

Montreal Exhibition

Selection of Works
from the Collection
Summer 2019

Alternate Realities

GROUP EXHIBITION

From May 2019



Daily Adoration, Genesis Belanger, 2018. Stoneware, porcelain, plywood, fabric. 46 3/8 x 63 x 28 in.

Faig Ahmed	Pierre Dorion	Anselm Kiefer	Ugo Rondinone
Nicolas Baier	Tracey Emin	Kapwani Kiwanga	Kathleen Ryan
Genesis Belanger	Dorian FitzGerald	Wanda Koop	Emily Mae Smith
Sascha Braunig	Sayre Gomez	Nicolas Lachance	Josh Sperling
Graham Caldwell	Rodney Graham	Oliver Laric	Amalia Ulman
Douglas Coupland	Alonsa Guevara	Jennifer Lefort	Xu Zhen
Cynthia Daignault	Anish Kapoor	Caroline Mesquita	
John De Andrea	Bharti Kher	Laure Prouvost	

Arsenal Contemporary Art Montreal is proud to present a new selection of works from its collection, just in time for summer, under the theme *Alternate Realities*. This selection gives an overview of contemporary artistic practice in the Canadian and international landscape.

At a time where the virtual collides with the real world, reality multiplies itself. In a world of accelerated mediatization where images are everflowing, the truth becomes increasingly hard to decipher.

The work of art is the perfect exemplification of a derivation of reality and a presentation of the infinite possibilities of the imaginary. Closely linked to the idea of illusion, works of art play with concrete reality, punctuating it with contrasts and asymmetries which act as layers of experience making up the fabric of our existence. In his time, Plato had already linked the concept of illusion to art by calling out its insidious ability to deceive man. Serving us an altered conception of reality, art would keep us from accessing reality, thus preventing us from understanding and engaging with the real world in order to behave well in society.

But aren't artworks rather microcosms of alternate realities allowing us to better grasp our own reality?

Alternate Realities is an opportunity to sharpen our eyes by challenging them with a variety of artworks flirting with the idea of reality and deceitful appearances – such as the realist paintings of Alonso Guevara and Sayre Gomez, the surrealist works of Genesis Belanger and Emily Mae Smith, the autobiographically-natured works of Tracey Emin, etc. – opening a reflexion on what is real, as well as the many ways of processing and representing reality.

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