The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University (MSU Broad) is pleased to announce the launch of its new yearlong video program, titled *When the Land Speaks*. The series features videos by artists who explore changing, often fractured landscapes as spaces that speak of conflict. Addressing topical issues such as resource extraction, sustainability, land rights, displacement, and dispossession, the featured artists approach language as a form not limited to verbal communication. Instead, enunciation takes place in and through territory: in the sounds and forms of water, in the rumbles and cracks of the earth, in ancestral rituals and practices derived from the landscape.

Land and language have always been interconnected, each helping to define the other, but in our present day, there is a growing disconnect between much of human society and any sense of rootedness or care for the land that supports us. Confronting these realities, the artists in this series draw attention to the power of the landscape to express itself and communicate with us, and reflect on how our eroding connection to the land may also represent a fading understanding of ourselves.

The perspectives provided by the artists in this series do not conform to any one cultural, social, or political vantage point, and instead have been selected based on the heterogeneous views and representations their works embody. As such, the program is international in its collective voice and draws connections between larger global issues and those germane to the museum’s immediate context in the State of Michigan—where land use and rights, access to clean water, and the protection of natural resources are major concerns.

By weaving together the different artists, artworks, and voices in *When the Land Speaks*, the MSU Broad hopes to draw attention to these important issues and provide opportunities for engagement with local and international audiences. As part of the university structure, the program will also serve faculty and students through class visits and other programmatic initiatives designed to further explore the pluralistic nature of artworks and ideas.

*When the Land Speaks* is organized by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University and curated by Carla Acevedo-Yates and Steven L. Bridges, Associate Curators. Support for this exhibition is provided by the Alan and Rebecca Ross endowed exhibitions fund.

**Program Schedule:**

**May 1, 2018 - June 3, 2018**


**June 5, 2018 - July 1, 2018**
Donna Conlon and Jonathan Harker, *The Voice Adrift*, 2017

**July 3, 2018 - July 29, 2018**
Clarissa Tossin, *Brasilia Teimosa*, 2014

**July 31, 2018 - September 2, 2018**
Jonathas de Andrade, *O Peixe*, 2016

**September 4, 2018 - September 30, 2018**
Deborah Jack, *The value of water*, 2017

**October 2, 2018 - November 4, 2018**

**November 6, 2018 - December 2, 2018**

**December 4, 2018 - December 30, 2018**
Nicolás Gulotta, *Many People, One Lake*, 2014

**January 1, 2019 - February 3, 2019**
Ursula Biemann, *Subatlantic*, 2015

**February 5, 2019 - March 3, 2019**
Dara Friedman, *Well of Ancient Mysteries*, 2014

**March 5, 2019 - March 31, 2019**

**April 2, 2019 - April 28, 2019**

**MSU Broad** opened on November 10, 2012 on the Michigan State University campus. The dynamic 46,000-square-foot museum serves as a gateway between the campus and the world, providing a habitat for various community and operating as a lab for the museum of tomorrow, where develop new ideas are developed about museums, exhibitions, and art in a changing world. MSU Broad believes in the idea of the museum as open-source software: Constantly evolving and improving. Collaboratively developed. Flexible and interdisciplinary. Freely shared. A tool-kit for reinventing not just the museum, but our individual and collective identities.

**For more information, please contact:**
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