ELEKTRA XX
IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES
June 11-16, 2019

For its 20th anniversary, ELEKTRA offers new versions of major artworks from its last two decades and creations that question the future of the arts linked to new technologies.

Montréal, Monday, May 27, 2019 - The ELEKTRA festival, a flagship event of the Montréal spring, has unveiled its lineup! The 20th edition of the international digital art festival will take place from June 11 to 16, presenting some twenty local and international artists among the most innovative in digital art. During 5 days, Montréal will vibrate to the rhythm of many bold, extreme, immersive performances that won't leave anyone indifferent.

"In this pivotal year, ELEKTRA is closing its first major 20-year cycle before starting a new one in 2020 with the 5th international digital art biennale. For 20 years now, ELEKTRA has presented memorable creations, often considered to be the most innovative of the art world. That's why the 2019 and 2020 editions are perfect opportunities to both bring back key works, a few classics that left a lasting impression on the public, while also trying to anticipate what the arts linked to new technologies will become in the next 20 years. The 2019 lineup, which mainly focuses on performances, reflects these aesthetics and trends, aiming for a more intimate dialogue between humans and technologies, going beyond the simple notion of spectators by making people live more immersive, more extreme experiences."

Alain Thibault, art director

THREE NIGHTS OF IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES AT USINE C

Every night from June 13 to 15, USINE C will host a dozen audiovisual performances, including World and North American premieres, from world-renowned artists.

8   **p.m.**

With his latest creation for 4 dancers and exoskeletons *Repeat,* presented as a **world premiere**, artist **Louis-Philippe Demers** tries to imagine illusory movements by an augmented body (half-man, half-robot), imitating the stereotypical duos of human ballet dancers. **www.elektramontreal.ca/louis-philippe-demers?lang=fr**

11   **p.m.**

Kurt Hentschläger, an Austrian artist renowned for his extreme immersive performances, will present the **North American premiere** of *FEED.X,* the amplified version of his famous piece *FEED.* Reaching the limits of human perception and using both sensory privation and overload, it will emerge the public in an apparently infinite, kaleidoscopic architecture. An ecstatic experience for some, a spiritual one for others. **www.elektramontreal.ca/kurt-hentschlager?lang=fr**

Finally, during the whole festival, the public will get to interact with the robotic art installation *Colonisateur Sonore* by **Jean-Pierre Gauthier,** whose utopic project is to implement an interactive system on Mars before the arrival of the first humans. A Martian world premiere for interactive, remote-control electronic music from Earth! **www.elektramontreal.ca/jean-pierre-gauthier?lang=fr**

OPENING NIGHT – THURSDAY, JUNE 13 - NIGHT # 1

Following Louis-Philippe Demers' performance, night #1 will start at 9 p.m. with international guest **Rocio Berenguer (ES – FR)**, presenting *Ergonomics,* a choreographic fiction, and a quirky, critical exploration of contemporary themes such as the future body, the urban body, the Smart City, and clichés related to innovation and startups in the digital era. **www.elektramontreal.ca/rocio-berenguer?lang=fr**

Then, Quebec digital artist **Myriam Bleau** will explore the limits between live and virtual shows. With *Eternity Be Kind***,** a performance in collaboration with world-renowned international artist LaTurbo Avedon, she will propose a multidimensional, collective "mise en abyme" experience. Hyper-pop, mythical symbolism, and baroque allusions. **www.elektramontreal.ca/myriam-bleau?lang=fr**

With performer **Nien Tzu Weng**, **Peter van Haaften & Michael Montanaro** will present *Spiel | an in-situ performance for prepared mouth* at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. The performer becomes sort of a digital sampler, reproducing and distorting his sonic environment in the public space. Strange and unusual. **www.elektramontreal.ca/peter-van-haaften?lang=fr**

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 - NIGHT #2

NSDOS © Hugues PASQOT

syntax © Amalia Dulha

At 9 p.m., night #2 will begin with **NSDOS** (FR), returning this year with a new performance, *Sending.movement 2.0* **(2019)**, in which his movements are analyzed by a tracking system making it possible, in real time, to feed data to his instruments in order to produce music related to them. With *Sending.movement 2.0*, **NSDOS** pursues the research from his residency at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, where he was invited to perform during the entire month of November last year. **www.elektramontreal.ca/nsdos?lang=fr**

Romanian artist **Syntax (RO)** will present the **North American premiere** of *Microark***,** an audiovisual performance exploring the relationship between human perception and micro-acoustic phenomena, such as atoms and sound pixels. Such micro-acoustic phenomena are used as a basic structure for a succession of audiovisual constructions hailing from the idea that the waveform (oscillation) visually translates the abstract purity of sound. In the *raster-noton* tradition, for amateurs. **www.elektramontreal.ca/syntax?lang=fr**

CLOSING NIGHT: SATURDAY, JUNE 15 - NIGHT #3

© Falaises - Bruno Destombes

© Edwin van der Heide
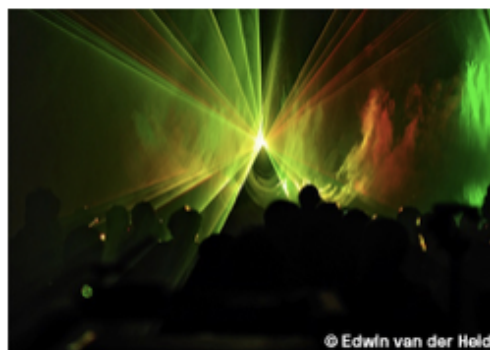
First, Quebec artists **Alexis Langevin-Tétrault, Guillaume Côté & Dave Gagnon (QC-CA)** will kick off the night with their audiovisual performance *Falaises,* evoking a luminous storm at the very edge of the abyss!

The aesthetic of this work exploits the sound dichotomy between noisy and tonic sound, as well as dot patterns, shadows, and visual anomalies. **/www.elektramontreal.ca/falaises?lang=fr**

To conclude the night, **Edwin van der Heide (NL)** will present the new version of his iconic *Laser Sound Performance*. This truly sensorial experience has corporal qualities that are nearly tangible, and happens in front, around, and behind the audience. The architectural aspect of light relies on the spatial perception of sound, while simultaneously crossing it. **www.elektramontreal.ca/edwin-van-der-heide?lang=fr**

8 p.m.	**REPEAT TICKET,** Louis-Philippe Demers STUDENT + SENIOR (65+): $8 / REGULAR: $10 + fees
9 p.m.	**EVENING TICKET** STUDENT + SENIOR (65+): $15 / REGULAR: $20 + fees
11 p.m.	**FEED.X TICKET,** Kurt Hentschläger STUDENT + SENIOR (65+): $20 / REGULAR: $25 + fees

5 NIGHTS OF IMMERSIVE PERFORMANCES AT THE SOCIETY FOR TECHNOLOGICAL ARTS - SAT

From June 11 to 15, starting at 7 p.m., the SAT will host 3 immersive performances in the Satosphere.
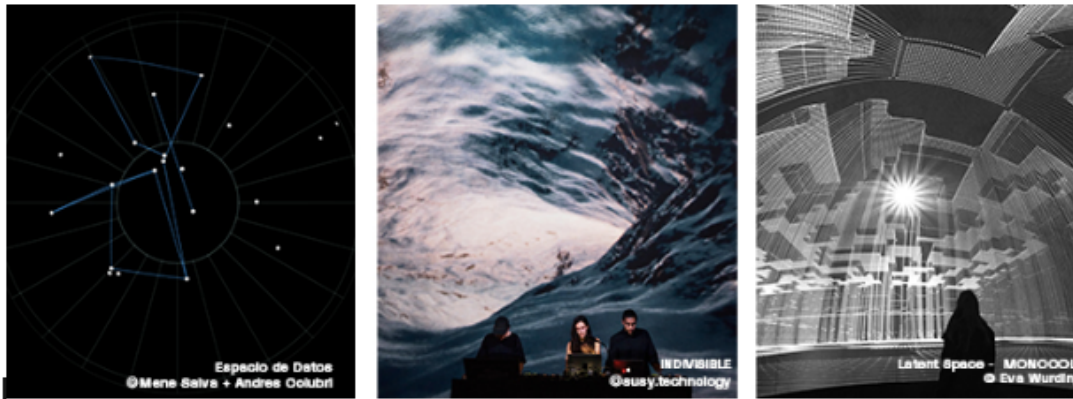
ESPACIO DE DATOS (2019), by ***Mene Savasta & Andrés Colubri (AR***) is an immersive audiovisual projection, which allows the emergence of new observation devices (interactive visualization, reduction of dimensionality) that give us the opportunity to explore vast data spaces and discover new information structures.

Then it will be the turn of the Montreal-based digital label and artist collective, **susy.technology** (QC-CA) to propose its **INDIVISIBLE (2019)** performance. A dreamlike narrative that addresses memory, moments of love and loss, and the complexities of our increasingly digitalized states of existence.

To close the Satosphere performances, the dome will host ***LATENT SPACE (2018)***, where the artist **MONOCOLOR (AT)** questions the omnipresence of the virtual world around us. It is transposed into the physical space of the dome to test and explore its spatial effects in order to unmask its often proclaimed immensity.
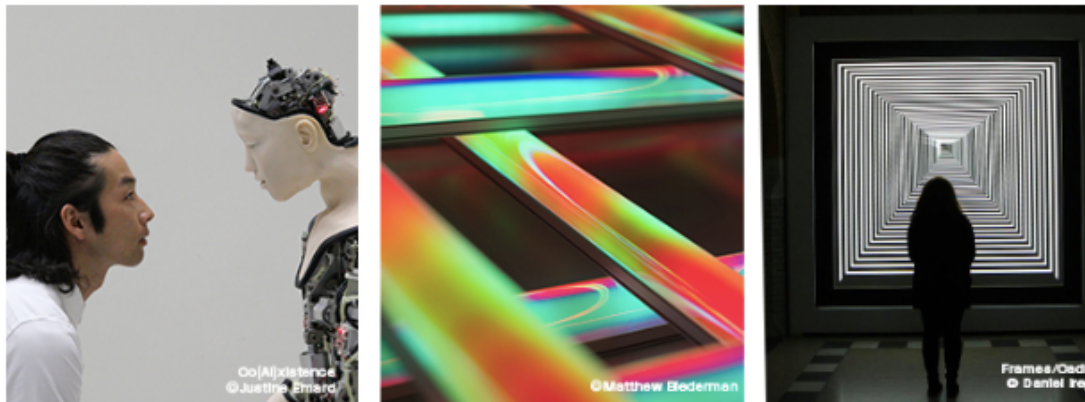

Starting at 7 p.m.

Espacio de Datos (Andres Colubri & Mene Savasta)

+ Indivisible (susy.technology)

+ Latent Space (Monocolor)

$28,75 + fees

EXHIBITS AND VERNISSAGES

ELEKTRA will also present several exhibits and vernissages during the festival.

Justine Emard (FR)'s video installation *Co(AI)xistence* will be presented at the Cinémathèque québécoise from June 14 to August 25, 2019. In *Co(AI)xistence*, Justine Emard invites you to observe the interaction between actor/dancer Mirai Moriyama and Alter, a Japanese humanoid robot with artificial intelligence. An extremely moving creation that won't leave anyone indifferent, *Co(AI)xistence* can only stimulate a latent anthropomorphic desire in any human being. The public is cordially invited to the **vernissage of the exhibit on Thursday, June 13 at 6 p.m. at the Cinémathèque québécoise**. **www.elektramontreal.ca/justine-emard?lang=fr**

At the ELEKTRA Gallery, **Matthew Biederman** will present four works arising from a collaboration and a residency at the International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory, in Braga, Portugal, where his work focused on the infinitely small. **The exhibit will be open to the public from June 15 to July 13. Vernissage on June 15, 2019, 2 p.m. at the ELEKTRA Gallery, 5445 avenue de Gaspé.**

Finally, the public can visit **Daniel Iregui** (CO / QC – CA)'s exhibit *Cadres / Frame*, presented as part of the Arts Council of Montreal tour, which will make its final stop at Maison de la culture Marie-Uguay.

ASSOCIATED PROGRAMMING

ELEKTRA proposes programming in collaboration with several cultural venues in Montréal.

Erin Gee (QC- CA) will present a collaboration with **Alex M. Gee, Project H.E.A.R.T,** at perte de signal **from June 7 to 15, 2019.** Taking a detour through "militainment" video games, this creation invites the participant to express their own enthusiasm to engage holographic pop-star Yowane Haku in "fight therapy." **Vernissage on June 7, 2019, 6 p.m. at perte de signal, 5445 avenue de Gaspé. www.elektramontreal.ca/erin-gee**

OBORO will present a project from Quebec collective **somme** from **June 12 to 15, 2019**. Emma Forgues, Sam Bourgault, Owen Coolidge, Matthew Halpenny and Matthew Salaciak created the *Mycocène* project, which metaphorically decomposes electronic waste in order for it to enter into symbiosis with this natural mycelium system. **www.elektramontreal.ca/somme**

The **ELLEPHANT** gallery will present two artists during the ELEKTRA festival**. Samuel Arsenault-Brassard** from **June 12 to 15** with his creation *Salvo*, the culmination of a long period of digital, virtual reality sculpture, and Quebec artist **Sabrina Ratté** from **June 12 to July 16. www.elektramontreal.ca/samuel-arsenault-brassard www.elektramontreal.ca/sabrina-ratte**

NT2 UQAM organizes the **Labsessions**, which give an artist whose project has been selected the chance to present his work in front of a jury of representatives of participating artists centres. **www.elektramontreal.ca/labsessions-16**

 With their project *Machine Intelligence in the Arts: Cross-Disciplinary Exploration, Exhibition and Publication,* publishing house **Anteism Books** and their pied-à-terre on Parc Avenue transform into a place where artists can collaborate, produce and exhibit works at the intersection of art and artificial intelligence, **from June 1st to September 30, 2019**. **www.elektramontreal.ca/anteism-books**

Passports and individual tickets for USINE C and Society for arts and technology [SAT] are currently for sale.

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Thanks to all our precious partners
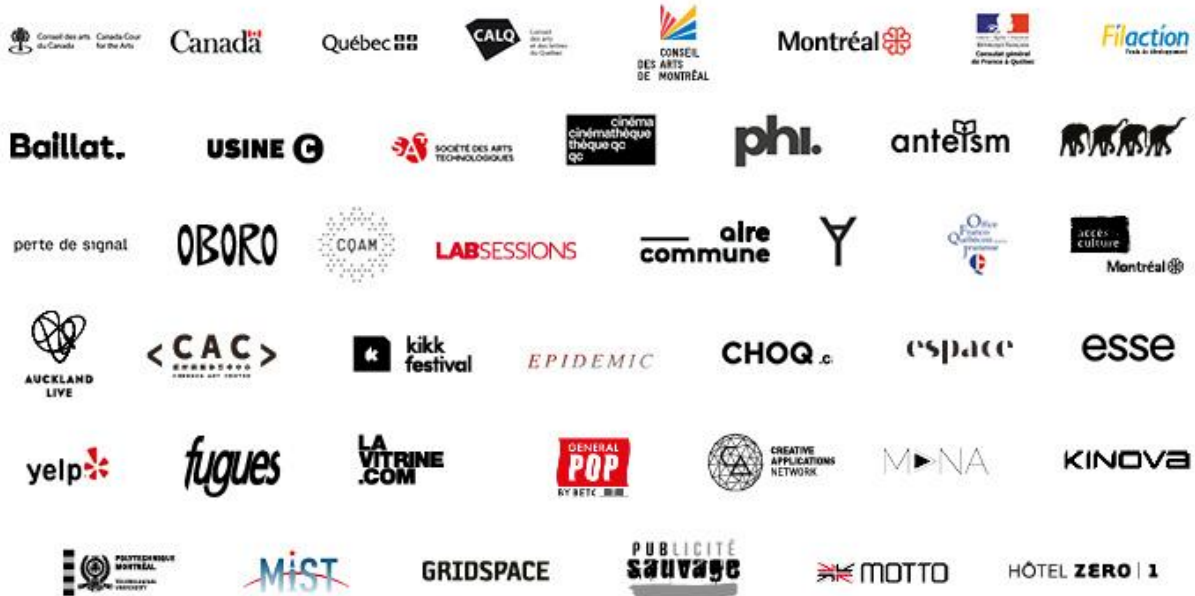
This project has been made possible thanks to the support of Quebec delegations in Paris, Barcelona, Berlin, Seoul, Tokyo, and Shanghai.

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Source: **ELEKTRA**

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