

EXHIBITIONS / PROGRAMS / EVENTS

Winter 2019

January - May 2019

ALL YEAR, ALL FREE

PRESENTED BY



As we enter The Power Plant's first exhibition season of 2019, we pause to acknowledge the importance of the ALL YEAR, ALL FREE program.

Thanks to the support of BMO Financial Group, the gallery is able to eliminate admission fees, enabling all visitors, young and old, to access our exhibitions.

Join us all year long at The Power Plant, where admission is always FREE.

The Power Plant is very grateful to the following Institutional Supporters:

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OVERVIEW

Winter 2019 at The Power Plant

Launch the New Year with three mesmerizing solo exhibitions by artists who offer glimpses into worlds intertwined with deeply personal histories, spectacle and chimerical visions.

See the first solo exhibitions in Canada of artists Omar Ba (Senegal/Switzerland) and Alicia Henry (USA). Alongside their works, The Power Plant presents a major survey by third-generation Inuit artist Shuvina Ashoona (Nunavut, Canada).

In *Same Dream*, Omar Ba develops a figurative iconography, fused with the histories of Europe and Africa. Ba's works are made of materials found in his immediate environment—oils, watercolour, ink and pencil on cardboard. In his work, mythological creatures exist within the revered natural world, amid images of colonial violence and exploitation.

Shuvina Ashoona, who lives and works in Kinngait (Cape Dorset), is best known for developing brightly-coloured personal imagery ranging from closely observed scenes of everyday life in the Arctic to other-worldly, hybrid creatures. Ashoona combines contemporary media, anxieties in the present, and science fiction themes from films, comic books and television to present her vision of an intergalactic future. The exhibition *Mapping Worlds* brings together works on paper from the past two decades and recent drawings.

Nashville-based artist Alicia Henry constructs her work with cotton, linen, leather, wool, felt and fabric to examine isolation and interaction in *Witnessing*. Her human forms reference minstrels and the circus, conjuring the realm of spectacle and parade, with faces often looking



directly at viewers. Henry's works, in the Fleck Clerestory and North Gallery, will immerse visitors in a web of encounters.

Complementing our Winter exhibitions, we present numerous programs for visitor engagement! Alicia Henry speaks with guest curator Daina Augaitis and Omar Ba speaks with Associate Curator Nabila Abdel Nabi in our In Conversation series. Enjoy a double-feature film screening of *Kinngait: Riding Light Into the World* and *Ghost Noise* followed by a panel discussion about Shuvina Ashoona's *Mapping Worlds* with guest curator Dr. Nancy G. Campbell. Experience an unforgettable performance of *Poor People's TV Room SOLO* by 2018 MacArthur Fellow Okwui Okpokwasili as part of Progress International Festival of Performance and Ideas. See films by renowned director Haile Gerima, exploring issues affecting the African continent and diaspora. Artists are invited to participate in a Master Class with Alicia Henry, and a Portfolio Night to discuss their works with our curators and guest curators. Lastly, rediscover the joy of spending time with art during our annual Slow Art Day program.

There's really something for everyone and all are welcome!

Gaëtane Verna, Director



Omar Ba Same Dream

26 January – 12 May 2019

Opening: 25 January 2019, 8–11 PM

CURATOR: NABILA ABDEL NABI

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H A L E S

TEMPLO N

Wilde

Omar Ba's work confronts us with some of the most urgent issues of our time—from the growing inequality of wealth and power across society to questions around immigration, post-colonial relations and our changing relationship to the natural world. The exhibition brings together several works from his series on dictators from corrupt and violent regimes in many countries where the legacies of colonialism persist. These despotic warlords, at times represented as hybrid fantastical beasts, are often enveloped by an abundance of lush flora and fauna, as the beauty of the natural world appears to endure notwithstanding the atrocities perpetrated by these figures. Nature becomes a unifying force throughout Ba's oeuvre, through the beauty and the horror. His work, which reveals and underscores the violence and exploitation of colonialism, resonates within a multiplicity of contexts—both globally and locally.

In conversation with the dictator series, the exhibition also presents works that speak to Ba's affinity for portraying the strength of the human spirit—depictions of youth who, regardless of where they are, share some of the same dreams for the future.

Ba's work originated as paintings he produced on walls in Dakar, and he has continued working in this mode within the gallery context by using everyday materials that come to hand. For the exhibition at The Power Plant, Ba has developed a new large-scale, site-specific commission exploring a recurrent motif of birth, death and reincarnation across different cultures today. Ba's striking ability to depict personal narratives alongside collective ones, passed down through traditions of oral storytelling, bridge older and younger generations. He works with this approach, mixing and intertwining a range of imagery and iconography: figurative and decorative ornamentation, past and present, African and European cultures, and, indeed, the very techniques and materials that he employs on the canvas. Ba's global perspective ultimately evokes a shared cosmology between humans, plants and animals.



Omar Ba (born 1977 in Dakar) lives and works between Dakar and Geneva. His work has been shown at BOZAR, Brussels (2017); Ferme-Asile, Sion, Switzerland (2015); Hales Gallery, London, UK (2017, 2014); Biennale de Dakar (2014); Aargauer Kunsthau, Aarau, Switzerland (2012) among others. Ba's works can be found in private and public

collections, including Credit Suisse, Switzerland; Fonds municipal d'art contemporain de la Ville de Geneve; Fonds municipal d'art contemporain de la Ville de Paris; Centre national des arts plastiques, France; and the Barbier-Mueller Collection, Geneva. In 2011, Ba received the Swiss Art Award.

THIS PAGE Omar Ba, *Droit de Veto*, 2012. Image courtesy the artist and Hales Gallery. Copyright the artist.

OPPOSITE Omar Ba, *Naufrage*, 2014. Image courtesy the artist and Hales Gallery. Copyright the artist.



Alicia Henry Witnessing

26 January - 12 May 2019

Opening: 25 January 2019, 8-11 PM

GUEST CURATOR: DAINA AUGAITIS

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LILIANA BLOCH GALLERY

For the last two decades, Alicia Henry has been exploring unconventional approaches to portraiture, using the face to represent something that is hidden, revealed and performed. Originally from Illinois, Henry has lived for the past twenty years in Nashville, Tennessee, where she is an artist and professor of art.

Henry creates two-dimensional singular figures and group compositions that are commanding in their grace and expressiveness. Selecting her media carefully, she works with felt, canvas and other textiles, as well as leather and paperboard, all of which absorb her her drawn and stitched gestures that register a spectrum of contexts and emotions. Notions of gender and family are significant in her works, as are physical layers that suggest multiple and unfixed identities. Tender renditions of a mother with child appear, as do groupings of twenty or more females that signify formations of like-minded “families” within communities.

In this, her first Canadian exhibition, Henry’s compelling compositions are drawn from a multitude of references: the artist’s own memories, her collection of West African masks and events on the street or on television, to name but a few. Imbued with her perspective as an African American woman, the figures assert themselves as timeless witnesses reflecting a variety of personal and social histories.

In a recent conversation, Henry explained that she does not view her work as political, but nonetheless acknowledges that “at this time in the United States, the brown body has become politicized.” In her installations, composed primarily of dark-toned figures, a lingering melancholy evokes racial traumas suffered by innumerable groups and individuals, today and over the centuries. But simultaneously – through their direct gaze and erect composure – Henry’s multigenerational survivors exude a powerful strength and confidence. They stand in anticipation of an egalitarian future – a utopian goal that underpins much of Henry’s work.



OPPOSITE Alicia Henry, *Untitled 2*, 2017, Courtesy the artist and Liliana Bloch Gallery.
THIS PAGE Alicia Henry, *Untitled (head polyptych)*, 2018. Courtesy the artist.

Alicia Henry (born 1966, Illinois) lives and works as a Professor at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee. Solo exhibitions of Henry’s work have been organized at Northeastern Illinois University Gallery, Chicago (2005); Rhodes College/Clough-Hanson Gallery, Memphis (2004); South Bend Regional Art Center, Indiana (2003); Frist Center

for the Visual Arts, Nashville (2003). Group exhibitions include Texas A&M University-Commerce Gallery, Dallas (2017); Hunter Museum of American Art, Chattanooga (2014); Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles (2013); Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney (2012).

Calendar at a Glance

SUNDAY SCENE FREE

Hear speakers from the world of art and beyond offer their responses to the current exhibitions.

POWER KIDS FREE

Participate in multigenerational studio activities with a guided tour of the gallery.

POWER TOURS FREE

Join a guided tour of the exhibitions and engage in dialogue about art and ideas.

ARTIST TALKS FREE

Hear from exhibiting artists as they speak about their work and take questions from the audience.

FILM SCREENINGS FREE

Watch films selected in relation to an exhibition, often with an introduction and post-screening discussion about parallel themes.

January 2019

Sunday, 19 January, 2 PM
MASTER CLASS
Alicia Henry (PG 14)

Sunday, 20 January, 2 PM
FILM & PANEL
Didi Contractor-Marrying the Earth to the Building (PG 15)
 Part of DesignTO (formerly Toronto Design Off-site Festival)

Tuesday, 22 January, 7:30 PM
IN CONVERSATION
Alicia Henry with Daina Augaitis (PG 14)

Saturday, 26 January, 1 PM
IN CONVERSATION
Omar Ba with Nabila Abdel Nabi (PG 16)

Tuesday, 29 January, 6 PM
PORTFOLIO NIGHT (PG 17)

February 2019

Saturday, 2 February, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 3 February, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Marieme S. Lo (PG 10)

Tuesday, 5 February, 7:30 PM
PERFORMANCE
Okwui Okpokwasili, Poor People's TV Room SOLO (PG 16)
 Part of Progress Festival at The Theatre Centre

Wednesday, 6 February, 7:30 PM
PERFORMANCE
Okwui Okpokwasili, Poor People's TV Room SOLO (PG 16)
 Part of Progress Festival at The Theatre Centre

Thursday, 7 February, 7 PM
TOUR AND BOOK DISCUSSION
So Long a Letter by Mariama Bâ (PG 14)

Saturday, 9 February, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 10 February, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Cheryl Thompson (PG 10)

Sunday, 10 February, 3-5 PM
POWER KIDS
Featured Faces (PG 12)

Saturday, 16 February, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 17 February, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Nyla Innuksuk (PG 10)

Monday, 18 February, 3-5 PM
POWER KIDS
Extraordinary Realms (PG 12)

Saturday, 23 February, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Saturday, 23 February 2019, 2 PM
FILM DOUBLE FEATURE & PANEL
Kinngait: Riding Light Into the World and Ghost Noise (PG 18)

Sunday, 24 February, 3-5 PM
POWER KIDS
Shapes in Shadows (PG 13)



March 2019

Saturday, 2 March, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Tuesday, 5 March, 6:30 PM
FACE TO FACE (PG 26)

Saturday, 9 March, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 10 March, 3-5 PM
POWER KIDS
Monster Mashups (PG 13)

Tuesday, 12 March, 6 PM
PORTFOLIO NIGHT (PG 17)

Saturday, 16 March, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 17 March, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Emily Peltier (PG 10)

Saturday, 23 March, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 24 March, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Kathleen Hearn (PG 11)

Sunday, 24 March, 3-5 PM
POWER KIDS
Making Friends (PG 13)

Mid-March to mid-April
FILM SERIES
Resistance & Revolution: The Cinema of Hailé Gerima (PG 20)

Saturday, 30 March, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

April 2019

Saturday, 6 April, 2 PM
SLOW ART TOUR (PG 17)

Saturday, 6 April, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 7 April, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Patrick Cruz (PG 11)

Sunday, 7 April, 3-5 PM
POWER KIDS
Show Your Spots (PG 13)

Saturday, 13 April, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 14 April, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Sharon Avery (PG 11)

Sunday, 14 April, 3-5 PM
POWER KIDS
On The Map (PG 13)

Saturday, 20 April, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Saturday, 27 April, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 28 April, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Sage Paul (PG 11)

May 2019

Saturday, 4 May, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Sunday, 5 May, 2 PM
SUNDAY SCENE
Pat Feheley (PG 11)

Saturday, 11 May, 3 PM
POWER TOUR (PG 17)

Tuesday, 7 May, 12-6 PM
POWER YOUTH SPRING EXHIBITION (PG 23)

Tuesday, 7 May, 5-8 PM
POWER YOUTH SPRING EXHIBITION RECEPTION (PG 23)



June 2019

Thursday, 6 June, 7 PM
POWER BALL 21 (PG 27)

OPPOSITE Student Night 2018, The Power Plant. Photo: Henry Chan.
 THIS PAGE, LEFT Fall 2018 Opening Party, The Power Plant. Photo: Henry Chan.
 THIS PAGE, ABOVE Fall 2018 Opening Party, The Power Plant. Photo: Henry Chan.



Sunday Scene

THE POWER PLANT
FREE

Speakers from the world of art and other disciplines offer their responses to the current exhibitions in these free gallery talks. Whether focusing on a single work, a specific artist or on multiple exhibitions, guest presenters draw provocative connections between our exhibitions and broader cultural and intellectual debates.

February 2019



Marieme S. Lo
Sunday, 3 February 2019, 2 PM

Marieme S. Lo is Associate Professor in Women and Gender Studies and the Director of African Studies at the University of Toronto. She works on intersecting research fields entwined in critical, alternative and creative epistemologies, and social justice praxis. Prof. Lo is passionate about African art and design, an avid collector and amateur photographer. Prof. Lo will discuss Omar Ba's exhibition *Same Dream*.



Cheryl Thompson
Sunday, 10 February 2019, 2 PM

Dr. Cheryl Thompson is an Assistant Professor, School of Creative Industries, Ryerson University. Her first book, *Beauty in a Box: Detangling the Roots of Canada's Black Beauty Culture* will be published with Wilfrid Laurier Press (2019). Dr. Thompson was a Banting Postdoctoral Fellow (2016-2018) at the University of Toronto and the University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM). She has a PhD in Communication Studies from McGill University. Dr. Thompson will discuss Alicia Henry's exhibition *Witnessing*.



Nyla Innuksuk

Nyla Innuksuk
Sunday, 17 February 2019, 2 PM

A graduate of Ryerson University's Film Program, Nyla Innuksuk is an Inuk Virtual Reality content creator, filmmaker and producer based out of Toronto. She founded her company Mixtape VR, a small tech start-up, in order to create immersive, interactive and cinematic content in new platforms such as 360, VR and the ever growing Augmented Reality space. Innuksuk will discuss Shuvina Ashoona's exhibition *Mapping Worlds*.

March 2019

Emily Peltier
Sunday, 17 March 2019, 2 PM

Emily Peltier is an independent curator, peer support worker, and gallery owner living and working in what is known now as Toronto, Ontario. Her most recent independent projects include *The W(Hole) Picture* featured in Nuit Blanche 2018 and currently, she is the programmer and curator at GH Gallery. Peltier will discuss Shuvina Ashoona's exhibition *Mapping Worlds*.

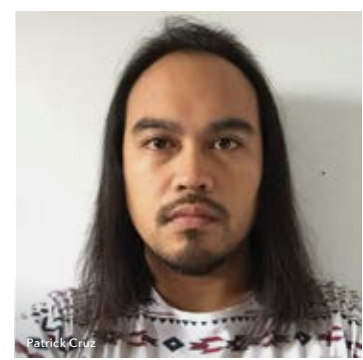


Kathleen Hearn

Kathleen Hearn
Sunday, 24 March 2019, 2 PM

Kathleen Hearn is a Toronto-based artist and educator. Her practice involves long-term negotiations, collaborations and co-operations, often working with teens. Her projects explore connections between portrait and landscape, fiction and documentary. She is currently developing work in Dawson City, Yukon and Havana, Cuba. Hearn will discuss Omar Ba's exhibition *Same Dream*.

April 2019



Patrick Cruz
Sunday, 7 April 2019, 2 PM

Patrick Cruz (b. 1987, Manila, Philippines) is a Filipino-Canadian artist working between Toronto, Canada, and Manila, Philippines. Cruz studied at the University of the Philippines Diliman and received his BFA from Emily Carr University of Art + Design and an MFA at the University of Guelph. His multi-disciplinary practice is informed by his interest in cultural hybridity, the project of decolonization, and the paradoxical effects of globalization. Cruz will discuss Omar Ba's exhibition *Same Dream*.



Sharon Avery
Sunday, 14 April 2019, 2 PM

Sharon Avery has built a 19-year career as a high energy fundraiser and passionate communicator. Prior to joining Toronto Foundation in September 2016, she served for eight years as Chief Development Officer at UNICEF Canada where she more than doubled its investment in children, transforming the organization on the international stage. Avery will discuss Alicia Henry's exhibition *Witnessing*.

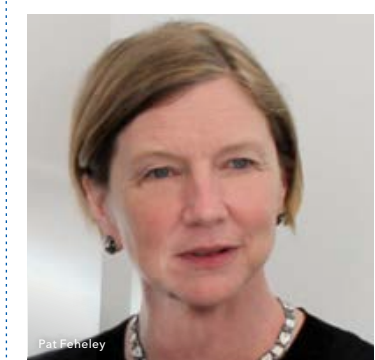


Sage Paul

Sage Paul
Sunday, 28 April 2019, 2 PM

Sage Paul is an urban Denesuliné woman based in Toronto and a member of English River First Nation. Sage is an artist, designer and recognized leader of Indigenous fashion, craft and textiles, championing family, sovereignty and resistance for balance. Sage is also founding collective member and Artistic Director of Indigenous Fashion Week Toronto. Sage Paul will discuss Alicia Henry's exhibition *Witnessing*.

May 2019



Pat Feheley
Sunday, 5 May 2019, 2 PM

Patricia Feheley is the Director Feheley Fine Arts, a Toronto art gallery specializing in traditional and contemporary Inuit art. She has an extensive administrative background in the visual arts and has also published widely on the subject of Inuit art. Currently she serves on the Board of the Inuit Art Foundation and the Art Dealers Association of Canada Foundation. Feheley will discuss Shuvina Ashoona's exhibition *Mapping Worlds*.



Power Kids

THE POWER PLANT
FREE

For children ages 7-12 and their adult companions.

Email powerkids@thepowerplant.org or call 416.973.4949 to reserve a spot.

Tours and workshops are led by Amanda Foulds, Power Kids Family Programs Coordinator and Erica Cristobal, Power Kids Teaching Assistant.

POWER KIDS FUNDERS



Tate & Cindy Abols

Featured Faces

Sunday, 10 February, 2019, 3-5 PM

Alicia Henry's *Witnessing* features abstract portraits made from cotton, linen, leather and wool. Inspired by Henry's interest in portraiture and identity, participants in this workshop will learn how to draw portraits using traditional proportions, and then accessorize their 2D portraits with 3D elements such as fabric, zippers and buttons.

Extraordinary Realms

Monday, 18 February, 2019,
1-4 PM

Special drop-in session

The globe is a recurring motif in Shuvina Ashoona's work; it often depicts the connection between human beings, the earth and the universe. In this workshop, participants will use drawing and collage to decorate a mini 3D-globe depicting their own imaginary world.

Shapes in the Shadows

Sunday, 24 February 2019, 3-5 PM

Omar Ba likes to begin his paintings on a black background to which he adds and subtracts colour to create shapes and forms. After learning how Omar Ba uses light and shadow to depict the people and animals in his paintings, we will draw animal portraits on black paper using pencil crayons and chalk pastels.

Monster Mashups

Sunday, 10 March 2019, 3-5 PM

Shuvina Ashoona's *Mapping Worlds* features drawings of monstrous and fantastical creatures. Shuvina Ashoona's inspiration comes from her experience living in Kinngait, Nunavut and her love for horror movies, comic books and television. In this workshop, participants will use clay and paint to create a sculpture of their own monster.

Making Friends

Sunday, 24 March 2019, 3-5 PM

In her exhibition *Witnessing*, Alicia Henry focuses on the relationships we have with our family and community members. In this workshop, we will discuss how Henry uses textiles and portraiture to represent the people around her. Then, using canvas, markers and string, participants will design and create a cloth figure of someone special in their community.

Need a few activities to get you started on your tour through the exhibitions? Pick up a copy of the **Family Guide**, available in the gallery and online at bit.ly/powerkids.

Join Power Kids Offsite

Power Kids is also hosting offsite events at venues throughout Toronto. Visit bit.ly/powerkids for details about dates and locations.

Show Your Spots

Sunday, 7 April 2019, 3-5 PM

In his exhibition *Same Dream*, Omar Ba uses images of animals and mythological creatures. He often gives these animals human bodies and dresses them as political figures to reveal complex histories and politics. Participants in this workshop are invited to transform themselves into an animal by making a mask using paper, fabric and other mixed media.

OPPOSITE Power Kids Winter 2018.
Photo by Henry Chan
THIS PAGE Power Kids Winter 2018.
Photo by Henry Chan

On the Map

Sunday, 14 April 2019, 3-5 PM

In 2003 Shuvina Ashoona started a bird's-eye view drawing of her community of Kinngait, Nunavut. To include many details, she connected multiple large sheets of paper to create one large-scale drawing. Using a long roll of paper divided into a grid, each participant in this workshop will draw a bird's-eye view of their community that connects with their neighbour's drawing. Once complete, the whole drawing will be photographed and then cut up so each individual can take home their illustrated section.





MASTER CLASS
Alicia Henry

Saturday, 19 January 2019, 7:30 PM

THE POWER PLANT
FREE FOR ARTIST MEMBERS

Workshop is limited to 10 participants. Registration deadline is 14 January. To RSVP, email membership@thepowerplant.org or call 416.975.4926.

Participants are invited for a unique opportunity to meet with artist Alicia Henry, based in Nashville, TN, for a facilitated critique of participants' work. Each participant will have 10 minutes to discuss up to 8 images and/or videos of artworks (an on-going series or recently-completed). After sharing personal insights about the intentions and progression of their art-making, Henry will lead group discussion for creative feedback and constructive criticism.



IN CONVERSATION
Omar Ba with Nabila Abdel Nabi

Saturday, 26 January 2019, 1 PM

STUDIO THEATRE,
HARBOURFRONT CENTRE
FREE

In this program, Omar Ba will discuss the evolution of his work with Associate Curator Nabila Abdel Nabi. The two will expand on the exhibition themes of the human spirit and the shared dreams and desires for the future. This conversation will conclude with questions from the audience.

THIS PAGE TOP LEFT Alicia Henry. Photo: Mark Mosrie Photography.
THIS PAGE TOP RIGHT Omar Ba, courtesy Greg Clément and Wilde.
THIS PAGE BOTTOM Daina Augaitis, courtesy the speaker.

IN CONVERSATION
Alicia Henry with Daina Augaitis

Tuesday, 22 January 2019, 7:30 PM

OCAD UNIVERSITY, ROOM 109
100 MCCAUL STREET
FREE

In conjunction with Alicia Henry's first exhibition in Canada, and in partnership with OCAD University, The Power Plant presents a conversation between the artist and guest curator Daina Augaitis. The two will speak about the evolution of Henry's work and the evolution of the exhibition. They will conclude with questions from the audience.



FILM AND PANEL
Didi Contractor
Marrying the Earth to the Building

Sunday, 20 January 2019, 2 PM

STUDIO THEATRE,
HARBOURFRONT CENTRE
FREE

Eventbrite RSVP required

"Landscaping is really a key to this thing of marrying the earth to the building. There is a deeper connection which should than strengthen our own connection."
– Didi Contractor

For the past two decades Didi Contractor has been passionately implementing her architectural visions in northwest India, the Kangra Valley at the foothills of the Himalayas, combining rural traditions with modern requirements. This poetic documentary introduces us to her creations—houses built from clay, bamboo, slate and river stone, constructed in tribute to their natural surroundings.

At the age of 86, Didi Contractor pursues her vision working day and night—dreaming her designs, then designing her dreams. She sketches roughly, then proportions with pinpoint accuracy—the blueprints for economically and ecologically sustainable, bright and well-ventilated buildings.

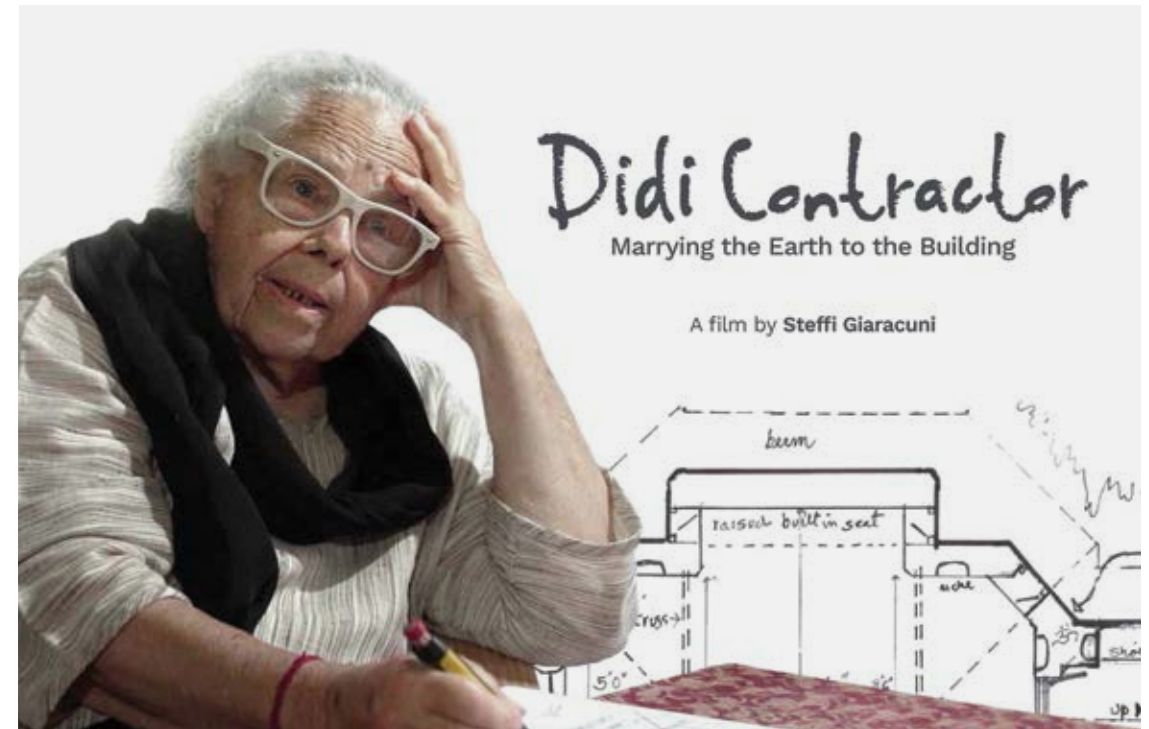
We meet people who live in the visions realized by Didi Contractor

and share in their enthusiasm to carry forward her fascinating ideas. Students from all over the world come to learn traditional building practices and find out how architecture can become a part of the ecosystem.

The screening will be followed by a panel discussion, and audience Q&A, featuring Janna Levitt with LGA Architectural Partners and Stephanie Hosein with Omar Gandhi Architect Inc, moderated by Zahra Ebrahim, human-centered designer/urbanist, and Executive Advisor to Deloitte on Civic Innovation.

This film screening and panel discussion are presented as part of the 2019 DesignTO Festival, 18-27 January 2019. For more information, visit designto.org.

THIS PAGE Courtesy Steffi Giaracuni





PERFORMANCE

**Okwui Okpokwasili:
Poor People's TV Room SOLO**

Tuesday, 5 February 2019, 7:30 PM

Followed by "Talkback" with Okwui Okpokwasili

**Wednesday, 6 February 2019,
7:30 PM**

PROGRESS FESTIVAL AT THE THEATRE CENTRE, 1115 QUEEN ST WEST
**FOR \$25 TICKETS, PLEASE VISIT
THEPOWERPLANT.ORG**

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CO-PRESENTED BY

CIVIC THEATRES TORONTO

Okwui Okpokwasili is a performer, choreographer, and writer creating multidisciplinary performance pieces that center the African and African American woman in divining vocabularies to explore the unruly interiority of the human condition. As the child of immigrants from Nigeria, born and raised in the Bronx, and the reconstitution of memory and the slippery terrain of identity as a particular condition of the African diaspora features prominently in much of Okpokwasili's work. Her productions are highly experimental in form, bringing together elements of dance, theater, and the visual arts

(with spare and distinctive sets designed by her husband and collaborator, Peter Born). *Poor People's TV Room SOLO* (running time: 50 min.) is a performance installation that considers duration and urgent complaint as critical aspects of an embodied protest practice. Text from the report commissioned by the British Colonial Government in 1930 to investigate the uprising of women in Nigeria, serves as the primary source material. This uprising, known as the Woman's War of 1929 was also referred to as the Woman's Egwu. Egwu, in Igbo, one of the indigenous languages of Nigeria, means dance. The linguistic tie between performance and protest is an especially compelling and fruitful exploration in this work. Okwui Okpokwasili received a B.A. (1996) from Yale University. Her performance work has been commissioned by the Walker Art Center, Danspace Project, Performance Space New York, the Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA, the 10th Annual Berlin Biennale, and Jacob's Pillow, among other institutions. She has held residencies at the Maggie Allesee National Choreographic Center, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the Rauschenberg Foundation Captiva Residency, and New York Live Arts, where she was a Randjelovic/Stryker Resident Commissioned Artist. She is currently a Hodder Fellow at Princeton University's Lewis Center for the Arts, and was recently named a 2018 MacArthur Fellow.

This program is curated by The Power Plant with support of TD Ready Commitment and co-presented by Civic Theatres Toronto, as part of Progress international festival of performance and ideas, presented in partnership by SummerWorks and The Theatre Centre.

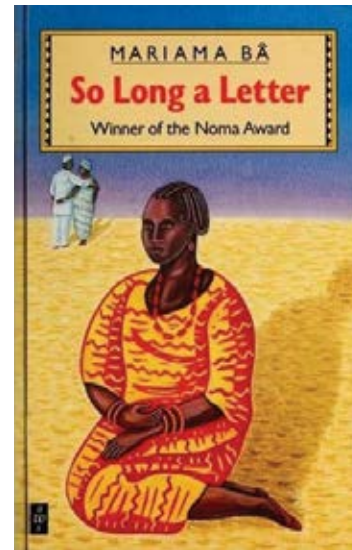
TOUR AND BOOK DISCUSSION

**So Long a Letter
by Mariama Bâ**

Thursday, 7 February 2019, 7 PM

THE POWER PLANT
FREE

To complement Omar Ba's exhibition *Same Dream*, The Power Plant presents a book discussion of *So Long a Letter* (1979) by celebrated Senegalese author Mariama Bâ. Written as an epistolary narrative, the story recounts the personal experiences of two close friends set against Senegal's shifting cultural landscape. The evening begins with a tour of *Same Dream* followed by a lively discussion of the novel led by Melissa Levin who holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Toronto where she teaches in the African Studies programme.



THIS PAGE *Poor People's TV Room*, courtesy Caitlin McCarthy.



PORTFOLIO NIGHT

Portfolio Night

**Tuesday, 29 January 2019 and
Tuesday, 12 March 2019, 6 PM**

THE POWER PLANT
FREE FOR ARTIST MEMBERS

Registration is required due to limited capacity. To confirm a place or to become a Member, email membership@thepowerplant.org or call 416.954.4235.

Participants are invited to discuss their work with a panel of Curatorial staff at The Power Plant and local arts professionals. Each artist will meet with three reviewers and have fifteen minutes to discuss their practice and receive feedback. Following the formal reviews, participants are invited to enjoy refreshments and conversation with fellow artists.

TOURS

Power Tours

**Saturdays, 3 PM
26 January - 12 May 2019**

THE POWER PLANT
FREE

Learn more about the exhibitions on view with free 30-minute interactive tours led by one of The Power Plant's gallery attendants. Consider the artists' intentions, the prominent themes with which they grapple and their materials and methods.

Group Tours

To schedule an arranged tour, please email info@thepowerplant.org or call 416.973.4949.

Regardless of your age or prior knowledge of art, The Power Plant can tailor a tour to match your needs. Tours can be arranged for educators and their students, parents and their families or corporate, tourist and other organized groups. Optional hands-on activity.

RIGHT Fall 2018 Opening Party, The Power Plant. Photo: Henry Chan.





are transforming the north—including Shuvinai Ashoona. From artists working in their studios, to their community life, the dramatic landscape of Baffin Island is an inspiration for many artworks.

Ghost Noise (dir. Marcia Connolly, 2010, colour, 23 min.) leads the viewer into the world of third generation Inuit artist, Shuvinai Ashoona. The film mirrors the poetry found within Ashoona’s meticulously detailed drawings that deftly reflect personal experience, psychological perception, Inuit mythology and the arctic landscape. As Ashoona states, “Everything’s a ghost noise... It’s good to listen to them but it’s not good to learn it.”

Following both films, remain for a discussion with Nancy G. Campbell and Annette Mansgaard, director of *Kinngait: Riding Light Into the World*. Josh Heuman, TPP’s Curator of Education & Public Programs, will moderate the conversation and integrate questions from the audience.

THIS PAGE TOP Image from *Ghost Noise*, courtesy National Film Board of Canada.

THIS PAGE BOTTOM Dr. Nancy Campbell, courtesy the speaker.



FILM DOUBLE FEATURE & PANEL

Kinngait: Riding Light Into the World and Ghost Noise

Saturday, 23 February 2019, 2 PM

STUDIO THEATRE,
HARBOURFRONT CENTRE
FREE

Eventbrite RSVP required

PRESENTED BY



This program will begin with an introduction by Dr. Nancy G. Campbell, guest curator of Shuvinai Ashoona: *Mapping Worlds*, speaking about the Inuit contemporary artist whose work has found broad appeal around the globe.

Next, the two films screen with a short break in between:

Kinngait: Riding Light Into the World (dir. Annette Mangaard, 2010, colour, 64 min.) brings the audience to the community of Cape Dorset and the acclaimed Kinngait Studios, on the occasion of its 15th anniversary. The film follows Inuit artists whose lives and artwork reflect the ongoing social and environmental changes that



TOUR

Slow Art Day

Saturday, 6 April 2019, 2 PM

THE POWER PLANT
FREE

The Power Plant participates in Slow Art Day, a global event that seeks to help more people discover the joy of looking at and loving art by encouraging visitors to look at art slowly, and then to talk about their experiences. While we share personal associations with the art, we can also make interpersonal connections with other participants. From 2:00-2:30 PM, we will look in silence at three artworks for 10 minutes each. As you experience the art, you may also refer to a handout with questions to ponder. From 2:30-3:00 PM, we will facilitate a group discussion about your observations and insights. In the end, participants should feel empowered to see and experience art without an expert (or expertise).

THIS PAGE TOP Fall 2018 Opening Party, The Power Plant. Photo: Henry Chan.



Venue Rentals

To host your next event at The Power Plant, contact rentals@thepowerplant.org.

Uniquely situated on Toronto’s Harbourfront, The Power Plant is comprised of four gallery spaces, a naturally lit clerestory, a sleek and modern lobby, and a spacious outdoor terrace which provide an ideal setting for an array of events.

FILM SERIES

Resistance & Revolution: The Cinema of Haile Gerima



Haile Gerima is an independent filmmaker and professor of film at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Born and raised in Ethiopia, Gerima emigrated to the United States in 1967. Following in the footsteps of his father, a dramatist and playwright, Gerima studied acting in Chicago before entering the School of Theater, Film and Television at University of California, Los Angeles where his exposure to Latin American films inspired him to mine his own cultural legacy. He has pursued a rich career as an internationally-recognized maker, producer and distributor of films focused especially on African and African-American themes.

This mini-retrospective is both a celebration of a remarkable film-maker, a complement to two of The Power Plant's Winter 2019 exhibitions, and represents co-presentations of five films with three esteemed partners: the Art Gallery of Ontario, Hot Docs, and TIFF.

PRESENTED BY



Harvest: 3,000 Years

1976, black and white, 150 min.

Friday, 22 March 2019, 7 PM

JACKMAN HALL
ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO
317 DUNDAS ST WEST
TPP & AGO MEMBERS \$9 / PUBLIC \$10

A poor, nameless Ethiopian peasant family slogs away under the watchful eye of a feudal ruler. Sitting there comfortably, he shouts his orders from

the veranda, under protest from a local 'fool'. This man is also trying to convince the peasants of the only way out: get an education. The family seems accustomed to their repetitive and hopeless existence, cherishing memories of happier times and apparently accepting their fate... until something breaks in one of them.

Josh Heuman, Curator of Education & Public Programs at The Power Plant, will introduce the film series, and speak about *Harvest: 3,000 Years* in the context of Gerima's career.



THIS PAGE TOP Haile Gerima, courtesy the speaker.

THIS PAGE BOTTOM Image from *Harvest: 3000 Years* courtesy the director.

OPPOSITE TOP Image from *Sankofa*, courtesy the director.

OPPOSITE BOTTOM Image from *Teza*, courtesy the director.



Adwa – An African Victory

1999, colour, 97 min.

Sunday, 31 March 2019, 1 PM

HOT DOCS TED ROGERS CINEMA
506 BLOOR ST WEST
TPP & HOT DOCS SILVER MEMBERS
\$6 / PUBLIC \$11.50

In 1896, Ethiopian forces armed mainly with spears and knives, defeat a well-equipped and organized Italian military bent on colonization. This victory ignited a flame of hope for freedom and independence in the hearts of African people.

Imperfect Journey

1994, colour, 88 min.

Monday, 8 April 2019 at 6 PM

HOT DOCS TED ROGERS CINEMA
506 BLOOR ST WEST
TPP & HOT DOCS SILVER MEMBERS
\$6 / PUBLIC \$11.50

In this BBC commissioned film, Haile Gerima and Polish journalist Ryszard Kapuscinski travel around Ethiopia talking to people about their political and psychic recovery of the Ethiopian people after the atrocities and political repression, or "red terror," of the military junta of Mengistu Haile Mariam. What are citizens' current situations, and what do they feel needs to be done for liberty and prosperity?



SPECIAL SCREENING

Sankofa

1993, colour, 125 min.

Saturday, 13 April 2019 at 6:30 PM

TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX
350 KING ST WEST
TPP & TIFF 365-LEVEL MEMBERS \$9.75
/ PUBLIC \$14

Black American model Mona, averse from America's history of slavery, is taking part in a photo shoot at a Ghanaian slave fort. A mystical drummer, calling on the spirits of enslaved ancestors to return home, puts her into a trance. She is transformed into Shola, a slave woman on a plantation in the South of the United States. There, she too undergoes the horrors and the many moral and psychological traumas those men, women and children had to endure. As the meaning of the word *sankofa* suggests, symbolised by a bird looking backward, she returns to the present wiser, thanks to her knowledge of the past.

Following the screening, filmmaker Haile Gerima will engage in conversation with Cameron Bailey, TIFF Artistic Director & Co-Head, and will take questions from the audience.

Teza

2008, colour, 140 min.

Thursday, 18 April 2019 at 6:45 PM

TIFF BELL LIGHTBOX
350 KING ST WEST
TPP & TIFF 365-LEVEL MEMBERS \$9.75
/ PUBLIC \$14

The film reflects on the effects of the fall of Emperor Haile Selassie, and the ways in which political upheaval and social change have impacted cultures and nations across the larger African Diaspora.

Told mainly through a series of flashbacks, *Teza* follows the personal narrative of Anberber, who, after leaving Ethiopia for Germany to become a doctor, is led to return to his home village by lingering spirits and haunting visions from his childhood. Using the power of memory as its primary device, *Teza* recounts the historical circumstances that have framed the context in which contemporary Ethiopia exists. The movie chronicles Anberber's internal struggle to stay true—both to himself and to his homeland—but above all, the film explores the possession of memory, a right that humanity mandates that each of us have: the right to own our pasts.

For information and tickets, please visit thepowerplant.org.



Power Youth

The Power Youth outreach program connects youth ages 12-17, members of our partnering organizations in priority neighbourhoods, with local professional artists in a 15 week program. The program, led by a contemporary Artist-in-Residence selected by the youth participants, includes art-making and a visit to The Power Plant, culminating with a youth art exhibition. Power Youth is organized by Elyse Rodgers, Power Youth Coordinator and facilitated by Elahe Rostami, Power Youth Teaching Assistant.

POWER YOUTH PARTNERS



POWER YOUTH FUNDERS



LOOKING BACK: FALL 2018 Break Dancing with Lee Pham

25 September 2018 –
10 January 2019

This fall, youth at the Humber Clubhouse, Boys & Girls Clubs of Weston-Mount Dennis worked with selected Artist-in-Residence, and B-Boy, Lee "Lethal" Pham. Each week, youth learned how to condition and hone their skills and learned how breaking can be an outlet for expression through storytelling. The program concluded with a group performance to showcase their skills in their community.

Words Music and Sounds with Matthew-Ray Jones aka "Testament"

This year we were excited to provide Power Youth at two Toronto Kiwanis Boys and Girls Clubs location at their Spruce Clubhouse and TP Loblaw's St. Mary's Clubhouse. Both groups selected hip-hop, spoken word artist and emcee, Matthew-Ray Jones aka "Testament," as their Artist-in-Residence. Every Tuesday and Wednesday, youth explored a new element of writing, combined with music and sound to learn how to create expressive pieces. The program concluded with a group event and showcase in their community.



MARCH BREAK CAMP Senior Arts: Power Youth

Ages 10-15
\$295

Visit harbourfrontcentre.com/camps to register.

Inspired by upcoming solo exhibitions at The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery – featuring Inuit artist Shuvinaï

Ashoona, Senegalese artist Omar Ba and African American artist Alicia Henry – youth will consider and reimagine the human figure in two dimensions. Campers will start by learning basic figure drawing techniques with graphite and proportions for depicting the human figure. They will then progress to working with materials the artists use: pencil crayons and markers used by Ashoona; mixed media paintings used by Ba; and, fabric, leather and other media used by Henry.

Power Youth Spring Exhibition

MARILYN BREWER COMMUNITY
SPACE, HARBOURFRONT CENTRE

Tuesday, 7 May 2019, 12 – 6 PM

OPENING RECEPTION
THE BRIGANTINE ROOM,
HARBOURFRONT CENTRE

Tuesday, 7 May 2019, 5 – 8 PM

FREE

View all the creations from the Fall 2018 and Winter 2019 Power Youth programs on display at the Harbourfront Centre's Marilyn Brewer Community Space. Youth, friends, family, neighbours and community members are invited to The Brigantine Room for a performance reception on Tuesday, 7 May 2019 from 6-8PM. Performances will include breaking, spoken word and collective theatre by Power Youth participants and led by their Artists-in-Residence.



Collective Theatre with Chelsea Woolley

Finally, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Lawrence Heights and Neptune worked with theatre artist and playwright, Chelsea Woolley, to create a piece of collective theatre performance. Youth learned writing skills based on observation and theatrical expression, i.e., movement; improve singing, poetry, etc. Their ideas transformed into a final script that they learned how to rehearse and perform. The program concluded with a performance for their community.



LOOKING AHEAD: WINTER 2019 Winter Season

21 January 2019 – 2 May 2019

We are excited to announce that this winter youth from the Spruce Clubhouse have selected to work with jewelry artist and entrepreneur Asia Clarke who will be teaching youth about wearable art and entrepreneurship. St. Mary's Clubhouse has selected LEGO artist Ekow Nimako and together they will be exploring Afrofuturism through this playful material. Stay tuned for updates on youth artist selection at the Humber and Neptune Clubhouses!



SUMMER CAMP Senior Arts: Power Youth

Ages 11-15
\$295

Visit harbourfrontcentre.com/camps to register.

During summer 2019, The Power Plant will exhibit the work of artist Thomas J. Price (based in London, England) and Mario Pfeifer (based in Berlin, Germany). While Price creates figurative sculpture, examining the African diaspora in the UK, Pfeifer creates videos and installations based on subjects around the world. Youths will create a three-dimensional sculpture and documentary video to explore how both Price and Pfeifer depict traditionally under-represented peoples, histories and narratives.



MAJOR EVENT

Face to Face

Tuesday, 5 March 2019, 6:30PM

THE GLOBE AND MAIL CENTRE
351 KING STREET EAST, LEVEL 17
\$750 INDIVIDUAL / \$5,000 TABLE (OF 8)

Contact development@thepowerplant.org or 416.973.4430 to purchase tickets. Tax receipt for maximum allowable amount will be issued.

Face to Face is The Power Plant's annual fundraiser that brings distinguished guests from the art world together, while raising vital funds for the gallery's programming initiatives including Power Kids and Power Youth. The evening will include a panel discussion featuring artist Rashid Johnson, who will be exhibiting at The Power Plant in Fall 2019. Johnson's practice is defined by critical evocations and entangling of racial and cultural identity, African American history, and mysticism. His oeuvre includes wall-based works, sculptural installation and assemblage.

The panel will offer insight into Johnson's practice and the current local and international cultural landscape, introducing relevant themes amongst the artists in the room. Guests will then have the opportunity to continue engaging with artists and cultural producers over an intimate dinner. Artists include Jen Aitken, Maggie Groat, Aisha Sasha John, Micah Lexier, John Monteith, Roula Partheniou, Dawit L. Petros, Naufus Ramirez-Figueroa, Nep Sidhu, Ian Wallace and more.

MAJOR EVENT

Power Ball XXI

Thursday, 6 June 2019, 7PM

THE POWER PLANT
\$500 PRE-PARTY (INCLUDES ACCESS TO POWER BALL PARTY)
\$175 POWER BALL PARTY

Visit powerball.thepowerplant.org to purchase tickets. Ticket packages are also available. Tax receipt for maximum allowable amount will be issued.

For over 21 years, The Power Plant's Power Ball has charmed Toronto's social scene and captains of industry alike as the city's most notorious art party.

An ambitious fundraising event in support of the exhibitions and programming at The Power Plant, Power Ball allows guests to enjoy the luxuries of a vivacious party while being surrounded by site-specific artist projects.

Join us as the gallery is transformed with hidden art gems and a bevy of tempting libations and nourishments for the soul, while experiencing an infamous gathering place that since its inception thrives just below the surface.

Stay tuned for more details!

OPPOSITE Rashid Johnson: *Hail We Now Sing Joy*. Installation view: Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri, 2017. Photo: E.G. Schempf.
THIS PAGE Power Ball XX: Carousal, 2018. Photo: Henry Chan.



The Power Plant regularly collaborates with artists to produce editioned artwork exclusive to the gallery, award-winning exhibition catalogues and art-centric publications.

Bring the best of contemporary art home. Visit the Shop at The Power Plant during gallery hours or 24/7 online at thepowerplant.org/shop.aspx



EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Omar Ba La Prophétie des Gens de Durban/The Prophecy of the People of Durban

\$45 / \$38 MEMBERS

The Power Plant will present Omar Ba's first institutional exhibition in Winter 2019. Using objects and materials from his immediate surroundings, Ba paints mainly on cardboard with mixed media

including oils, watercolor, ink and pencil. His compositions are comprised of fantastical or mythological creatures amidst images of colonial violence and exploitation across the African continent, set among lush flora and fauna. He currently lives and works between Dakar, Senegal and Geneva, Switzerland. This hardcover publication features texts by Alain Quemin, Omar Ba and Klara Tuszynski and is co-produced by Hales Gallery; Galerie Anne De Villepoix; Galleria Guisepe Pero and Galerie Guy Bärtschi.



EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

Amalia Pica please listen hurry others speak better

\$25 / \$21 MEMBERS

please listen hurry others speak better is the latest publication on Amalia Pica's work. It considers the two newly commissioned bodies of work presented in the exhibitions *ears to speak of* (29 September–31 December 2017), curated by Carolin Köchling, at The Power Plant

Contemporary Art Gallery and *please open hurry* (18 November 2017–10 March 2018), curated by Aileen Burns & Johan Lundh at the Institute of Modern Art (IMA) that toured to the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts (PICA) (4 August–7 October 2018), curated by Eugenio Viola. The book features texts by Volker Sommer, Eugenio Viola, Filipa Ramos, Amalia Pica, and Carolin Köchling and is co-published by Sternberg Press, Berlin; Institute of Modern Art, Brisbane; Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts; and The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto.



ARTIST EDITION

Shuvinai Ashoona

INDIVIDUAL: \$600 / \$500 MEMBERS
SET: \$2400 / \$1800 MEMBERS
UNIQUE DRAWINGS (NOT SHOWN):
\$1200 / \$1000 MEMBERS

In connection with Shuvinai Ashoona: *Mapping Worlds*, The Power Plant has a series of editions produced by Ashoona at Kinngait Studios, the art arm of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative, where she has worked for the past two decades. Ten unique drawings, as well as a limited selection of four lithograph prints are available individually or as a set. These works exemplify her highly personal and imaginative iconography, ranging from closely observed naturalistic scenes of her Arctic surroundings, to monstrous and fantastical visions.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

A Folio of Lithographs by Shuvinai Ashoona
Walrus, 2017
Octopuses, 2017
Clams, 2017
Seals, 2017

GALLERY MERCHANDISE

The Power Plant Pencils

\$1.50 / \$1 MEMBERS



Become a Member

The Power Plant provides all art lovers with exceptional opportunities to access, engage with and exchange ideas around the very best artwork of our time. None of this would be possible without our donors, an amazing cultural community of artists, cultural producers, collectors and art enthusiasts whose philanthropic support at all levels allows The Power Plant to present leading international art, groundbreaking contemporary Canadian art, and a broad array of culturally diverse programming.

To learn more or to make a donation to The Power Plant, please contact our Donor Programs team at membership@thepowerplant.org or 416.954.4235.

THE CLUB & ABOVE

Exhibition Tour: Art Gallery of Ontario

Saturday, 2 February 2019, 2 PM

Curator Julie Crooks will lead Members on a tour of *Mickalene Thomas: Femmes Noir*, the artist's large-scale solo exhibition in Canada, at the AGO.

ALL LEVELS

Members' Exhibition Tour

Thursday, 9 May 2019, 5:30 - 7 PM

View the current exhibition after hours with a Power Plant curator! Enjoy refreshments and mingle with fellow Members.

CIRCLE OF CONTEMPORARIES

Circle of Contemporaries is a new Membership program for young art enthusiasts and those seeking greater engagement with the art world. The program consists of a series of annual events, with an emphasis on networking, interdisciplinary exchange and inspiring emerging collectors, in order to cultivate the arts patrons of tomorrow. Learn more: bit.ly/CircleofContemporaries

CIRCLE OF CONTEMPORARIES

Studio Visit: Akin King

Thursday, 2 May 2019, 6 PM

Circle of Contemporaries is turning one! Members are invited to celebrate our first anniversary with a visit to the artists' studios in Akin's

downtown space on King St. Akin is an arts organization that provides affordable studio space to over 300 artists in 8 locations, and offers creative programming and professional development opportunities to members of Toronto's cultural community.



**THE
POWER
PLANT**



WATCH THEIR CURIOSITY GROW.

Introducing kids to art helps plant the seeds for new ways of thinking. Join us for free Power Kids workshops at The Power Plant, Canada's leading public gallery devoted to contemporary art.

ALL YEAR, ALL FREE

PRESENTED BY

BMO  Financial Group

GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday-Sunday 10-5 PM
Thursday 10-8 PM
Open holiday Mondays

LOCATION

231 Queens Quay West
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
M5J 2G8

INFORMATION

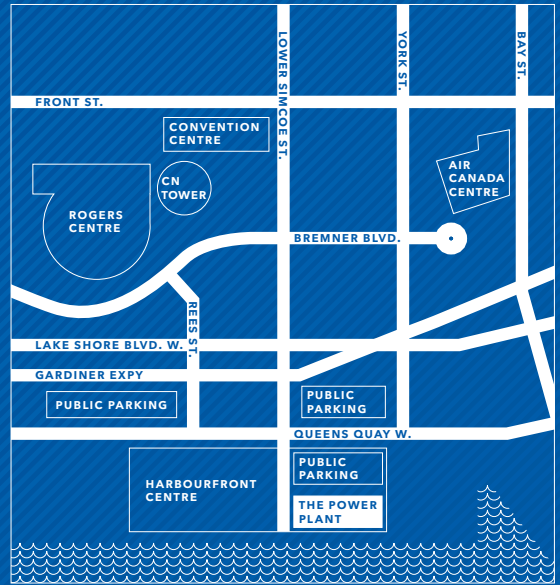
+1.416.973.4949
info@thepowerplant.org
thepowerplant.org

PLEASE NOTE

Underground parking is located directly in front of the gallery at Queens Quay West and Lower Simcoe Street.

To arrive by TTC, take the 509 or 510 streetcar from Union Station to Harbourfront Centre.

To arrive by car from Lake Shore Boulevard, take Lower Simcoe Street directly south to the gallery.



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