

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **THE 2016 JUST FOR LAUGHS INTERNATIONAL VISUAL ARTS CONTEST WILL FEATURE SATIRE**

***Call for submissions for visual artists who have until May 31 to submit their work***

Montreal – April 14, 2016 – The call for submissions is launched for professional visual artists who have until May 31<sup>st</sup> to submit their applications for the Just for Laughs International Visual Arts Contest that will unroll this year under the theme of satire.

As part of the street arts programming of the 34<sup>th</sup> edition of the Just for Laughs Festival presented by Vidéotron in collaboration with Loto-Québec, taking place from July 16-31<sup>st</sup> 2016, the exhibition of the finalists selected by the Jury among participants from around the world will be presented in two ephemeral galleries installed for the occasion in the heart of Montreal's Quartier des spectacles.

For more details along with the complete regulations and the entry form visit the website [www.ciavivac.com](http://www.ciavivac.com)

### ***New this year***

With the objective of allowing a larger range of artistic expression, no dimensional restrictions are imposed for the artworks submitted. Professional visual artists can submit one or more creations, either new or existing. Moreover, two distinct awards will be given: one for “contemporary art”, the other for “illustration and caricature”.

### ***Satire to be featured***

After the Funny Story in 2001, the Joke in 2002, Irony in 2003, Parody in 2004, Cynicism in 2013, Farce in 2014 and Dark Humour in 2015, another one of the themes from the “Twelve Universes of Humour” is assigned to be explored this year: Satire. “Satire is clearly aggressive and biting. The style becomes highly corrosive to strip away social polish. Deviant behaviour and certain breaches to social values are the favorite targets of satire. With it, humour becomes righter of wrongs.” – definition from the Just for Laughs Museum’s exhibit “Twelve Universes of Humour” (1993).

### ***History of the Contest***

In 2013, after a ten-year absence, the Contest achieved a massive comeback with its first international edition produced by URBANA Marketing, under the artistic direction of MARC-Marinescu Constantin. Since then, nearly a thousand artists' records from more than fifty countries were received and evaluated by a multidisciplinary jury. Nearly 120 visual artists from forty countries exhibited their works, which have been enjoyed by over 1.5 million spectators each year. Over the years, many pioneers in their field have served on the Jury:

Dinu Bumbaru – Policy Director, Heritage Montreal

François Blanchard – Creative Director, Just for Laughs

François Forget – VP Strategy and partner, Sid Lee

Gilbert Rozon – President and founder, Groupe Juste pour rire

Herby Moreau – Journalist and TV host

Jean Grondin – Philosopher and Professor, University of Montreal

Jean-François Bélisle – Executive Director, Arsenal Montreal + Toronto

Jean Pierre Desrosiers – Partner and strategic advisor, Fasken Martineau

Johanne Fontaine – Actress, author and coach

MARC-Marinescu Constantin – Cultural goods designer and creator of the Victor Trophy

Michel Dallaire – Designer

Pierre Duchaine – VP Business development, Groupe Corlab

Rémi Bédard – President, Encadrex

René Villemure – Ethicist

The composition of the 2016 Jury will be announced shortly.

### ***Out-of-contest exhibition***

An out-of-contest exhibition, also on the theme of satire, will be presented free of charge in the Espace culturel Georges-Émile-Lapalme of Montreal's Place des Arts, in collaboration with the McCord Museum.

## **INFORMATION**

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