

***Press release
For immediate distribution***

TOTEMS

Gare de Matapedia welcomes Listuguj artist Duane Isaac for a residency and a presentation

Friday, July 18, 2025 - La Gare de Matapedia - artistic and community pole, is pleased to invite the public to a presentation by artist Duane Isaac **on Saturday, July 26, starting from 11 am**. In residence at Gare de Matapedia for 2 weeks, from July 14 to 27, the artist will draw inspiration from the site to develop a new body of work, and present his most recent creations over brunch.

- These encounters are convivial and privileged moments between the public and the artists
- The event, presented in English, is free and open to all
- Drinks and buffet by Brett Metallic on voluntary contribution

ABOUT DUANE ISAAC

Through an artistic practice akin to sculpture, Listuguj artist Duane Isaac creates imaginary masks that are both playful and mystical. Sometimes integrated into photographic portraits, these masks are staged in often surreal compositions, where lighting and digital manipulation accentuate the dramatic effect. Incorporating elements as dark, baroque and gaudy as they are sensitive and romantic, these masks are, in the artist's words, "opulent, clever, extravagant, unsettling, sexy and unquestionably queer." His lens seeks a balanced relationship between body and mind, in which the masks externalize a rich inner world, populated by grotesque and seductive creatures, guided by Indigenous ways of knowing, the queer gaze, environmental angst and an apocalyptic perspective on past and future.

Duane Isaac is an artist, sculptor and photographer from the Mi'gmaq two spirit community, living and working in Listuguj. They employ a resolutely contemporary aesthetic to pursue an identity and cultural quest for aboriginality. Duane Isaac visually re-appropriates the representational typologies of indigenous peoples in order to subvert harmful stereotypes. Their intimate portraits and staged photographs celebrate the diversity and strength of aboriginal communities. Their recent artistic practice revolves around masks, created from a know-how of superimposing different materials and transposed from one technique to another, and small prefabricated dolls that the artist customizes, drawing inspiration from aboriginal legends and miscellaneous events. Their work has been shown at *ExMuro's Projet 0°* in Quebec City in 2025, at *Art Mûr* Gallery in Montreal for the 2022 edition of the *BACA* (Biennale d'art contemporain autochtone), at *Capture Photo* and at the *Queer Festival* in Vancouver in 2022.

[Duaneisaac's website](#)

PRESENTATION OF THE FILM *HOBO* BY JOCELYNE ALLOUCHERIE

To coincide with Duane Isaac's presentation, the film *HOBO* will be shown at the Gare de Matapédia - Artistic and community pole, in partnership with Bande Vidéo of Quebec city and Rencontres de la Photographie en Gaspésie. Inspired by stowaways on freight trains going from town to town in search of seasonal work, the rhythm of the proceedings is more photographic than cinematic, as the shots are often very slow and require long observation, while the dense, poetic text is more prose than narrative. **Regular visiting hours are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, from noon to 6 p.m., until August 31.**

ABOUT GARE DE MATAPÉDIA

Gare de Matapédia - Artistic and community pole is a contemporary visual arts center housed in a heritage railway building. Its mission is to support the creation, production and dissemination of works of art. Through free events offered to the public, whether in the form of brunches or cocktail parties, open-house workshops, discussions, exhibitions, performances or creative workshops, *Gare de Matapédia* aims to bring artists and communities closer together, and to enrich people's knowledge of themselves and the world. Its project is based on residencies and exhibitions are inspired by the location and history of the site. Promoting sustainable social and community engagement, the project preserves the use of the waiting room by train passengers in which exhibitions are presented, a great opportunity to develop audiences for contemporary art.

[Gare de Matapédia's web site](#)

OUR PARTNERS

La Gare de Matapédia - Pôle artistique et communautaire would like to thank its financial partners who contribute to its programming: the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec, the Municipality of Matapédia and the Caisse Desjardins de la Vallée de la Matapédia.

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MORE INFORMATION

Caroline Andrieux

Project Manager

418 865 2510

caroline@garedematapedia.ca