

Nuit Blanche lightens night in Toronto for ninth year

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Dress Rehearsal by Tor Lukasik-Foss will be among Nuit Blanche installations on Oct. 4 in an exhibit titled Performance Anxiety. Photo Courtesy of Scotiabank Nuit Blanche

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From sunset Oct. 4 to sunrise the next day, the ninth annual overnight contemporary visual arts festival Scotiabank Nuit Blanche will exhibit over 120 art installations.

“We thought we would do the project (Nuit Blanche) just the one year, back in 2006, and we’re still here nine years later and growing in scale and duration and participation,” said Nuit Blanche spokesperson Julian Sleath.

The curator-directed exhibitions, produced by the City of Toronto, will feature 48 official projects put together by local, national and international artists. Humber students are typically among the legion of

volunteers for the event, one of many Nuit Blanche occasions mounted in cities around the world.

Exhibitions this year include *The Possibility of Everything*, *The Night Circus*, *Before Day Break* and *Performance Anxiety*.

“We’re hoping to pull off the first appearance in North America of one of the largest rainbows across the skyline of Toronto, so we’re working with a New York-based artist, Yvette Mattern, and her technical team,” said Sleath.

The *Global Rainbow*, which will appear at sunset, can be seen along the skyline of Spadina Ave. from Dundas St. W. to the CN Tower. The light installation is one of ten projects that will have an extended viewing from Oct. 5 to 13.

Another installation is *The Screaming Booth*, by Chelanie Beaudin-Quintin. It allows attendees to loudly express themselves without anyone hearing a sound.

The three screaming booths in the installation can be found at 180 and 280 Spadina St. and 290 Queen St. W. An extended viewing will be located at Nathan Phillips Square from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. the day following Nuit Blanche.

“It’s sort of different from going to a museum or an art gallery because it’s interactive. It’s a nice way to experience all different types of mediums of art,” said Emma Zaiachkowski, 21, third year film and television production student at Humber.

Along with the exhibitions, spectators will see independent projects from Toronto artists and visit cultural and educational institutions, museums and galleries.

Hart House at University of Toronto will feature the independent *All Together Now*, displaying in video projections the sound works and performances from multiple venues created by various artists.

Sara Angelucci, a Toronto-based visual artist and educator who has exhibited her photography and videos across Canada and abroad will be showcasing her piece, *The Anonymous Chorus at All Together Now*.

This video installation is based on a photograph of people with no attribution (the image’s photographer or where the image was taken could not be identified.) When a person and those close to them are no longer living their identities become lost and all that remains is a photograph. This led Angelucci to the concept of giving “voice to the voiceless.” She compiled a soundtrack of a choir to represent the group of people.

“For me what was very important was that the audience enter the space of the image and the people in the image enter the space of the audience and we come somewhere in between. So for a moment we’re alive together in the same time and place,” Angelucci said.

Nuit Blanche is also showcasing special projects created by their event sponsors and partners. The *Wild Air Vision Electro: Vehicle Art Installation* will have artists Gene Pendon and Marisa Gallemit paint and sculpt on the exterior of a Subaru Outback SUV and Legacy sedan during the duration of

the festival. The project can be viewed at Bobbie Rosenfeld Park, 280 Bremner Blvd.
