

Art21's Global Screening Initiative Brings Free Events to Local Communities

Art21's Screening Society partners with organizations around the world to provide access to the works and words of contemporary art



(NEW YORK — June 7, 2018) — Today, Art21 launches the 2018 edition of its Screening Society initiative, a **free global screening program** taking place in conjunction with the upcoming new season of the nonprofit organization's television series. Through the Screening Society program, Art21 opens registration to partners around the world to present free screenings of the new season.

Screening Society was developed to increase knowledge of contemporary art, spark dialogue, and inspire creative thinking for a global audience.

Art21 invites a wide variety of partners—schools, universities, libraries,

museums, nonprofit organizations, galleries, arts and cultural spaces, community centers, and more—to host screenings from the latest season of "Art in the Twenty-First Century." These screenings are **free and open to the public** and will take place from **September 22 to December 31**, **2018**.

"The topics that artists address in their work extend well beyond the confines of a studio practice," said Art21 executive director and chief curator, Tina Kukielski. "In partnering with organizations around the world, we can facilitate conversations of a global nature at a very local level."

Art21 provides all Screening Society partners with a toolkit containing helpful information for hosting a screening, including a guide designed to help facilitate a public event through discussion questions and group activities.

Over the previous two seasons, **over 250 Screening Society partners hosted more than 1,300 screenings** across the United States and in over 30 countries around the world. In 2016, screenings took place in community spaces from Oklahoma, to Norway, to Azerbaijan, to the Philippines, and beyond.

Interested partners can register to host a screening at art21.org/screeningsociety.

Ninth Season of "Art in the Twenty-First Century" Premieres this September on PBS

Premiering this September on PBS, the **new season** of the Peabody Award-winning "Art in the Twenty-First Century" television series is presented in three parts and reveals the stories of **twelve innovators** in visual art—and, in a series first, a nonprofit art center.

Now in its **ninth season**, "Art in the Twenty-First Century" is the **longest-running television series on contemporary art**, providing unprecedented access to the leading creative minds of our time. Continuing the thematic focus introduced in the last season of the series, the new season draws upon artists' relationships with the places in which they work: **Berlin**,

Germany; **Johannesburg**, South Africa; and the **San Francisco Bay Area**, California, USA.

Berlin has become a haven for artists from all over the world—a free zone where experimentation, individual expression, and international influences converge. From creating large-scale public projects to intimately personal ones, the artists in this hour demonstrate the diversity of practice and sensibilities in the German capital. The "Berlin" episode features Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg, Olafur Eliasson, Hiwa K, and Susan Philipsz.

Since the dramatic fall of apartheid in 1994, Johannesburg has emerged as the artistic capital of sub-Saharan Africa. Collectively, the artists in this hour use their work to empower marginalized communities, reexamine history, and pursue their visions for South Africa's future. The "Johannesburg" episode features **David Goldblatt**, **Nicholas Hlobo**, **Zanele Muholi**, and **Robin Rhode**.

The San Francisco Bay Area is a magnet for artists who are drawn to its experimental atmosphere, countercultural spirit, and history of innovation. The artists in this hour are united by their steadfastness and persistence in creating; their art serves as an essential expression of their experience of the world. The "San Francisco Bay Area" episode features Creative Growth Art Center, Katy Grannan, Lynn Hershman Leeson, and Stephanie Syjuco.

Season 9 of "Art in the Twenty-First Century" premieres **September 21**, **2018** on PBS.

Major support for Season 9 of "Art in the Twenty-First Century" is provided by National Endowment for the Arts, PBS, Lambent Foundation, Agnes Gund, Ford Foundation, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation, The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation, Toby Devan Lewis, Nion McEvoy, and The Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation.

About Art21

Since 1997, Art21 has been recognized as a celebrated global leader in presenting thought-provoking and sophisticated content about contemporary art. It is the go-to place to learn firsthand about some of the

most interesting working artists today—from the artists themselves—and is responsible for introducing millions of people to contemporary art and artists. Founded on the belief that artists are role models for creative and critical thinking, Art21's mission aims to inspire a more creative and tolerant world through the works and words of contemporary artists.

Art21.org provides an unparalleled year-round, always-on look at working artists, a continuous digital presence for an organization that is widely recognized for a biennial television series. The Art21 video library houses over 50 hours of original video content—over 500 videos all open and free to the public. Reaching audiences of over 5 million a month, Art21's digital initiatives continue the organization's long-standing tradition of using the power of digital media to inspire audiences worldwide through exposure to contemporary artists.

Through its education program, Art21 engages audiences in dialogue about the contemporary art and artists featured in Art21 films. Art21's educational initiatives include the Art21 Educators learning community, the production of interpretive resources, professional development workshops and lectures, and participatory programs and screening events.

To date, Art21's short form films have had over 50 film festival acceptances across the world and have been nominated for a Webby Award and won a Cine Golden Eagle.

Art21 programs are made possible through the generosity of The Anna Maria and Stephen Kellen Foundation; Agnes Gund; PBS; Lambent Foundation Fund of the Tides Foundation; the National Endowment for the Arts; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation; and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

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For a full list of Art21 supporters, please visit Art21.org.

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