



Image : Mariana Lafrance, documentation de performance / performance documentation *En aval d'ici, en amont de maintenant* · Photo : Christopher "Kipper" Martin, 2015

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Heures d'ouverture

Galerie 101 is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm.

A collaboration between



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PRESS RELEASE | COMMUNIQUÉ

For immediate release

- *FRAGILE*, a **BRAVO** exhibition at Gallery 101, 51 B Young St., Ottawa, ON, K1S 3H6
- From November 12 to December 3 2016
- **vernissage** | **Friday November 11** at 5 :00 pm (free entrance)
- bilingual talk on the exhibition's theme | Friday November 11 at 3 :00 pm
- Performance by Mariana Lafrance | Friday November 11 at 5:30 pm

FRAGILE

"I have but one language—yet that language is not mine."
Le monolinguisme de l'autre, Jacques Derrida

Twenty years after Marc Charbonneau's *Les accents d'inquiétantes étrangetés*, curator **Salomé Viguier** once again takes up an exhibition concept based on two categories of identity: language – French in a minority setting – and age – the new generation, less than 35 years old.

Through works by six artists, *Fragile* explores how an artist describes his or her socio-demographic characteristics to help the viewer in understanding their work. What are the ensuing expectations? Which projection of the self does the artist share with those who receive his or her creation? In this context, the featured artists extricate themselves from their cultural identity and confront it to their own realities: contemporary society and artistic practice.

In the form of an intergenerational dialogue between the person who partly defined it – his father – and himself, **Vincent Chevalier** presents an experimental video, *À/avancouver*, that combines documentary and fiction; here are expressed all the complexities that come with constructing a person's identity and emotions, somewhere between transmitting culture and a personal quest.

As for **Mariana Lafrance**, she confronts her ancestral heritage – embodied by a dish set inherited from her grandmother – with her awareness of being a person living on a land shared with the Anishinaabe community. Her frontal performance, *En aval d'ici en amont de maintenant*, becomes almost upsetting because any reconciliation is impossible.

Mathieu Goupil-Lemay stresses this dichotomy of the self by associating materials that are essentially opposite: wool and concrete. In his *Linked* sculpture, these materials converge and meet, and form a delicate balance; unlike the materials selected, their ephemeral nature stands the test of time.

This meeting of two worlds is also featured in **Geneviève Thauvette's** series of photographs, *Les Filles du roi*. In a burlesque style, the photographer reinterprets heraldry imagery using unequivocally popular and contemporary aesthetics. By increasing her own image tenfold, the artist presents herself and her socio-demographic group as descendants of arranged fertilizations, practically forced with prostitutes, thereby compelling the viewer to recognize the factual history of a nation that sometimes talks itself up too much.

Designed to be broadcast as a video triptych, the *À jamais* performance allows artist **Faye Mullen** to be face-to-face with herself: she is at once actor and subject. Using the concept of salting, she covers herself with the substance and achieves an impossible task: self-preservation, while freeing herself from what she truly is.

This complete break with the past, **Matthieu Sabourin** transcends it in an absurd conceptual installation, *Tabula rasa*, implying the potential obliteration of a text written in ink, begging only to be reused, so that the person living today reinvents his writing.

By using their images and expressing endless tensions, the artists featured in the *Fragile* installation create moments that are frozen in time, temporal slivers really, during which they meet and discuss: past and present, traditional and contemporary realities, language and expression.



BRAVO, le Bureau des regroupements des artistes visuels de l'Ontario est un organisme sans but lucratif qui service des artistes professionnels de l'Ontario francophone, qui voit à leur développement ainsi qu'à la défense de leurs intérêts collectifs.