

# **Antwerp Art Weekend & Contour Biennale**

Visitor's Programme



*Dear guest of the Antwerp Art Weekend Curators Programme,*

We are delighted to welcome you as a privileged guest of the Antwerp Art Weekend Curators Programme which will take place from Wednesday 15 May to Sunday 19 May 2019.

The Antwerp Art Weekend is a four day, citywide manifestation, where art venues in and around Antwerp put their hands together to celebrate contemporary art. This is the best time to experience the city and its flourishing art scene, with an abundance of galleries, art spaces and museums to visit and artists to meet. This year the Antwerp Art Weekend coincides with the second weekend of Contour Biennale 9 in Mechelen, curated by Nataša Petrešin-Bachelez, which will also feature in the programme.

The Antwerp Art Weekend Curators Programme is organised by Flanders Arts Institute in close collaboration with AAIR, Antwerp Art, and NICC. It's a tailor-made programme for a small group of international curators, focussing on artist studio visits and visits of galleries, art spaces and museums as well as professional social events.

*Flanders Arts Institute's team*

Enjoy the art, enjoy the people, enjoy the cities!

## PROGRAMME

### WEDNESDAY 15 May – ANTWERP

*Afternoon arrivals in Antwerp*

- 17:00 Meeting with Lissa in the lobby of the hotel and introduction to your programme
- 18:00 **Official launch of AAIR** followed by an introduction to the new artistic programme  
*Location: AAIR, Ploegstraat 27, 2018 Antwerp*
- 20:00 **Reception and dinner with guests**

### THURSDAY 16 May – ANTWERP

- 09:30 Meeting with your local guide in the lobby of the hotel
- 10:00 Individual programme of **artists studio visits** facilitated by AAIR and NICC
- 20:00 **Private dinner with guests** hosted by NICC  
*Location: Antwerp Academy of Fine Arts, Blindestraat 35, 2000 Antwerp*

### FRIDAY 17 May – ANTWERP & MECHELEN

- 09:30 Meeting in the lobby of the hotel
- 10:00 **Visit of exhibitions** in Antwerp (open choice)
- 14:38 *Train from Antwerp-Central to Mechelen*
- 15:30 **Contour Biennale 9** : Meeting with and introduction by Nataša Petrešin-Bachelez, curator, and Fleur Van Muiswinkel, artistic coordinator  
*Location: NONA, Begijnenstraat 19, 2800 Mechelen*
- 16:00 **Presentation of Dutch Cabinet** by Sara Seijn Chang  
*Location: Mechelen Academy, Minderbroedersgang 5, 2800 Mechelen*
- 17:00 **Visit of the solo exhibition by Hadassah Emmerich**  
*Location: De Garage, Minderbroedersgang 5, 2800 Mechelen*  
Option: *The Wasp and the Weather* poetrywalk by Robin Vanbesien
- 18:00 Guided tour of the **Contour Biennial 9** exhibition with Nataša Petrešin-Bachelez
- 19:00 **Première of The Empire of Law** by Daniela Ortiz  
*Location: NONA, Begijnenstraat 19, 2800 Mechelen*
- 20:30 **Minding the Gap**, directed by Bing Liu
- 21:15 **Talk about Your Queen is A Reptile**
- 21:30 **Solo clarinet performance** by Shabaka Hutchings
- 22:00 *Train to Antwerp-Central*

## PROGRAMME

### **SATURDAY** 18 May – **ANTWERP**

- 10:00 **Antwerp Art Weekend Brunch** hosted by Antwerp Art  
*Location: Fosbury & Sons, Mechelsesteenweg 271, 2018 Antwerp*
- 12:00 **Visits of galleries, art spaces and museums** facilitated by Antwerp Art team
- 12:30 Extra City Kunsthal
- 13:30 Tim Van Laere Gallery, PLUS-ONE Gallery, Gallery Sofie Van de Velde
- 14:30 Antwerp Art Pavilion
- 15:30 Galerie Geukens & Devil, Marion De Cannière
- 16:30 Zeno-X Gallery, Ballroom-project, Base-Alpha Gallery
- 22:00 **Antwerp Art Weekend Visual Arts Night & Party**  
*You will find the full programme on [antwerpart.be/weekend/#weekend](http://antwerpart.be/weekend/#weekend)*

### **SUNDAY** 19 May – **ANTWERP & BRUSSELS**

*Departures from Antwerp to Brussels Airport or Brussels-Midi station*



**Farah Aksoy** is a curator based in Istanbul, Turkey. Since 2017, she has been working on long-term research and exhibition projects as a Programmer at SALT, a non-profit institution located in Istanbul and Ankara, with a particular focus on multiple modernities. Aksoy recently curated *Prisoners of Correct History* (2019), a survey show of artist and historian Naeem Mohaiemen, influenced by the artist's ideas about the possibility of the "cultural institution as a stage for the pages of a transnational history book." She is currently working on the exhibition of artists Nancy Atakan and Maria Andersson, scheduled to open in June 2019, on their shared interests in cultural transliteration and transcultural exchange. Her recent independent projects include *Modernist Women of Egypt* exhibition (Green Art Gallery, Dubai), which examines the role of women painters in the development of Egyptian modern art in the second half of the 20th century and *Füreya* (Akaretler, Istanbul), the most comprehensive retrospective of the Turkish ceramic artist *Füreya Koral*. Since 2018, she is part of an independent group of women art professionals in order to organize temporary exhibitions and public events for the benefit of *Women's Library and Information Centre Foundation*, founded in 1990. Aksoy completed

her master's degree at the Art History, Theory and Criticism program of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and is also a member of the Association for Modern and Contemporary Art, Iran, and Turkey (AMCA).  
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**Lucy Badrocke** is an independent curator based in the UK. She was previously Exhibitions Curator at

Arnolfini, Bristol, where curated projects included solo presentations by Richard Long, Basim Magdy and Josephine Pryde. She is a founder member of Curatorial Timeshare, London, and an alumnus of the 1c1 Curatorial Intensive, New York. Since 2017, she has led a commissioning programme, working with international artists and community partners to deliver public realm commissions.  
lucybadrocke@yahoo.co.uk

**Staci Bu Shea**

is a curator, writer, and lecturer when working. With a focus on how we relate with one another, Staci is concerned with practices and representations of social life across art, institutions, activism, and the everyday. Staci is curator at Casco Art Institute: Working for the Commons, an institute based in Utrecht, The Netherlands that studies, presents and situates art for the commons and of the commons, and has organized the exhibition program there together with the



[extended] team since 2017. At Casco Art Institute, Staci leads/follows *Poetics of Living*, a long term "study line" co-initiated with Rizvana Bradley on non-normative ways of living together in consideration of rapidly changing discourses around sexuality, health, communal life, and death. With artist Jeanne van Heeswijk, Staci leads an MA spatial practice class at HKU University of the Arts Utrecht. Staci curated *heroic in its ordinarieness* at Crisp Ellert Art Museum (Florida) in 2019, with work by Elizabeth Atterbury, Beverly Buchanan, Taraneh Fazeli, Feminist Healthcare Research Group, Carolyn Lazard, Redeem Pettaway, Falke Pisano, and Sasha Wortzel. Together with Carmel Curtis, Staci co-curated the first comprehensive retrospective of Barbara Hammer's five decades of work titled *Barbara Hammer: Evidentiary Bodies* at Leslie Lohman Museum of Gay & Lesbian Art (New York) in 2017. Staci graduated from the Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College in 2016, and curated *Emphasis Repeats* at Hessel Museum of Art and co-curated *Receipt of a Magical Agent* at CCS Bard Galleries.  
staci.bushea@gmail.com



**Alfredo Cramerotti** is a cultural entrepreneur, writer, curator and broadcaster. Director of MOSTYN Wales; Head Curator of APT Global—Artist Pension Trust; and Associate Curator of CCANW (Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World); Advisor to the

British Council Visual Arts Acquisition Committee and the Art Institutions of the 21st Century Foundation. He complements his work in the UK with active participation in the visual art world. In recent years this has included curating Sean Scully: Standing on the Edge of the World at the Hong Kong Arts Centre (2018); Shezad Dawood: Leviathan with the Fondazione Querini Stampalia in conjunction with the 57th Venice Biennale (2017); EXPO VIDEO Chicago (2015); three national pavilions at the Venice Biennale (Mauritius in 2015, both Wales and Maldives in 2013); and the biennials Sequences VII in Iceland (2015) and Manifesta 8 in Spain (2010). He serves as Vice-President of AICA (International Association of Art Critics) and is Editor of the Critical Photography book series; his own publications include *Forewords: Hyperimages and Hyperimaging* (2018), *Unmapping the City: Perspectives of Flatness* (2010) and *Aesthetic Journalism: How to inform without informing* (2009).  
alfredoc@mostyn.org



**Thom O'Nions**

is currently based between Palma de Mallorca and London, where he is co-director of Supplement

Gallery and the Sunday Art Fair. He also works as a freelance curator. His recent exhibitions include *An Infinite Conversation*, Museu Coleção Berardo, Lisbon; *In Lines and Realignments*, Simon Lee London and Kong Kong; *Sound Spill*, Zabłudowicz Collection New York; and *A Man is Walking Down the Street...* at Cristina Guerra, Lisbon.  
thom@sundayartfair.com

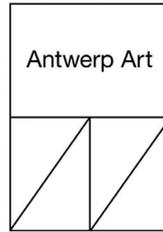
**Marika Svobodová** was born in Brno, Czech Republic. She studied Art History at the Masaryk University in Brno. After finishing a Master of Art, she pursues her studies with a PhD programme around the theme of Křižovatka – Zero, a confrontation of two artistic groups and movements in 1960s. At the same time she started working as an expert of 20th century Czech art at the Auction House and Gallery Sýpka in Brno. In 2016 she was appointed as an external project coordinator, curatorial assistant and curator of The Brno House of Art, where she has been working as a permanent curator since 2018. In her curatorial praxis she is mainly situated within the field of Czech and Slovak contemporary art in an international context. The Brno House of Art is a progressive city institution, working like a kunsthalle, with almost 110 years of tradition. The Brno House of Art is focused on contemporary Czech and international art and provides, beside exhibitions, also the BAM – Brno architectural manual (a detailed guide of modernist architecture in the city), BAR – Brno Artist in Residence (a residency programme for artists and theoreticians), BAO – Brno Art Open (a summer review of contemporary art in public space) and cooperates with Vašulka Kitchen Brno – Centre of New Media Art (a space for informal education in the field of new media around the legacy of Woody and Steina Vasulkas).  
svobodova@dum-umeni.cz





AAIR is a new artist-oriented organisation, emerged from the synergy between AIR Antwerpen and Studio Start, that grants time, space and mobility to national and international artists. AAIR wishes to create a sustainable context for artistic development. Both organisations strove for ‘an ideal working environment’ for artists; Studio Start targeted Antwerp artists and creative entrepreneurs, while AIR Antwerpen concentrated on the international visual artist. Over the course of eight years, an ongoing conversation between Studio Start and AIR Antwerpen led to an intensifying collaboration which results in AAIR’s long-term vision: an artist-oriented organisation whose mission, operation and structure contributes to the careers of (inter)national artists.

[aair.be](http://aair.be)



Antwerp Art is the joint platform for exhibition spaces in Antwerp, listing relevant exhibitions and openings for both professionals and a wider audience. Antwerp Art organises the annual Antwerp Art Weekend, a manifestation for contemporary art in Antwerp. Antwerp Art is a non-profit organisation supported by its members and the City of Antwerp.

[antwpart.be](http://antwpart.be)



Flanders Arts Institute is a public sector institute for artists and professionals in the fields of visual arts, performing arts and classical music in Flanders and Brussels, supported by the Flemish ministry of culture. The organisation supports people and organisations active in the arts, contributes to the development of the arts sector, focuses on (international) promotion of the arts from Flanders and Brussels and is a network platform for actors in the arts or involved in (inter)national cultural policy.

[flandersartsinstitute.be](http://flandersartsinstitute.be)



NI CC (New International Cultural Center) was founded in 1998 as an artist run organisation advocating artist rights, initiating debate about the position of the professional visual artist in policy and the art field via lectures, debates, artist talks and an artistic program made by artists. NI CC organises an exhibition programme in her own vitrine space in Bruxelles South featuring a.o. artists such as Charlemagne Palestine, Cameron Jamie, Nel Aerts, Senim Kamara, Sanam Khatibi & Shana Moulton and initiates various temporary artist-centered projects in institutions. For example, in 2019 NI CC organises a program and platform for artists in the Royal Academy for Fine Arts and the Museum for Contemporary Art (M HKA).

[nicc.be](http://nicc.be)



Contour Biennial is one of the most easily recognisable, large-scale exhibition platforms in Belgium: a unique initiative engaging with local and international artists who focus on the moving image and its wider representation in installations, sound and performance.

The projects presented during *Contour Biennale 9: Coltan as Cotton* are inspired by and relate to the city of Mechelen, its inhabitants and, more broadly, Belgium's recent colonial history. It also poses more general questions about how to position a biennial, whom a biennial addresses and whether we can find sustainable ways to work on a biennial.

The curator, Nataša Petrešin-Bachelez, has designed this edition in phases: a continuum of projects in various formats, in contrast to earlier editions when the biennial ran for 10 weeks. Between September 2018 and October 2019, three major public presentations and several other events will shape the Contour Biennale 9: Coltan as Cotton. These phases will be aligned with the lunar cycle, one of our most natural rhythms, which induces a cyclical conception of time. The title is borrowed from the poem *The Bear/Coltan as Cotton* by the slammer, musician and poet Saul Williams.

Artists will show newly commissioned films, installations and performances that explore entanglements between the decolonization of structures, mind and history in Belgium (in particular Mechelen), and the need for practices of degrowth and solidarity to be intertwined more profoundly with contemporary artistic practices. Many of the works have been made collectively with residents and organisations in and around Mechelen. During the three phases (in January, May and October 2019), there will also be a programme of talks and debates, including roundtable discussions and workshops led by the artists and invited contributors.

[contour9.be](http://contour9.be)

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