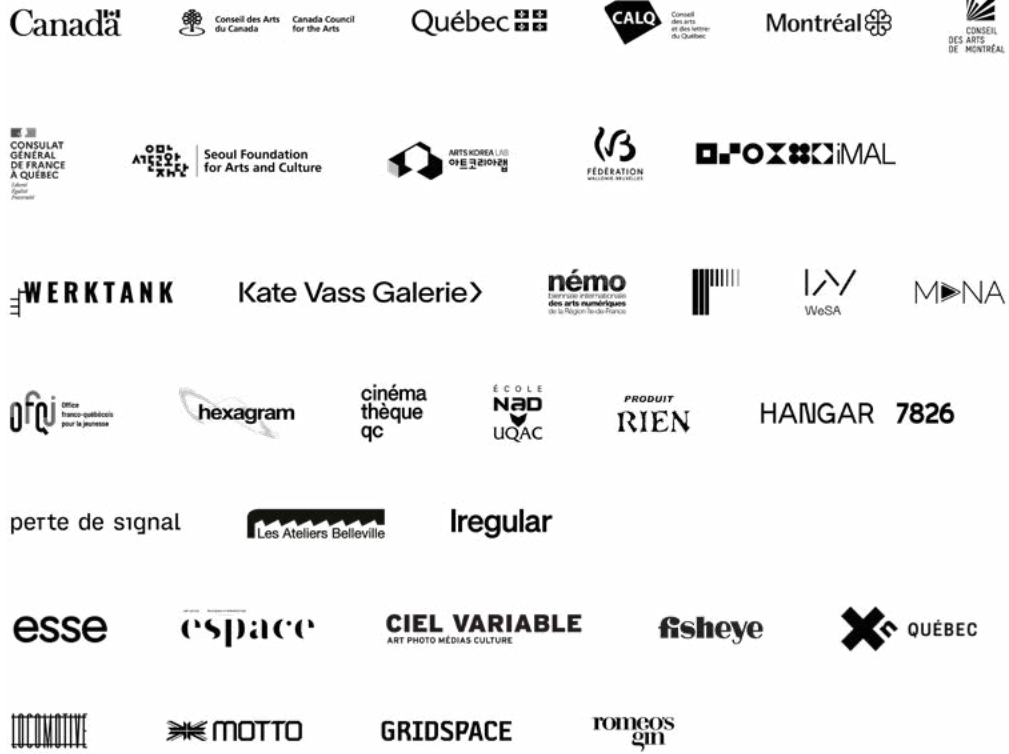
Tuesday to Thursday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ; Friday and Saturday: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. ; Wednesday, June 5, 12 and 26: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

MIAN, International Marketplace for Digital Art

June 20 from 5:30 p.m. – June 21 from 10 a.m.









ELEKTRA would like to thank its partners whose contributions are essential to its activities

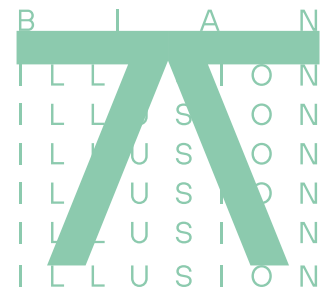


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PSEUDOMNESIA III, série Note To Myself, Boris Eldagsen, 2022-2024 © Boris Eldagsen
(promptographie encadrée sur Hahnemühle Fine Art Print, image coproduite à l'aide de générateurs d'images IA, 32 x 26 cm)



Mary, Kent Monkman, 2011 © Kent Monkman (film en couleur, 03:18 min)