



PRESSE RELEASE
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FESTIVAL ACCÈS ASIE

24th edition

May 1st to 30th, 2019

INFORMATIONS

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Montreal, March 1st, 2019

For its 24th year, Festival Accès Asie is proud to present a rich and diverse program composed of Asian artists from Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and elsewhere. We are especially proud to present our events during Asian Heritage Month which runs from May 1st to 30th, 2019.

On May 1st, our ritual Opening Cocktail will greet the faithful and the curious, unveil excerpts from our 24th edition's program and invite attendees to share a toast with the team. On May 2nd, the Festival presents a double bill of contemporary and Indian dance with *Éclosion* by **Tanveer Alam** and *Arūpa* by **Julie Beaulieu** and **Sonia St-Michel**. On Friday, May 3rd, curator **Kama La Mackerel** hosts *Kalyug: A Queer Cabaret in the Age of Darkness* presented by artists from the LGBTQ+ community. The weekend is dedicated to the visual arts with the opening of two exceptional exhibitions, *Exil – Peuples d'ici et d'ailleurs* by **Eruoma Awashish**, **Chadi Ayoub** and **Kamal**, with curators **Hanieh Ziaei** and **Nadine St-Louis**, and *Bridges of Hope* by **Anita Rau Badami**, **Jayanta Guha** and **Jaswant Guzder**, curated by the latter. The exhibitions will be shown at the Musée des maîtres et artisans du Québec, which will also host a conference on the notion of exile in artistic practice in conjunction with the exhibitions on Sunday, May 5th.

The second week of activities begins with the *Golestan* concert where musicians **Ziya Tabassian** and **Jake Charkey** share the stage with Kathak dancer **Veronica Simas de Souza Rosas**. On Friday, May 10th, Festival Accès Asie collaborates with Festival KLEX (Kuala Lumpur Experimental Film, Video and Music) to present experimental short films by six Malaysian artists.



On Saturday, May 11th, we present *Handshake*, an interactive show by artist **Marites Carino** at OBORO with which we celebrate 20 years of collaboration. The week concludes with *Arbres*, a show for children from ages 3 to 5 and their parents.

The third week begins with a contemporary music concert featuring two performances at which musicians **Yuki Isami** and **Natsuki Hiratsuka** perform *Brise japonaise* and cellist **Jane Chan** performs *o (. _) O m4 goi1 (^ v ^) //*. On Friday, May 17th, literature takes its place at the Festival with *A Night with Writers*, an event dedicated to South Asian authors and their works. On May 18th, the International component of *Perles d'ailleurs* presents Kathak Indian dancer **Seema Mehta** and New York tap dancer **Jason Samuels Smith** who will share the stage with five musicians for an incredible evening of improvisation. The dancers will also offer a master workshop of Kathak and tap dance on Sunday May 19th for dance lovers and the curious. Also on May 19th, **Théâtre Everest** offers a special workshop-conference on Tibetan culinary arts with tastings and musical discoveries on the program.

To kick off its last week, the Festival presents *Okuni* a multidisciplinary show, with actress **Kayo Yasuhara**, storyteller **Sylvi Belleau**, and musicians **Kokichi Kusano** and **Élisabeth Caty**. On May 24th and 25th, four dancers and choreographers from British Columbia and Ontario – **Alvin Tolentino**, **William Lau**, **Peter Chin**, and **Hari Krishnan** – present *Undivided Colors*, a work that mixes dance, diversity, and genre. On Saturday, May 25th, the projection of **S. Louisa Wei**'s documentary *Havana Divas*, tracing the career of two dancers of Cantonese Opera in Cuba will be presented. To end the week, Festival Accès Asie joins forces with Centre des Musiciens du Monde for *Odysée*, an afternoon of discovery of Balinese dance and Central Asian music.

The 24th edition of Festival Accès Asie wraps up with the launch of the exhibition *Vomiting Flowers* by artist **Hea R. Kim**, presented by the MAI (Montréal, arts interculturels).