



**TRANS**  
CULTURAL  
EXCHANGE

BOSTON  
FEBRUARY 25-27

**2016**

# YOUR CONNECTION TO THE WORLD

TransCultural Exchange's 2016 International Conference  
on Opportunities in the Arts: Expanding Worlds.  
[transculturalexchange.org](http://transculturalexchange.org)

Photo Credit: Florian Dombois/Design: Siyi Wang

## TransCultural Exchange's 2015 Annual Report



516 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, #30  
Boston, MA 02127  
617.464.4086  
[www.transculturalexchange.org](http://www.transculturalexchange.org)

## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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### Executive Summary

2015 was a planning year for TransCultural Exchange's 2016 *International Conference on Opportunities in the Arts: Expanding Worlds*. For the first time, TransCultural Exchange announced an open call for proposals for its Conferences' content (workshops, talks, panels, round-table discussions and *pecha kucha* sessions). The amount of strong proposals received was staggering and by late summer with the help of the intern Alex Potts, the Conference schedule, abstracts (another first), registration and bios of the record-breaking over 150 speakers were online.

In April I had the pleasure to meet various members of the Montreal art community (including representatives from Studio XX, Agence TOPO, Eastern Bloc, Oboro, Perte de Signal, Hexagram and SAT, along with Alain Thibaut, the director of Elektra and BIAN) with the aim of scoping out possibilities of the Québec Delegation taking on a major sponsorship role at the 2016 Conference, underlining the strong historical ties between Boston and Québec.

From September 4-6, the advisory board met at Akademie Schloss Solitude in Stuttgart to discuss the upcoming Conference, the desire to take these Conferences outside of TransCultural Exchange's home-base of Boston as well as outside of the US. The idea of Philadelphia, Singapore and Taipei were discussed.

By the end of the year, Conference scholarships were announced, speakers' stipends dispersed and the Conference funding and programming was in place, including an art work by Rafael Lozano-hemmer, tours of MIT's Glass Lab and Art and Architecture Program, the Harvard Art Museum's Study Room and a closing reception at Emerson College with the unveiling of a new public artwork by Mischa Kuball. With Boston University as the lead academic sponsor, meetings continued throughout the year with faculty and staff to showcase the university throughout all three Conference days.

At the same time, work continued on the website's new resource page, along with the new Conference pages to provide Conference attendees with better advance information to prepare for the upcoming Conference.

TransCultural Exchange, thus, enters 2016 looking forward to meeting many new and old friends at the 2016 *International Conference on Opportunities in the Arts*, continuing to help artists connect with their global peers and bringing people from around the world together through the power of art.

Mary Sherman  
TransCultural Exchange's Director

Lynne Allen  
Gordon Amgott

Mira Bartok  
Thaddeus Beal  
Blake Brasher  
Katherine Higgins  
Mary Sherman  
Joanne Silver  
TransCultural Exchange's Board of Trustees

Ute Meta Bauer  
Maria Hirvi-Ijas  
Marie Fol  
Jean-Baptiste Joly  
Johan Pousette  
Caitlin Strokosch  
Margaret Shiu Tan  
TransCultural Exchange's Advisory Board

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## FINANCIAL REPORT

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2015 was primarily a planning year for the 2016 *International Conference on Opportunities in the Arts* with the first expense layouts for the Conference coming due. The organization received the second of two payments from Boston University's College of Fine Arts for \$40,000 as the lead academic host of the 2016 Conference and \$7500 from Emerson College for sponsorship of the 2016 closing night reception. In addition, TransCultural Exchange received \$10,000 from Mrs. Ralph Ghormley as well as considerable contributions from Richard Lappin and Judith Rabkin, an anonymous donor and other individuals; and \$7,477 from the Boston Foundation and \$1000 from the Boston Cultural Council, among others.

As in the past, we also are very grateful for the in-kind support we receive from Edwards, Wildman, LLP, Boston College and website help from Rudi Punzo and design work from Siyi Wang. This year we also bade farewell to our social media assistant Carlee Rya and welcomed Zoe Lobdell in her place.

A summary of the year's expenses and income follows. Copies of TransCultural Exchange's 2015 tax forms are publically available on GuideStar, Common Giving and with the Massachusetts State House's Office of Public Charities.

## INCOME/EXPENSE REPORT

SUMMARY 2015

## 2015 Total Expenses

| Personnel                     | Actual          | Volunteer       | Total            |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| <b>TOTAL PERSONNEL</b>        | <b>\$45,319</b> | <b>\$34,256</b> | <b>\$79,575</b>  |
| <b>NON-PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b> |                 | <b>In-Kind</b>  |                  |
| Accounting                    | \$74            | \$7,200         | \$7,274          |
| Advertising & PR              | \$2,521         | \$0             | \$2,521          |
| Bank Fees +Conference Refunds | \$120           | \$0             | \$120            |
| Insurance                     | \$630           | \$0             | \$630            |
| Legal                         | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              |
| Meals/Entertainment           | \$1,142         | \$0             | \$1,142          |
| Office Supplies               | \$350           | \$0             | \$350            |
| Parking                       | \$222           | \$0             | \$222            |
| Telephone                     | \$1,747         | \$0             | \$1,747          |
| Refunds, Conference           | \$200           | \$0             | \$200            |
| Postage                       | \$996           | \$766           | \$1,762          |
| Printing Costs                | \$1,802         | \$0             | \$1,802          |
| Programs/Residencies          | \$44            | \$0             | \$44             |
| Space                         | \$364           | \$6,240         | \$6,604          |
| Stationery                    | \$187           | \$0             | \$187            |
| Survey & Evaluation           | \$0             | \$0             | \$0              |
| Travel                        | \$4,622         | \$16,455        | \$21,077         |
| Website                       | \$593           | \$12,600        | \$13,193         |
| <b>NON-PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b> | <b>\$15,614</b> | <b>\$43,261</b> | <b>\$8875</b>    |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>         | <b>\$60,933</b> | <b>\$78,061</b> | <b>\$138,994</b> |

## 2015 INCOME SUMMARY

| Type of Income                  | Actual           | In-Kind         | Total            |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Earned Income - Conference Fees | \$22,998         | \$0             | \$22,998         |
| Individual                      | \$20,825         | \$18,201        | \$39,026         |
| University                      | \$47,500         | \$4,800         | \$52,300         |
| Bank Interest                   | \$90             | \$0             | \$90             |
| Corporate                       | \$683            | \$0             | \$683            |
| Foundation/Non-Profit           | \$7,477          | \$12,460        | \$19,937         |
| Fundraiser (amazonsmile)        | \$25             |                 | \$25             |
| Government                      | \$1,800          | \$0             | \$1,800          |
| Volunteer                       | \$0              | \$42,600        | \$42,600         |
| <b>Total Income</b>             | <b>\$101,398</b> | <b>\$78,061</b> | <b>\$179,459</b> |
| Minus 2015 Expenses             | \$60,933         |                 |                  |
| Total 2015 Income               | \$40,465         |                 |                  |
| Add 2014 Carry-over             | \$81,972         |                 |                  |
| Total 2015 Carry-over to 2016   | \$122,437        |                 |                  |

Artists Report



Photo Credit: Kim Alemian

Through connections I made at TransCultural Exchange in 2013, I was fortunate to be invited by Karmela Berg to show my work at Galerie bij de Boeken in The Netherlands with six other artists for an exhibition called EEnt from May to July 2015. I was also invited to participate in the annual art fair Huntenkunst where I have been invited back to show in 2016. I made and exchanged art with several local artists who in turn asked us to participate in a large group show, for which I left behind a work. The exchange of ideas, visual language, and interpersonal connection was enriching.

We were housed with local families who were tremendously hospitable and generous. They opened their homes to us, giving us the keys, fed us, and arranged transportation. We enjoyed wonderful local cuisine and conversation around the dinner table. One of the artists

helped us with transportation and opened her studio for us. It was enlightening to participate in discussions about their country's history, geography, values, politics and arts.

Local newspapers wrote about the exhibition Women, and reproduced my work in a publication. We were interviewed and a video was made for a local broadcast. The Huntenkunst was opened by the US Culture Attaché, the Director, Harry Schenning, and several other important speakers. I felt honored for this extraordinary experience which could not have happened without the connections made through the TransCultural Exchange.

—Kim Alemian, 2013 TransCultural Exchange Conference 2013 attendee

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### TransCultural Exchange's Montreal (Québec)/Boston Exploratory Exchange Trip

The fact-finding trip to explore the possibility of a sponsorship with the Québec Delegation in Boston for the 2016 Conference, yielded meetings, site visits and the following recommended organizations/institutions for partnership:

#### QUEBEC (primarily) DIGITAL ART ORGANIZATIONS

Réseau Art Actuel [www.rcaaq.org](http://www.rcaaq.org)

#### MONTRÉAL

#### PRODUCTION AND EXHIBITION CENTERS

##### AGENCE TOPO

Director : Michel Lefebvre  
5455, De Gaspé Ave, #1001  
Montréal, QC H2T 3B3  
Phone: (514) 279-8676  
[direction@agencetopo.qc.ca](mailto:direction@agencetopo.qc.ca)  
[www.agencetopo.qc.ca](http://www.agencetopo.qc.ca)

Agence TOPO is a Montreal based artist-run centre for new media whose mandate is to produce, disseminate and distribute multimedia works which explore new narratives and interdisciplinary and intercultural intersections.

##### EASTERN BLOC

Director : Eliane Ellbogen  
7240 rue Clark  
Montreal, QC  
514.284.2106  
[www.easternbloc.ca](http://www.easternbloc.ca)  
[art@easternbloc.ca](mailto:art@easternbloc.ca)

Eastern Bloc is an exhibition and arts production centre dedicated to New Media and interdisciplinary art. The vision at Eastern Bloc is to explore and push the creative boundaries in digital and electronic arts, audio/video installation, multimedia performance and other emerging practices. The organization's mandate is to support the work of emerging artists by providing them with an exchange platform with more established artists, allowing them to gain access to a larger body of spectators and to a network of established art organizations and professionals in the milieu. Eastern Bloc produces the Sight & Sound Festival.

OBORO

4001, rue Berri, local 301  
Montréal (Québec) Canada H2L 4H2  
(514) 844-3250,  
[oboro@oboro.net](mailto:oboro@oboro.net)  
[www.oboro.net](http://www.oboro.net)  
Aaron Pollard: Technical Director  
Claudine Hubert : artistic director

Non-profit organization. We organise concurrent research, production, presentation, dissemination and training activities. They take the shape of residencies, work commissions, exhibitions, live performances and concerts, visual, sound and multimedia presentations, lectures and meetings, panel discussions, publications, workshops and experimental labs, online performances using information and communications technologies, as well as large-scale special events.

We also offer a wide variety of services through the New Media Lab. Amongst others, a production studio, sound studio, video+dvd/multimedia post-production facilities, multi-purpose spaces, conference and meeting rooms as well as an array of video, audio and multimedia mobile equipment.

PERTE DE SIGNAL

2244, rue Larivière  
Montréal (Québec) H2K 4P8  
[info@perte-de-signal.org](mailto:info@perte-de-signal.org)

[www.perte-de-signal.org](http://www.perte-de-signal.org)

Executive Director: Robin Dupuis

Perte de Signal is a Montreal based art centre that promotes and fosters the development of digital arts and innovative artistic uses of technology. From audio performances to video projections, and mechanical/robotics installations to public interventions, the Perte de Signal membership works in a variety of mediums while exploring a wide array of artistic and formal approaches. Above all, Perte de Signal strives to be a venue that encourages initiatives, cultivates collaborations, and supports the transmission and exchange of experiences and know-how within the greater artistic community.

LA SOCIÉTÉ DES ARTS TECHNOLOGIQUES (SAT)  
SOCIETY FOR ART AND TECHNOLOGY

1197 Saint-Laurent Boulevard  
Montréal, Québec, Canada H5B 1C2  
Tel.: (514) 844 2033 ext. 213

[www.sat.qc.ca](http://www.sat.qc.ca)

Director: Monique Savoie

[nini@sat.qc.ca](mailto:nini@sat.qc.ca)

Founded in 1996, the SAT is a non-profit organization internationally recognized for its active and leading role in the development of immersive technologies and augmented realities by the creative use of high-speed networks. The Satosphère is the first permanent immersive environment dedicated to activities surrounding artistic creation and visualization. Its dome forms a spherical 360-degree projection screen.

## EVENTS

### ELEKTRA

Marché international des arts numériques (MIAN)

Biennale internationale d'art numérique de Montréal (BIAN)

Director : Alain Thibault

ELEKTRA - ACREQ

CP 42103 B.P. Roy

Montreal (QC) Canada H2W 2T3

[info@elektramontreal.ca](mailto:info@elektramontreal.ca)

514-524-0208

[alain@elektrafestival.ca](mailto:alain@elektrafestival.ca)

[www.elektrafestival.ca](http://www.elektrafestival.ca)

Elektra unites creative media like music, video, cinema, design, gaming and audio or interactive installation with the latest digital technologies. Artists from all disciplines – composition, performance, dance, visual arts, etc. – all with a common interest in artistic applications of new technologies, uniting visual and sound. Elektra not only welcomes artists from all over the world, the festival also features local talents, helping make Montreal the North American meeting place for digital arts.

### MUTEK

Director : Alain Mongeau

C.P 855 – Desjardins Station

Montréal, Québec H5B 1B9

T. 514-871-8646

[amongeau@mutek.org](mailto:amongeau@mutek.org)

[www.mutek.org](http://www.mutek.org)

MUTEK's principal activity is the annual presentation of its namesake festival, which has taken place in Montreal since 2000. Since its first edition, the MUTEK festival has distinguished itself as an international rendezvous for original and avant-garde programming. In terms of

content, the festival's range strives to be diverse, with interests in both the experimental and the playful sides of digital creativity. MUTEK's programming intends to create a sonic space that can support innovation in new electronic music and digital art. This is a world of constant evolution and incessant refinement – the "MU" in MUTEK refers consciously to the notion of "mutation". A MUTEK network exists today, with ramifications in North America, South America, and Europe, which provides an essential platform to promote and explore wide-ranging artistic content, all the while reflecting a cultural effervescence that is both real and global.

#### LE PRINTEMPS NUMÉRIQUE (DIGITAL SPRING)

March 21 to June 21, 2014

Digital Spring is an initiative of the Montreal's association of elected officials in partnership with Montreal sixty organizations involved in the arts. The first edition will take place from mid-March to mid-June 2014. By connecting science, industry and art, it puts forward Montreal as a world center for creativity.

To mark the occasion of their respective 15th birthdays, Elektra and Mutek festivals have decided to organize a special joint edition. Called EM15, this commemorative edition will have the two events synchronize their dates, from May 27 to June 1, 2014.

<http://printempsnumerique.info/>

#### FESTIVAL TEMPS D'IMAGES

Usine C

1345, ave Lalonde

Montréal QC Canada H2L 5A9

Co-general and artistic director : Danièle De Fontenay

[daniele@usine-c.com](mailto:daniele@usine-c.com)

514 521.4198 x 240

Co-artistic director: Jasmine Catudal

[jasmine@usine-c.com](mailto:jasmine@usine-c.com)

514 521.4198 x 223

[www.usine-c.com](http://www.usine-c.com)

Theatre, multidisciplinary arts, technology festival.

#### SIGHT & SOUND Festival

Eastern Bloc

7240, rue Clark

Montreal, QC

514.284.2106

Director : Eliane Ellbogen

[www.easternbloc.ca](http://www.easternbloc.ca)

[art@easternbloc.ca](mailto:art@easternbloc.ca)

Sight & Sound is a festival of rich exchange between you and thirty some events, installations, performances, workshops, round-tables and conferences that celebrate digital art in Montreal. This year, the theme is "Science Faction." From May 20th to 25<sup>th</sup> 2014, we

will be exploring the world of science fiction – marginal legalities, mutating futures, human-machine meltdown, radical cyborgs. Can we observe the power of the imaginary on our world? Can we conceptualize and give form to these upheavals of change?

Eric Lefebvre  
Directeur du développement  
PARTENARIAT DU QUARTIER DES SPECTACLES  
1435 rue Saint-Alexandre | Bureau 500  
Montréal (Qc) Canada H3A 2G4  
T 514 879-0009 # 223 | C 514 755-5333 | F 514 879-1105  
[eric.lefebvre@quartierdesspectacles.com](mailto:eric.lefebvre@quartierdesspectacles.com)

## UNIVERSITIES

HEXAGRAM /CIAM  
Centre interuniversitaire des arts médiatiques  
<http://hexagramciam.org/>  
[coordination@hexagramCIAM.org](mailto:coordination@hexagramCIAM.org)

2013 -14 Direction Team :  
Chris Salter (Concordia), Codirector  
Gisèle Trudel (UQAM), Codirectrice

In August 2001, two Montreal Universities, Concordia University and Université du Québec à Montréal (UQÀM) created the Hexagram Institute for Research/Creation in Media Arts and Technologies in order share their knowledge and human, technological and artistic resources. In 2006, Université de Montréal (U. de M.) and McGill University joined Hexagram as associate members.

## OTHER

MOLIOR  
661 Rose-de-Lima Street  
Suite 202  
Montreal, QC H4C 2L7 Canada  
General manager and curator: Andrée Duchaine,  
CP 48068 BP Bernard  
Montréal QC H2V 4H0 Canada  
514 931-2984 ext. 223  
[andree@molior.ca](mailto:andree@molior.ca)  
[www.molior.ca](http://www.molior.ca)

Molior is an organization specialized in the production of exhibitions and artistic projects which make use of technologies as a creation, expression and action tool. Since its foundation in 2001, Molior has presented numerous innovative projects in Canada as well as

on the international scene in collaboration with multiple presenting partners. Molior also carries out various activities outside of established networks in order to stimulate audience development and foster access to high quality productions.

## QUÉBEC CITY

LES PRODUCTIONS RECTO-VERSO / LE MOIS MULTI (festival of theatre, multidisciplinary arts, technology)

650, côte d'Abraham

Québec (Québec) Canada G1R 1A1

(418) 524-7553

General director : Gaëtan Gosselin

[gaetangosselin@mmrectoverso.org](mailto:gaetangosselin@mmrectoverso.org)

Artistic director of Mois Multi festival: Viviane Paradis

[viviane.paradis@mmrectoverso.org](mailto:viviane.paradis@mmrectoverso.org)

[www.mmrectoverso.org](http://www.mmrectoverso.org)

Recto-Verso's mission is to support and promote research, creation and dissemination of multidisciplinary art. The emphasis for nearly twenty-five years has been to combine risk and artistic complexity, Recto-Verso develops, produces and distributes works merging languages, materials, techniques, forms and artistic processes of any kind. Recto-Verso produces the MOIS MULTI, a month-long festival of multidisciplinary and digital art.

AVATAR

541, rue de Saint-Vallier Est

Bureau 562

Québec (Québec) Canada G1K 3P9

418.522.8918

[avatar@avatarquebec.org](mailto:avatar@avatarquebec.org)

[www.avatarquebec.org](http://www.avatarquebec.org)

Executive Director and Production director: Mériol Lehmann

[production@avatarquebec.org](mailto:production@avatarquebec.org)

Avatar is an artist-run centre specialized in researching, creating, disseminating, publishing, and distributing audio and electronic art. The centre is a non-profit organization and, in its 20 years of existence, has initiated activities to promote production, discussion, and collaboration among professional artists at every level through local, national, and international networks. Its facilities are located in Quebec City inside the Coopérative Méduse building and include research and recording studios, a multi-purpose room, a computer laboratory, and an electronics lab containing cutting-edge audio and electronic equipment. Avatar is offering a public listening centre since the summer of 2012.

## SHERBROOKE

SPOROBOLÉ

74 rue Albert

Sherbrooke, (Québec) J1H 1M9 CANADA  
819 821 2326  
Administrative Coordinator: Éric Desmarais  
direction@sporobole.org

Sporobole is a not for profit production and exhibition contemporary art center. Among the various services: audio-video lab, 2D and 3D printing lab, audio visual equipment rental.

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## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

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### Talks

"TransCultural Exchange," Cultural Mobility Symposium, CUNY, NYC, NY  
"TransCultural Exchange: The Importance of Data," NTU Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore  
"TransCultural Exchange," The Kansai International Symposium, Kansai, Japan  
"Artist Opportunities: TransCultural Exchange," Crafton Hills College, Redwood, CA

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## PRESS

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[art&education](#), "International Conference on Opportunities in the Arts: "Expanding Worlds," 2015.

[Artsake Blog](#), "TransCultural Exchange 2016," December 22, 2015.

[Boston City Paper](#), "International Artists, Powerful Results," December 5, 2015, by Celina Colby.

[Creative Futures Blog](#), "International Conference on Opportunities in the Arts: February 25-27, 2016 in Boston," November 19, 2015, by Catherine Tutter.

[International Federation of Arts Councils and Culture Agencies](#), "2016 International Conference on Opportunities in the Arts: Expanding Worlds," February 2015.

[Peeppol Network](#), "Call of Papers, Workshops. ..," 2015.

[TransArtists](#), "Discount Early Registration.." December 2015