

TORONTO BIENNIAL OF ART

For Immediate Release

TORONTO BIENNIAL OF ART ANNOUNCES PRELIMINARY LIST OF ARTISTS, PARTNERS, AND SPONSORS FOR ITS 2024 EDITION

Toronto, Canada, November 7, 2023— Today, the [Toronto Biennial of Art \(the Biennial/TBA\)](#) announced its initial selection of Canadian and international artists for its third edition, on view September 21 to December 1, 2024. Dominique Fontaine and Miguel A. López are the curators of this free, 72-day event held at venues across the city.



Commissioned and invited artists participating in TBA 2024 exhibitions thus far include: Dineo Seshee Bopape, Sonia Boyce, Charles Campbell, Raven Chacon, Naomi Rincón Gallardo, Maria Hupfield, Rudy Loewe, Tessa Mars, Pamela Matharu, Citra Sasmita, Karen Tam, Ahmed Umar, and Cecilia Vicuña.

“We are honoured to announce our preliminary list of participating Biennial artists—with more to come—and share a glimpse into the curatorial process and direction for the 2024 exhibition,” said TBA Founder and Executive Director Patrizia Libralato. “Our curators

Dominique Fontaine and Miguel A. López are approaching their work with rigour and deep listening as they centre artists and their voices in all aspects of their research. This approach will ensure that the 2024 Biennial is relevant, impactful, and accessible for all.”

“We remain committed to supporting artists from across Canada and beyond as they realize new commissions and showcase existing works. In these increasingly complex times, the Biennial will respond to local and global experiences through the unique visions of artists. Our team is eager to share these perspectives as we welcome audiences to the Biennial in fall 2024. We’re especially grateful to our partners and supporters who continue to champion art and artists and allow us to once again bring ten weeks of free art experiences and programming to Toronto,” said Libralato.

Additional participants will be announced in spring 2024 along with details of the Biennial’s extensive [Public and Learning Programs](#) as well as its creative partnerships.

When speaking about the curatorial process, Fontaine and López said, “The 2024 Biennial aims to showcase the ways artists from different localities respond to the impact of the aftermath of colonialism on everyday life. Taking our cues from artists, we have been inspired and guided by their practices when thinking about the Biennial’s structure. This includes the development of a preliminary list of key directives drawn from the artists’ creative labour, such as ‘Joy,’ ‘Home,’ and ‘Solace.’ The exhibition aims to create a collective dialogue around urgent issues of our times: environmental destruction, sovereignty, self-representation, belonging, collective memory, ancestral

knowledge, migrant diasporas, queer futurity, and how art can participate in the process of restoring disrupted social bonds.”

Similar to the publication "Water, Kinship, Belief" created for the 2019 and 2022 Biennial exhibitions, the 2024 Biennial will be accompanied by a new publication. Structured around conversations between artists, curators, and other contributors, these discussions highlight the connections and common struggles that appear across the artistic practices featured within the Biennial.

2024 Biennial Highlights

Artists participating in the 2024 Biennial exhibition include:



Dineo Seshee Bopape (she/her, b. Polokwane, South Africa; lives in Johannesburg, South Africa). Bopape explores elemental, metaphysical, and socio-historical matters to consider how the social, political, and physical inhabit the world around us. Her TBA project, developed in partnership with The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, will be grounded in dreaming as a methodology to engage with reality. In collaboration with local communities, Bopape will connect with healing Indigenous practices based in herbal medicinal traditions. This new site-specific installation will turn The Power

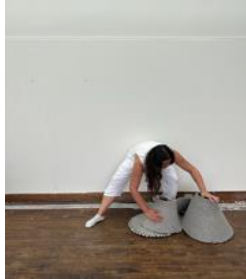
Plant’s LePage Gallery into an immersive environment bringing together video, sound, and organic materials.

Sonia Boyce OBE RA (she/her, b. London, UK where she continues to live and work). With an emphasis on collaborative work, Boyce has been working closely with other artists since 1990, often involving improvisation and spontaneous performative actions on the part of her collaborators. A site-specific version of *Feeling Her Way* (2022) will be presented in collaboration with the Art Gallery of Ontario and PHI Foundation for Contemporary Art, Montréal, where it will be shown in May 2024. Awarded the Golden Lion for Best National Participation at the 59th Venice Biennale, the installation combines video, collage, music, and sculpture to present a body of work that centres around the vocal experimentation of five female musicians and marks the Canadian debut of her work.



Charles Campbell (he/him, b. in Jamaica; lives in Victoria, Canada). The artist’s practice animates the future imaginaries possible in the wake of slavery and colonization. For TBA, Campbell’s sculptural installation project envisions itself as a portal into the space where the spirits of those who lost their lives in the Middle Passage reside. It will attempt to open a pathway to futures blocked by injustice and trauma by providing a space of acknowledgement, solace, and care for those spirits.

Raven Chacon (he/him, b. Fort Defiance, Navajo Nation; lives in Red Hook, New York). Chacon is a Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, performer, installation artist, and a 2023 MacArthur Fellow. His work explores the range of sound offering resistance to colonial narratives and myths of an uninhabited American West. For TBA, Chacon will create a film in Ontario that will be part of a new iteration of *Three Songs* (2021-2024), a series of videos paying tribute to Indigenous women who sing to past, present, and future landscapes.



Maria Hupfield (she/her, b. Parry Sound; lives in Tkarón:to/Toronto, Canada). The artist is an active member of the Anishinaabek Nation from Wasauksing First Nation (Huron Robinson Treaty), Ontario. Hupfield's transdisciplinary practice is recognized for combining performance art and industrial felt. Her creations are further activated and put to use, fully actualized through their inventive appearances in live performances and collaborations as sculptural arrangements and in video. For TBA, Hupfield intends to create a new work that develops the form and sound of the spiral, as introduced in her previous work *Jingle Spiral* (2015).

Pamila Matharu (they/them, b. Birmingham, UK; lives in Tkarón:to/Toronto). Matharu approaches contemporary art from the position of critical pedagogy and uses an interdisciplinary and intersectional feminist lens. Their artwork often culminates in a broad range of forms including installation art, social practice, and experimental media art. For TBA, Matharu's project will provide a multidisciplinary platform that experientially intersects contemporary art practices and critical pedagogy through community-engaged ways of knowing.



Cecilia Vicuña (she/her, b. Santiago, Chile; lives between New York and Santiago). Vicuña is a visual artist, poet, filmmaker, and activist who was recently awarded the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the 59th Venice Biennale. She created the autonomous concept of "precarious art" in the mid-1960s in Chile to name what vanishes. Her work bridges art and poetry as a way of "hearing an ancient silence waiting to be heard." For TBA, Vicuña is developing a research project that connects her fight against the military dictatorship in Chile (1973-1990) and the current struggles against fake news and other forms of manipulations that undermine democratic legitimacy.

Preliminary List of Venues and Exhibition Partners

Building creative partnerships through collaborative installations, exhibitions, and programming across Toronto and beyond is integral to the Biennial's core activities. The 2024 Biennial will work with established art institutions, artist-run centres, arts organizations, community organizations, educational institutions, and repurposed spaces.

Exhibition and Programming Partners include the Art Gallery of Ontario, *C Magazine*, Gallery TPW, OCAD University, PHI Foundation for Contemporary Art, Textile Museum of Canada, The Image

Centre (Toronto Metropolitan University), The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, Toronto District School Board, Toronto Sculpture Garden, Toronto Union, and the Urban Indigenous Education Centre. Additional partners will be announced in the coming months.

TBA Founders and Funders

The Toronto Biennial of Art is grateful to all contributing donors for their generous support. Major funders to date include Cadillac Fairview, Chromatic Developments, Hatch, Max Mara, Michael & Sonja Koerner Charitable Foundation, Michelle Koerner Family Foundation, Power Corporation, Alfredo & Moira Romano, Sabourin Family Foundation, TD Bank Group, Woodbridge Investments Corporation, Women Leading Initiative, the Zeidler family, and our many generous individual donors, including our Founding supporters. TBA is also grateful for our government supporters: Canada Council for the Arts and the City of Toronto.

TBA appreciates the support of travel partners and hosts of the curatorial research process. These supporters include Artspeak Gallery, Vancouver; Frame Contemporary Art Finland, Helsinki; Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin; Jan van Eyck Academy, Maastricht, The Netherlands; Office of Contemporary Art Norway, Oslo; PHI Foundation for Contemporary Art, Montréal; Remail Modern, Saskatoon; and The Polygon Gallery, Vancouver.

About the Toronto Biennial of Art

The Toronto Biennial of Art's mission is to make contemporary art accessible to everyone. A ten-week event presented every two years, the Biennial commissions artists to create new works for a city-wide exhibition in dialogue with Toronto's diverse local contexts. Year-round public and learning programs bridge Biennial editions and invite intergenerational audiences to explore the ideas that inspire our events. Building upon past editions and offering new ways of seeing and listening, each Biennial connects people to spark meaningful dialogues and imagine new futures.

For more information, visit: torontobiennial.org, @torontobiennial, and on [facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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Image Captions:

Naomi Rincón Gallardo, *Sonnet of Vermin*, 2022. Photo by Claudia López Terroso.

Dineo Seshee Bopape, *Mabu, mubu, mmu, sa_ _ke lerole, (sa lerole ke)*, 2022, Installation view Pirelli HangarBicocca, Milan, 2022. Photo by Agostino Osio.

Sonia Boyce, *Feeling Her Way*, 2022. Commissioned by the British Council for the British Pavilion for the 59th International Art Exhibition – La Biennale di Venezia 2022. © Sonia Boyce (Copyright Visual Arts-CARCC, 2023). Installation view, Leeds Art Gallery, 2023. Image credit: Rob Battersby.

Charles Campbell, *Breath Cycle 1*, 2022. Photo by Dennis Ha.

Raven Chacon, *Sweet Land*, 2020. Photo by Casey Kringlen for The Industry.

Maria Hupfield, *Spiral Play*, 2023. Photo by the artist.

Pamila Matharu, *FREE ENGLISH*, 2020. Image courtesy of the artist.

Cecilia Vicuña, *Pueblo de altares*, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, 1990-2023. Photo by Felipe Fontecilla.