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UNIVERSITÉ CONCORDIA
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ELLENGALLERY.CONCORDIA.CA

A STAGE FOR REBELLION

Wingston González, Clara Ianni, Onyeka Igwe, Amol K Patil, Bouchra Khalili, Naufus Ramírez-Figueroa, The Living and the Dead Ensemble, and Ashes Withyman

NOVEMBER 18, 2023 – JANUARY 27, 2024

Curator: Julia Eilers Smith

Opening

Saturday November 18th, 2023, 3 PM – 5 PM

[A Stage for Rebellion](#) is accompanied by a series of public events addressing issues raised in the exhibition. For more information on the exhibition and our calendar of activities, visit our website and follow us on social media.

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Promotional images: [A Stage for Rebellion](#)

GALLERY HOURS

We are open from noon to 6 pm from Tuesday to Friday and noon to 5 pm on Saturdays.

ACTIVITIES

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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MONTREAL, QC, November 15th, 2023 — *A Stage for Rebellion* brings together contemporary artists who look back on the grassroots and radical theatre traditions of the twentieth century that served revolutionary struggles. By echoing their political demands and revisiting plays and actions that have faded from history, the artists draw into the present the emancipatory project of these theatre movements, examining it in the face of the political issues of our time.

This exhibition brings to light a range of groups and instances of protest theatre, from the militant performances of São Paulo's Arena to traveling medieval troupes as precursors to contemporary radical street theatre. We also find the Arab Workers Movement's agitprop in France, a university theatre group during the civil war in Guatemala, theatre serving anticolonial movements in the UK and working-class resistance in India, and, finally, an artists' collective in Port-au-Prince taking hold of theatre to amplify their cries of revolt. Not simply performing or representing rebellion, these different movements instead inscribed their struggles into reality at the very moment that it took shape.

To resurrect these dissident voices from the past, the artists in *A Stage for Rebellion* meet with protagonists of the time, exhume archives when they exist, visit the places where their ideas and actions were born, or fill in—through rewriting and imagination—the gaps in official history, time, and memories. The works presented in this exhibition also renew the poetic and subversive scope of political theatre, reactivating methods of resistance, protest, and consciousness-raising to rethink today's collective struggles.

[Curator and artists bios here](#)

Image: Bouchra Khalili, *The Tempest Society*, 2017. Digital video, color, sound, 58 min. 54 sec. Courtesy of the artist and mor charpentier © Bouchra Khalili.