



**Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival is pleased to award  
Nadia Belerique with the BMW Exhibition Prize**

The BMW Prize of \$5,000 acknowledges an outstanding exhibition in CONTACT 2014. Toronto artist Nadia Belerique was presented with the award for *Have You Seen This Man* at Daniel Faria Gallery, during the BMW Prize Gala on Thursday May 29 at the Museum of Contemporary Canadian Art.

The jury - Jeremy Laing, designer and artist, and Gabrielle Moser, independent curator and art critic - considered both Featured and Open exhibitions and based their decision on the caliber and concept of the work, the curatorial vision, and the overall impact and presentation of the exhibition.

In *Have You Seen This Man*, Nadia Belerique continues her investigation into the mood of space and the methods by which to occupy it physically and psychologically. Borrowing from narrative structures such as poetry, prose, and news headlines, and culling from diverse technological aesthetics, Belerique draws the viewer into an installation that subtly seeks prolonged observation. Belerique received her MFA from the University of Guelph, is a board member at G Gallery, and has recently exhibited at such venues as Narwhal, XPACE, The Drake Hotel, and Diaz Contemporary in Toronto. The exhibition is on view until June 7.

“We are thrilled that Nadia has been awarded the BMW Exhibition Prize for her Scotiabank Contact Photography exhibition. Her work pushes the boundaries of what we traditionally think of as photography, by working with mediums not typical to the photographic process including rephotography, scanning, and sculpture as well as her utilization of materials like carpet and rolled steel. This award acknowledges the strength of her intelligent, curious and playful, practice,” says director Daniel Faria.

“Nadia Belerique's show at Daniel Faria Gallery is exciting and contemporary in its approach to the medium of photography, its methods and materiality, while also highly considered in its arrangement within the site”, says Jeremy Laing and Gabrielle Moser. “Her engagement with issues of identity and presentation—themes of this year's festival—dealt most successfully with the greyer areas of the Self, shadowed and

silhouetted by context, constructed in opacities and revealed in fleeting impressions. All this left us excited to see how Nadia's work will develop, and where it will take her.”

"BMW Canada takes pride in giving back to the community", says Kevin Marcotte, BMW Canada's Director of Marketing. "CONTACT's commitment to feature the work of established and aspiring photographers from Canada and around the world is well aligned with BMW's commitment to design and aesthetics. Through the BMW Exhibition Prize, we are able to recognize and celebrate a high-performer for a notable contribution to the art of photography. We are pleased to congratulate Nadia on her exhibition."

**About Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival**

CONTACT fosters and celebrates the art and profession of photography with an annual festival in May and year-round programming in the CONTACT Gallery.

CONTACT, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1997 and granted charitable status in 2011, is generously supported by Scotiabank, Nikon Canada, BMW Group Canada, La Fondation Emmanuelle Gattuso, Torys LLP, Ernst & Young LLP, Pattison Outdoor Advertising, Vistek, Grolsch Premium Lager, Stratus Vineyards, Transcontinental PLM, 3M Canada, Four By Eight Signs, Beyond Digital Imaging, Giant Container Services, Toronto Image Works, The Gilder, Hotel Le Germain, The Gladstone Hotel, The Globe and Mail, and The Grid.

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