

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FROM CANADIAN ARTISTS

Deadline: May 14, 2024

Curator: Marie-Ann Yemsi

IN PRAISE OF THE MISSING IMAGE

In a world saturated with images, some, strangely, are lacking. The 2025 edition of MOMENTA seeks to explore the potentialities of missing images to renew narratives relating to time, history, and the world. The programming will open spaces for dialogue, hospitality, and the expression of struggles and solidarities wherein decolonial and feminist pedagogies and ancestral knowledge intersect.

Ever since the invention of photography and film, and their proliferation during the colonial expansion of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, an ideological link was formed between these media and the construction of dominant narratives. This connection has been particularly evident in the production of figures of alterity – geographic, cultural, racial, economic – and in certain resulting historical blind spots. Narratives that fell outside this frame were swept away, and these stories have been either truncated or simply disappeared. With a focus on what is beyond our view – the silences and breaches in individual and collective memory – the Biennale will explore both contemporary challenges in relation to the image and the current consequences of the complex dynamics involved in constructing narratives. Which stories are told, how, and by whom? Through the unruly material of art, *In Praise of the Missing Image* invites us to imagine collectively the means, political and poetic, by which we may inhabit the impasses of the present and sketch out ways toward the future.

ABOUT THE CURATOR



Photo: Daniel Nicolaevsky Maria

Marie-Ann Yemsi is an independent exhibition curator and contemporary art consultant based in Paris, France. With a degree in political science, Yemsi pays particular attention to theoretical, critical, and aesthetic productions in the Global South and develops multidisciplinary art programs at the intersection of the visual arts, performance, dance, music, and writing. Her projects focus on collaborative art practices and experimental forms, highlighting themes such as memory, history, gender, and identity in relation to contemporary political, social, and ecological issues. She has organized numerous international exhibitions including, most recently, the group exhibition *Ubuntu, a Lucid Dream*, at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris, and *Grada Kilomba's A World of Illusions*, at the Norval Foundation in Cape Town, South Africa.

ABOUT MOMENTA

MOMENTA Biennale de l'image is a flagship Montreal event devoted to contemporary art. For 35 years, MOMENTA has been inviting artists and audiences from the world over to gather in the city's museums, galleries, and artist-run centres. Its activities include exhibitions, public events, and educational workshops that introduce participants to artists, both local and international, whose works pique curiosity and stimulate reflection.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

MOMENTA is launching its call for submissions for its 2025 edition. The Biennale invites Canadian* artists and artist collectives, emerging and established, to submit a project to show us their works connected with the Biennale's theme, whether at the ideation or the production stage.

We are looking for works that explore the potentialities of missing images to renew narratives relating to time, history, and the world. We wish to investigate multiple perspectives including, but not limited to, invisibilization, infiltration, erasure, fugitivity, hospitality, solidarity, archipelagic thinking, decolonization, new narratives, mechanisms of exclusion, hybridization, etc.

We are interested in works that involve the notion of the image, including installations, experiential works, and other forms. **We will pay special attention to works that are new or have not been exhibited in Quebec and/or in Tiohti'á:ke / Mooniyang / Montreal.**

From a perspective of openness and self-reflection, MOMENTA aspires to adopt a flexible and caring attitude. We therefore invite artists from a variety of horizons, origins, and career stages to submit a project. In addition, applicants who are experiencing challenges supplying materials in the form requested may contact our team at exposition@momentabiennale.com to make special arrangements for making a submission.

MOMENTA also pays particular attention to eco-responsibility and encourages artists to submit proposals that are respectful of and sensitive to environmental issues.

Only proposals for art projects related to the theme, *In Praise of the Missing Image*, and consistent with MOMENTA's mission will be considered. Please do not send proposals for exhibition curation.

SENDING SUBMISSIONS

Canadian artists and artist collectives wishing to submit an application must send their proposal, in French or English, by **May 14, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.** (Eastern Standard Time). Send us your compressed proposal (.zip maximum size 10 Mb), via WeTransfer, to exposition@momentabiennale.com. Make sure that you have titled your file with your last and first names (e.g., Lastname_Firstname.zip).

What the submission must contain

A document (in Word or PDF format), including:

- **Artist statement** (maximum 100 words)
- **Description of the project** (maximum 250 words), detailing the connection with the theme. Clearly indicate the stage you have reached in your project: reflection, production, etc.
- **Curriculum vitae** (maximum 3 pages)
- **Contact information**, including your full name, postal address, phone number, email, website, country of birth, and current city of residence. You may also specify your preferred pronouns. If you are submitting a collective project, please give the names of all artists and designate a single contact person.

A visual portfolio (JPEG or PDF format), including:

- **Maximum 10 images** (72 dpi, 500 kb maximum par image), which must be identified and accompanied by a short descriptive legend (title, year, medium, dimensions, etc.)
- **Maximum 3 hyperlinks** for listening to or viewing audio or video elements hosted online, which must be identified and accompanied by a specific descriptive legend. Please also indicate the proposed viewing segment if the piece is more than 3 minutes long.

Only proposals received at this email address, respecting the stated criteria and the deadline, will be considered. Proposals received by mail will be neither considered nor returned to the sender. MOMENTA and the curator accept no responsibility for documents that are not received, lost, or illegible.

Given the large number of applications we receive and our limited resources, we are able to contact only applicants whose proposals are accepted. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who takes the time to send us their projects.

If you have any questions, please contact: exposition@momentabiennale.com