

11 — 17 MAY 2011

EASTERN BLOC

PRESENTS :

SIGHT &  
SOUND

SON &  
VUE 3



7240 CLARK, MONTRÉAL, 514.284.2106  
WWW.EASTERNBLOC.CA



Eastern Bloc is an exhibition and arts production centre dedicated to New Media and interdisciplinary art. The vision at Eastern Bloc is to explore and push the creative boundaries in digital and electronic arts, A/V installation, multimedia performance and other emerging practices.

The organization's mandate is to support the work of emerging artists by providing them with an exchange platform with more established artists, allowing them to gain access to a wider audience and to a network of established art organizations and professionals in the milieu.

Founded in 2007 by Eliane Ellbogen, the organization's Artistic Director and Sandor Poloskei, Eastern Bloc fills a void in the professional art milieu in Montreal, as there are currently no other artist-run centres or art spaces that cater specifically to artists in the first five years of their professional career working in New Media and related disciplines.

This year, Eastern Bloc was a finalist for the Conseil des arts de Montréal's 26th Grand Prix, in the Digital Arts category.

Eastern Bloc thanks CDEC-Centre Nord, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Conseil des arts de Montréal, the City of Montreal, Emploi-Québec and the Ministère du développement économique, de l'innovation et de l'exportation for their support of various projects over the years.



Sight & Sound is an annual festival aimed at bringing together Canadian and international New Media artists, with a special focus on Quebec based talent. The event, currently in its third year, showcases the effort of sound and video artists, as well as other digital modes of production with a focus on live A/V performance, sound and video design, A/V installation and interactive art practices.

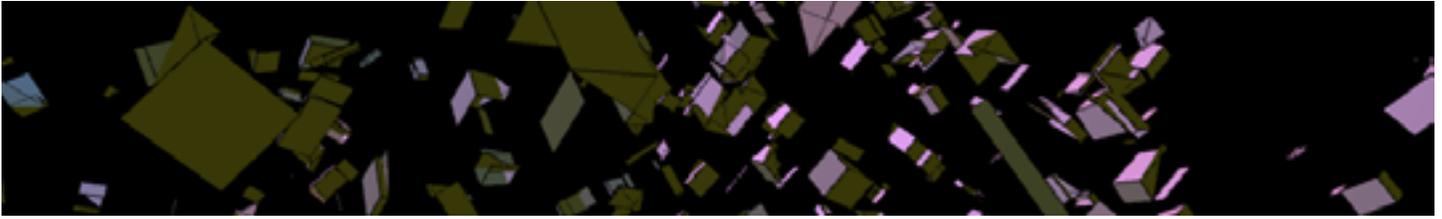
A platform for New Media creation, this year's Sight & Sound presents nearly twenty installations, performances and events, created by artists from Quebec, Canada and Europe. For its new edition, the festival is proud to present installations and performances in a satellite space: Espace Projet.

Finally, for this current edition Sight & Sound is partnering with French festival Visionsonic, which is also dedicated to promoting a wide range of events and A/V performances which explore relations between image and sound. The performance event taking place on Saturday, May 14 is co-presented by this festival.

Media contact :

Simon M. Benedict  
Communications Agent  
comm@easternbloc.ca  
514.284.2106

## \\performances/// EASTERN BLOC May 12 - 13



**Coup d'éclats | Danny Perreault, with Manuel Chantre + Guillaume Bourassa + Sébastien Gravel + [victortronic]**

Coup d'éclats is a performative installation which explores methods of anamorphosis in which viewers are immersed into a geometrically abstract mass. These virtual geometries are projected onto a room's architectural elements, and are visually integral only from certain vantage points. Viewers are encouraged to observe as they move within the space during the performance, creating their own visual transformations.

Danny Perreault is interested in the fragmentation of the projected image within the contexts of digital art shows and urban art. Amongst other fields of study, he explores the correlation between urbanization, architecture, scenography, video art, sound and light. His work has been presented as part of several festivals in Quebec, Canada, France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Manuel Chantre is a digital artist who integrates music, audio art, programming and video into his performances and installations. Chantre creates immersive A/V work, with which he explores various narrative possibilities. His personal projects have been presented as part of numerous international festivals and events in North America, Europe and Asia.

Guillaume Bourassa explores the realms of audio, design, architectural mapping, video and new media. He has created and collaborated in the creation of numerous installations, shown namely at [SAT] as part of Nuit blanche à Montréal, and as part of several festivals including Elektra, Temps d'image, FIMA and Sight & Sound.

Sébastien Gravel is an A/V and interactive designer / programmer artist. He designed and programmed installations presented at the [SAT], and as part of numerous festivals, including FIMA and Sight & Sound.

[victortronic] is an ambient/electronic/experimental music composer. His sound textures are created exclusively from his own voice, without the use of synthesizers or other sound generators. Every year, [victortronic] participates in various festivals, and his music is used for contemporary dance performances, and as soundtracks for short films and experimental video works.

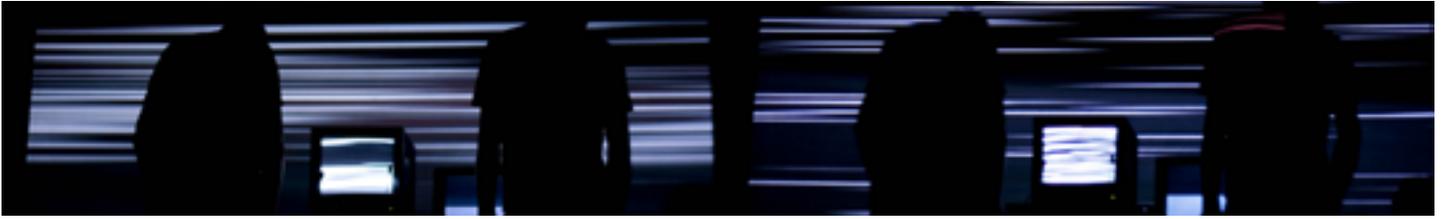
[www.dannyperreault.net](http://www.dannyperreault.net)

[www.manuelchantre.com](http://www.manuelchantre.com)

[www.creationexnihilo.com](http://www.creationexnihilo.com)

[www.myspace.com/victortronic](http://www.myspace.com/victortronic)

## \\performances/// EASTERN BLOC May 14 [co-presented with Visionsonic]



### 60fps | Panoptique (Rko + RYbN)

60fps Photoretinal Persistence is an A/V experience in which the projector is turned on the viewer. The digital image is transcoded into a flow of pure light, imprinted directly onto the retina. Frequency and modulation of this flow create a disruption within the receptor, a result of photoretinal persistence. Images become a psychosomatic experience, a mental projection determined by the receiving eye's threshold. The sound brings a structural element to the experience and immerses the audience into the performance.

Founding member of V-Atak label, Rko has been working on synesthesia for over a decade. Videographer, graphic designer, musician, producer, director and also technical director of Visionsonic festival, Rko worked for many years with (stolen or diverted) A/V samples, and is now moving towards live creations without resorting to (de)generative sources. Comfortable working in spaces ranging from squats to museums, he adapts his creations to the space he is in. His work possesses both the energy of punk rock and the slow, evolutive mood of minimal music and contemplative videos.

RYbN is a multidisciplinary artistic collective which creates installations, performances and interfaces making reference to codified systems and artistic representation as well as human and physical phenomena. Their research angle is the construction of a "semantics of convergence" through coupling, diversion and corruption of technological and sensory communication tools – networks, RSS feeds, olfaction, surveillance, audiovisual, interaction, real time.

[www.v-atak.com](http://www.v-atak.com)

[www.rybn.org](http://www.rybn.org)

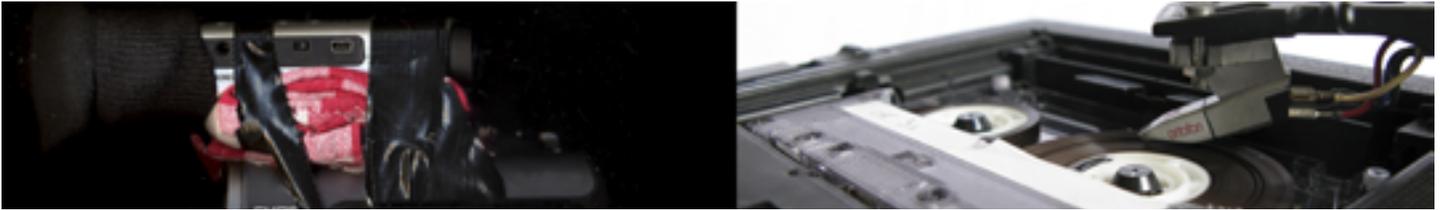


### Photosonicneurokineasthography | Botborg

Botborg is a practical demonstration of the theories of Dr. Arkady Botborger (1923-81), founder of the "occult" science of Photosonicneurokineasthography, which could be defined as "writing nervous movements through the use of sound and light". Botborg's instrument is the Photosonicneurokineasthograph: a complex feedback machine incorporating an entangled mix of new and old technologies, which are altered and customized to the unique features of every venue.

Botborg is an A/V performance group which fuses and rewires raw electronic signals to create intensely visceral experiences of sound-colour synesthesia. Using a complex array of custom electronics, Botborg create totally live multi-sensory assaults of interdependent colour and rhythm, pushing the limits of technology to invoke the maximum possible stimulation in their audience's minds and bodies. Botborg's experimentation and improvisation places them in a field outside traditional musical or cinematic formats, where boundaries between art, science, and philosophy mutate until they are rendered meaningless.

[www.botborger.com](http://www.botborger.com)



## Macro-Static | Jérôme Fino + Yann Le Guay

Macro-Static is a meeting point between two projects: Yann Leguay's Quasi Static Crack Propagation Point and Jérôme Fino's Macro-Live.

Using numerous record player reading heads, the aim of Quasi Static Crack Propagation is to explore the limits of physical media such as hard drives and different audio players. Media junctions and distortions create a sonic landscape which hovers between digital drones and analog crackles.

Macro-Live is a visual exercise of musicians in action. The camera focuses on details of instruments and musicians' movements. The image becomes a means to define the production of sound. Akin to research, this project is a physical experience. Sound sources, relations between movement, matter and oscillation are made obvious.

Video artist Jérôme Fino examines musicians the way entomologists examine insects. Close to documentary work, Fino's films portray the restlessness of musical improvisations.

Yann Leguay's work deals with the materiality of sound. His research has led to the creation of installations and performances produced in various European spaces and festivals (including Le Nouveau Festival at Centre Pompidou). Using this particular approach to sound, he also participates in choreographic research projects and composes sound and musical work for artist films.

[www.phonotopy.org](http://www.phonotopy.org)

[www.azertyuiopqsdfghjklmwxcvbn.org](http://www.azertyuiopqsdfghjklmwxcvbn.org)



## Subconscious Download | Error

Error's most current A/V performance speaks to the subconscious of the listener-viewer with a minimal yet powerful language of sound and image. Its audioscape ranges from deeply melancholic ambient to harsh drone/noise, sometimes referred to as "ambient crucial". The images used work to create a deeply immersive atmosphere that raises questions of the fractal nature of reality and its simulation. Subconscious Download is a strong multimedia statement about the experience of the ultra-modern human in which neither sound nor image can be entirely perceived or understood without the other; the presence of both of which redefine our relationship with reality.

Aldis Ozols has been a pioneer in the Latvian experimental and noise scene since the mid-90's. Deeply touched by the dramatic social transformations within post-soviet society, he formed the one man noise outfit Error. In his work, Ozols ponders on the frequency spectrum of sound and light, its digital representations and how it may be at the basis of one's perception of reality.

[www.myspace.com/errotron](http://www.myspace.com/errotron)

## \\performances/// EASTERN BLOC May 15



### Abri | David Drury

The performance-installation *Abri* was conceived and produced over the course of a residency in Los Alerces National Park in northern Patagonia. The work revolves around the physical and metaphorical properties of the local variety of bamboo (colihue cane) that grows in the foothills of the Andes. Through research of movement (Jody Hegel), and sound and video (David Drury) carried out in the bamboo forests, a physical installation was conceived along with a performed movement score and an A/V projection. The piece looks at the bamboo groves and asks simple questions like: how would you move here, how would you live here, how would you conceal yourself here, what kind of shelter would this make? The development of the work parallels the artists' questions about making their way in foreign and sometimes hostile environments.

Drury's focus as a composer is both on natural sonic environments (be they urban hubs or remote wilderness) and the sounding possibilities of the humans who inhabit them. His work as a composer is a study in the textures and rhythms that emerge from the transformation of the raw material that makes up each piece: soundscapes, musical instruments, the sampling of physical objects, and the endless guises of the human voice. Drury's compositions and sound design have allowed him to collaborate with artists working in theatre (Wajdi Mouawad, Marie Brassard), dance (Alison Denham, Andrew Turner), film (Mark Morgenstern, Nicholas Fonseca), television (Pascal Brouard, François Pelloquin), installation (Chantal Dumas, Mouna Andraos), and many other musical projects.

[www.dubline.ca](http://www.dubline.ca)



### Matière(s) égarée(s) | Pierre-Marc Beaudoin, with David Manseau

*Matière(s) égarée(s)* is a sound and visual performance which explores the relation to oblivion. Composed of musical landscapes and projected image fragments, the work seeks to bring the viewer into the physical and abstract qualities of different sound objects. Through close-up technique, real-time archival techniques and digital treatment, the visual and audio materials tend towards abstraction, while retaining traces of their concreteness. The structure and evolution of materials are inspired by the potential consequences of Alzheimer's disease on loss of contact with reality.

Pierre-Marc Beaudoin's compositions are the result of patient research, where wide soundscapes mix to create strange yet familiar microcosms. Beaudoin's interest for interactivity and video, brought him to create sound works in various artistic and technological contexts like installations, theatre, dance and VJ/DJ. In 2009, his work garnered prizes at the Concours des jeunes compositeurs de Bourges, musiques électroacoustiques.

[pmbeaudoin.wordpress.com](http://pmbeaudoin.wordpress.com)



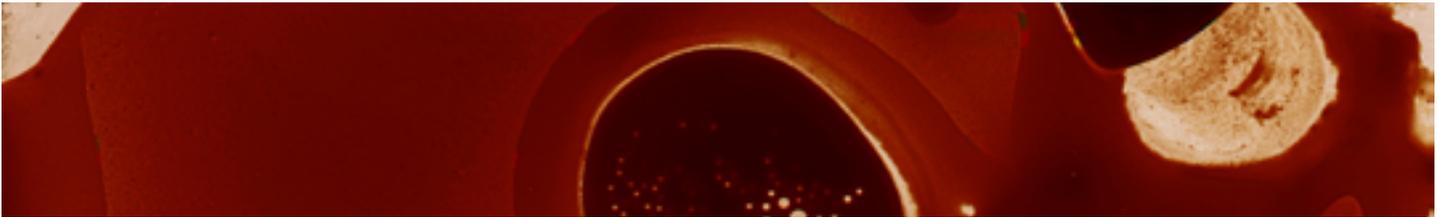
## muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

Muu is an A/V performance which shows images of the mythical American desert, around the theme of disappearance. The project presents itself as a Western film without protagonists. Its inherent quest is interaction with the viewer, who stands in the midst of the videographic and sonic spaces of the piece. The disconcerting mood of the soundtrack places the viewer in an ambiguous space, creating a tension within the video component and expressing vastness and emptiness.

Nelly-Ève Rajotte holds degrees in Art History and Visual and Media Arts. In addition to presenting in numerous exhibition spaces in Quebec ([SAT], la Fonderie Darling, Parisian Laundry, Occurrence, Clark, L'Oeil de Poisson, Optica), her work has been shown in several festivals across Canada (MUTEK, Antimatter Underground Film Festival, International Festival of Films on Art), Europe (International Short Film Festival Berlin, Official Selection Transmediale. 08, Otherworldly, Manchester UrbanScreens, Taide 08 Helsinki Contemporary Art Fair), Asia (ExiS2007), Russia (Moscow International Film Festival) and Mexico.

[www.perte-de-signal.org](http://www.perte-de-signal.org)

## \\outdoor projection/// EASTERN BLOC May 11 - 13



## Shot on Blood | Oliver Hockenull

This video loop originated as B&W 35 mm film shot with a hand-cranked antique Bell & Howell movie camera of mountain landscapes in British Columbia's interior. That material was transferred to HD video, re-coded with a colour matrix extrapolated from data derived from an experiment in film emulsion using tinted blood cells as photographic grain. This experiment then went through an additional morphic process using an imperfect Arnold's cat map, (a mathematical function, a sort of chaotic map, transforming an image by shearing) to stretch and mix and reconstitute the image, resulting in a highly coloured glaze and visual dynamics in which the original image reappears and disappears through noise. It is an exercise in aesthetics, time, and pattern recognition.

Oliver Hockenull is a Vancouver based media artist who has exhibited extensively, at underground local sites and at key international institutions, from obscure avant garde venues to landmarks such as the New York Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery of Art (Washington), the Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, the Kunsthalle Basel, the European Media Art Festival, MIT Boston, the Siemens-Nixdorf Computer Gallery (Paderborn, Germany), the Sao Paulo International Film Festival, the Chicago International Film Festival and many others.

[www.shinynewfilms.com](http://www.shinynewfilms.com)

## \\installations\\ EASTERN BLOC May 11 - 17



### Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

The installation *Ground* explores possible interactions between the human body and the electromagnetic environment of a gallery space. Electromagnetic waves are a ubiquitous component of the technological environments through which we move. Because they are invisible and inaudible we are usually unaware of their presence, but radio antennas can intercept their energy and convert it into sound. Many conductors can display antenna-like properties; in the case of the *Ground* installation it is the human body which plays this role. By entering and moving through an otherwise silent room, the body of the gallery visitor reveals the ambient EM radiation and translates it into sound. *Ground* reflects on the idea that our actions are never without consequence. We exist as actors in complex and constantly evolving fields of energy. Our every gesture, our very presence, affect and are affected by these fields.

Emmanuel Madan is a musician, composer and sound artist based in Montreal. After years of playing piano and clarinet, he put aside these instruments, opting instead for the technological tools of the electronic sound studio. In 1998, Madan founded an artistic collaboration with architect Thomas McIntosh known by the name [The User]. To date, this collaboration has produced three major projects: *Symphony for dot matrix printers*, *Silophone* and *Coincidence Engines*. Each of these projects is a family of works including musical compositions, A/V performances and sound installations, which have been shown widely at festivals and venues throughout Europe and North America.

After studies in scenography, Simon Guilbault has been primarily active in theatre, for which he has created set designs for a variety of original works in Quebec. His work includes collaborations with Dominic Champagne for *La Caverne*, Jorane for her 16mm tour and Marie Brassard for *Jimmy, créature de rêve*, *La Noirceur*, *Peepshow* and *L'invisible*. His film work includes production design for *Lost Song*, a feature film by Rodrigue Jean.

[www.undefine.ca](http://www.undefine.ca)

[www.simonguilbault.com](http://www.simonguilbault.com)



### Colonie | Zohar Kfir

*Colonie* is an A/V choreography of ants moving between interconnected nests. The installation metaphorically illustrates aspects of ant behavioral patterns and paths communicating between several anthills.

Zohar Kfir is a Montreal-based video artist working with experimental video, interactive art, and installation. Her artistic practice stems from her own contemplative engagement with the lived environment, with a particular focus on the dynamic between growth and decay and on the paradox of creating digital representations of natural phenomena. Kfir's work has been shown internationally in many galleries and at video festivals.

[zxee.net](http://zxee.net)



## **Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis**

The Symbiotic Shadow System is a playful revisiting of the familiar and mundane relationship between the physical body and its shadow; a dialogue between the visitor's body, the exhibition space and the pre-recorded shadows of previous visitors. This mutual exchange reflects the complexities inherent in interactions with technology, and the complex relationships between people and their technologically mediated identities.

David Han is a film, video and digital media artist living in Toronto. Often employing playfulness and absurdity, his work negotiates the liminal state between cinema, video art and new media. His most recent work explores the ways in which traditional cinematic relationships with the screen are being challenged, altered and expanded by interactive technology.

Frank Tsonis is a new media artist based in Toronto. His current art practice examines contemporary man's tangled relationship with technology. He investigates how different theories relating to this entanglement can inspire different modes of interaction and portray contrasting viewpoints within a given artwork. Central to his work is the employment of user interaction. Embedding interactive elements into his work through sensing technologies enables him to set up a relationship with a participant and the installation space.

[www.davidhan.ca](http://www.davidhan.ca)

## **\\installations/// ESPACE PROJET May 11 - 17**



## **Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière**

In living for 6 months with these crickets and trying to get to know them better, I found my understanding of them was closer to an inevitable, basic anthropomorphism than it was to science. I questioned my authority on things and how individual perception is always informed by personal traits. From a composer's standpoint, the insects contributed a certain loss of control and set of contingencies, which allowed me to work differently. Through our agreement and disagreements we managed to find an unspoken middle ground. In the end, the creation of this work was more about creating sensations than making sense.

Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière lives and works in Montreal as a composer, sound artist and double bass player. As a composer, he dedicates most of his time to mixed media, instrumental composition and film scores. As a sound artist, he mainly works on installations involving photography, video or live crickets and participates in various projects in collaboration with visual and sound artists. He is a member of La Machine, an odd instrumental music group dedicated to new and rarely played music. Dufour-Laperrière has been rewarded twice by the Canadian foundation SOCAN. Thanks to grants from The Canada Council for the Arts and the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the artist's work has been presented in cities in North America and Europe.

[gabduflap.wordpress.com](http://gabduflap.wordpress.com)



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**[www.perte-de-signal.org](http://www.perte-de-signal.org)**

# May 11

## EASTERN BLOC

\\opening event/// 8pm - 10pm

\\exterior projection/// 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Shot on Blood | Oliver Hockenhull

\\installations///

Colonie | Zohar Kfir

Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis

## ESPACE PROJET

\\installations///

Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

# May 12

## EASTERN BLOC

\\performances/// 8pm - 10pm

Coup d'éclats | Danny Perreault, with Manuel Chantre + Guillaume Bourassa + Sébastien Gravel + [victortronic]

\\exterior projection/// 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Shot on Blood | Oliver Hockenhull

\\installations///

Colonie | Zohar Kfir

Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis

## ESPACE PROJET

\\installations///

Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

# May 13

## EASTERN BLOC

\\performances/// 8pm - 10pm

Coup d'éclats | Danny Perreault, with Manuel Chantre + Guillaume Bourassa + Sébastien Gravel + [victortronic]

\\exterior projection/// 7:30pm - 9:30pm

Shot on Blood | Oliver Hockenhull

\\installations///

Colonie | Zohar Kfir

Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis

## ESPACE PROJET

\\vernissage/// 17h - 19h

\\installations///

Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

# May 14

## EASTERN BLOC

\\performances/// 8pm - 10pm

A Visionsonic co-presentation:

60fps | Panoptique

Macro-Static | Yann Leguay + Jérôme Fino

Photosonicneurokineasthography | Botborg

Subconscious Download | Error

\\installations///

Colonie | Zohar Kfir

Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis

## ESPACE PROJET

\\installations///

Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

# May 15

## EASTERN BLOC

\\performances/// 8pm - 10pm

Abri | David Drury

Matière(s) égarée(s) | Pierre-Marc Beaudoin,  
with David Manseau

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

\\installations///

Colonie | Zohar Kfir

Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis

## ESPACE PROJET

\\installations///

Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

# May 17

## EASTERN BLOC

\\roundtable/// 5pm - 7pm

Danny Perreault + Guillaume Bourassa

\\installations///

Colonie | Zohar Kfir

Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis

## ESPACE PROJET

\\installations///

Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

# May 16

## EASTERN BLOC

\\roundtable/// 5pm - 7pm

Emmanuel Madan + Alexandre Castonguay + Darsha Hewitt

\\installations///

Colonie | Zohar Kfir

Ground | Emmanuel Madan, with Simon Guilbault

Symbiotic Shadow System | David Han + Frank Tsonis

## ESPACE PROJET

\\installations///

Domaines | Gabriel Dufour-Laperrière

muu | Nelly-Ève Rajotte

# Tickets

available at Eastern Bloc and at [www.lavitrine.com](http://www.lavitrine.com)

1 performance event :

\$15 / \$12 student

Festival Pass (4 performance events) :

\$50 / \$40 student

# Venues

## EASTERN BLOC

7240 rue Clark, Montréal, QC

514.284.2106

## ESPACE PROJET

353 rue Villeray, Montréal, QC

514.388.3512

Galleries open : 12pm - 5pm

\\festival partners\\

