

**ART GRANDEUR NATURE 2008****« SHARED URBAN ZONES »****9<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL OF CONTEMPORARY ART IN SEINE-SAINT-DENIS  
SEPTEMBER 20 – NOVEMBER 23, 2008**

*Art Grandeur Nature is a contemporary art biennial organized by the General Council of Seine-Saint-Denis since 1993. Its aim is to produce and show original artworks of French and international artists in contexts which are not traditionally devoted to artistic expressions and thus gives a broad audience the opportunity to discover contemporary culture.*

*For this years 9th edition which is entitled « Zones Urbaines Partagées » (Shared Urban Zones), six local art institutions - Le Forum, Khiasma, La Galerie, Les Instants Chavirés, Périphérie and Synesthésie - have been invited to propose art projects which explore the social, industrial and urban reality of the Seine-Saint-Denis department.*

*Conceived as a continuation of the 2006 edition of the Biennial, around twenty site specific artworks question various ways of inhabiting suburban space today. They explore issues like flow and mobility which evoke as well dynamism and sociability as precariousness generating new ways of living, producing and interacting in public space.*

**6 art projects in 6 townships of Seine-Saint-Denis**

**The Forum in Blanc-Mesnil** has invited the installation artists OLIVIER DARNÉ, ANTONIO GALLEGO, LUCY+JORGE ORTA and ÉDOUARD SAUTAI to create works in a public housing area called the Cité Pierre Sépard as well as in the Forum. They explore different aspects of mobile and precarious living in the suburban space of the near future.

Installations by PAUL COX, OLIVIER MIRGUET, CHRISTIAN VIALARD and ROB VOERMAN will emerge in different areas of **Les Lilas** whereas photographic works and videos by American artist LEWIS BALTZ are shown in the exhibition space of Khiasma. The project conceived by **Khiasma** deals with the idea of disappearance of the public space as a static phenomenon in a contemporary urban structure.

The project conceived by **La Galerie in Noisy-le-Sec** deals with recycling and transformation of urban raw materials. The works by LARA ALMARCEGUI, KATINKA BOCK, ANGELA DETANICO & RAFAEL LAIN, EZCT ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN RESEARCH, VINCENT GANIVET, BEAT LIPPERT and GYAN PANCHAL are shown in the historic pavilion district called « Cité expérimentale de Merlan » as well as in the exhibition space of La Galerie, and have in common to reflect on architecture as an entropic landscape.

**Instants Chavirés in Montreuil** has chosen to present site specific works by VINCENT MAUGER, the artist duo OUIE|DIRE and RAPHAËL ZARKA in an ancient brewery called « Bouchoule ». The works deal with the scenic aspect of urban space as well as its sound dimension.

The Centre for documentary film creation, **Périphérie**, presents a film, photographs and a multimedia installation by CHRISTOPHE ATABEKIAN and CHARLES DE ZOHILOFF, which are based on a six months stay in a historical immigration area in Saint-Denis known as « Little Spain » (la Petite Espagne).

The web art magazine **Synesthésie in Saint-Denis** has invited the Belgian artist group LAB[AU] to conceive an interactive multimedia installation along the Saint-Denis channel. JÉRÔME JOY shows a web project in Synesthésie's exhibition room whereas MARIE PRESTON's installation is presented in the Gérard Philipe Theater nearby. These works reveal different aspects of urban flow, in a local as well as global perspective.

Synesthésie is also in charge of the web site of the biennial, **www.art-grandeur-nature.com**, and the catalogue.

Throughout the exhibition period various events such as performances, cinema and debates in relation to the biennial will be organized by cultural institutions in Seine-Saint-Denis.

*Seine-Saint-Denis is a French administrative department with a population of 1.4 million, essentially of modest origin, located immediately adjacent to Paris, to the northeast. The department is entirely urbanized, including 40 townships. It was the industrial cradle of the Parisian region with a highly pronounced mixture of business activities and dwellings as well as extensive government-subsidized housing.*

For detailed information on the biennale and the programs please visit the website:

**www.art-grandeur-nature.com | www.seine-saint-denis.fr**

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## ART GRANDEUR NATURE 2008 « Shared Urban Zones »

### **LE BLANC-MESNIL**

\_An art project conceived by Le Forum  
Le Forum | Cité Pierre Sémard

**Olivier Darné**

**Antonio Gallego**

**Lucy + Jorge Orta**

**Édouard Sautai**

[www.leforumbm.fr](http://www.leforumbm.fr)

### **LES LILAS**

\_An art project conceived by KHIASMA  
Espace Khiasma | Parc Lucie Aubrac | Sentes District | Centre Culturel Jean Cocteau

**Lewis Baltz**

**Paul Cox**

**Olivier Mirguet**

**Christian Vialard**

**Rob Voerman**

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

### **MONTREUIL**

\_An art project conceived by INSTANTS CHAVIRÉS  
Brasserie Bouchoule

**Ouïe | Dire**

**Vincent Mauger**

**Raphaël Zarka**

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

### **NOISY-LE-SEC**

\_An art project conceived by LA GALERIE  
La Galerie | Merlan District

**Lara Almarcegui**

**Katinka Bock**

**Angela Detanico & Rafael Lain**

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

### **SAINT-DENIS**

\_An art project conceived by SYNESTHÉSIE  
Synesthésie | Canal Saint-Denis | Théâtre Gérard Philipe

**Jérôme Joy**

**LAB[au]**

**Marie Preston**

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

### **SAINT-DENIS & PANTIN**

\_An art project conceived by PÉRIPHÉRIE  
« La petite Espagne » in Saint-Denis | Ciné 104 in Pantin

**Christophe Atabekian & Charles de Zohloff**

[www.peripherie.asso.fr](http://www.peripherie.asso.fr)

Art Grandeur Nature is organized by the General Council of the Seine-Saint-Denis.