



FONDATION OPALE

- ≡ Cultural foundation
- ≡ Exhibition

## PRESS RELEASE

### INTERSTELLAR: a journey between artistic worlds

From 18 June to 12 November 2023, Fondation Opale (Lens/Crans-Montana) invites us to explore the unknown, to stretch the limits of our imagination and to discover new horizons with its new exhibition INTERSTELLAR. Curated together with artgenève, it offers a new perspective on our relationship with the galaxy through around sixty artworks by contemporary Aboriginal and international artists.

The artists encourage us to project ourselves into space and time, to envisage new realities. Their sensitivity and attention to the world enable them to offer a lucid reminder of our destiny. Their works invite us to question the meaning of our place in the universe.

Artworks in INTERSTELLAR (installations, paintings, sculptures, photographs and videos), like the successful film, invite us to view time and space in an open-minded way, and to imagine links and parallels between new and old myths.

In Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, everything on Earth is reflected in the sky. Dreaming stories, such as the Seven Sisters, relate to this connection with the universe. The sky holds a wealth of knowledge for those who can interpret and read the information it provides; much like deciphering a map or browsing through an encyclopedia. Sailors still read the stars for navigation purposes, and the sky acts as a seasonal calendar for hunting and gathering.

In response to Aboriginal artworks from the Collection Bérengère Primat, artgenève curatorial team, with a slight counterpoint effect, opens new paths: sometimes optimistic, sometimes disillusioned, sometimes funny, whimsical and often poetic.

Thus, INTERSTELLAR proves contemporary art's ability to transport us to a universe with a complex surface, where dimensions are turned upside down, densities tilted, where time freezes and our perception becomes ultra-lucid.

## THE EXHIBITION

Exhibition INTERSTELLAR, from 18 June to 12 November, 2023.

Exhibition's curators: Fondation Opale, artgenève.

Alongside the main exhibition, the Special Focus space at the art gallery of Lens presents OBJECT OF INTEREST 700 E, an artistic project led by Joel Kuennen as part of the EPFL CDH Artist in Residence 2022, Enter the Hyper-Scientific 2022 programme at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. OBJECT OF INTEREST 700 E is an architectural sculpture that combines natural, technological and conceptual elements, and questions the role that exoplanets play in the collective cultural imagination.

Art gallery open from Wednesday to Sunday, 10 am to 6 pm.

Restaurant L'Opale open from Wednesday to Saturday, 9.30 am to 11 pm, Sunday from 9.30 am to 7 pm.

## FONDATION OPALE

Established in December 2018, Fondation Opale is the sole contemporary art centre dedicated to promoting Aboriginal art in Europe. It fosters dialogue between cultures and peoples through art. The foundation is based on the Collection Bérengère Primat which counts more than 1,500 works by nearly 350 artists, constituting one of the most important collections of contemporary Aboriginal artists in private ownership.

## CONTACTS

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