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Prix Marcel Duchamp 2017 Joana  
Hadjithomas et Khalil Joreige © Centre  
Pompidou, 2017, Audrey Laurans

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**LE QUOTIDIEN DE L'ART**



## PRESS RELEASE

# JOANA HADJITHOMAS AND KHALIL JOREIGE, WINNERS OF THE 2017 MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

**Le jury du Prix Marcel Duchamp 2017 convened on Monday, 16th of October to discuss the works of the artists nominated for this edition: Maja Bajevic, Charlotte Moth, Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige and Vittorio Santoro. This deliberation took place after the presentation of the works by the four reporters designated by the artists in the following order: Diane Amiel, Vanessa Desclaux, Clément Dirié, Daniel Kurjakovic.**

**The jury comprised of seven personalities - Bernard Blistène, Gilles Fuchs, Carmen Gimenez, Erika Hoffmann, Mao Jihong, Jérôme Sans and Akemi Shiraha - awarded the 2017 Prix Marcel Duchamp 2017 to Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige.**

“I very warmly congratulate Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige for the 2017 Marcel Duchamp Prize that has just been awarded to them. I would also like to express my keen interest in the works of the three other artists gathered together on this occasion in the Centre Pompidou and whose works are presented in a group exhibition open to the public until next January. Once again, their presence testifies to the vitality of the artistic scene in France”, declared Serge Lasvignes, President of the Centre Pompidou. “The work by Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige is especially appealing due to a multidisciplinary approach which here is not “convenient”. It poetically calls upon sculpture, drawing, photography or even video. It draws on the crisscrossing of knowledge -Archaeology, History, Geology... - while playing with temporalities and scales. The Centre Pompidou is the most appropriate place for these encounters, these collisions, this research. Here is where the sensitive and the intelligible expand our understanding; here the artist-become-researcher attempts to elucidate the present.”

“The two artists proposed an environment resolutely in keeping with our present time, touching upon the memory of urban construction sites that they excavated by core drilling to reveal the strata of their respective histories. Impacted by their links to their culture, mixing the history of the Lebanon, Greece and France where they live today, Hadjithomas & Joreige embody the complexity of intermingled histories where the buried past and the havoc of the present incessantly haunt their consciousness. A film completes this device as well as stratigraphic plans. The art of Joanna Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige suggests an archaeology of memory, at the core of an unfailingly troubled present”, declared Bernard Blistène, President of the jury.

“Beyond a choice very open onto a vast panorama of artists from the French scene, the Marcel Duchamp Prize is the bearer of a humanist message illustrating that French spirit of open-mindedness and balance to which I am deeply attached and that it seems to me today to be more important than ever for us to defend and promote it. Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige wonderfully embody those foreign artists who have chosen to come and work in France for the quality and vitality of the artistic life they find here. Settled in Paris, this duo of Lebanese artists is today an integral part of our French scene. I am very happy that the Franco-Lebanese friendship is being celebrated once again! I would also like to pay tribute to the remarkable quality of the works proposed by the three other artists and I am once again delighted by the momentum that the exhibition of the nominated artists at the Centre Pompidou gives to our prize!” added Gilles Fuchs, President of the ADIAF.

The announcement of the winner was made on Monday, 16th of October 2017 in Paris at the Centre Pompidou by Gilles Fuchs, President of the Association for the International Diffusion of French Art (ADIAF) and Bernard Blistène, Director of the Musée national d’art moderne and President of the jury, in the presence of Serge Lasvignes, President of the Centre Pompidou.

The ADIAF awarded Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige, winners of the 2017 Marcel Duchamp 2017, a financial endowment of 35 000 € and, for the first time, to symbolize this award, a sculpture by Fabrice Hyber in painted bronze. For the first edition, a bottle of Paris water is adorned with a tank top.



Fabrice Hyber,  
sculpture for the 2017 Marcel Duchamp Prize

#### THE INTERNATIONAL JURY FOR THE 2017 MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE

Bernard Blistène (France), Director of the Musée national d'art moderne, Paris

Gilles Fuchs (France), President of the ADIAF, collector

Carmen Gimenez (United States), Exhibition curator, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York

Erika Hoffmann (Germany), Collector, Sammlung Hoffmann, Berlin

Mao Jihong (China), Collector, President of Mixmind Exception and Fangsuo, Guangzhou

Jérôme Sans (France), Artistic director, exhibition curator

Akemi Shiraha (France-Japan), Representing the Marcel Duchamp association for the prize

#### PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE PRIX MARCEL DUCHAMP

Thomas HIRSCHHORN (2000), Dominique GONZALEZ-FOERSTER (2002), Mathieu MERCIER (2003),

Carole BENZAKEN (2004), Claude CLOSKY (2005), Philippe MAYAUX (2006), Tatiana TROUVÉ (2007),

Laurent GRASSO (2008), Saâdane AFIF (2009), Cyprien GAILLARD (2010), Mircea CANTOR (2011),

Daniel DEWAR et Grégory GICQUEL (2012), Latifa ECHAKHCH (2013), Julien PREVIEUX (2014),

Melik OHANIAN (2015) and Kader ATTIA (2016).

#### INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE - [www.adiaf.com](http://www.adiaf.com)

One of the most prestigious contemporary art awards, the Marcel Duchamp Prize was created in 2000 by the ADIAF, Association for the International Diffusion of French Art, which groups together 400 contemporary art collectors rallied around the French scene. Since the outset, it benefits from its benchmark partnership with the Centre Pompidou. Its ambition is to bring together the most innovative artists from the French scene and help them raise their international profile. Each year, the Marcel Duchamp Prize is awarded to one of four artists, either French or living in France, all of them working in the field of the plastic and visual arts: installation, video, painting, photography and sculpture...

L'ADIAF bénéficie du soutien de mécènes engagés auprès des collectionneurs qui apportent leur aide généreuse au déploiement du Prix Marcel Duchamp : ADAGP, ARTCURIAL, COMITÉ PROFESSIONNEL DES GALERIES D'ART, FONDATION D'ENTREPRISE HERMÈS, INLEX IP EXPERTISE

The Marcel Duchamp Prize benefits from the support of sponsors committed to the collectors who give their generous help to the ongoing development of the Marcel Duchamp Prize: ADAGP, ARTCURIAL, COMITE PROFESSIONEL DES GALERIES D'ART, FONDATION D'ENTREPRISE HERMÈS and INLEX IP EXPERTISE.

The Marcel Duchamp Prize's catalogue benefits from the support of the French Ministry of Culture and its Directorate General of Artistic Creation (DGCA).

The Marcel Duchamp Prize's international exhibitions are supported by the INSTITUT FRANÇAIS.

The Marcel Duchamp Prize also surrounds itself with the expertise of partners who wished to associate themselves with the Prize's organization: CREATIVTV, HORIZON BLEU, SILVANA EDITORIALE and CHAMPAGNE CASTELNAU.

**PRATICAL INFORMATION**

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**75191 Paris cedex 04**  
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**00 33 (0)1 44 78 12 33**  
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**Opening hours**  
Exhibition open every day  
from 11 am to 9 pm  
except on Tuesday

**Price**  
€14  
concessions: €11  
Valid the same day for  
the musée national d'art moderne  
and all exhibitions  
Free admission for members  
of the Centre Pompidou  
(holders of the annual pass)

**Single tickets can be bought  
on [www.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.centrepompidou.fr)  
and printed at home.**

You can find the entire programme  
on [www.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.centrepompidou.fr)

**AT THE SAME TIME AT THE CENTRE**

**DAVID HOCKNEY**  
**RÉTROSPECTIVE**  
21 JUNE - 23 OCTOBER 2017  
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**ANDRÉ DERAÏN. 1904-1914**  
**LA DÉCENNIE RADICALE**  
4 OCTOBER 2017 - 29 JANUARY 2018  
press officer  
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**COSMOPOLIS 1 :**  
**COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE**  
18 OCTOBER - 18 DECEMBER 2017  
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**CÉSAR**  
**THE RETROSPECTIVE**  
13 DECEMBER 2017 - 26 MARCH 2018  
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**Alicia Knock**, curator  
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Création contemporaine  
et prospective department



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