

September 21, 2011

Nuit Talks focus on technology, protest and contemporary art

Nuit Talks returns for a second year with a series of free, themed talks that allow for candid discussion, contemplation of the creative vision and a behind-the-scenes look at one of North America's largest contemporary art events. Nuit Talks is sponsored by Timothy's World Coffee.

This year's Nuit Talks series takes place on September 26 and 27 and October 1. Please arrive early for best seat selection. Complete event details are below. This information is also available online at: <http://scotiabanknuitblanche.ca/nuitTalks.shtml>

"The Tech Talk"

Date: Monday September 26 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m.

Location: Ryerson University, The Eaton Auditorium, RCC 204, 80 Gould Street.

As our society shifts, new media and technology play a role in expanding contemporary art into a medium that includes architecture, light, design, robotics, digital media and artificial intelligence. A panel of artists participating in this year's event will discuss the role of new media and technology in their artistic practice. The event will be moderated by Shirley Madill, curator of the Zone B exhibitions.

Panellists include: artists Lev Evzovitch & Evgeny Svyatsky (AES + F); Germaine Koh; Simone Jones; Ian Forsyth and Jane Pollard; and David Warne (architect and artist).

"The Protest Panel"

Date: Tuesday September 27 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m.

Location: The Drake Underground, 1150 Queen Street West.

Contemporary art as a form of protest revolutionized the art world. The boundaries of how art was defined were pushed beyond something only the "elite" could appreciate, and allowed the masses full access. The Protest Panel is an exploration of how protest and politically engaged work plays a significant role in contemporary art. Panellists include: Artists Angel Nevarez and Valeire Tevere, Camilo Ontiveros, Niall McClelland and Jeremy R. Jansen; Mischa Kuball (conceptual artist); Alexis Mitchell (video artist and filmmaker); Sharlene Bamboat (film and video artist); Annie Roy and Pierre Allard (co-founders of ATSA). The event will be moderated by David Liss (MOCCA artistic director and curator) with artist introductions by the 2011 event curators Candice Hopkins (Zone A exhibitions), Shirley Madill (Zone B exhibitions) and Nicholas Brown (Zone C exhibitions).

"WTF: What's The Fuss?"

Date: Saturday October 1 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., doors open at 3 p.m.

Location: City Hall, Main Floor Rotunda, 100 Queen Street West.

Not sure why Toronto is buzzing with excitement during Scotiabank Nuit Blanche? Are you left wondering what exactly contemporary art is and how to make sense of it? Just don't get what the fuss is all about?

Event moderator Will Huffman (associate director of the Toronto Arts Council), reviews 10 things about contemporary art that you didn't know you already knew.

Speakers include: Curators for the 2011 event Candice Hopkins (Zone A exhibitions), Shirley Madill (Zone B exhibitions) and Nicholas Brown (Zone C exhibitions).

For the first time ever, this year's curators will offer a sneak preview of their exhibitions and share some insight into why they chose each artist and why each project is a magical part of this extraordinary art event

Scotiabank Nuit Blanche is Toronto's annual all-night celebration of contemporary art, produced by the City of Toronto in collaboration with Toronto's arts community. Since 2006, the event has featured more than 600 official art installations created by nearly 2,500 artists and has generated more than \$70 million in economic impact for Toronto. For more event information visit: <http://www.scotiabanknuitblanche.ca/>

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- 30 -

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