



ANNUAL REPORT
2010 - 2011

262 Fairmount O.
Montréal (Québec) H2V 2G3
Canada
tel: 514 842 9686
e: info@articule.org
www.articule.org

galerie : Mer. - Jeu. 12-18h, Ven. 12-21h, Sam - Dim 12-17h
bureau : Mar. - Ven. 12-17h

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Cover:
Hésitations, Emily Hermant (detail)
Documentation : Guy L'Heureux



MANDATE

articule is an open-access artist-run centre, dedicated to the presentation of a broad range of contemporary practices. Through our various programming channels, we strive for artistic excellence, interdisciplinarity and social engagement. While special consideration is given to emerging artists, we also respect those who have already established important precedents, who continue to test the limits of aesthetic gesture, and who commit themselves to the ideals of experimentation and risk-taking. articule supports discursive and alternative activities that promote dialogue and build networks with local, national and international artists, collectives and organizations. Our open structure encourages the direct participation of an active and diverse membership on both programming and organisational levels.

ARTISTIC VISION

articule's programming aims to provoke dialogue, to foster critical thinking and to promote a diversity of practices and experiences in the artistic and social realms. Our programming is open to all disciplines, and presents exhibitions, action-, and research-based works. articule curates events, such as screenings and forums, to explore specific themes or artistic practices. Its flexible short-term programming, known as *Special Projects*, answers to the time-sensitive needs and initiatives of artists as they arise. This programming channel pays particular attention to "undisciplined" practices and projects that manifest themselves in site-specific contexts or alternative locations. articule provides critical writings as well as a program of discussions, conferences and workshops to encourage exchanges between artists and the public. Recognizing the importance of community and knowledge-sharing, the centre initiates and participates in numerous collaborative projects with other artist-run centres and community organizations. Through such engaging programming, articule offers a fertile space for creativity — benefiting both the organization and an increasingly diverse public.

WHO WE ARE

HISTORY

articule was founded in 1979 by a group of young artists looking to create a venue dedicated to the research and experimentation in the dissemination of art in all of its forms. Over the years, the participation of members in the running of the centre has remained fundamental, thereby distinguishing articule from other similar organizations. articule first opened its doors on rue de la Montagne, south of Boulevard René-Lévesque in Montreal. Since then, the centre has occupied several central sites in Montreal, prior to relocating in 2006 to a new warm and bright space with a street-level window in the Mile End, a vibrant and multicultural neighborhood. Since its inauguration, articule has sustained a marked interest towards socially engaged artistic practices, and has prioritized self-management as an organizational model.

STAFF

Programming Coordinator – Julie Tremble
Outreach Coordinator – Coco Riot
Administrative Coordinator – Esme Terry / Monique Mathieu
Technician – Christine Boudreau

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Skye Maule O'Brien
Vice-President - Didier Delfolie Noulin
Treasurer - Edwin Janzen
Secretary - Andrew Frosst
Administrator - Steve Topping
Administrator - Graham Hall
Administrator - Marie-Claire Chabauty
Ex-officio - Mara Verna

MEMBERS

The members of articule play an essential role in the organization. Those interested in becoming members are encouraged to contribute their ideas and energy by offering their time and participating in a diverse range of activities at the centre. To become an active member, an individual attends general assemblies, offers their time as a volunteer, and pays an annual fee of \$1. Active members offer their services on permanent and *ad hoc* committees, and help with general tasks at the gallery. In exchange, they enjoy the right to be voted onto the Board of Directors, acquire professional experience in artistic administration, and have the opportunity to initiate projects in the various sectors of programming. Members also benefit from access to professional workshops, as well as reductions on our publications and other multiples.

In 2010-2011, articule counted 39 active members and six committees : programming (page 6), special projects (pages 6), outreach (page 9), fundraising (page 11), web and the writers' club (page 6).

"articule blew my mind and heart over the 2010-2011 year! It was such a pleasure and honor to be part of the whole strategic planning process, and to witness amazing shifts and changes occurring within the very structure of the organization. Such changes, I think, will continue to take shape over the next few years, making articule even more exciting to be a part of, especially with regards to anti-oppression and accessibility issues! Yeah for positive transformations!"

Skye Maule O'Brien, President of the Board of Directors 2010-2011

GOVERNANCE

STRATEGIC PLANNING

articule has developed a strategic plan to guide its activities from 2011 to 2016. This plan aims principally to : assure better cohesion between the different spheres of activities at articule; increase the support of its membership; develop streams of outreach and education; and increase autonomous revenue.

VALUES OF THE ORGANIZATION

Flexibility, participatory decision making (shared leadership), engagement with-in our community and beyond, confidence in each other and collaboration.



Blue Skies, Kristi Ropeleski
Documentation: Guy L'Heureux

ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING

The 2010-2011 programming year was particularly focused on the act of communication, whether by addressing its failures or its unconscious movements. Projects and exhibitions explored coding, imagery and shared symbols through a variety of different mediums, including fibres, painting, photography, video, installation, performance and intervention.

WRITERS' CLUB

Reflective texts are drafted by articule members for each exhibition. In 2010-2011, Natalie Olanick, Edwin Janzen, Amber Berson and Graham Hall drafted texts to facilitate the general public's comprehension of the work while bringing alternative points of view to the exhibitions.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

articule organizes activities geared towards the professional development and outreach of its membership, with the aim of increasing its number of active members and enriching its general community. These activities, initially conceived to respond to the needs of our members, are always also open to the public. Activities consist of artist talks, professional workshops and the annual members' exhibition.



Whose Toes, Barry Doupé
(still from Ponytail)
Documentation : Guy L'Heureux

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010-2011

Exhibitions

Retourne-moi / Invert Me Out, Emmanuel Galland, François Lalumière
Hesitations, Emily Hermant
Blue Skies, Kristi Ropeleski
Seeing That..., Léa Jeanmougin
Condolence, Greg Staats
Je me souvenir, Membres d'article
Caught it. Got it., David di Giovanni (curator)
Possibility Spaces, Stephen Ascher (curator)
Whose Toes, Barry Doupé
Objet d'ailleurs, Brigitte Schuster
Life-Size, Marie-Michelle Deschamps, karen elaine spencer
In my neighborhood, Children from the Mile End

Performances, Interventions, Screenings

head-smashed-in buffalo jump, Mathieu Mathew Conway
Gabriela Alonso, Nelda Ramos
A Measure of War (Just watch me – and my little tank), David Khang
Explorations, Alice de Visscher
Snowball, Kim Kielhofner, Christine Boudreau
How can I tell the difference?, Alain Lefebvre
Playback Theatre, Living histories theatre ensemble
Projet Populaire, Mathieu Jacques
Life-Size, Marie-Michelle Deschamps and karen elaine spencer

Discussions

Hesitations, Emily Hermant
Blue Skies, Kristi Ropeleski and Edwin Janzen
Versus: imaginary cartographies in urban space, Franco Tiradores
Condolence, Greg Staats and Martha Langford
Whose Toes, Barry Doupé and Jessica MacCormack
Our Street, Our Art, Our Choice, Artung
Landscape, Geography and Feminism, Marie-Michelle Deschamps, karen elaine spencer and Patricia Martin

Events

Lettres / Letters, Mariane Bourcheix-Laporte and Anne-Marie Proulx
Album Launch, Pas chic chic
Wigs and Tentacles, Graham Hall
Craft-making workshop, Ximena Holuigue
Animation Workshop, Zoë Stonyk
Workshop: *Subjective cartography using stamps*, Emmanuelle Jacques

Fundraising Activities

Soupe 'n' Screen, Graham Hall
Soupe 'n' Sex, Skye Maule O'brien
Soupe 'n' Song, Marie-Desneiges Stockland
Rotation, Rotation



PUBLIC PROFILE

OUTREACH

article orients itself on three levels of outreach : local, national and international. On the local level, the centre works with a focus on diversifying its community. This year we participated in *Les Journées de la culture*, *Expozine*, *Salon de la marginalité*, and the *St-Viateur Market*. In addition we hosted workshops, launches and discussions, including the Playback Theatre Ensemble and the launch of a project by Artung: *Our Street, Our Art, Our Choice*. Through improvisation, the Ensemble Theatre Workshop reflected personal stories from an audience made up of LGBTQ, immigrants and refugees. Through interventions in public advertising spaces, the Artung collective changed ads to provide a platform for art by local artists and activists.

article works regularly with other artistic organizations, locally and nationally, in an effort to broaden the centre's presence in the Québécois and Canadian art scenes. Our programming for 2010-2011 included collaborations with Oboro, Art Matters, YYZ (Toronto, ON), and Hamilton Artists Inc. (Hamilton, ON).

article also participates in international initiatives to create partnerships and to foster and develop tools for the benefit of its members. This year, our participation in Resartists, organized by the RCAAQ, along with preparatory work for a Montréal-Brooklyn exchange, permitted us to initiate project collaborations for the years to come. Our recent international initiatives have proven fruitful, considerably increasing the number of international submissions we receive for programming each year.

PUBLIC PROFILE

On average we host over 5,000 visitors at the gallery annually and we estimate that our projects, including window exhibitions and off-site projects, are seen by over 17,000 people each year. The promotion of our events is comprised of printed material (invitations, press releases, pamphlets, Mile End Map) and electronic material (monthly newsletter, social media, website). Our website receives an average of 6,500 hits every month. Articles about our projects and exhibitions appear in a variety of newspapers (*Le Devoir*, *The Mirror*) as well as in magazines with a focus on contemporary art (*esse art+opinion*, *CV photo*, *Espace*, *Canadian Art*). In addition, our exhibitions and presentations are regularly included in university curricula. The location of our gallery, with a street-level window, gives incentive to passers-by to visit our exhibitions, regardless of whether or not they are familiar with contemporary art.



The Black Market Type & Print Shop, Joseph Del Pesco (Commissaire)
Documentation : article

FINANCE

Recognizing the importance of generating autonomous revenue, each year we organize various fundraising activities, including the Soup series as well as our annual garage sale, *Rotation, Rotation*. In order to develop this aspect of our financing, we have worked with consultant François Lachapelle to establish a strategy with a donation and sponsorship plan for future years, always staying aware of our material and human resources. This year, our efforts were concentrated principally on soliciting sponsors. In order to do this, we established a database and we have increased our visibility amongst neighboring businesses and organizations by visiting them personally and informing them of our activities. We have also pursued the production of our multiples (t-shirts, zines) inspired by our exhibitions and they continue to be distributed in Montréal, Toronto and online.



A Measure of War (Just watch me – and my little tank), David Khang
Documentation : article

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2010-2011

REVENUES

Funders _____	\$ 161,189
Autonomous Revenue _____	\$ 6,437
	\$ 167,626

EXPENSES

Artistic Programming and activities _____	\$ 41,811
Operations, Administration _____	\$ 130,599
	\$ 172,410

REVENUES OVER EXPENSES

\$ (4,784)

16000\$

estimated value of
the time accrued by our
volunteers for 2010-2011

We could not organize any of our events without the participation of numerous volunteers who contribute to the production of our activities and sit on our committees.



THANKS

article would like to thank its funders, partners, collaborators, members and volunteers for their support.

FUNDERS

Le conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec
 Le conseil des arts de Montréal
 Le conseil des arts du Canada
 La ville de Montréal

PARTNERS

Les Brasseurs RJ, Au papier Japonais, Santropol, Vova, Le Boui-Boui, Desjardins, Caisse Populaire du Mont-Royal, Peinture Miller

COLLABORATORS

Oboro, Art Matters, YYZ, Hamilton Artists Inc.,
 Le regroupement des centres d'artistes autogérés du Québec



Conseil des Arts
du Canada

Canada Council
for the Arts

CONSEIL DES ARTS
DE MONTRÉAL



Je me souvenir, Members Show

Après ce que j'ai aimé avant 40 ans, Soufïa Bensaïd

Documentation : article