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# OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION *DRINKERS OF QUINTESSENCES* AT THE DARLING FOUNDRY

The Darling Foundry would like to invite you to a press visit  
of the group exhibition *Drinkers of Quintessences*  
on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 5 PM.



FEBRUARY 22 - MAY 06, 2018

## **An exhibition with :**

Fortner Anderson (QC), Steve Bates (QC), Marie-Claire Blais (QC),  
Olivia Boudreau (QC), Claude Closky (FR),  
Marie Cool Fabio Balducci (FR / IT), Alexandre David (QC),  
Adriana Disman (QC), Kitty Kraus (DE), Stéphane La Rue (QC),  
Kelly Mark (ON), János Sugár (HUN)

## **Curator :**

Caroline Andrieux

This group exhibition brings together twelve artists around the concept of the void in the visual arts. Minimal in their aesthetics, the selected works are driven by a critical impulse as much as a quest for the absolute. On the one hand, they question the status of authorship, art object and exhibition venue, while aiming on the other hand at transcending materiality, and visual perception.

Performances and actions will pace the course of the exhibition.

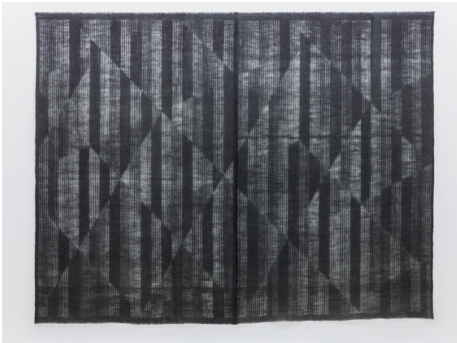


## **On the opening program:**

Welcome speech and guided tour by the curator (5PM)  
Reading of the poem « Perte d'auréole » by Marie Brassard (7PM)  
Quintessences tasting from Absintherie des Cantons  
Unveiling of a new work by French resident-artist Thomas Lévy-Lasne  
Open studios

# EXHIBITION

DRINKERS OF QUINTESSENCES  
FEBRUARY 22 - MAY 06, 2018



Marie-Claire Blais  
*Entrevoir le jour\_horizon7*, 2014  
Courtesy : Galerie René Blouin, Montréal.  
Photo: Richard-Max Tremblay

The title of the group exhibition, *Drinkers of Quintessences*, is drawn from Charles Baudelaire's "Loss of a Halo," in which the poet recounts the experience of an artist who, having accidentally lost his defining characteristic, ultimately gets along without it just fine. Feeling liberated from the pressure that comes with his status, he is able to anonymously blend into the crowd. Inspired by this poem, Walter Benjamin subsequently wrote about the loss of the aura of an entire generation that sought to demystify artistic practice and break free of the bonds associated with creation.



Kitty Kraus  
*Untitled*, 2009  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York.  
Courtesy : Galerie Neu, Berlin.

*Drinkers of Quintessences* offers an original look at a strong trend in contemporary art, in Quebec, and internationally, namely taking a stand against the society of the spectacle. Favoring a distancing of the author from his work, or limiting the art object to a simple monochrome, a campfire or openwork fabric, each artist criticizes the notion of work and the spectacular effects sought in many contemporary endeavors.

Through voluntarily minimal works, seemingly empty of content, ephemeral and questioning the materiality of the art object, the exhibition directs the visitor towards a spiritual horizon and calls for reflection beyond the gaze.

The exhibition echoes *Ultra Vide*, the inaugural exhibition of the Darling Foundry in 2002. *Drinkers of Quintessences* attempts to explore this theme from a new angle, by adding an updated critical dimension.

The exhibition will travel to Casino Luxembourg - Forum of Contemporary Art in January 2019.



Kelly Mark  
*The Kiss*, 2007  
Courtesy : Olga Korper Gallery, Toronto

# PROGRAM

## NUIT BLANCHE À MONTRÉAL

ANDRÉ FOURNELLE  
*LIGNE D'OR, LIGNE DE VIE*  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018, 10 PM - MIDNIGHT**



## ACTION

MARIE COOL FABIO BALDUCCI  
*UNTITLED*  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018, NOON - 10 PM**



## PERFORMANCES

ADRIANA DISMAN  
*THRESHOLDING*  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018, 6 PM**

KELLY MARK  
*EVERYTHING AND NOTHING*  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2018, 6 PM**

FORTNER ANDERSON  
*POINTS OF DEPARTURE*  
**THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018, 10 AM - 10 PM**



AND MORE AT THE DARLING FOUNDRY:

## CONVERSATION WITH RESIDENT ARTISTS

THOMAS LÉVY-LASNE (FR)  
ALEJANDRA BONILLA RESTREPO (COL)  
THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018, 6 PM

## SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS

GILBERT BOYER  
*PERMIS10H57*

NICOLE FOURNIER  
*PAYSAGE EMBALLETOI!*

## PERTE D'AURÉOLE LOSS OF A HALO

"WHAT! you here, old man? You in such a place! You the ambrosia eater,  
the drinker of quintessences! This is really a surprise."

"My friend, you know my terror of horses and vehicles. Well, just now  
as I was crossing the boulevard in a great hurry, splashing through the  
mud in the midst of seething chaos, and with death galloping at me from  
every side, I gave a sudden start and my halo slipped off of my head and  
fell into the mire of the macadam. I was far too frightened to pick it up. I  
decided it was less unpleasant to lose my insignia than to get my bones  
broken. Then too, I reflected, every cloud has a silver lining. I can now go  
about incognito, be as low as I please and indulge in debauch like ordinary  
mortals. So here I am as you see, exactly like yourself."

"But aren't you going to advertise for your halo, at least?  
Or notify the police?"

"No, I think not. I like it here. You are the only person who has recognized  
me. Besides I am bored with dignity, and what's more, it is perfectly  
delightful to think that of some bad poet picking it up and brazenly putting  
it on. To make someone happy, ah, what a pleasure!  
Especially someone you can laugh at.  
Think of X! Think of Z! Don't you see how amusing it will be?"

Charles Baudelaire, *Little Poems in Prose*, XLVI [1869]  
- trans. Louise Varèse, 1947 -

# DARLING FOUNDRY

The Darling Foundry is a visual arts center and a must-see venue for contemporary art. Housed in a former industrial foundry in Old Montreal, the center welcomes an extended audience to experience various forms of art. Under the leadership of Caroline Andrieux, the Darling Foundry supports the creation, production, and presentation of works by emerging artists. It offers creation workshops, international artist residencies and site-specific projects.

## UPCOMING

### MARCO GODINHO - SOLO EXHIBITION

JUNE 21 - AUGUST 19, 2018

Curator: Kevin Muhlen

For his exhibition in the main hall, Marco Godinho will pursue his research based on his own nomadic life experience, caught between several languages and cultures, while deeply influenced by literature and poetry. Unfolding from a reflection upon exile, Godinho's work examines notions of borders, limits and geographic conventions. The sensorial exploration of walk as a form is layered with one of memory, swaying between the artist's subjectivity and collective memory.

### JOSHUA SCHWEBEL - A DREAM IN WHICH I AM YOU

JUNE 21 - AUGUST 19, 2018

Curator: Esther Bourdages

In the small gallery, Joshua Schwebel proposes an exhibition resulting from a research residency he did in 2015 at the Tadeusz Kantor Foundation in Warsaw, an institution devoted to the memory of the Polish artist and theatre director. By way of installations and an artist novel, Schwebel will address issues of memory transmission and intersecting narrations, as well as displacement and absence, experience and subjectivity.

## ADDRESS

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## ACCESS

Bus: 61, 715, 74, 168  
Metro: Square-Victoria-OACI

## OPENING HOURS

Wed - Sun : 12 H - 19 H  
On Thursday until 22 H

Admission: 5\$ / on donation  
Free on Thursdays

## PRESS

For all requests regarding exhibition texts, artists biographies, images or any other information, please contact

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## PARTNERS



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