

The Sala-manca Group (ISL/ARG) presents the OFF/SITE series  
With the support of the Regina Rosen Fund in Jewish Studies and  
Cultural Studies at Queen's University, the Ethnographic  
Department of the Museum of the Contemporary and the Mamuta  
Art and Research Center in Jerusalem

## Temporary Dwelling, Fragile Structures: Sukkot 2018

*Sukkot* (Jewish tabernacles) is a seven-day Jewish  
celebration commemorating the forty years of travel through the  
desert after the exodus from Egypt. During the celebration,  
temporary dwellings called sukkah are built with simple materials  
and are used for seven days for eating, entertaining, and even  
sleeping.

During the coming holidays of *Sukkot*, the Sala-manca group (see  
below) are constructing a Sukkah (Jewish tabernacle) in their front  
garden referring to their actual temporary migration to Kingston  
and are opening their (rented) house for a series of talks,  
performances, and workshops dealing with topics related to  
*Sukkot: Temporary Dwelling, Forced and Voluntary Migration,  
Hybrid Identities, Fragile Structures.*



**September 23, 7:00-9:00 pm**  
**A temporary Dwelling in our Rented Garden**

*A sukkah by Sala-manca family* Informal Opening, refreshments will be served at the Sukkah

**September 25 , 7:00-9:00 pm**  
**Panel on Sukkot**

**Sukkot Basics** | Rabbi Erin Polansky  
Rabbi Polansky is originally from Montreal, Quebec and grew up in Thornhill, Ontario. She was the first graduate of the Jewish Studies program at Queen's University and subsequently attended the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem and then in Cincinnati, earning ordination in 2000. Upon ordination, Rabbi Polansky served as Assistant Rabbi and Rabbi Educator at Bet Shalom Congregation in Minnesota. In 2004, she returned to Toronto where she served as Associate Rabbi at Temple Sinai and was the spiritual leader at Neshamah Congregation of York Region in Vaughan, Ontario from 2011 – 2018. And now Rabbi Polansky begins the next phase of her career as Rabbi at Beth Israel Congregation in Kingston

**Absentee Landscapes, about Sala-manca Group collaborative projects**

Sala-manca will present two projects on Sukkot: In the lead-up to the 2014 Sukkot holiday, the Sala-Manca Group together with Itamar Mendes-Flohr and Yeshaiahu Rabinowitz decided to create a public sukkah on the Hansen grounds in Jerusalem, a temporary dwelling for its activities during the holiday. They collaborated with Al Korshan family of the Jahalin bedouin tribe to delve into the sukkah's charged meaning in the Israeli context and to highlight the temporary nature of the structure and its associations with exile – thus evoking associations not only with Jewish history but also with the modern Israeli context, and proposing a contemporary reading of the sukkah, both as a concrete object and as a symbol. The Sukkah was bought a year later by the Israel Museum for their collection of Contemporary Art. The second project is the Deller Sukkah (2017). In the winter of 2017 (the SalaManca Group, Nir Yahalom and Ktura Manor began building an unauthorized but accurate replica of a painted wooden sukkah from Germany (dating to 1850),

which with the outbreak of World War II, was smuggled to Palestine to save it from the Nazis and is on display in the permanent collection of the Israel Museum and is known as The Deller Sukkah.

**September 26, 7:00-9:00 pm**  
**Lois Klassen: "Books and Libraries in Migration"**

What happens when migration stories are held still within a book? Can a library become nomadic? Vancouver-based artist and writer, Lois Klassen, will present two participatory art projects that take up the subject of migration and its cultural representation. Artist book examples from *Reading the Migration Library* (2016, ongoing) and *Renegade Library* (1998) will be available for reading and handling. Lois Klassen is a Doctoral Candidate in the Cultural Studies Post-Graduate Program at Queen's University.

**September 27, 1:00-3:00 pm**

**Workshop: On the Museum of the Contemporary** | Curating and Public Scholarship Lab @1400 de Maisonneuve Blvd W., LB 671, Concordia University, Montreal

Diego Rotman, from the Sala-manca group, will present and discuss the critical thinking standing behind the Museum of the Contemporary, concentrating in some key projects done in its frame. The Sala-manca group will share their tactics, way of working and their experiences as founders, directors, guides, guards and staff cleaners of the MofC.

**September 27, 7:00-9:00 pm**

**The Sukkah - Between Eternal and Ephemeral** @ Musée du Montréal juif - Museum of Jewish Montreal 4040 Boulevard St-Laurent, Montreal

Join Diego Rotman of the Sala-manca group to discover the incredible stories and migrations behind their work and collaborative efforts creating two sukkot originally from Germany and Bedouin communities.

**September 29, 1:00-4:00 pm**

**A Library of Temporary Shelters - A book arts workshop about migration and displacement** @ Agnes

*Etherington Art Centre, Kingston*

Join artists Lois Klassen (CA) Sala-Manca (AR/IL) in a hands-on workshop and discussion about the representation of human displacement issues through art and text. Participants will hear about art and publishing projects that take up the urgency of migration, refugee issues, and will be invited to make artist books in a studio session. The hands-on portion of the workshop will focus on the way book structures can reflect a need for shelter, whether temporary or permanent.

**About Lois Klassen**

Lois Klassen is an artist, writer and researcher based in Vancouver, Canada. Known for long-range projects that invite and engage participants in collective actions. Her current project *Reading the Migration Library*, addresses the cultural production of migration stories. Her work has been hosted by Emily Carr University of Art + Design, bruna press + archive, The Glenbow Museum, Santa Fe Art Institute, and more. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the Cultural Studies program at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

**About Sala-Manca Group**

Lea Mauas and Diego Rotman, were born in Buenos Aires and now live and work in Jerusalem. Since 2000, they have created performances, videos, installations, and new media projects. Their work explores the poetics of cultural translation with a focus on language, media, the urban environment, and new technologies. Their projects frequently address the tension between low and high-tech aesthetics as well as sociopolitical issues. Last August they moved to Kingston. Lea Mauas is a graduate student in Cultural Studies and Diego is the Regina Rosen Visiting Artist in Residence in Cultural Studies and Jewish Studies and Visiting Professor at the Dan School for Drama and Music at Queen's University.

*All the events are free of charge and are made in the spirit of Ushpizin (Aramaic for guests, a reference to the seven supernal guests). The events will be held at the artists' house, in Kingston. Off-site events will also take place at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, Kingston, the Museum of Jewish Montreal, and the Curating and Public Scholarship Lab at Concordia.*

*For further info contact:  
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