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Meet the Moment: Bay Area Arts Coalition Launches International Video Art Festival and Call for Big Ideas

More than 30 works by artists including Dread Scott, Claudia Rankine and Karen Finley fill Mid-Market storefronts Oct. 30-Nov. 1, as a new coalition asks what culture workers can accomplish together

SAN FRANCISCO (Oct. 8, 2026)—What can arts and culture workers accomplish when they organize together? That question animates [Meet the Moment](#), a new Bay Area coalition of artists, culture workers, museums, galleries and arts organizations supporting politically courageous art and building the relationships, audiences and resources to sustain it.

An initiative of [TnT Art Lab](#), Meet the Moment launches this fall with three connected efforts: the [Meet the Moment Passport](#), now in circulation; the inaugural **Meet the Moment International Video Art Festival**, Oct. 30-Nov. 1 in San Francisco's Mid-Market and Yerba Buena neighborhoods; and the **Meet the Moment Forum**, Jan. 14, 2027, during San Francisco Art Week.

Coalition partners include Root Division, Southern Exposure, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA), the Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD) and the Oakland Museum of California (OMCA), alongside Catharine Clark Gallery, Jessica Silverman Gallery and Haines Gallery. Each brings its own perspective, community and resources to a shared commitment: resisting pressure to stay silent and making room for public imagination and collective action.

"This is not the time to stand on the sidelines," said Bradley McCallum, founding director of TnT Art Lab and Meet the Moment. "Artists and cultural organizations have powerful tools for helping people look closely at what's happening and speak freely about it. Meet the Moment asks what becomes possible when artists, cultural organizations and their audiences bring those tools together."

International Video Art Festival: October 30-November 1

For three nights, the **Meet the Moment International Video Art Festival** brings more than 30 works of video and moving-image art to 15 sites across San Francisco's Mid-Market and Yerba Buena districts: storefront windows, arts organizations, local businesses, vacant spaces and large-scale outdoor projections. The free festival runs 4-9 p.m. nightly along a walkable loop

that starts at Root Division, passes TnT Art Lab, follows Market Street through Yerba Buena Lane to YBCA and returns along Mission Street.

Featured artists include Dread Scott, LigoranoReese, Adrian Burrell, Ana Teresa Fernández, Bogdan Pastor, Khala Brannigan, FAUNA, Suzanne Lacy, Tuğçe Evirgen Özmen, Leila Weefur, Jasmine Narkita Wiley, Paul Kos, Deborah Oropallo, Narges Poursadeqi, Didem Pekün, Alexa Christine Burrell, Frank Foreman, Yoshie Sakai, Bruce Yonemoto and Karen Finley, Claudia Rankine and John Lucas, Megan Lowe and Johnny Nguyễn. Venues include Root Division, YBCA, YOTEL, Blick Art Materials, Sentro Filipino, 6M Community Arts and TnT Art Lab, with more to be announced.

The festival is curated by Natasha Becker (de Young Museum), Mushi Wooseong James (Djerassi Resident Artists Program), Việt Lê (Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Association), Julio César Morales (Southern Exposure), Efe Ozmen (Slash) and Twyla Ruby (di Rosa). The works they selected are confrontational and intimate, documentary and speculative, activist and poetic. They bear witness, challenge dominant narratives and ask whose histories and experiences are pushed from public view.

Rather than asking audiences to enter a single institution, the festival brings artists' voices into the streets at a moment when questions of democracy, belonging, representation and freedom of expression feel especially urgent. It is also a demonstration of what Meet the Moment hopes to cultivate: shared action across institutions that mobilizes audiences, supports difficult work and directs resources to projects no single artist or organization could realize alone.

A Passport to a Growing Coalition

Already circulating across the Bay Area, the **Meet the Moment Passport** connects audiences to exhibitions, performances and public programs at coalition venues in San Francisco, the East Bay and San José. It invites visitors to cross neighborhoods, discover organizations they may not know and see individual exhibitions and programs as part of a larger cultural response to this moment.

The Forum: Big Ideas into Bold Projects

The next phase begins with a **Call for Big Ideas**. Artists, curators, arts organizations and cultural producers are invited to propose ambitious projects and unexpected collaborations that respond to urgent political, civic and cultural questions, especially ideas that are hard to realize within existing structures because they require unusual partnerships, significant resources or institutional courage. Collaborations between organizations of different sizes are especially welcome. **Submissions are due Nov. 16, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. PST.**

Selected proposals will receive seed funding and development support, and will be presented at the inaugural Meet the Moment Forum on Jan. 14, 2027, during San Francisco Art Week. The Forum brings artists and cultural producers together with potential partners and supporters from

across the arts, philanthropy, technology and civic life, with the goal of bringing ambitious public projects to life through 2028.

The full artist list, venues, festival map and Forum submission guidelines are available at meetthemoment.us.

Key Dates

- **Meet the Moment International Video Art Festival:** Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2026, 4-9 p.m. nightly; Mid-Market and Yerba Buena, San Francisco
- **Call for Big Ideas deadline:** Nov. 16, 2026
- **Meet the Moment Forum:** Jan. 14, 2027, during San Francisco Art Week

Media please note: Images and videos for media usage are available for download [here](#).

About Meet the Moment

Meet the Moment is an emerging coalition of artists, culture workers, galleries, museums, and Bay Area arts organizations committed to supporting creative work that responds to the urgent political, civic, and cultural questions of our time.

Organized through TnT Art Lab, Meet the Moment connects public encounters with art, collective organizing, and resources for new creative projects. Beginning with an eighteen-month initiative leading toward the 2028 presidential election, it seeks to build a longer-term platform for collaboration and collective cultural action across the Bay Area.

Meet the Moment asks artists, institutions, and audiences not simply to witness this moment, but to consider what becomes possible when we organize around it together.

About TnT Art Lab

TnT Art Lab is a San Francisco nonprofit hub for social practice art, supporting research, production, education and public engagement from its home at Turk and Taylor streets in the Tenderloin. Its founding director is Bradley McCallum.

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