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## Press kit

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# Prix Marcel Duchamp 2023

## The nominees

Bertille Bak

Bouchra Khalili

Tarik Kiswanson

Massinissa Selmani

4 October 2023 – 8 January 2024

Galerie du musée and Galerie d'art graphique, Level 4

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### Press Kit

#### Communication and digital department

Director  
**Thomas Aillagon**

Press officer  
**Clotilde Sence**  
T. + 33 (0)1 44 78 45 79  
[clotilde.sence@centrepompidou.fr](mailto:clotilde.sence@centrepompidou.fr)

[centrepompidou.fr](http://centrepompidou.fr)  
[@CentrePompidou](https://twitter.com/CentrePompidou)  
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General Delegate  
and Press Officer  
**Caroline Crabbe**  
+ 33 (0)6 10 19 36 31  
[caroline.crabbe@adiaf.com](mailto:caroline.crabbe@adiaf.com)  
[www.adiaf.com](http://www.adiaf.com)



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The 4 artists nominated for the Prix Marcel Duchamp 2023 - Photo credit © Julie Ansiau

## Prix Marcel Duchamp 2023 The nominees

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Tarik Kiswanson, Massinissa Selmani

4 October 2023 – 8 January 2024

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### Curator

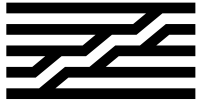
Angela Lampe, curator, Musée national d'art moderne, modern collections department

From 4 October 2023 to 8 January 2024, the Centre Pompidou will host the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Prix Marcel Duchamp, presenting the works and installations of the four artists nominated on 12 January. The winner of the 2023 edition will be chosen by an international panel of judges and revealed on Monday 16 October.

Established in 2000 to showcase the vibrancy of the French art scene, the Marcel Duchamp Prize rewards the most representative artists of their generation and promotes internationally the diversity of practices currently being developed in France.

This close partnership between the Association for the International Diffusion of French Art (ADIAF) and the Centre Pompidou is part of a resolute desire to promote the French art scene to as many people as possible and ensure the support that these artists need. Since the prize was launched, it has honoured over 90 artists, with 21 winners. As of 2016, the four nominated artists present a group exhibition at the Centre Pompidou, before the winner is announced, thereby offering visitors a snapshot of artistic creation today.

The social and the collective, identity and heritage, migration and uprooting, the stories missing from our histories, the exploitation of the South and the muted violence of colonial history are all important themes explored in contemporary creation. The four artists shortlisted this year for the Marcel Duchamp award, Bertille Bak, Bouchra Khalili, Tarik Kiswanson and Massinissa Selmani, each refer to these themes, in their own, distinct way.



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Together, they have put forward some “possible routes to new forms of political subjectivation.” (Jacques Rancière).

Having each chosen interdisciplinarity, all four artists use methods that resonate with each other: montage and cut-up techniques, inflection by the absurd and burlesque, fictional or dramatised documentation of fragile communities. Other aspects, however, show diversity between their work: collective statements contrasting the strain caused by individual uprooting, lightly sketched lines contrasting the aura of a sculpted form, investigative work contrasting an offbeat vision. One question is of concern the whole group formed by a vote: that of the importance of their own life stories. Taking a stance, as imposed by contemporary society, each of these four artists puts forward a very singular response.

## The artists

### Bertille Bak

Born in 1983 in Arras (France)

Lives and works in Paris

Represented by Xippas gallery (Paris), The Gallery Apart (Roma)



**Bertille Bak**

Photo credit © Julie Ansiau

**"I aspire to the creation of a common ground, imagining a new repertory of collective action on the fringe of ordinary protestation. There is no promise of change, but we do gain the experience of striving towards a modest, fitful initiation into insubordination."**

Video maker and visual artist Bertille Bak brandishes both her family heritage, as the granddaughter of Polish miners in the north of France, and the singularity of popular strains of culture, in a body of work that veers between sociological documentary and poetic fiction. As an artist she is fascinated by communities on the fringe of contemporary society, examining their rituals, motions and objects, which then fuel her projects. While her works are nourished by long-lasting, painstaking observation, often from within, they surpass the limitations of mere recordings of reality with amusing digressions, bordering on burlesque and the absurd. These disruptions bear witness to her profoundly humanist take on fragile social contexts, on the verge of extinction. For her, it is all about sharing a rite of passage, a fight, a resistance.

For the Prix Marcel Duchamp, Bertille Bak has produced a video installation entitled *Still Life* (part 1: Winter). This new project is currently being researched and has as its starting point the French feast days and traditions symbolised by plants, such as roses on Valentine's Day. The flower industry is not only absurd in ecological terms, but also maintains the imbalance between North and South, with mass consumption in northern cities of plants grown in the southern countryside.

A graduate of the Paris School of Fine Arts and Le Fresnoy Art School in Tourcoing, Bertille Bak has participated in many collective and personal exhibitions: at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris in 2012, at the Merz Foundation cultural centre in Turin in 2022 and more recently at the Louvre Lens in 2023. She won the Mario Merz Prize in Turin in 2019.

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## Bouchra Khalili

Born in 1975 in Casablanca (Morocco)

Lives and works in Berlin

Represented by mor charpentier gallery (Paris and Bogota) and ADN gallery (Barcelona)

**“For over 20 years, I have meditated on a series of simple questions: when someone speaks, who speaks? When we speak, do we speak alone? Who stands behind us, speaking with us?”**



**Bouchra Khalili**  
Photo credit © Julie Ansiau

Bouchra Khalili deftly uses equal measures of film and video installations, photographs, silkscreen prints and editorial project to explore the complex relations between subjective speech and civic stances to imagine a future community. Each of her projects may be envisaged as a platform from which the members of minorities may put forward, implement and share strategies and arguments for resistance, tapping into their vernacular knowledge. A host of voices, including those of the past, reinforce the ghostly dimension of her works. Paying careful attention to pace and musicality, ensuring smooth transitions between each cut, the artist works on all stages of her shooting projects right through to editing, as the culmination of her artistic approach since she co-founded the film library in Tangiers some 15 years ago.

For the Prix Marcel Duchamp, she is presenting a selection of works that demonstrate her core approach, rooted in the complex interactions between language, translation, speaking, poetry, and their close ties with the imagination of a future community.

Bouchra Khalili studied film at La Sorbonne Nouvelle and graduated from the Paris-Cergy School of Art and Design. She has had many personal exhibitions worldwide, at the Palais de Tokyo in 2015, MoMA in New York in 2016, the Jeu de Paume in 2018, MFA Boston in 2019, the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art and the Luma Arles art centre in 2023. She has participated in many international events including the 18<sup>th</sup> Biennale of Sydney, the 55<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale, the 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Sharjah Biennial and documenta 14 in Athens and Kassel.

## Tarik Kiswanson

Born in 1986 in Halmstad (Sweden)

Lives and works in Paris, France and Amman, Jordan.

Represented by the gallery carlier | gebauer (Berlin and Madrid) and Sfeir-Semler Gallery (Hamburg and Beirut)

**"My identity has been defined by several cultures, my abstract works stem from my own condition as a second-generation immigrant, shaped in the aftermath of displacement. Throughout my life, I have used sculpture and writing to explore transitory and interstitial states of the human condition."**



Tarik Kiswanson

Photo credit © Julie Ansiau

Tarik Kiswanson, artist and poet was born to a Palestinian family who had to flee their homeland for North Africa then Jordan, before arriving in Sweden in the early 1980s, where he was born. Embracing sculpture, writing, drawing, performance, film and sound, his proteiform practices explore subjects in connection with remembrance and heritage, temporality and belonging, and more generally transformation and metamorphosis. Notions such as being uprooted, regeneration and renewal permeate his art. Edouard Glissant's essay *Poetics of relation* (1990), on identity as a construction forged by relationships, inspired him to examine what has been lost and gained in migration from one generation to the next. A core theme is the idea of levitation, which he explores both as a psychic metaphor and a physical phenomenon, a perpetually transitory state.

In his new installation for the Prix Marcel Duchamp, Kiswanson is revisiting his works entitled *Nest*, monumental sculptures resembling cocoons, alluding to the stages of transformation in nature (chrysalis, eggs and seeds). This primordial form evokes the notion of shelter as well as that of becoming, but more importantly opens up a range of possibilities. In this set of works, the artist explores forms and states produced by war, trauma and displacement: reconstruction and rebirth as experienced collectively by society and intimately by individuals. Assembling cocoons using cupboards known as "mobilier de sinistrés" (emergency supply furniture), designed in France in the aftermath of WWII, encapsulates a poetic moment, as if suspended between remembrance and regeneration.

Tarik Kiswanson graduated with an MFA from the Paris School of Fine Arts in 2014 and a BFA from Central Saint Martins - University of the Arts London (2010). He presented his retrospective exhibition "Mirrorbody" at Carré d'Art, the Nîmes Museum of Contemporary Art in 2021. He has also participated in many exhibitions worldwide: in 2017 at the Grand Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art in Luxembourg, in 2018 at the Gwangju Biennale, at the Performa Biennial 19 (New York) in 2019 and at the Ural Industrial Biennial of Contemporary Art, and most recently, in 2022, at the Biennale de Lyon, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Antwerp (M HKA) and the Halland Art Museum in Halmstad. In 2023 three personal exhibitions were organised, at the Museo Tamayo in Mexico City, at the Bonniers Konsthall in Stockholm and at the Salzburg Art Association.

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## Massinissa Selmani

Born in 1980 in Algiers (Algeria)

Lives and works in Tours, France.

Represented by the gallery Anne-Sarah Bénichou (Paris), Selma Feriani (Tunis, London), Jane Lombard (New-York)

**"I feel more comfortable in lightweight forms in which fragility faces off tragedy."**



**Massinissa Selmani**

Photo credit © Julie Ansiau

Drawing is the medium with which Massinissa Selmani experiments, working on paper and tracing paper, in short animations or in space. Based on an archive of press cuttings, he draws shapes in a surrealist mode of collage and collision. He samples incompatible elements, strips them of their context and juxtaposes them, staging small, enigmatic situations that blend tragic and comic aspects, often bordering on the absurd. As part of the generation that witnessed violence in Algeria in the 1990s, Selmani saw how humour could act as a defence mechanism to deal with muted violence. In his work, he opts for economy and restraint, distancing and discreet signs.

For the Prix Marcel Duchamp, Massinissa Selmani has chosen a new installation that taps into ellipsis, entitled *Une parcelle d'horizon au milieu du jour* (*A plot on the horizon at midday*). His project has been designed as a huge drawing depicting the migration of his drawn shapes from one medium to another, from paper to animated film, from sculpture to a mural. Imbued with gravity, absurdity and humoristic notes, the entire work has been shaped as a set of territories beset by fictional conflicts.

After studying computer science in Algeria, Massinissa Selmani enrolled at the Tours School of Fine Arts. In 2015, he was awarded a special mention by the jury at the 56<sup>th</sup> Venice Biennale ("All the World's Futures", curated by Okwui Enwezor in 2015). His work has been exhibited in many collective exhibitions in France and abroad: the Dakar Biennale in 2014, Biennale de Lyon in 2015, Sharjah Biennial in 2017 and Kochi-Muziris Biennale in 2022. He has also had personal exhibitions, at the Palais de Tokyo in 2018 and the CCCOD in Tours in 2019. He won the Art Collector Prize and the SAM Art Projects Prize in 2016.





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## About the ADIAF and the Prix Marcel Duchamp

### About the Prix Marcel Duchamp

Launched in 2000 to promote the French art scene, the Prix Marcel Duchamp is bestowed once a year on one of four French artists or artists residing in France and working in visual arts: installation, video, painting, photography, sculpture, performance etc.

Created by Gilles Fuchs, founder and honorary president of the Association for the International Diffusion of French Art (ADIAF), this collectors' award intends to bring the most innovative artists of their generation together, help them raise their visibility in France and elsewhere in the world. Organised from the outset in partnership with the Centre Pompidou, it has become one of the most pertinent vectors for information on contemporary art in France and a benchmark award worldwide, bestowing €90,000 in prize money (of which €35,000 for the winner).

The four artists are shortlisted by a committee of ADIAF collectors, and the winner is chosen by an international jury of collectors and directors of major French and foreign institutions. The committee and jury change each year. The Prix Marcel Duchamp is more than an award, it is also an all-round support scheme for artists: the ADIAF has organised 50 exhibitions focussing on winner and nominee artists including around 20 international ones, while residencies are available to them at the Manufacture de Sèvres in France and at the Villa Albertine in the US.

### The Prix Marcel Duchamp has distinguished over 90 artists since it's launch of which 22 prizewinners:

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 Prévieux (2014), Melik Ohanian (2015), Kader Attia (2016), Joana Hadjithomas et Khalil Joreige (2017), Clément Cogitore (2018), Eric Baudelaire (2019), Kapwani Kiwanga (2020), Lili Reynaud Dewar (2021), Mimosa Echard (2022).

### L'ADIAF at a glance

Chaired by Claude Bonnin, the "Association for the International Diffusion of French Art" (ADIAF) brings together 300 contemporary art collectors actively committed to the adventure of artistic creation. Led by private collectors, supported by art patrons and working in close partnership with institutions, ADIAF's mission is to contribute to the influence of the French art scene and help to raise its international profile.



## 2023's edition

### Press visit - on invitation

Tuesday 3 October 2023 - from 11 am to 1 pm,  
in the presence of curator Angela Lampe and the artists.

### Announcement of the winner

Monday 16 October 2023, at 7 pm.

### Masterclass with the prizewinner

Date to be confirmed.

### Rapporteurs for the artists

**Cédric Fauq**, Chief Curator, Head of Projects, Capc Musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux, rapporteur for Bertille Bak.

**Nataša Petrešin-Bachelez**, head of artistic and cultural programming, Cité internationale des arts (Paris), interdependent curator, reporter for Bouchra Khalili.

**Marc Prévost**, Director of Carré d'art- Musée d'art contemporain (Nîmes), chief curator of heritage, rapporteur for Tarik Kiswanson.

**Natasha Marie Llorens**, curator, art critic and professor of art theory at the Royal Institute of Art (Stockholm), Massinissa Selmani's reporter.

### Members of the 23<sup>rd</sup> edition selection committee

Claude Bonnin, Hervé Acker, Pierre-Antoine Baubion, Patricia Dupin, Serge Galuz, Pascale Gérardin, Ronan Grossiat, Catherine Hellier du Verneuil, Noria Larose, Gérard Mavalais, Akemi Shiraha

### Curator of the exhibition Prix Marcel Duchamp 2023 at the Centre Pompidou

**Angela Lampe**, Curator, Musée national d'art moderne, Modern Collections Department

### 2023 International Jury

**Xavier Rey**, Director of the Musée national d'art moderne, Centre Pompidou, Paris, Chairman of the Jury

**Claude Bonnin**, Collector, President of the ADIAF

**Akemi Shiraha**, Representative of the Association Marcel Duchamp

**Dr. Jimena Blázquez Abascal**, Collector, Director of the Fondation contemporaine Montenmedio (Spain)

**Dr Josée Gensollen**, Collector, Collection Gensollen La Fabrique, Marseille (France)

**Béatrice Salmon**, Director of the Centre national des arts plastiques, CNAP (France)

**Adam D. Weinberg**, Director of the Whitney Museum of American Art (United States)

### The Prix Marcel Duchamp Catalogue

The Prix Marcel Duchamp Catalogue 2023 is supported by the Ministry of Culture.

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Sale price: €18



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## Practical information

The exhibition

**Prix Marcel Duchamp, the nominees**

Bertille Bak, Bouchra Khalili,

Tarik Kiswanson, Massinissa Selmani

4 October 2023 — 8 January 2024

Galerie du Musée and Galerie d'art graphique,  
Level 4

Curator

**Angela Lampe**, curator, Musée national d'art  
moderne, modern collections department

The Centre Pompidou

75191 Paris cedex 04

+ 33 (0)1 44 78 12 33

Metro : Hôtel de Ville, Rambuteau

RER Châtelet-Les-Halles

**Opening hours**

Exhibition open daily from 11am to  
to 9pm, except Tuesdays.

**Online tickets** on:

[www.billetterie.centrepompidou.fr](http://www.billetterie.centrepompidou.fr)

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