

**NEWS RELEASE
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**LAUNCH OF
PROGRAMMING 2015**

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**Luxembourg Shines in Montreal:
Installation and Opening Reception
UNGROUND
At the Darling Foundry**

MONTREAL, Friday, 20 February 2015 — Modernist architecture immersed in a murky haze, threatening abyssal chasms, video images in black and white crossed by perpetual motion flow, and streaming end of the world rock tunes by Stephen O'Malley, *UNGROUND*, the multi-layered installation curated by **KEVIN MUHLEN**, artistic director at Casino Luxembourg, opens our 2015 season with great pomp, offering visitors an immersive, sensitive and thought-provoking experience.



GAST BOUSCHET & NADINE HILBERT have been working together since the 90s and have developed a body of work based on photography and the moving image. Their work has been widely shown internationally notably at Cube Space in Taipei, Taiwan; Philharmonie in Luxembourg; Muzeum Sztuki in Lodz, Poland; Casino Forum d'Art Contemporain in Luxembourg; Triennale de Luanda in Luanda, Angola; Busan Biennale in Busan, South Korea; Camouflage in Johannesburg, South Africa; MuHKA in Antwerp, Belgium; and CCA in Glasgow, Scotland. In 2009, Bouschet and Hilbert represented Luxembourg at the Venice Biennale.

UNGROUND is an immersive multi-channel video installation bursting with references to the mineral understructures of the modern metropolis, financial meltdowns, thawing glaciers, archaic caves, and volcanic, arctic wastelands at the border of the inhabitable world. It is an invitation to feel, think and meditate the forces which have cut off human beings from the rest of nature. Our civilisation has reached a crisis point – the surface of our planet has been profoundly transformed by economies of excess and capitalist consumerism. As a result, *UNGROUND* has transformed these feelings of alienation and cultural estrangement into sorcerous gestures of insurrection. It re-evaluates experiences of anger and discontent in order to face the threats of a civilization that is heading towards the abyss. The video installations, representing both modern city infrastructures and inhabitable Arctic wilderness, offer an alternative understanding of our world beyond the limits of capitalist realism. They suggest a manner of resistance and dissent, opening a gateway to a dark and secret realm charged with new freedoms and possibilities. *[Kevin Muhlen]*

MONTREAL HAPPENINGS

The season will be marked by two events: from the winter programme and the artists in residence participating in Nuit Blanche.

Thursday, 26 February from 5pm to 10pm: Opening reception of the exhibition *UNGROUND*; and studio visits of the artists in residence **FERNANDO GARCIA** (SPAIN), **ERNESTO BAUTISTA** (EL SALVADOR) and **LIVIA JOHANN** (FRANCE/SWITZERLAND), and Montreal-based artists in studio **SARAH GREIG** and **JULIEN DISCRIT** for members of the public wanting to observe their ongoing research.

Saturday, 28 February from 9pm to 11pm: As the inaugural event of the season, Nuit Blanche takes place outdoors at the Place Publique with *Playing With Fire*: addressing risk, the playful, the ritual but also the heat that fire provides, **ERNESTO BAUTISTA** (EL SALVADOR), **MINIBLOC** (MONTREAL), **FERNANDO GARCIA** (SPAIN), and **TRENT KS** (MONTREAL) under the curatorship of **MARC-ANDRÉ AUDET** (MONTREAL), will explore the many facets which fire can evoke. Concurrently, the opening hours of the exhibition *UNGROUND* will extend till midnight.

ABOUT THE FOUNDRY

The Darling Foundry is a non-profit organization whose mandate is to support the creation, production and dissemination of the visual arts. It consists of two adjacent buildings, one dedicated to artists and the other to their audience. Two exhibition halls (the Main Gallery and the Small Gallery), several studios and workshops, and studio-apartments (occupied by local and international artists), as well as Le Serpent, a spacious, recently converted and designed restaurant occupy the locale.

The Darling Foundry is supported by the Conseil des arts et des Lettres du Québec and the Conseil des Arts de Montréal.

Opening hours are Wednesday to Sunday from 12-7pm (\$5) and Thursdays from 12-10pm (free).

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For interview requests with the artists and the curator and/or with the artistic director of the Darling Foundry and/or to obtain high-resolution images, please contact:

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