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**Armenia, Yerevan**  
Armenian Center for Contemporary Experimental Art  
Aram Kachaturian Museum  
Cafesjian Center for the Arts  
Hayart Cultural Center  
Artists' Union of Armenia  
A. Spendiaryan Opera and Ballet National Academic Theater  
Armenian General Benevolent Union

## **INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION: ARMENIA 2018 SOUNDLINES OF CONTEMPORARY ART**

*curated by Mazdak Faiznia and Marina Hakobyan*

**25 September – 25 October 2018**

official inauguration on Friday 28th of September, 19pm - National Gallery of Armenia

*press release, 18.07.2018*

In occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Armenian Republic, **Yerevan** opens its doors to contemporary art with the “International Contemporary Art Exhibition: Armenia 2018. Soundlines of Contemporary Art” that from **25th of September to 25th of October** will engage the capital city with more than fifty international artists exhibiting in seven different locations around the city center.

It will be the first exhibition that will include all the different aspects of contemporary art - **paintings, sculpture, photography, video art and installations and performance**, and which

will create a dialog among a vast number of international artists coming from all over the world, **invited** to realize their artworks *in situ* as well as participate in several **workshops** with students from different art institutes. The objective is to involve as much territory as possible and to make it part of the artistic debate and highlight its vocation for cultural exchange. For this reason, it extends to the city with a widespread diffusion of the most important cultural centers such as: Armenian Center for Contemporary Experimental Art, Aram Kachaturian Museum, Cafesjian Center for the Arts, Hayart Cultural Center, Artists' Union of Armenia, A. Spendiaryan Opera and Ballet National Academic Theater, Armenian General Benevolent Union.

“Soundlines of Contemporary Art”, **curated** by Mazdak Faiznia and Marina Hakobyan, **created and organized** by Shaula International LLC, is under the **high patronage** of the Presidency of the Republic of Armenia and the **patronage** of the Canadian Government, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism of Italy, the cultural promotional project of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy Vivere All'italiana, the Italian Embassy in Armenia and is **supported** by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, the EU Delegation to Armenia and Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU).

The exhibition focuses on key concepts such as **cultural interaction, identity, mobility, the circulation of thought, the border** as a real and mental threshold that divides and at the same time allows exchange and **cultural dialogue**. These important themes are also included in the title of “Soundlines of Contemporary Art” in which the link and the metaphor with the sound underlines the power of the voice of art. Similarly, to what happens in an orchestra in which the sound of the Armenian duduk integrates perfectly with the other instruments, the exhibition aims to reflect a cultural fusion in contemporary history and the global scene in which Armenian artists converse with those from other Countries.

With visual metaphors and utilizing all the forms of aspects of contemporary art, these are the artists participating: **Rossella Biscotti** (Italy), **Alighero Boetti** (Italy), **Loris Cecchini** (Italy), **Chiara Dynys** (Italy), **Roberto Pugliese** (Italy), **Lida Abdul** (Afghanistan), **Adel Abidin** (Iraq), **Diarrassouba Aboudalaye** (Ivory Coast), **Etel Adnan** (Lebanon), **AES+F** (Russia), **Shahriar Ahmadi** (Iran/Kurdistan), **Francis Alÿs** (Belgium), **Ei Anatsui** (Ghana), **Arevik Arevshatyan** (Armenia), **Chant Avedissian** (Egypt/Armenia), **Sonia Balassanian** (Iran/Armenia), **BGL** (Canada), **Sanford Biggers** (USA), **Christian Boltanski** (France), **Herman De Vries** (Holland), **Victor Ehikhamenor** (Nigeria), **Arshile Gorky** (Armenia), **Arman Grigoryan** (Armenia), **Shilpa Gupta** (India), **Diana Hakobyan** (Armenia), **Sarkis Hamalbashyan** (Armenia), **Mona Hatoum** (Lebanon), **Sahand Hessamiyan** (Iran), **Hiwa K.** (Iraq/Kurdistan), **Ilya & Emilia Kabakov** (Russia), **Lee Kit** (China), **Roland Emile Kuit** (Czech Republic), **Hiroyuki Masuyama** (Japan), **Sirak Melkonian** (Iran/Armenia), **Karen Mirzoyan** (Armenia), **Nasr Moataz** (Egypt), **Mohsen Vaziri Moghaddam** (Iran), **Kevork Mourad** (Siria), **NeSpoon** (Poland), **Nicky Nodjoumi** (Iran), **Melik Ohanian** (France/Armenia), **Adrian Paci** (Albania), **Sahak Poghosyan** (Armenia), **Imran Qureshi** (Pakistan), **Jon Rafman** (Canada), **Tomas Rajlich** (Czech Republic), **Anri Sala** (Albania), **Ararat Sarkissian** (Armenia), **Tino Sehgal** (United Kingdom), **Walid Siti** (Iraq/Kurdistan), **Leon Tutundjian** (Turkey/Armenia), **Piotr Uklanski** (Poland), **Lawrence Weiner** (USA), **Sislej Xhafa** (Kosovo), **Sarkis Zabunyan** (Turkey/Armenia), **Chen Zhen** (China).

The exhibition highlights a network of new expressions that come from the imagination of artists who filter the world through their identity and their social background and produce images that live in resonance or dissonance with the works of the artist, stretching from one end of the globe to another, in a vibrant and amazing connection.

ICAE2018 includes the “Project Open Sounds of Contemporary Art” realized through an open call with online application, with a final selection by the curators and that will be exhibited in the Artists' Union of Armenia, represented by the following artists: Aram Danielyan (Armenia), Zack Demirchyan (Armenia), Anush Ghukasyan (Armenia), Anna Grigoryan (Armenia), Anna Harutyunyan (Armenia), Ashot Harutyunyan (Armenia), Tehmine Harutyunyan (Armenia), Arthur Hovhannisyan (Armenia), Aram Isabekyan (Armenia), Tamarcaz Josette (Switzerland), Zara Manucharyan (Armenia), Lilit Melikyan (Armenia), Paravon Mirzoyan (Armenia), Mary Moon (Armenia), Logo Oluwamuyiwa Adeyemi (Nigeria), Alessandro Pizzo (Italy), Maria Salmasian (Armenia), Arshak Sarkissian (Armenia).

Furthermore, an **Educational** section will include several workshops in some of the leading art institutions of Armenia such as Tumo Center for Creative Technologies, Terlemezyan Institute, and State Fine Art Academy, held by, among others, Roberto Pugliese, Roland Emile Kuit, Abdoulaye Diarrassouba, and Victor Ehikhamenor.

The exhibition will have an official **catalogue** in two volumes and in English, published by Manfredi Edizioni, with opening sections by the President of the Republic of Armenia, the Minister of Culture of Armenia, the curators Mazdak Faiznia and Marina Hakobyan, and by Shaula International LLC. Volume I is dedicated to “Soundlines of Contemporary Art” and Volume II is dedicated to “Project Open Sounds of Contemporary Art”.

Thanks to Vahé Gabrache and Fondation Armenia Geneva

### **Coordinates of the Exhibition**

**Title** International Contemporary Art Exhibition: Armenia 2018. Soundlines of Contemporary Art

**Curated by** Mazdak Faiznia and Marina Hakobyan

**Dates** 25th of September - 25th of October 2018

**Inauguration** Friday 28th of September, at 19 - National Gallery of Armenia, 1 Aram Street, Yerevan, Armenia

### **Locations**

**Armenian Center for Contemporary Experimental Art**, 1/3 Buzand Street, Yerevan, Armenia

**Opening Hours** Tuesday - Saturday, from 11-17

**Aram Kachaturian Museum**, 3 Zarobyan Street, Yerevan, Armenia

**Opening Hours** Monday – Friday, from 11-17; Saturday, from 11-16:30

**Cafesijan Center for the Arts**, 10 Tamanyan Street, Yerevan, Armenia

**Opening Hours** Tuesday - Thursday, from 11-17; Friday - Sunday, from 10-20

**Hayart Cultural Center**, 7a Mashtots Street, Yerevan, Armenia

**Opening Hours** Monday - Saturday, from 11-17

**Artists' Union of Armenia**, 16 Abovyan Street, Yerevan, Armenia

**Opening Hours** Tuesday - Sunday, from 11-17

**A. Spendiaryan Opera and Ballet National Academic Theater**, 54 Tumanyan Street, Yerevan, Armenia

**Opening Hours** Monday - Saturday, from 10-18

**Armenian General Benevolent Union**, 2/2 Melik Adamyan Street, Yerevan, Armenia

**Opening Hours** Monday- Friday, from 9-18

**Catalogue** Manfredi Edizioni, in English, with opening sections by the President of the Republic of Armenia, Minister of Culture of the Republic of Armenia, the curators Mazdak Faiznia and Marina Hakobyan, and Shaula International LLC.

**Entrance** Free

**Info for the public** [info@icaearmenia.org](mailto:info@icaearmenia.org) - Ph. +374 77 25 09 18

**ICAE2018 Official Website:** [www.icaearmenia.org](http://www.icaearmenia.org)

Facebook: ICAE2018 - Instagram: ICAE2018

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### **Press Office in Italy**

**IBC Irma Bianchi Communication**

Ph. +39 02 8940 4694 - mob. + 39 328 5910857 - [info@irmabianchi.it](mailto:info@irmabianchi.it)

texts and images from [www.irmabianchi.it](http://www.irmabianchi.it)

### **Press Office for Armenia**

**AGBU Armenia**

Communications Manager – Narine Hayrapetyan

Ph. +374 77 59 99 61 – [narineh@agbu.am](mailto:narineh@agbu.am)