

# NOCTURNE

Nocturne: Art at Night Society  
% Downtown Halifax Business Commission  
1546 Barrington Street,  
Suite 104, B3J 3X7

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Nocturne launches 2019 program

K'JIPUKTUK/HALIFAX - The 12th annual Nocturne: Art at Night festival will fill the city's streets with nearly 100 contemporary art projects created by more than 200 local, national and international artists starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 19. The completely free annual event showcases the visual and performing arts scene in Mi'kmaki/Nova Scotia.

Details about the full Nocturne program are available below as well as online at [nocturnehalifax.ca](http://nocturnehalifax.ca)

The Nocturne program for 2019 responds to the one event-wide curatorial theme of SCAFFOLD curated by Tori Fleming. The theme follows many paths during Nocturne, both literally and conceptually. The curatorial direction of Tori Fleming has invited artists to use humour, absurdity, and the unexpected to transform our streets into a new city. For one night only we present your vision of K'jipuktuk/Halifax.

### PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS

*ANCHOR PROJECT: Anchor projects are selected by our curator and relate to this year's theme: SCAFFOLD. These projects are large in scale and are located throughout each of the festival zones.*

Anchor artist Nathalie Quaglitto's Maturity Playground is an environment that features reconfigured playground installations. The participatory works within the playground change the way we act, behave, and associate with other people in public space. The artist's playful sculpture- and installation-based practice involves reconfiguring everyday childish public objects associated with social regulations, safety, and risk.

Maturity Playground can be viewed at Ferry Terminal Park in Downtown Dartmouth.

*BEACON PROJECTS: Beacon projects are artist-led works in public or publicly accessible spaces throughout the festival zones. They are facilitated through the Nocturne programming committee and selected by a jury.*

Luminous Cloud is an experiential installation of projected dynamic light by Passage Studio. Its serpentine interior spaces invite people to explore the ever-changing illuminated forest of light within. The project seeks to engage users through the use of light projection and the creation of void space in the confines of a grid. The project is encountered as a porous cloud of illuminated sticks in the park. The cloud shimmers with moving coloured light from all angles. Taller than a

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person, and about the size of a tennis court, the illuminated installation dances with light and asks people to come closer.

Luminous Cloud can be viewed inside the Halifax Public Gardens.

*SPOTLIGHT PROJECTS: Specially chosen by Nocturne's organizers, these projects are non-juried but respond specifically to the experience of the festival and our curatorial theme.*

Memory Keepers III | Nujimikwite'taqatijik III is curated by GLAM Collective (Dr. Carla Taunton, Dr. Heather Igloliorte, and Dr. Julie Nagam), featuring work by Carrie Allison, Sébastien Aubin, Darcie Bernhardt and Tom McLeod, Jerry Evans, Megan Kyak-Monteith, Caroline Monnet, Jason Sikoak. Playing with concepts of memory keeping, these artists encode, store and retrieve knowledge of the land, language, and cultural practices. Memory Keepers III | Nujimikwite'taqatijik III is a series of site-specific, experimental, collaborative media art installations.

*EXTENDED PROJECT: Projects that extend past the one night festival timeline and celebrate Nocturne's role in the community year round.*

You may have seen a Nocturne project already in place! Anchor artist Caroline Monnet's History shall speak for itself presents a collaged chronology of Indigenous female representation in filmmaking. The black-and-white archival images typify traditional Western methods of documenting Indigenous women involved in their various domestic tasks while disengaged from the camera. The contemporary image, by contrast, features a group of women looking directly at the lens, outfitted in Indigenous attire influenced by European aesthetics, and posed against a stark white background as if in a fashion shoot.

This project is currently on display at Scotia Square mall and will be extended for the duration of October.

Access to our complete guide can be found at [nocturnehalifax.ca/guide](https://nocturnehalifax.ca/guide)

## NOC TALKS

Noc Talks provides the opportunity to examine and showcase the art, artists and concepts involved in the festival and throughout the community, featuring engaging talks, roundtable discussions, and one-on-one interviews. As with any Nocturne event, admission is always free. This year's Noc Talk is the panel discussion How We Build: On Craft and Blackness presented in partnership with Visual Arts News and MSVU Art Gallery.

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Based on curator Pamela Edmond's quote "I am no longer interested in a seat at the table. I now want to build my own table," this panel will focus on the concept of Black artists creating work for a Black audience. With the purpose of illuminating ideas on intergenerational knowledge and craft sharing as a means of fostering solidarity and resistance within and between the various Black communities in Nova Scotia, this panel will engage in ideas on locating pleasure, joy, and celebration as a survival tool while navigating structural oppression.

Join panelists Juanita Peters, Letitia Fraser, NAT chantel, and Sobaz Benjamin in a discussion facilitated by Francesca Ekwuyasi on Friday, October 18, 7 – 9pm at the Art Bar + Projects. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome. Gender neutral washrooms on site. ASL interpretation available upon request, please contact us in advance to book. More information about this talk available at [visualartsnews.ca/2019/10/how-we-build-on-craft-and-blackness/](http://visualartsnews.ca/2019/10/how-we-build-on-craft-and-blackness/)

Navigating the art by neighbourhood

Nocturne projects are clustered into five easy-to-navigate zones to make exploring the event more efficient: Spring Garden + Universities, Halifax Waterfront, Downtown Halifax, North End Halifax, and Downtown Dartmouth.

The full event map is available at: [nocturnehalifax.ca/guide](http://nocturnehalifax.ca/guide)

High resolution renderings of exhibition projects and images from previous editions of Nocturne: Art at Night are available at:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/NocturneHalifax/photos/?tab=albums&ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/NocturneHalifax/photos/?tab=albums&ref=page_internal)

Quotes:

"We have a rich and vibrant arts and culture community here in our region and I encourage you to share in this extraordinary celebration by taking the time to visit the many diverse galleries, artists, and organizations that make this event truly memorable. I want to acknowledge, with gratitude, the artists for sharing their incredible works and commend event organizers, volunteers, and sponsors for making this highly anticipated evening the great success it is!

- Mayor Mike Savage

"Nocturne was born and bred on the hard work of volunteers and we continue to rely on them throughout the planning and execution of what has become a massive city-wide festival. Support from the community is so infectious and we are constantly impressed by the public response to the artist's projects presented each year."

- Lindsay Ann Cory, Nocturne Executive Director

"I am so honored and excited to be given the chance to curate the 2019 Nocturne Art at Night Festival. As an artist, curator and HRM resident, I love the magic that comes from one night of big

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crowds and even bigger ideas. I look forward to working with to working with artists to transform the streets of Halifax and Dartmouth.”

- Tori Fleming, 2019 Curator

## About Nocturne: Art at Night

Nocturne: Art at Night is the city's annual night time celebration of contemporary art that brings art and energy to the streets of K'jipuktuk/Halifax. The completely free annual event showcases and celebrates the visual arts scene in Mi'kma'ki/Nova Scotia. Nocturne, designed and planned largely by volunteers, is an opportunity for everyone to experience the art of K'jipuktuk/Halifax in a whole new light. Nocturne is a not-for-profit organization and is funded by the Nova Scotia Provincial Government through the Department of Communities Culture and Heritage, the Federal Government through Heritage Canada's fund for Building Communities through Arts and Heritage, and the Halifax Regional Municipality through the Cultural and Civic Events funding program. Nocturne is also funded through partnerships with the city and area businesses to bring the city access to art and wonder with no barriers. Every year Nocturne works with a new curator to present a theme and Anchor Artists.

Since 2008, this award-winning event has featured almost 800 art installations by approximately 3000 artists and has generated over \$5 million in economic impact for Halifax. Information and updates are available at [nocturnehalifax.ca](http://nocturnehalifax.ca), on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/nocturnehalifax>, on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/nocturnehalifax>, on Instagram at <http://www.instagram.com/nocturnehalifax>. The event hashtag is #nochfx19.

For further information - media contact: Ashley Corbett, [info@nocturnehalifax.ca](mailto:info@nocturnehalifax.ca)