



Cultures du témoignage | Testimonial Cultures

NEWSLETTER | no.23, April 2018

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TOPIC OF INTEREST TO SUGGEST? **Contact us at :** [info@culturesdutemoignage.ca](mailto:info@culturesdutemoignage.ca)

### Témoigner pour Agir



The Témoigner pour Agir exhibition closed on January 21, 2017. If you want to have at some of the exhibition's traces, check out our website for [video clips](#) that explore the publics' impressions, as well as the [exhibition catalogue](#) which includes exclusive testimonials from the artists and the cocurators.

We are happy to announce that our team has begun a research project on the reception of the show.



### General Assembly

The Testimonial Cultures research team's Annual General Assembly will be held at 1:30pm on June 18, at UQAM (DS-1950). This year, the agenda will cover taking stock of lessons learned in doing the Témoigner pour Agir exhibition, as well as identifying the next action-based research project to undertake.

We look forward to seeing you all in June!

To RSVP contact Laura Gagnon ([info@culturesdutemoignage.ca](mailto:info@culturesdutemoignage.ca)).

### Upcoming conferences



AIDS 2018

#### AIDS 2018

Several members of the team are looking forward to attending the 22nd International AIDS Conference, taking place from July 23 - 27, 2018, in Amsterdam.

Let's keep our fingers crossed that all abstracts submitted are accepted!



8<sup>e</sup> Congrès International  
des Recherches Féministes  
dans la Francophonie  
27-31.08.2018 #CIRFF2018

#### Congrès International des Recherches Féministes dans la Francophonie

Among the many events not to be missed during the 8th international francophone feminist research conference, in Paris from August 27th to the 31st, watch out for :

**Maria Nengeh Mensah's** paper will address Sarah Ahmed's notion of feminist killjoys and how it played out in the Témoigner pour Agir exhibition. This presentation is part of a session called «

Pratiques mémorielles des dominé.e.s », in which Janik Bastien Charlebois will also be involved.

**Julie Lavigne** and Isabelle Boisclair are coorganising a session on sexual utopia in the arts, literature and media. She will also present a paper entitled « Utopie féministe et queer : le travail pornographique de Courtney Trouble ».

## News from our Partners

### Stella

#### March 3rd: The History of the International Sex Workers' Day

This historic day dates back to 2001, when over 25,000 sex workers gathered for a festival in India despite pushback from an anti-sexwork group that tried to prohibit them from entering the festival by pressuring the government to remove their license. This event was organized by the committee called Durbar Mahila Samanwaya (DMSC), a Calcutta-based organisation that has over 50 000 members including sex workers and other members of the community. Ever since that day, sex workers from all around the world celebrate International Sex Workers Day, every March 3rd.



### Annual General Assembly

Don't miss Stella's Annual General Assembly, on June 20th, 2018 at 17h30, at Centre St-Pierre.

### GRIS-Montréal

#### GRIS-Simple Plan Foundation Prize: applications accepted until June 30th.

The GRIS-Simple Plan Foundation Prize is an initiative by GRIS-Montréal and GRIS-Québec, supported by the band Simple Plan, that recognises original projects that counter homophobia. Applications are accepted until June 30th 2018: [click here](#) for more information.



You can also see the photos of the 2017 winners of the GRIS-Simple Plan Foundation, the students of [Mont-Royal secondary school](#) .

### COCQ-SIDA

#### The 'Je suis séropo' community welcomes a new member : Daniel-Claude Gendron

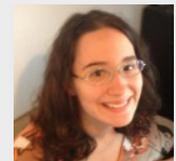
Someone living with HIV has newly joined Je suis séropo project: Daniel-Claude Gendron is an artist and a self-taught cartoonist who has been involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS for the last fifteen years.



In a short clip, he recounts how he recovered from an episode of depression. Moreover, he shows how accepting differences transforms them into strengths. His testimonial is a celebration of creativity, community engagement and life. He is an undeniable proof that we should never exclude HIV-positive people. We highly recommend that you [check out his story](#) , and share it with friends!

## Featured Testimonial : Marie, asexual

In her testimonial, Marie explains that she has always been asexual, but her way of living as someone who is asexual has changed over time. She describes the challenges of being asexual in a society that she describes as 'hypersexualized.' She brings these ideas together in discussing her relationship with someone who is also asexual.



[Discover this new featured testimonial.](#)

## In Brief

The two works by Richard Sawdon Smith that were exhibited in the Témoigner pour Agir show, *Dialogue (Eating the Red Ribbon)* and *The Anatomical Man*, were exhibition copies that Richard generously permitted us to print for the exhibition. Usually non-edition prints are destroyed after an exhibition. However, Richard donated *Dialogue (eating the red ribbon)* to **ArtSida8** . Last we heard, that work was sold at the auction. As for *The Anatomical Man*, Richard also has given us permission to try to find a home for the work in a public collection here in Montréal.



## Team News

It is with great brilliance that **Laurence Gagnon** coordinated the exhibition project. Now that *Témoigner pour Agir* is over, she will devote her time to her final internship to complete her Bachelor degree in Social Work. Good luck in all your future projects!

**Jamie Goodyear** is continuing his PhD project on the exhibition development. Materials collected as part of his autoethnographic study include, personal notes, documentation from the exhibition, as well as interviews with key stakeholders. During the Winter term, he presented his project three times: at "*Témoigner pour Agir: Emerging Perspectives in Research*", at the third "*Colloque étudiant sur la recherche partenariale*", and at "*Savoir les marges: la recherche-cr ation en contextes de marginalit s*".

**Laura Gagnon** and **Laurie Fournier** continue their work with Testimonial Cultures, and will assist the coordination of the research group's activities over the Summer.

## Testimonial Cultures

### *Community Voices, Theories and Methodological Approaches to Public Testimonials in Qu bec*

#### Partners

Coalition des organismes communautaires qu b cois de lutte contre le sida (COCQ-SIDA)Groupe de recherche et d'intervention sociale (GRIS-MONTREAL)Stella, l'amie de MaimieCentre d'histoire orale et de r cits num ris s de l'Universit  ConcordiaInstitut de recherches et d' tudes f ministes de l'UQAMAide aux Trans du Qu bec

#### Research team

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*This project is made possible through financial support from the FQRSC - Fonds de recherche du Qu bec Soci t  et culture*