

# MAC

Press Release

## « Tous, des sang-mêlés »

“All, mixed-bloods”

Group show

From 22 April to 3 September 2017

Opening on Friday 21 April 2017, 6:30pm

Curators

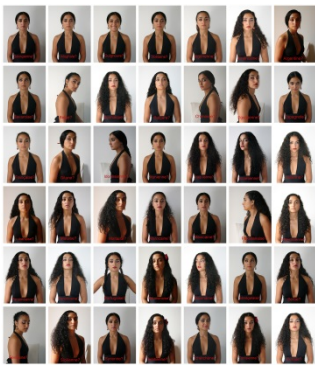
Julie Crenn and Frank Lamy

Assisted by

Julien Blanpied and Ninon Duhamel

Musée d'art contemporain  
du Val-de-Marne

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The Val-de-Marne Contemporary Art Museum is happy to present a group show entitled “Tous, des sang-mêlés” (“All, mixed-bloods”) around the universal and burning issue of cultural identity. This original proposal echoes previous curatorial projects conducted by the MAC VAL over the last few years.

In tune with the current world affairs, this exhibition explores the notion of cultural identity through various artistic visions and experiences: what is our common denominator? How do we build a shared culture in spite of more and more diverse/opposite origins? Those are some of the current global issues. Under the co-patronage of French historian Lucien Febvre and his book *We are all mixed-bloods: a manual on the history of the French civilization* (1950), and that of Stuart Hall, founding father of *Cultural Studies*, this exhibition highlights the fictional dimension of the concept of cultural identity. Our curators have build an exhibition around different proposals that raise questions and shed light on what relates and sets us apart, on transfer of knowledge and future, on power and resistance, on individuals and communities...

Through the voice of about sixty international artists and around one hundred artworks, the exhibition investigates the topics of cultural, national and sexual identities. They all revolve around the notion of being, yet some are obvious, others bring up –often passionate, always political- debates, and others call up memories of the past, sensitivity, experiences, and existence itself, from survival instinct to the notion of living together.

The works gathered in this exhibition tackle these topics from a real-life standpoint in a spirit of exchange and dialogue. If cultural identity is a fiction, artists have different ways to interpret, investigate and question it...while taking distance with the –all too reductive- identity perspective.

How do we shape ourselves in regard to our tongue, territory, family, History, story, and stereotypes?

The exhibition proposes several elements to establish a common ground on which alterities could develop together and in regard to one another.

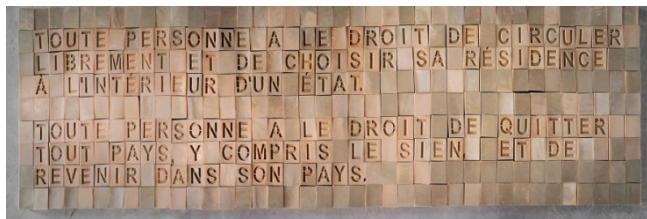
Through the story, sensitivity, words and commitment of artists from all horizons, ages and nationalities, each visitor can grow his own understanding of the notion of “Identity”. Set up in the very heart of the exhibition, “De quoi j’me mêle?” offers a space of encounters, debates, reading and relaxation all throughout the duration of the show. Its goal is to take time to think together or individually about the issues raised by the exhibition and the reality of today’s world. Singular voices will speak up to share opinions as well as personal and collective experiences.

These encounters organized by everyone who collaborated in the organization of the event, are free of charge and open to all audience on Sunday, 30 April, 7 May, 14 May, 21 May, 28 May, 4 June, 11 June, 25 June, 9 July, 27 August and 3 September at 4pm.

*Detailed programming on the museum website*

With artworks by:  
**Soufiane Ababri, Mathieu Kleyebe Abonnenc, Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Adam Adach, Nirveda Alleck, Francis Alj's, Giulia Andreani, Fayçal Baghriche, Sammy Baloji, Raphaël Barontini, Taysir Batniji, Sylvie Blocher, Martin Bureau, Ali Cherri, Claire Fontaine, Steven Cohen, Bady Dalloul, Jonathas De Andrade, Morgane Denzler, Jimmie Durham, Ninar Esber, Esther Ferrer, Karim Ghelloussi, Marco Godinho, Joana Hadjithomas and Khalil Joreige, Mona Hatoum, Maryam Jafri, Katia Kameli, Jason Karaïndros, Bouchra Khalili, Kimsooja, Kapwani Kiwanga, Will Kwan, Lawrence Lemaona, Mehryl Levisse, Violaine Lochu, Melanie Manchot, Lahouari Mohammed Bakir, Kent Monkman, Malik Nejmi, Nguyen Trinh Thi, Otobong Nkanga, Harold Offeh, Daniela Ortiz and Xose Quiroga, Alicia Paz, Adrian Piper, Présence Panchounette, Pushpamala N, Athi-Patra Ruga, Zineb Sedira, Yinka Shonibare MBE, Société Réaliste, Tsuneko Taniuchi, Erwan Venn, James Webb, Sue Williamson, Chen Zhen**

Space for dialogue and documentation created by Fictre



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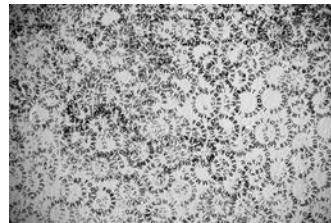
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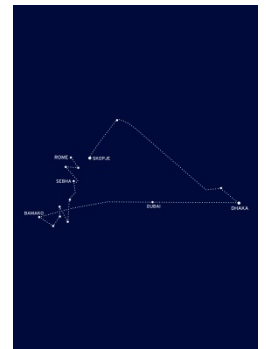
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**Image captions :**

1. Ninar Esber, *Arlésienne*, 2005. Series of 42 self-portraits, 15 x 21 cm. Courtesy of the artist and the Imane Farès gallery.
2. Kimsooja, *Bottari truck – Migrateurs*, 2007. 16/9 HD silent color video 9'20". Collection MAC VAL - Musée d'art contemporain du Val-de-Marne. Photo © Jacques Faujour.
3. Lahouari Mohammed Bakir, *HOMELAND*, 2011. Diasec photographic prints, 90 x 60 cm. FRAC Poitou-Charentes Collection. © Adagp, Paris 2017. Photo © Lahouari Mohammed Bakir.
4. Karim Ghelloussi, *sans-titre (passagers du silence)*, 2011-2014. 16 real-size people, resin and mortar, variable dimensions. © Adagp, Paris 2017. Photo © Karim Ghelloussi and Circonstance galerie.
5. Taysir Batniji, *L'homme ne vit pas seulement de pain #2*, 2012. Article 13 from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights carved on Marseille soaps, 81 x 253,5 x 4 cm. Marseille-Provence production 2013, Ateliers de l'EuroMéditerranée. View of the exhibition *Ici, ailleurs*, Friche la Belle de Mai, Marseille 2013. Courtesy of the artist and the galleries Sfeir Semler & Éric Dupont. © Adagp, Paris 2017. Photo © Clémentine Crochet.
6. Présence Panchouette, *Bateke (Walkman)*, 1985. Patinated wood, wire mesh, cardboard suitcases, Walkman, 158 x 80 x 55 cm. MAC VAL Collection - Musée d'art contemporain du Val-de-Marne. Acquired with the support of FRAM Île-de-France. Photo © Marc Damage.
7. Morgane Denzler, *Ceux qui restent 2*, 2012. Digital printing on puzzle, 52 x 40 cm. Courtesy of the Bendana Pinel Art Contemporain gallery, Paris.
8. Melanie Manchot, *Perfect Mountain*, 2011. HD stereo sound color vidéo, 9'36, photograms. Credit: Photographs courtesy of PHOTOSTUDIO TITLIS, Tony & Fränzi Camenzind. © Melanie Manchot. © Adagp, Paris 2017.
9. Martin Bureau, *Hommage à sa Gracieuse Majesté*, 2008. Cast iron and aluminum leaves, bas-relief, tondo, 57cm x 3,5cm. Photo © Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (MNBAQ), Patrick Altman.
10. Will Kwan, *Flame Test*, 2009. Series of 36 flags, dye on Duralux fabric, aluminum pole, variable dimensions. The Art Museum University Collection, Toronto. Installation view, Justina M. Barnicke gallery, Toronto, CA, 2009. Photo © Toni Hafkenscheid.
11. Jimmie Durham, *Aphrodite Unchained*, 2014. Marble, resin, ceramics, variable dimensions (approx. 150 x 150 cm), unique artwork. Courtesy of the artist and the gallery Michel Rein, Paris/Brussels.

12. Marco Godinho, *Forever Immigrant*, 2012. Stamping ink, variable presentation and dimension. Courtesy of the artist. Photo © Marco Godinho.
13. James Webb, *There's No Place Called Home*, 2004. Audio speakers: variable dimensions, infinite duration. Courtesy of the artist and the gallery Imane Farès.
14. Chen Zhen, *Round Table*, 1995. Series of 29 chairs, round wood table, engraved wooden discs, metallic structure, 180 x 550 cm. Centre national des arts plastiques collection, stored at the Musée national d'art moderne / centre de création industrielle, Paris. © Adagp, Paris 2017 / Cnap /
15. Bady Dalloul, *Discussion Between Gentlemen*, 2016. Video, map from 1920, pencil, 9'30. Video stills © Bady Dalloul and Untilthen.
16. Mona Hatoum, *Projection (velvet)*, 2013. Silk velvet and still bar, 97 x 162 cm. Courtesy of the artist and the White Cube. © Mona Hatoum. Photo © Stefan Rohner / Kunstmuseum St Gallen.
17. Bouchra Khalili, *The constellation n° 5*, 2011. FRAC Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur collection. Screenprint on BFK Rive, mounting on aluminum, wooden frame, glass case, 62 x 42 cm. © Adagp, Paris 2017.

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