

**LIFT AND THE GOETHE-INSTITUT TORONTO ANNOUNCE
BENJAMIN RAMÍREZ PÉREZ and STEFAN RAMÍREZ PÉREZ
NOVEMBER 2018 RESIDENCY**

Toronto, November 15, 2018—The Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT) and the Goethe-Institut Toronto are pleased to announce **Benjamin Ramírez Pérez** and **Stefan Ramírez Pérez** (Cologne) as our 2018 Goethe-LIFT Artists-in-Residence. The two brothers have built a strong body of video and installation work, both collectively and individually over the past decade. Their works blur the line between fiction and reality and interrogate our political and social landscape while reflecting on processes of image making. They have come to LIFT to experiment with a literary adaption that they are developing in collaboration with the Toronto-based writer Lynn Crosbie. They will be foraying into 16mm production, transforming Crosbie’s texts into documentary and fictional sequences. They are in Toronto from November 1 to 29, 2018.

The Goethe-LIFT Residency enables filmmakers from Germany to bring their film-based work to Toronto and develop new projects in collaboration with the local community. While the artists have access to high-class equipment and facilities, the project also aims to connect the guests with Canadian artists and filmmakers. Screenings and workshops facilitating the exchange of ideas go hand in hand with the artists’ production of new films.

On Sunday, November 25, LIFT will be hosting a workshop from 10am - 6pm on **Scripting, Smuggling and Suturing**. Through case studies of finished works the brothers will examine, in an open forum with fellow participants, various approaches towards developing moving image works, be they conceptually, research-based, diaristic or documentary. The focus will be on very practical strategies employed in developing the material, starting from an initial idea, to planning production steps accordingly. The workshop will take into account the diverse working conditions under which moving image works are created and workshop participants will be encouraged to offer their own work or work-in-progress for discussion. The workshop is \$125 for non-members and \$100 for members. Advanced registration is required via 416 588-6444 Ext. 223

The residency will also include networking events with Canadian artists and curators to create a lasting relationship and exchange.

Benjamin Ramírez Pérez and **Stefan Ramírez Pérez** studied at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne and are currently based in Amsterdam and the Rhineland, respectively. In their films, they intersect staged narratives with documentary material, re-enactments and cinematic references, drawing from shared, as well as individual interests and artistic approaches. Their works blur the line between fiction and reality and interrogate our political and social landscape while reflecting on processes of image making and their historical, political and technological implications, addressing questions of authenticity and identity as well as individual and collective relationships to history and geography.

www.benjaminramirezperez.com

www.stefanramirezperez.com

Scripting, Smuggling, Suturing

Sunday, November 25, 2018

10am - 6pm

Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT)

1137 Dupont Street (at Gladstone Avenue)

Costs: \$100 LIFT members, \$125 non-members.

Pre-registration is required. Enrolment limited to 12

Register: 416.588.6444 Ext. 223

<https://lift.ca/workshops/scripting-smuggling-suturing>

For 50 years, the **Goethe-Institut Toronto** has been presenting the latest arts and ideas from Germany. The Institut actively promotes an ongoing dialogue and exchange between Canadian and German artists and experts and brings the best in contemporary German culture, seen through a global lens and across the genres, with a programming focus on German film. The Goethe-Institut is proud to collaborate with other major players across Canada and the world.

<http://blog.goethe.de/arthousefilm>

The **Liaison of Independent Filmmakers of Toronto (LIFT)** is Canada's foremost artist-run production and education organization dedicated to celebrating excellence in the moving image. LIFT exists to provide support and encouragement for independent filmmakers and artists through affordable access to production, post-production and exhibition equipment; professional and creative development; workshops and courses; commissioning and exhibitions; artist-residencies; and a variety of other services. LIFT is supported by its membership, Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Arts Council, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Ontario Arts Foundation, the Government of Ontario and the Toronto Arts Council.

<http://lift.ca>

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For additional information please see <http://lift.ca> or e-mail director@lift.on.ca