

## Objects of Memory:

### ***Maria Hupfield. The One Who Keeps On Giving* at Galerie de l'UQAM**

**Dates:** January 11 – March 3, 2018

**Opening and performance:** Wednesday, January 10, 5:30 p.m.

Montréal, December 18, 2017 – Galerie de l'UQAM opens 2018 with the highly anticipated exhibition *Maria Hupfield. The One Who Keeps On Giving*, on a Canadian tour since its presentation at The Power Plant (Toronto) in the winter of 2017. Curated by Carolin Köchling, the exhibition includes a selection of objects and videos derived from the performative practice of the artist from the Wasauksing First Nation, Ontario, now established in Brooklyn. Maria Hupfield's work deploys delicate questions about objects and the memories, gestures or relationships they evoke.

Maria Hupfield will present a performance with Electric Djinn and ODAYA during the opening. This evening will also be the occasion to launch the catalog of the exhibition, hot off the press. In addition, the [Espace](#) magazine staff will be present to launch its new issue articulated around the theme of *Wounds*.

The exhibition is produced and circulated by The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery (Toronto).

#### **The exhibition**

Objects contain meanings beyond their materiality, meanings that we bring to them or receive from them. Objects are the result of an action, entail traces of human gestures and evoke reactions or memories. They have the potential to be read collectively or personally. Maria Hupfield's artistic practice reveals the way objects can trigger relationships between humans or environments.

For her exhibition *The One Who Keeps On Giving*, Hupfield developed a video installation centred on an object: an oil painting of a seascape by her late mother Peggy Miller. The artist invited her siblings to participate in a performance rooted in memories evoked by the painting that initially took place in Parry Sound, Ontario – the setting depicted on the canvas. To ground the filmed performance and to accompany the painting in the exhibition context, Hupfield and her siblings re-enacted the performance in the gallery space at The Power Plant in Toronto, the setting for the second film.

Alongside this newly commissioned work, the exhibition includes a selection of objects that have been regularly activated during Hupfield's performances in recent years: a canoe, a snowsuit, a snowmobile helmet, mitts and boots, a cassette recorder with headphones, a light bulb and seven items solicited from other artists. All of these objects are replicated in felt, a material which equalizes the objects beyond their specific functions.

*The One Who Keeps On Giving* is an English translation of Maria Hupfield's mother's Anishinaabe name.

#### **The artist**

**Maria Hupfield** (born 1975 in Parry Sound, Georgian Bay, Ontario) is a member of Wasauksing First Nation, Ontario, and is currently based in Brooklyn, New York. Solo exhibitions include MacKenzie Art Gallery (Regina, 2015), Galerie Hugues Charbonneau (Montréal, 2015) and Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba (Brandon, 2011). She has participated in group exhibitions and

performances at Trestle Projects Brooklyn (2016), SITE Santa Fe Biennial (2016), A Space Gallery (Toronto, 2015), Campo dei Gesuiti (Venice, 2015), Aboriginal Art Centre (Ottawa, 2015), The Bronx Museum (New York, 2015), Vox Populi (Philadelphia, 2015), Musée d'art contemporain des Laurentides (Saint Jérôme, 2015), North Native Museum (Zurich, 2014), SBC Gallery of Contemporary Art (Montréal, 2013), and Vancouver Art Gallery (2012). Hupfield is the founder of *7th Generation Image Makers*, a project from Native Child and Family Services of Toronto; co-owner of Native Art Department International; and was Assistant Professor in Visual Art and Material Practice appointed to the Faculty of Culture and Community, Emily Carr University of Arts and Design (2007-11).

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

### **The curator**

Carolin Köchling studied History of Art and Literature in Rome and Berlin. Since 2016 she has been Curator of Exhibitions at The Power Plant in Toronto. As a curator she conceived Claudia Andujar's first comprehensive solo exhibition in Europe for the MMK Museum für Moderne Kunst Frankfurt (2017). During her time at the Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt (2012–14), Köchling curated an exhibition on Brazilian street art, a solo presentation of Helene Schjerfbeck, and co-organized the cinema program with artists such as James Richards, Keren Cytter and Mohamed Bourouissa. Prior to that, she was involved in the expansion of the Städel Museum Frankfurt's contemporary art collection, and its initial presentation in the new museum wing (2010–12). From 2012 to 2015, Köchling regularly lectured at Goethe-University Frankfurt.

### **The catalogue**

Launched during the opening at Galerie de l'UQAM, the book *Maria Hupfield. The One Who Keeps On Giving* includes extensive exhibition views, essays by Crystal Migwans and Richard William Hill as well as a conversation between Maria Hupfield and the artist Andrea Geyer.

*Maria Hupfield. The One Who Keeps On Giving*  
Editor: The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery  
2017, 128 p., bilingual (English and French)  
\$30

### **Espace #118 (Winter 2018) – Wounds**

Can we heal our wounds? And to do so, must we relegate them to oblivion or consign them to a form of liberating reconciliation? In the field of aesthetic representation, how can an artistic gesture bring relief to the spirit? The texts of this issue, launched during the opening of *Maria Hupfield. The One Who Keeps On Giving*, elaborate various perspectives on these questions.

[espaceartactuel.com](http://espaceartactuel.com)

### **Public activities**

#### Performance

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

6 p.m.

With Maria Hupfield, Electric Djinn and ODAYA

During opening night, Maria Hupfield will be performing a continuous piece, activating the objects showcased in the exhibition, in collaboration with artists Electric Djinn and ODAYA.

**Electric Djinn** is a band and performance art project created by multidisciplinary artist Jennifer Berklich, also known as Neptune Sweet. The artist focuses on electronic compositions using sampled sounds, soft synths, drum machines and processed vocals. Collaborating with dancers, visual artists and filmmakers, Electric Djinn has performed in galleries and art spaces primarily in New York and the Philippines.

[electricdjinn.com](http://electricdjinn.com)

**ODAYA** is an Indigenous women's collective formed in 2007. Mostly known as a traditional Indigenous women's drum and song group, its members are also recognized for their solidarity work focusing on Indigenous feminist community-building initiatives. Active on the arts scene and at street marches in Montréal, ODAYA consists of four women of mixed Indigenous heritage: Émilie Monnet (Anishinabe, French), Dayna Danger (Métis, Ojibway, Polish), Nahka Bertrand (Dene, Québécoise), and Anik Sioui (Wendat, Anishinabe, and Franco-Canadienne).

[ODAYA – Facebook Page](#)

Nuit blanche à Montréal  
Saturday, March 3, 2018  
8 p.m. – 1 a.m.

At Galerie de l'UQAM: extended opening hours to see the exhibitions *Maria Hupfield. The One Who Keeps On Giving* and *Michelle Bui. Pool of Plenty*

At the Agora of the Judith-Jasmin Pavilion: performances by the Buffalo Hat Singers and other guests

Enjoy the Nuit blanche by visiting the exhibitions of Maria Hupfield and Michelle Bui at the Galerie de l'UQAM. For this special occasion, the drums of the Buffalo Hat Singers will resound in the Agora of the Judith-Jasmin Pavilion. You are invited to join and discover several artists who draw from the traditions of indigenous culture.

Guided tours of the exhibition for groups

Available anytime.

Reservations required with Philippe Dumaine

514 987-3000, ext 3280, or [dumaine\\_allard.philippe@uqam.ca](mailto:dumaine_allard.philippe@uqam.ca)

### Support provided by

The exhibition is a production of The Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery (Toronto) in partnership with Southern Alberta Art Gallery (Lethbridge), Galerie de l'UQAM (Montréal), Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery (Halifax) and Canadian Cultural Centre (Paris). It was sponsored by TD Bank Group and supported by Julia & Robert Foster.



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### Address and opening hours

Galerie de l'UQAM

Judith-Jasmin Pavilion, Room J-R120

1400 Berri Street (corner of Sainte-Catherine East), Montréal

Berri-UQAM metro

Tuesday to Saturday, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.  
Free admission

**Information**

Phone: 514 987-6150

[www.galerie.uqam.ca](http://www.galerie.uqam.ca) / [Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#) / [Instagram](#)

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