

Haiti. Two Centuries of Artistic Creation.

During a series of special events, L'Artocarpe's artistic director, Regine Cuzin, will discuss her most recent exhibition at the Grand Palais in Paris.

Regine Cuzin

Artistic director of L'Artocarpe, independent curator and contemporary art advisor, Regine Cuzin is an expert in contemporary Caribbean, African and over-seas art. During her career she has discovered and supported nearly a hundred artists of diverse nationalities in order to showcase and promote their works in artistic institutions, both in France and around the world. Through the catalogues and publications associated with her exhibitions, her work has influenced subsequent generations of curators and art professionals, and her dynamic and current approach has a real influence on the contemporary art market. Central to this approach, Regine Cuzin has always invested time and care in order to understand the artist's creative process, often visiting sites of creation across the world, including artists workshops, residencies and art schools. Her aim is to follow the course of promising artists over a period of several years, in order to encourage exposure in instances when they may otherwise be neglected.

Her latest exhibition at the Grand Palais in Paris, entitled 'Haiti', is currently open between November 9th 2014 and the 15th of February 2015. This important exhibition showcases over 100 works by Haitian artists from the 19th Century to today, and takes a rhizomic approach to contemporary Haitian art, also including examples from the United States, Finland, Germany and France. The exhibition intends to subject both major and unpublished works to a discourse which challenges traditional stereotypes often associated with Haitian art, particularly in association with the voodoo, artistic naivety and the 'Saint-Soleil'. Contemporary works (some of which have been created especially for the exhibition) are brought into dialogue with older pieces through a series of sub-topics: spirits, chiefs, untitled, landscape, and artists in conversation.

From her base in Paris, Regine Cuzin has been the Artistic Director of L'Artocarpe since January 2014, and has been deeply invested in her role from the very beginning. In one year we have already seen concrete results from her direction, and in refining the focus of L'Artocarpe, her appointment lends the organisation a new credibility in professional contexts and with established artists who wish to join the platform.

2015 has got off to a great start for L'Artocarpe. With the help of Regine Cuzin, the Guadeloupian artist Henri Tauliaut (based in Martinique) was chosen by the selection committee of Havana Biennale (Cuba) to represent Guadeloupe in the next edition, which will take place in May of this year. Meanwhile another L'Artocarpe member, Samuel Gelas, is currently in residence in Paris at the Cite Internationale des Arts, thanks again to Regine Cuzin.

Regine Cuzin in Guadeloupe – January 2015

During her time in Guadeloupe in January 2015, Regine Cuzin will be meeting with various official partners, students and the public in order to discuss her work in contemporary art. Her schedule includes:

- **Basse-Terre** - a presentation on the exhibition 'Haiti', with the students of Lycee Gerville-Reache, to mark the 5th anniversary of the 2010 Haitian earthquake.
- **Abymes (Espace Regional du Raziet), Friday 30th January 2015. 18.00.** Presentation on the exhibition 'Haiti'. Open to the public – Free.
- **Le Moule, Saturday 31st of January 2015. 13h00 – 15h00.** On reservation: a lunch with Regine Cuzin to raise funds for a trip to the Havana Biennale (Cuba) for six members of L'Artocarpe. Obligatory reservation before the 25th of January 2015 through artocarpe@gmail.com or 0590 23 32 45. 50€ (free for members of L'Artocarpe).

A day in Le Moule with Regine Cuzin!

Artistic Director of L'Artocarpe

Saturday 31st January 2015, 10h00 – 13h00. Le Moule Mediatheque.

L'Artocarpe's annual general assembly with the presence of Artistic Director Regine Cuzin. Reserved for members and new members of L'Artocarpe, as well as officials of associated public bodies.

Saturday 31st of January 2015, 13h00-15h00 (place announced on reservation)

L'Artocarpe invites you to lunch in the company of Regine Cuzin.

Money raised by the meal will go towards funding a trip to the Havana Biennale (Cuba) for six members of L'Artocarpe, in May 2015. A biennale is a major meeting of professionals in contemporary art. This trip will enable us to accompany our colleague Henri Tauliaut, who will be representing Guadeloupe at the Biennale. The members will serve as assistants – allowing the artist to benefit from extra help and accomplish the successful instillation of his project.

50€/free for members of L'Artocarpe.

Obligatory reservation for everyone before the 25th of January 2015 on artocarpe@gmail.com or 0590 23 32 45.

Saturday 31st of January 2015, 16h00 – 17h00. Le Moule Mediatheque.

Visit Florence Poirier NKpa's exhibition with the artist herself.

The exhibition will take place in various sites around Le Moule, with the artist's tour starting from the Mediatheque at 16h00, also accompanied by Regine Cuzin. This exhibition continues the work undertaken by the artist and member of L'Artocarpe, Florence Poirier NKpa, during her residence at L'Artocarpe in September 2014. The exhibition takes place as part of the event 'Le Moule en Heritage'.

We look forward to seeing you!

(Translation: Leah Gouget-Levy)