

Participating artists in *Séance: Technology of the Spirit*

Seoul Mediacity Biennale



Design: nonplace studio. Courtesy of the Seoul Museum of Art.

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Séance: Technology of the Spirit

Seoul Mediacity Biennale 2025
August 26–November 23, 2025

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Seoul Museum of Art announces that 49 artists and collectives will participate in the 2025 edition of the Biennale, titled *Séance: Technology of the Spirit*.

Opening on August 26, this 13th edition of Seoul Mediacity Biennale will bring together work that speaks to our historical moment by artists from the mid-nineteenth century through to the present day. Curated by Anton Vidokle, Hallie Ayres, and Lukas Brasiskis, *Séance: Technology of the Spirit* is a thematic exhibition focusing on the influence of mystical and spiritual experience on the development of modern and contemporary art.

Starting with the revolutionary practice of artists-mediums such as Georgiana Houghton, Hilma af Klint, Onisaburo Deguchi, and Emma Kunz, the Biennale will spiral out to encompass the influence of shamanism on Nam June Paik and Joseph Beuys, transcendental experience in the early experimental films of Maya Deren and Jordan Belson, and on to the work of contemporary artists engaged with the diverse traditions and thematics of the occult, enchantment, and magic.

The curators state that “we sought to create an exhibition in the form of a séance as the word is used in the context of spiritualism, cinema, and psychoanalysis. That is to say, an encounter that exceeds our everyday perception of the world and reveals aspects of reality that are often hidden from our conscious experience. It’s very significant that many artists have in recent years gravitated towards ways of understanding the world that might offer an alternative to the prevailing systems, which seem at present to be in crisis. This show offers an opportunity to trace that lineage historically, and to understand these attempts as emancipatory and reparative. We are deeply honored to be working with a group of such gifted artists on this unusual project.”

Expanding on Seoul Mediacity Biennale’s history of challenging existing methodologies and nurturing new forms, *Séance: Technology of the Spirit* will take place at venues across the city, feature several new commissions, and present extensive film and sound programs.

Séance: Technology of the Spirit, the 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale, will be on view to the public at Seoul Museum of Art from August 26 to November 23, 2025. A press and professional preview day will take place on August 25.

As an initiative of the Seoul Metropolitan Government since 2000, Seoul Mediacity Biennale has earned international recognition for its experimental engagement with contemporaneous changes within the media landscape of the city, redefining what media is and can be over the course of its previous twelve editions. These conceptual approaches were first explored in the Biennale’s precursor exhibition framework, SEOUL in MEDIA, held three times between 1996 and 1999.

Further details of the 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale will be announced in the coming months through the SMB’s website.

Complete list of artists

Aki Onda, Amit Dutta, Angela Su, Anocha Suwichakornpong, Anri Sala, Byungjun Kwon, Colectivo Los Ingrávidos, Corita Kent, Emma Kunz, Ernest A. Bryant III, Georgiana Houghton, Guadalupe Maravilla, Haroon Mirza, Hilma af Klint, Hiwa K, Hsu Chia-Wei, Hyung-Min Yoon, I Ching Systems and Artworks,

Jane Jin Kaisen, Joachim Koester, Johanna Hedva, Jordan Belson, Joseph Beuys, Kara Ditte Hansen, Karrabing Film Collective, Kivu Ruhorahoza and Christian Nyampeta, Kray Chen, Laura Huertas Millán, Lucile Olympe Haute, Manuel Mathieu, Maya Deren, Mike Kelley, Minjeong An, Mohamed Gaber, Nam June Paik, Onisaburo Deguchi, ORTA (Alexandra Morozova and Rustem Begenov), Rafael Queneditt Morales, Rudolf Steiner, Seung-taek Lee, Shana Moulton, Sky Hopinka, Suzanne Treister, Takamine Go, Tamar Guimarães and Kasper Akhøj, Violette Astier, Wing Po So, Yin-Ju Chen, Zai Nomura



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