

# LAÏLA MESTARI

(b. 1992, Morocco / I. Canada)

[www.lailamestari.com](http://www.lailamestari.com)

## EDUCATION

- 2023 **Master of Fine Arts (MFA)** – *With FRQSC and Joan Livingston Merit Scholarships*  
**School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), IL, USA**
- 2017 **Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA)** – *With great distinction*  
**Concordia University, Montreal, Canada**

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 *Cousine* (upcoming)  
**L'Œil de Poisson**, Quebec City, Canada
- 2024 *Portraits et contenants* (upcoming)  
**Patel Brown**, Toronto, Canada
- 2022 *Fragments, retours, amas*  
**Galerie 3**, Quebec City, Canada
- 2022 *Sam&Angèle*  
**L'Écart**, Rouyn-Noranda, Canada
- 2022 *Monabamaqueb*  
**Galerie Galerie**, Web installation, Montreal based organisation, Canada
- 2020 *fille-de-foin* (curated by Julie Andrée T.)  
**Le LOBE**, Chicoutimi, Canada
- 2019 *main sur coude à*  
**VU**, Quebec City, Canada
- 2019 *Cette émotion ultime*  
**La Centrale Galerie Powerhouse**, Montreal, Canada
- 2017 *RME, FRS, UTC, FCB*  
**Espacio PINEA**, Rota, Spain

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023-2024 *Coming into Sight: recent Art Bank Acquisitions*  
**Âjagemô Space**, Ottawa, Canada
- 2023 *User's Manuel for an Invisible Home*  
**SKOL Art Center**, Montreal, Canada
- 2023 *Identités*  
**Projet Casa**, Montreal, Canada
- 2023 *Graduate Exhibition One*  
**SAIC Galleries**, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2022 *UCLA New Wight Biennial: Between the Self and its True Home*  
**University of California in Los Angeles**, USA
- 2022 *Do You Know Why the Waves Break?* (curated by Jaclyn Quaresma)  
**Bachir/Yerex Presentation Space**, Toronto, Canada
- 2022 *Luminarts Visual Arts Fellowship finalists*  
**John David Mooney Foundation**, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2022 *Art Volt Collection*  
**House of the Montreal Art Council**, Canada
- 2021 *La mémoire et le temps* (curated by Noémie Chevalier)  
**Art Mûr Gallery**, Montreal, Canada
- 2021 *Pop up de la Galerie 3*  
**Pop-Up Gallery (Circa)**, Montreal, Canada
- 2021 *Artroduction*  
**Galerie 3**, Quebec, Canada  
**Projet Casa**, Montreal, Canada
- 2017 *Première impression: finalists for the Albert-Dumouchel Award*  
**Arprim**, Montreal, Canada

- 2017 *Concordia's Graduating Students Exhibition*  
**VAV and FOFA Galleries**, Montreal, Canada
- 2017 *Risques d'échec*  
**Mainline Gallery**, Montreal, Canada
- 2017 *Loop & Echo*  
**GHAM & DAFE Gallery**, Montreal, Canada
- 2016 *Power Plant*  
**SKOL Art Center**, Montreal, Canada
2016. *Material conductors*  
**VAV Gallery**, Montreal, Canada
- 2016 *Object Lesson*  
**SKOL Art Center**, Montreal, Canada

## ART FAIRS

- 2024 **Plural Contemporary Art Fair**, Montreal, Canada
- 2023 **Art Toronto**, Canada
- 2023 **FAAQ (Foire en arts actuels de Québec)**, Québec City, Canada
- 2023 **Plural Contemporary Art Fair**, Montreal, Canada

## GRANTS, NOMINATIONS AND AWARDS

- 2023 *Explore and Create Art Grant*  
**Canada Council for the Arts**
- 2022 *Luminarts Visual Arts Fellowship finalist*  
**Luminarts Cultural Foundation**, Chicago, IL
- 2022 *Explore and Create Art Grant*  
**Canada Council for the Arts**
- 2021 *FRQSC Research Scholarship (Fonds de recherche du Québec – Société et Culture)*  
**Government of Quebec**, Canada
- 2021 *Joan Livingstone Fiber and Material Studies Merit Scholarship (100% tuition)*  
**School of the Art Institute of Chicago**, IL, USA
- 2020 *Research and Creation Support Program*  
**Vidéographe**, Montreal, Canada
- 2020 *Professional Development for Artists Grant*  
**Canada Council for the Arts**, Canada
- 2017 Nomination: *Valedictorian of the Faculty of Fine Arts*  
**Concordia University**, Montreal, Canada
- 2017 *Research, Creation and Exploration Grant*  
**Conseil des Arts et des Lettres du Québec**
- 2017 *Irene F. Whittome Prize in Studio Arts: To an outstanding graduating student in Studio Arts*  
**Concordia University**, Montreal, Canada
- 2017 *Sarah Leaney Award in Ceramics and Fibres*  
**Concordia University**, Montreal, Canada
- 2017 *Albert-Dumouchel Award finalist*  
**Arprim**, Montreal, Canada
- 2016 *Ada Lovelace Award*  
**Studio XX**, Montreal, Canada
- 2016 *Richard Lacroix Paper Grant*  
**Concordia University**, Montreal, Canada
- 2016 *Fine Arts Student Alliance (FASA) Special Project Grant*  
**Concordia University**, Montreal, Canada

## ARTIST TALKS

- 2023 *Conversation with Bouchra Assou and Sana Akroud at La Serre X LA SERRE (FR/Arabic)*
- 2022 *Rearticulations: Artist Talk at the Art Institute of Chicago by Laila Mestari (ENG)*
- 2022 *Images in Motion: Artist Talk at the Art Institute of Chicago by Laila Mestari (ENG)*
- 2022 *Monabamaqueb: Conversation between Laila Mestari et Hanna Zeida (FR)*
- 2020 *Conversation with Julie Andrée T. at the LOBE residency (FR)*
- 2017 *Discours as the Valedictorian of the Faculty of Fine Arts (ENG & FR)*

## SCREENINGS

- 2023 **LA SERRE X La Serre**  
La Serre - arts vivants (Montreal, Canada) with **L'Obsevatoire** (Casablanca, Morocco)
- 2022 **Images Festival**  
Toronto, Canada
- 2022 **Bideodromo Film Festival**  
Bilbao, Spain
- 2022 **Tranås at the Fringe: International Festival**  
Tranås, Sweden
- 2022 **WNDX Festival of Moving Image**  
Winnipeg, Canada
- 2022 **Rendez-vous Québec Cinéma (RVQC film festival)**  
Cinémathèque Québécoise, Montreal, Canada
- 2020 **Fast Beat Slow Fear**  
Montreal, Canada
- 2019 *in praesentia/in absentia* (partnership with **MOMENTA biennial** the **FIFA festival**)  
**Dazibao**, Montreal, Canada
- 2015 *Nothing is right*  
**SKOL Art Center**, Montreal, Canada

## SELECTED COVERAGE AND ARTICLES

- 2023 Christina Hajjar, « Petal by Petal : Feminin Desire as a Conduit for Home », *C Magazine*, Codes
- 2023 Yuyao Hou, « Laïla Mestari, The Narrated Self & Interwoven Existence », *The MPI Media*
- 2022 Didier Morelli, « Mishmash Maghreb-Québec », *Galerie Galerie*
- 2022 Olivier Du Ruisseau, « Du « pur bonheur » à la Galerie 3 », *Le Devoir*.
- 2022 Sevia Pellissier, « Chronique sur l'exposition Fragments, retours, amas », *L'Aéropatial*
- 2020 Julie Andrée T., « Regard sur la résidence de Laïla Mestari : À propos d'une œuvre de passage », *Le Lobe*
- 2019 Bernard Lamarche, « Rituels », *VU*
- 2019 Josiane Déloge, « Chromogenic Cumudgeons et Laïla Mestari : tableaux en confettis chez VU », *Le Soleil*.

## RESIDENCIES

- 2023 *Jano Lapin Studios*, Montreal, Canada
- 2021 *Annexe-A*, Rouyn-Noranda, Canada
- 2020 *Le LOBE*, Chicoutimi, Canada
- 2020 *Centre SAGAMIE*, Alma, Canada
- 2020 *LA SERRE*, Monument-National, Montreal, Canada
- 2019 *Collectif le Récif*, Trois-Pistoles, Canada
- 2017 *VU PHOTO*, Quebec, Canada
- 2017 *PINEA-LINEA DE COSTA A.I.R.*, Rota, Spain

## COLLECTIONS

**Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec (MNBAQ)**  
**Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (MAC)**  
**Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)**  
**Canada Council Art Bank**  
**Hydro-Québec**  
**Desjardins**  
**Art Volt**  
**Vithèque**  
**Private collections**