



EVERY OBJECT HAS A STORY:  
ART, RESEARCH AND THE REINVENTION OF THINGS

Max and Iris Stern International Symposium 9

Friday, Saturday, March 27-28, 2015

March 27: 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
March 28: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### RAYMOND BOISJOLY

Artist, lives and works in Vancouver,  
British Columbia.

### VINCENT BONIN

Author and independent curator,  
lives and works in Montréal, Québec.

### JASON DODGE

Artist, lives and works in Berlin, Germany.

### REBECCA DUCLOS

Graduate Dean and Professor of Visual  
and Critical Studies at the School of  
the Art Institute of Chicago.

### LUANNE MARTINEAU

Artist, lives and works in Montréal, Québec.

### DIETER ROELSTRAETE

Manilow Senior Curator at the Museum of  
Contemporary Art Chicago and a member  
of the curatorial team organizing Documenta 14.

### SIMON STARLING

Artist, lives and works in Copenhagen,  
Denmark.

In English and French. Simultaneous  
translation service will be available.

# EVERY OBJECT HAS A STORY: ART, RESEARCH AND THE REINVENTION OF THINGS

## Max and Iris Stern International Symposium 9

Titled *Every Object Has a Story: Art, Research and the Reinvention of Things*, this year's Max and Iris Stern International Symposium gathers artists, curators and scholars to investigate the myriad ways research manifests itself in the visual arts. Questions such as the ethnographic or archaeological turn in contemporary art, the archive and re-enactment have been the subject of many exhibitions and lectures, and it is widely acknowledged that research is considered part of the artistic process, that art is a form of knowledge. The aim of this symposium is to give voice to practitioners who explore the poetic, aesthetic, conceptual, even comical ways research manifests itself in their work. It will focus on the material object, on how the object embodies and transmits knowledge, on the synthesis of ideas and knowledge, and on how these are articulated in works of art. The notion of *material thinking*, of how ideas are turned into artworks, and the processes of transformation from idea to object are at the heart of this symposium.

The conference is planned to tie in with the exhibition *Simon Starling: Metamorphology*, which functions as a springing off point for presentations by artists and curators who employ research as an essential component of their practice. Drawing on what curator Dieter Roelstraete describes as Simon Starling's belief in the transformative potential of art, it will explore how history and the history of art, economics and geopolitics, craft and the question of making, poetry and the power of the visual are accessed in making and thinking about the work of art.

"The nature of art practice as research is that it is a creative and critical process that accepts that knowledge and understanding continually change, methods are flexible, and outcomes are often unanticipated, yet possibilities are opened up for revealing what we don't know as a means to challenge what we do know." (Graeme Sullivan, *Art Practices as Research*).

*Simon Starling: Metamorphology* is organized by the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. Support is provided by the Harris Family Foundation. Additional support is provided by the Chauncey and Marion Deering McCormick Family Foundation, Helyn Goldenberg and Michael Alper, Max Mara, Francesco Dalla Rovere and the Danielson Foundation. The artist's galleries have also provided support to present the exhibition as well as for the development of new work: neugerriemschneider, Berlin; Galleria Franco Noero, Turin; The Modern Institute, Glasgow; and Casey Kaplan, New York.

The Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal expresses its warmest thanks to the British Council for its support.

MaxMara



Since 2006, the prestigious international symposiums held by the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal have been named the Max and Iris Stern International Symposium. From the time the Musée was founded in 1964, Max and Iris Stern contributed significantly to its growth by enriching the Collection with many gifts, including works by Hans Arp, Paul-Émile Borduas, Emily Carr, John Lyman and Jean Paul Riopelle. The goal of this annual event is to make the latest research of today's leading thinkers accessible to the public. These scholars work in a variety of fields, such as art history, aesthetics, sociology and literature. Through this commitment, the Musée wishes to foster a greater understanding of contemporary art and pay tribute to Max and Iris Stern by carrying on their vision on the international scene.

### INFORMATION

[www.macm.org/stern](http://www.macm.org/stern)

### COST

\$20

\$10 students, MACarte holders  
(tax included)

Space is limited. Advance registration is strongly recommended.

To receive full details on symposiums and lectures at the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, simply add your name to the mailing list for the Musée's e-newsletter, at [www.macm.org](http://www.macm.org).

Simon Starling, *The Long Ton*, 2009  
Chinese marble block, CNC milled Carrara marble block, pulley system, clamps, rope and shackles  
Two parts, approximately: 90 × 120 × 50 cm,  
59 × 74 × 31 cm  
Installed dimensions variable  
Courtesy the artist and neugerriemschneider, Berlin  
Installation view, MCA Chicago, 2014  
Photo: Nathan Keay, © MCA Chicago