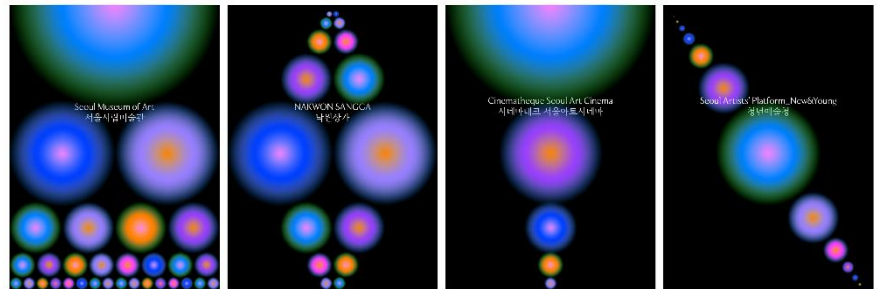


서울미디어시티비엔날레
SEOUL MEDIACITY BIENNALE

The 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale (SMB13) announces film, music, and theater programs.



The 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale *Séance: Technology of Spirit* Venue graphic identities, 2025. Design: nonplace studio. Courtesy of the Seoul Museum of Art

SeMA, Seoul Museum of Art (Seosomun-dong) 61
Deoksugung-gil, Jung-gu, 04515 Seoul, South Korea

Seoul Museum of Art announces the film, music, and theater programs in the 2025 edition of the Biennale, titled *Séance: Technology of the Spirit*.

The 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale, *Séance: Technology of the Spirit*, explores how film, sound, and performance can summon other realms—psychic, ancestral, and imaginary—through shared acts of attention.

Much like a séance, cinema is a ritual of collective dreaming: an audience gathers in darkness to encounter images, voices, and presences that transcend the everyday. Two major film programs will explore cinema's spiritual and visionary dimensions, inviting viewers into a space where projected shadows feel as tangible as memory or experience.

Music, too, has long served as a conduit to the invisible—linking listeners with the divine, the dead, or the more-than-human. Inspired by Pauline Oliveros's practice of "deep listening," a dedicated Sound Room curated by Sanna Almajedi will feature sound art and experimental music that probes the porous boundaries between inner and outer worlds.

Performance becomes a site of transformation in *The New Genius Experience of The Great Atomic Bombreflector*, a theatrical sci-fi ritual by ORTA (Alexandra Morozova and Rustem Begenov) that merges mysticism, science fiction, and embodied participation.

Film Program at Cinematheque Seoul Art Cinema

Hosted by Cinematheque Seoul Art Cinema, the film program comprises fifteen screenings unfolding in four thematic chapters: Speaking with the Dead, Ancestors Breathing, Psyche and the Screen, and Everyday Mysticism. Drawing on Pasolini's sense of the sacred in daily life and Maya Deren's vision of film as ritual, the program features work by:

Abbas Kiarostami, Alice Rohrwacher, and Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Camilo Restrepo, Caroline Déodat, Go Takamine, Jean-Luc Godard, Ken McMullen, Lee Jang-ho, Luis Buñuel, Marcel Camus, Mati Diop, Maya Deren, Naomi Kawase, Nina Menkes, Pedro Costa, Pier Paolo Pasolini, Raúl Ruiz, Roberto Rossellini, Souleymane Cissé, Trinh T. Minh-ha

Sound Room at NAKWON SANGGA

Located in the historic NAKWON SANGGA, the Sound Room presents music as a portal to invisible dimensions. Featuring artists such as **Aki Onda, Annea Lockwood, Antonina Nowacka, Areum Lee, Carl Michael von Hausswolff, Laurie Spiegel, Li Chin Sung, Matana Roberts, Walter Smetak, Yara Mekawei and others**, the program explores sonic transmissions from the unconscious, the dead, and the beyond.

Experimental Theater at Seoul Artists' Platform_New&Young (SAPY)

In partnership with Seoul Artists' Platform_New&Young, the Biennale presents *The New Genius Experience of The Great Atomic Bombreflector*, a commissioned work by ORTA (Alexandra Morozova and Rustem Begenov). Inspired by Kazakhstani visionary Sergey Kalmykov, the performance combines Kalmykov's texts, Zhuangzi's philosophy, and atomic test survivors' testimonies into a multi-phase ritual of

transformation, staged in an immersive environment built from 15,000 aluminum containers.

Led by Alexandra Morozova and a Seoul-based research team, the audience becomes part of a collective experiment to create a speculative invention: the Great Atomic Bombreflector.

Frieze Film Seoul 2025 on the SeMA Rooftop

During the opening week of September, the Biennale partners with Frieze for a rooftop screening series at the Seoul Museum of Art. Organized into four chapters—*Harmony, Reclaiming, Communion, and Waking Dreams*—the program focuses on films where spiritual and mystical energies alter perceptions of daily life. Screenings will include curatorial introductions and rooftop receptions on the opening day.

with **Amit Dutta, Angela Su, Anocha Suwichakornpong, Hsu Chia-Wei, Colectivo Los Ingrávidos, Jane Jin Kaisen, Joachim Koester, Karrabing Film Collective, Laura Huertas Millán, Sky Hopinka, Tamar Guimarães, Zheng Yuan.**

More Information

Full program details, ticketing, and participating artist lists for *Séance: Technology of the Spirit* will be announced shortly. Please visit the Biennale's website for updates.

Séance: Technology of the Spirit, the 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale, will be on view to the public at Seoul Museum of Art from August 26 to November 23, 2025. A press and professional preview day will take place on August 25.

Further details of the 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale will be announced in the coming months through SMB website.

Press Inquiries | contact@mediacityseoul.kr

For high-resolution images, please follow the below

<https://shorturl.at/xqJMT>

The 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale Website <http://mediacityseoul.kr>

Seoul Museum of Art Website <http://sema.seoul.go.kr>

SMB Social Media channels

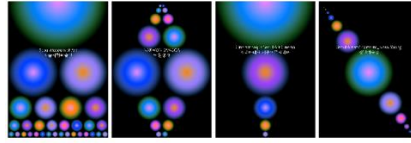
Instagram: [instagram.com/seoulmediacitybiennale](https://www.instagram.com/seoulmediacitybiennale)

X(Twitter): [x.com/mediacityseoul](https://twitter.com/mediacityseoul)

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[Appendix A] Images and credit



The 13th Seoul Mediacity Biennale *Séance: Technology of Spirit* Venue graphic identities, 2025. Design: nonplace studio. Courtesy of the Seoul Museum of Art

[Appendix B] About Seoul Mediacity Biennale

Since its inauguration in 2000 as an initiative of the Seoul Metropolitan Government, Seoul Mediacity Biennale (SMB) has earned international recognition for its experimental engagement with the contemporary condition, new developments in media, and the changing fabric of the city. These themes were first explored in the Biennale's precursor exhibition, SEOUL in MEDIA, which was held three times between 1996 and 1999. Since then, SMB has presented twelve editions, each embodying ideas and activities that resonate with their time.

Each edition of SMB features approximately 50 artists/teams and attracts an average of 140,000 visitors, mediating various forms of participation through exhibitions and programs held at the Seoul Museum of Art (SeMA) and other satellite venues throughout the city. The pre-Biennale program, operated by SeMA since 2022, explores SMB's identity through the museum's permanent collection and digital archives as a means of reiterating SMB's foundational characteristics.