

Night vision

France's best-known artists will light up London's finest galleries this Saturday evening. Maia Morgensztern tells **Martin Coomer** about a welcome Gallic invasion

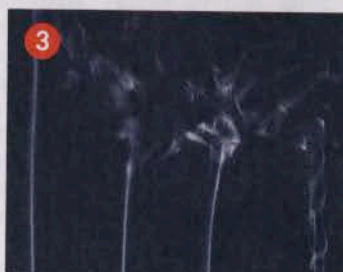
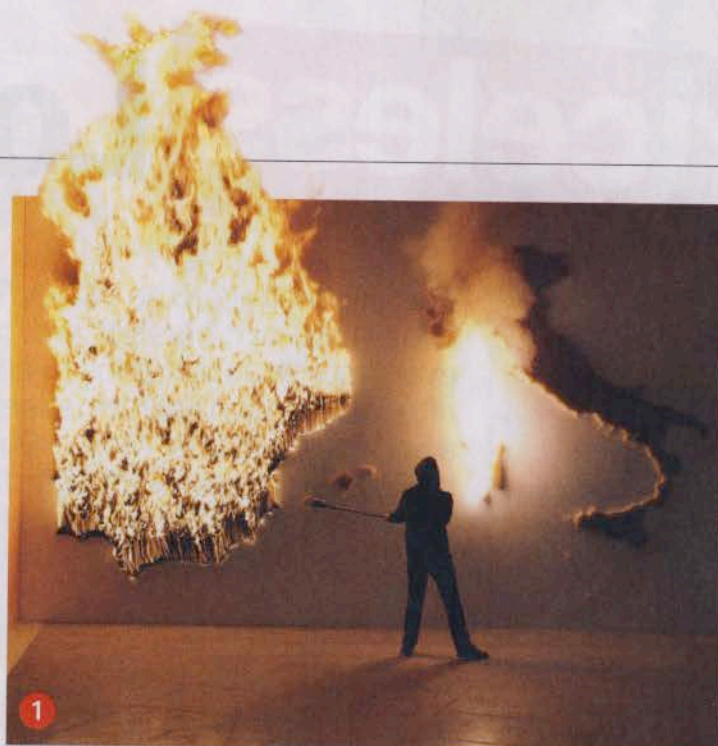
When it comes to nightlife and contemporary art, Paris doesn't have much to teach London, but there's no denying that 'Nuit Blanche Video' fills an after-dark, art-shaped hole in the capital's calendar. The idea for this night of video art, which takes place across the West End, is simple. Take over the windows of 18 high-profile galleries like White Cube and the Photographers' Gallery after they've shut up shop and beam a selection of beautiful moving images into the city night.

'The title refers to "Nuit Blanche" in Paris, a dusk-till-dawn art festival that's a massive success and now takes place in cities around the world including Montreal, Madrid, New York, Chicago and Rome – basically everywhere except London,' says Maia Morgensztern. The London-based French writer and curator is bringing this weekend's screenings to London along with French curator Marie Shek and London art consultant Yasmine Datnow.

The trio decided on the West End, Morgensztern explains, because 'we wanted a trail that would be manageable for people. You have the biggest concentration of galleries, restaurants, bars and clubs here, so it's perfect for art fans, locals, partygoers and tourists.' Part of their aim was to open up the gallery scene to a wider audience: 'Lots of people are too intimidated to walk into an art gallery,' says Morgensztern. 'But with this there's a chance to follow the trail or just stumble upon some amazing art.'

This illuminating event is perfect for anyone who's stood outside a gallery wondering a) if it's open, and b) how you get in, as chances are, you'll find a gem. And if you don't, it's a great opportunity to practise your best Gallic shrug.

Nuit Blanche Video is on Sat Oct 12 7pm-3am. For the gallery map see www.nuitblanchevideo.com.



4 Toronto

1 \$ CAN = 0,7117 EUR

Valeurs	Cours	Écart	Volume	Per 1999	Per 2000		
Alibi-cons	13	+0	117470	15,48		7050	+5,07
Canada	12,7	+0	554499	14,94	8,94	1376	-0,29
Berta Energy	65,55	+0	117696	48,92	29,39	24	-4
Bank of Montreal	26,4	+0	30428	11,79	11,09	1310	+1,55
Bank of Nova Scotia	25	+0	58700			1037	+0,78
Bank of Toronto	42,05	+0	153010	14,5	12,59	3940	+2,6
Bank of the West	41,3	+0	202616			1	+0
Bank of Montreal	79,2	+0	826830	15,81	14,37	7900	+0
Bank of Nova Scotia	42,2	+0	1016834	14,4	12,91	1131	+0,18
Bank of Montreal	22,6	+0	96272	28,61	25,39	560	+0,9
Bank of Montreal	0,41	+0	1753220			810	+0,25
Bank of Montreal	24,85	+0	56162	32,7	20,88	930	-0,11
Bank of Montreal						580	-0,68
Bank of Montreal						779	+2,5
Bank of Montreal						223	+1,36
Bank of Montreal						110	+0
Bank of Montreal						5570	-0,75
Bank of Montreal						12030	+1,09
Bank of Montreal						490	-1,41
Bank of Montreal						500	+5,26



WINDOW DISPLAY

Five highlights from Nuit Blanche Video

1 'PIGS' (2011)

by **Claire Fontaine**

Paris-based collective Claire Fontaine took the acronym for Portugal, Italy, Greece and Spain, used pejoratively by the financial media since the 2008 economic crisis, to create a map of the countries made up of thousands of matchsticks. Set alight, it burns beautifully before filling the gallery with smoke (and setting off the alarms). *Paradise Row, 74a Newman St, W1T 3DB.*

2 'BRENDA' (2007)

by **Sophie Calle**

How we react when a loved one tells us 'It's over,' is a very personal experience; not so for Sophie Calle. She used a break-up email for her 'Take Care of Yourself' project and asked 104 women, two hand puppets and a parrot to respond to it. Brenda, the parrot, eats the email – and the lover's words. *Marlborough Contemporary, 6 Albemarle St, W1S 4BY.*

3 'LE SOUFFLE DU RÛCITANT' (2003)

by **Yazid Oulab**

In Oulab's film, straight lines of smoke from incense sticks are disrupted by human breath – becoming calligraphic swirls in the air as voices (delivered via speakers to the street) recite a chapter from the Qur'an. *Rosenfeld Porcini, 36 Newman St, W1T 1PU.*

4 'LA LINEA' (2009)

by **Franck Scurti**

Inspired by Osvaldo Cavandoli's cartoon 'La Linea', Scurti resurrects the 1970s line-drawn character for his short animation. Like the original, the male figure encounters various obstructions along his white path, yet Scurti has placed him in a landscape of financial tables showing stocks and shares figures to comment on art as commodity. *Carpenters Workshop Gallery, 3 Albemarle St, W1S 4HE.*

5 'LES 7 PÉCHÉS CAPITAUX' (2011)

by **Antoine Roegiers**

Prepare to meet giant slugs ridden like horses and other brilliantly bizarre creations in this fantastically detailed animated film, which is based on Pieter Bruegel the Elder's sixteenth-century series of engravings 'The Seven Deadly Sins'. *Josh Lilley Gallery, 44-46 Riding House St, W1W 7EX.*