

THE HNATYSHYN FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION HNATYSHYN

FOGO ISLAND ARTS

49° 37' N, 54° 12' W

PRESS RELEASE



Fogo Island, 2018. Photo : Steffen Jagenburg.

**ELI KERR SELECTED
FOR 2019 RESIDENCY AT FOGO ISLAND ARTS**

OTTAWA / FOGO ISLAND, 13 February 2019– Eli Kerr has been selected for the 2019 Hnatyshyn Foundation-Fogo Island Arts Young Curator Residency. Kerr is based in Montréal and is focused on artistic practices that consider the implications of technological histories within unfolding social modalities. Beyond his research interests, Kerr’s exhibition and writing activity is prompted through a constant dialog and commitment to artist’s ideas.

The Young Curator Residency program, valued at \$15,000 (CAD) annually, sends an exceptional young Canadian curator between the ages of 25 and 30 to work in residence at Fogo Island Arts, a contemporary art venue on Fogo Island, Newfoundland. During the residency, the curator will work closely with Fogo Island Arts’ international artists-in-residence, staff, and members of the community, and contribute to Fogo Island Arts initiatives. The six-week residency will take place in the fall of 2019. Candidates are selected based on their body of work, curatorial philosophy, and their ability to work both independently and as part of a team. This year’s selection was adjudicated by Nicolaus Schafhausen, Strategic Director of Fogo Island Arts and Director of Kunsthalle Wien, and Reesa Greenberg, an art and exhibition historian.

“The Young Curator Residency creates exceptional opportunities for emerging curators,” said Nicolaus Schafhausen. “Fogo Island Arts and Shorefast provide mentorship, collaboration and a context for young Canadian curators to develop valuable global networks essential to contemporary curatorial practice, all amidst the unparalleled setting and unique culture of Fogo Island. We truly look forward to welcoming and working with Eli Kerr.”

Eli Kerr is a curator and writer based in Montréal. In 2016 Kerr co-founded VIE D’ANGE with Daphné Boxer. The project exists as a broad framework for curatorial activities which both emanate from, and extend beyond an old auto body garage, that serves more as an apparatus than a site for their initiatives. With a focus on supporting new, intimate and experimental artist’s projects, their exhibition programme exists as an episodic series of sequential, yet nonlinear narratives. Kerr has been awarded curatorial residencies at International Studio and Curatorial Program (New York; 2017) and at Rupert (Vilnius, Lithuania; 2018). He holds a BFA in Design from Concordia University.

About Fogo Island Arts

Fogo Island Arts is a residency-based contemporary art venue that supports research and production of new work for artists, filmmakers, writers, musicians, curators, designers and thinkers from around the world. Since 2008, FIA has brought some of the most exciting, emerging and renowned artists of today to Fogo Island, Newfoundland, Canada to take part in residencies and to present solo exhibitions at the Fogo Island Gallery. FIA also presents programs in cities across Canada and abroad, including the Fogo Island Dialogues interdisciplinary conversation series, as part of its international outreach. Combining contemporary art, iconic architecture and social innovation in a singular setting, FIA is a world-class institution that is uniquely rooted in community. FIA is an initiative of Shorefast, a registered Canadian charity with the mission to build economic and cultural resilience on Fogo Island.

About the Hnatyshyn Foundation

The Hnatyshyn Foundation is a private charity established by the late Right Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn, Canada's twenty-fourth Governor General, to assist emerging and established artists in all disciplines with their training and career development and promote to the Canadian public the importance of the arts in our society. Its programs are funded by donations from government, foundations, corporations and individuals. For more information about The Hnatyshyn Foundation's programs, visit www.rjhf.com.

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