

François Morelli

November 10, 2011 – January 21, 2012

The Crossing

Opening:

Saturday, November 10, 2011, 4-6 p.m.

Drawing and performance



François Morelli, *Cap Breton*, 2011.
Digital print (detail). Credit: Didier Morelli

Imagine walking with one foot on the moon and the other on the earth.

With his new *Moon Walk* series (2010 – 2011), François Morelli wraps one foot in a Moon Flag and engages in peripatetic walks. With the friction of his body meeting the ground as an artistic gesture, he examines the poetry and possibilities of displacement. At Joyce Yahouda Gallery the artist pursues this *Moon Walk* series with his new installation *The Crossing* (2011), in which he invites the public to walk on the moon.

While Morelli's drawings express his sculptural and performative preoccupations, his new drawings use color to create a more oneiric pictorial space. Each drawing is a graphic improvisation responding to associative impulses. They could be seen as illustrations of inexistent poems in which images precede words.

Biography

François Morelli is a Montreal-based multidisciplinary artist holding a BFA from Concordia University (1975) and a Masters of Fine Arts from Rutgers University, New Jersey. From 1981 to 1991, he lived and taught in New York where he accomplished several graphic and sculptural installations, as well as migratory actions that led him across Nord America, Europe and North Africa.

Morelli has exhibited internationally in museums, private galleries, artist-run centres and contemporary art events in Canada, the United States and Europe since 1976. Notable exhibitions include those held at the Musée du Québec (1979), the Musée d'art de Joliette (1980), the Musée Régional de Rimouski (1988), the Centro Culturale Canadese (Italie, 1989), the Horodner Romley Gallery (New York, 1994 and 1995), at La Vitrine (France, 2004) as well as Joyce Yahouda Gallery (Montreal, 2006 and 2008). Morelli also participated in the Biennale de Montréal (2002) and the Biennale du Havre in France (2006). In 2007, he presented major installations at the Atlanta Contemporary Art Centre and at Hamilton Art Gallery. In 2011, he participates at the second edition of Québec Triennial (Musée d'art contemporain, Montréal).

François Morelli as being awarded numerous award including the Biennale de dessin, de l'estampe et du papier du Québec Award in 1989 and 1993 and the Louis Comtois Award in 2007, by the City of Montreal in collaboration with the Association des galeries d'art contemporain (AGAC).

In 2011, François Morelli was awarded a residency at the Conseil des arts et lettres du Québec's studio in New York City.