



B I E Bienal Internacional
N A L de Arte Contemporáneo
S U R de América del Sur

UNTREF
UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL
DE TRES DE FEBRERO



June 2019

PRESS RELEASE

THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE IN BUENOS AIRES FOR THE SECOND EDITION OF BIENALSUR

With the contribution of the FRENCH INSTITUTE IN ARGENTINA

« **Way of seeing** »

A tour of the French scene amid the Marcel Duchamp Prize artists.

Museo Nacional de Arte Decorativo

Opening on June 23, 2019 - Exhibition: June 24 to October 31, 2019

Av. del Libertador 1902, C1425 CABA, Buenos-Aires, Argentina – www.mnad.com

At the invitation of **Anibal Jozami**, General Director of BIENALSUR, and with the contribution of the **French Institute in Argentina**, the **first exhibition of MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE in Buenos Aires proposes a look at the French scene** through artists honoured by this prestigious collectors' prize which lights on the energy and vitality of contemporary art in France. Eight artists from the Marcel Duchamp Prize have been selected by **Diana Welscher**, Artistic and Academic Director of the biennial.

Pierre ARDOUVIN (nominated 2007), Clément COGITORE (laureate 2018), Laurent GRASSO (laureate 2008), Camille HENROT (nominated 2010), Anri SALA (nominated 2002), Zineb SEDIRA (nominated 2015), Barthélémy TOGUO (nominated 2016), Thu-Van TRAN (nominated 2018).

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THE MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE INTERNATIONAL AMBASSADOR TO THE FRENCH SCENE

Created in 2000 by the ADIAF, Association for the International Diffusion of French Art, each year the Marcel Duchamp Prize honours a winner from among four artists, either French or residing in France, working in the field of the plastic and visual arts. Organized from the outset in partnership with the Centre Pompidou, this collector's prize has acquired worldwide prestige, placing it today among the major national benchmark prizes on the international scene.

The Marcel Duchamp Prize has purposely chosen to recognize the most innovative artists of their generation in the aim of encouraging and confronting all artistic forms: painting, sculpture, video, photography, installation... With 80 artists distinguished since its creation in 2000, including 18 winners, the Marcel Duchamp Prize provides a **wide panorama of the many varied contemporary art trends** in France today.

The organization of exhibitions of the artists singled out by this prestigious prize throws invaluable light on the energy and vitality of the current French scene.

To date, the ADIAF can be credited with fifty of so exhibitions, including 20 worldwide organized with the generous support of the Institut français.

Recent exhibitions:

EUROPE: Paris, London, Brussels, Ludwigshafen/Germany

ASIA: Beijing, Shanghai, Tokyo, Seoul

Information: www.adiaf.com

ARTISTS AND WORKS ON SHOW

PIERRE ARDOUVIN, nominated for the 2007 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1955 à Crest, France, lives and works in Paris

Represented by : Praz-Delavallade Gallery, Paris-Los Angeles, Yoko Uhoda Gallery, Cork/Belgium and Albert Baronian / Yoko Uhoda Knokke-le-Zoute Belgium

Hôtel de l'Univers, 2019

Specific project for BIENALSUR inspired by the former Hôtel des Migrants in the harbour of Buenos Aires which has become today the MUNTREFF. During his visit, the image of the great French poet Arthur Rimbaud came immediately in mind of the artist. Arthur Rimbaud left Europe in 1880 and has been living in self-imposed exile in Yemen where he stayed at The Hôtel de l'Univers in Aden.

Pierre Ardouvin perpetuates the memory of the social and political transformations of that era, the conflict of generations and the end of the Glorious Thirties. It bears the disenchanting vision of a world on the rebound from its utopias and is the melancholic echo of a society in mutation, of cultures about to disappear. (extract from De leur temps catalogue)

CLÉMENT COGITORE, laureate of the 2018 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1983 at Colmar, France, lives and works in Paris

Represented by: Galerie Eva Hober, Paris ; et Galerie Reinhard Hauff, Stuttgart

Tahrir, 2012

Vidéo, 11 min

Courtesy Galerie Eva Hober, Paris - Galerie Reinhard Hauff, Stuttgart

Mixing films, videos, installations and photography, Clément Cogitore questions the ways and means of cohabitation between human beings with their images in the current media world marked by revolutions, new means of communication and social networks.

LAURENT GRASSO, laureat of the 2008 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1972, lives and works in Paris.

Represented by Galerie Perrotin, Paris

Soleil Noir, 2014

Film 16 mm transféré,

11'40", en boucle

Courtesy of the artist and Perrotin

© Laurent Grasso / ADAGP, Paris 2019

*The work of **Laurent Grasso** explores the different registers of the image as a vector for reality and as source of knowledge. He develops multiple narrations derived from a partial observation of reality and of these indeterminate, doubt-filled spaces that give rise to scientific and historical conjecture. Playing with the mechanisms relating to belief, paranoia or rationality, his installations and video devices function as spaces of psychological experience in which a disturbance, or a loss of reference points occurs.*

CAMILLE HENROT, nominated for the 2010 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1978, lives and works between Paris et New York

Represented by: kamel mennour, Paris

Million Dollars Point, 2011

Video

5 min 35 s

© ADAGP Camille Henrot

Courtesy the artist and kamel mennour, Paris / London

© ADAGP Camille Henrot

***Camille Henrot** asks us to questions ourselves about what defines and rules our existence and our relation with the world, and how the relations between authority and knowledge are elaborated. In this way, she explores the anthropological references, cultural boundaries and exoticism, but also eroticism or even language in the era of internet and telephonic platforms.*

ANRI SALA, nominated for the 2002 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1974 in Tirana, Albania, lives and works in Berlin

Represented by: la galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris, Hauser & Wirth; Esther Schipper, Berlin; Galerie Rüdiger Schöttle, Munich

Missing Landscape, 2001

Projection, son stéréo | Projection, stereo sound 14min55s

Courtesy of the artist and Galerie Chantal Crousel, Paris

© Anri Sala / ADAGP, Paris 2019

Anri Sala's practice is developed over a wide range of mediums, including video, photography, installation and, more recently, drawing and sculpture. Because the artist grants great importance to light, to sound and scenography, his works are often shown in spaces that stimulate our senses and create a connection between body and architecture.

ZINEB SEDIRA, nominated for the 2015 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1963, lives and works between Paris, Algiers and London

Represented by: kamel mennour, Paris

MiddleSea, 2008

Video projection (color, sound)

Super 16 mm - 16:9 format -16 min

Soundtrack by Mikhail Karikis

Production : Arts Council England, London & Henry Moore Foundation, Liverpool

View of the exhibition "Shipwreck : The death of a journey", kamel mennour, Paris

© Zineb Sedira / DACS, London

© Photo. Marc Damage

Courtesy the artist and kamel mennour, Paris/London

*Born in France of Algerian parents and settled in London, **Zineb Sedira** is interested in the history of the individual and the private and personal caught in the course of history with a capital H, in particular that of Algeria. She has dedicated herself to movements of populations, to mass exodus and journeys but also to melancholy, language and humour.*

BARTHELEMY TOGUO, nominated for the 2016 Marcel Duchamp Prize

Born in 1967 in M'Balmayo. Lives between Paris and Bandjoun, Cameroon.

Represented by Galerie Lelong & Co, Paris

Travel to Kochi, 2018

20 wooden stamps, 50 prints on paper, 96 postcards

Pepper House, Fort Kochi

Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2018, India -12 December 2018 - 29 March 2019

Courtesy Bandjoun Station and Galerie Lelong & Co.

*Moving freely from drawing to sculpture, video, performance and installations, **Barthélémy Togu** portrays the points of contact between heterogeneous materials in works inspired by his experience, his travels and his encounters. Political commitment is fundamental to this humanist artist whose drawings and watercolours celebrate the human body and nature in all its forms. The universal dimension of his work is expressed in his favorite themes such as life, death, suffering and happiness.*

THU VAN TRAN, nominated for the 2017 Marcel Duchamp prize

Born in 1979 in Hô Chi Min-City, Vietnam

Lives and works in Paris

Represented by: Galerie Meessen De Clercq, Brussels

The Yellow speaks, 2016 (excerpt)

A 16mm film and projection, 50D Kodak negative, Wittner black and white positive, 4'12", sound, subtitled.

Courtesy of the artist and Meessen De Clercq gallery

*Working across a range of forms and materials, **Thu-Van Tran** uses her own experience as a cultural outsider – a Vietnamese woman living in France – to explore physical and cultural displacement and history of colonialism, subjects that have become poignantly relevant in today's climate.*



Presided over by Gilles Fuchs, the ADIAF, Association for the International Diffusion of French Art, groups together nearly 400 contemporary art collectors firmly committed to the adventure of creation. Sponsored by art-patron companies, the ADIAF has set itself the task of **highlighting the creative energy and vitality of the French scene at the beginning of the 21st century** and of helping to raise its international profile. Created in 2000 by the ADIAF, the Marcel Duchamp Prize is one of its most outstanding initiatives. Organized from the outset with the Centre Pompidou, this collector's prize intends to bring together the most innovative artists and confront all artistic forms. Each year, it honours a winner from among four French artists or artists residing in France, working in the field of the Plastic and Visual arts: installation, video, painting, photography and sculpture... The four artists nominated for each edition are chosen by a committee of collectors, enthusiastic actors in the art world, which is what make this prize so unique. The "selection of artists" is then submitted to an international jury, uniting experts considered to be authorities in the contemporary art world – curators of major institutions, French and foreign collectors – responsible for choosing the winner to whom the ADIAF offers a financial endowment of 35 000 euros. The selection committee and the jury are renewed each year. Over the years, the Marcel Duchamp has established itself as one of the most relevant vectors of information about contemporary art in France. An Ambassador of the French scene, it has acquired a reputation and prestige placing it **among the top international benchmark prizes in contemporary art**. The fifty or so exhibitions organized to date by the ADIAF worldwide around the Marcel Duchamp Prize throw invaluable light on the current vitality of contemporary art in France.

MARCEL DUCHAMP PRIZE winners : *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 & Grégory Gicquel (2012), Latifa Echakhch (2013), Julien Prévieux (2014), Melik Ohanian (2015), Kader Attia (2016), Joana Hadjithomas & Khalil Joreige (2017) and Clément Cogitore (2018).*

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The second edition of BIENALSUR, the International Contemporary Art Biennial of South America, the greatest cultural event from Argentina to the world, will be held between May and November 2019 with the participation of more than **400 artists**. **The exhibitions will be organized in 43 cities of a score of countries at more than one hundred venues**, including museums, cultural centres, institutions and iconic urban areas, under the premise of bringing a diversity of contemporary artistic manifestations to the public free of charge

"We needed a completely different biennial that met other criteria and had a cultural policy. Biennials are generally held in cities and intended for the public that travels to them rather than for their residents. BIENALSUR is different; it is for the people and reaches out to all those cities as well as sectors of the public that are traditionally left out. In a world that builds walls, BIENALSUR builds integration processes". Aníbal Jozami, General Director of BIENALSUR and Rector of the Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero (UNTREF):

Artistic and Academic Director of the biennial: Diana Wechsler

www.bienalsur.org

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Under the administrative supervision of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MAEDI) and the Ministry of Culture and Communication (MCC), the **Institut français** actively contributes to France's foreign influence via the promotion of its image and the defence of its interests whether they be economic, linguistic or cultural. Its projects and programs take into account local contexts and can rely on a unique capacity for deployment throughout the vast network of cultural services in French Embassies, Instituts français and French Alliances on the five continents.
www.institutfrancais.com