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PRESENTATION

The Artists Club

In March 2012, Thibaut Espiau, Istvan Huzjan and Grégoire Motte established the Artists Club, a group of artists whose primary activity is spending time together and discussion but not developing an art practice as a collective. A few months later, they discovered a huge Fichet Bauche brand vault on the mezzanine floor of the building where they had their studios. This steel cube of several tones was to mark the start of a palpable artistic collaboration between members of the club as well as the opening of an exhibition space. Both activities are closely intertwined.

First works

The renovation of the vault and the surrounding room gave rise to the first works by the trio of artists. These were mostly objects documenting the way the space was used (First floor cloth (pink and pierced)) or things they find in the rubble (A little gold) or the use of the volume of rooms as a camera obscura to observe the street upside down.

The Vault

The box is a cube of 230 x 280 x 230 cm. The interior space measures 200 x 250 x 200 cm. It is placed in the middle of a room of thirty square meters on the mezzanine of a former jeweler's place located on 63 Rue du Houblon in the centre of Brussels.

From the street, two windows give a view looking down onto the vault and a third window serves as a showcase for graphic proposals. On December 20th, 2012, the Vault was unveiled to the public as a work by the Artists Club as well as a new exhibition space. It was empty and simply furnished with a white carpet. What followed was a party.

The Carpet

The dirty white carpet was removed and kept as another trace of evolution of the Artists Club's Vault: a trace from the first meeting between the Vault and it's public. Since then, for each exhibition, the Artists Club changes the carpet in the Vault, and keeps it as a souvenir of the collaboration with the guest artist. Invited by the Brussels based fair 'Brussels Cologne Contemporaries' The Artists Club presented their collection of eleven carpets in January 2014 in Cologne.

Exhibitions

The frequency and duration of the exhibitions is very irregular (one night only sometimes) because the goal is not to "make exhibitions" but to try to invite artists who belong to Artists Club personal art history and to make it public. With very limited financial resources, Artists Club often has to wait, like a trapdoor spider, for artists to be close to Brussels in order to work with them in the Vault.

We claim periods of inactivity as well as the furtive nature of certain exhibitions because we think it is more natural than a continuous stream of proposals. We are artists and we run the place as such. The exhibitions at the Vault are the result of discussions between artists (who integrate the Club for the duration of the exhibition) and us. So in some respects, these exhibitions are actually collaborations. We produce with each artist an edition that accompanies the exhibition. These editions are small booklets, posters, sound works on USB keys, etc.

ARTISTES & EXPOSITIONS

ARTISTS CLUB (FIRST OPENING)

BARBARA PEREYRA & FILIP VAN DINGENEN
MIRA. MAR Y OTROS

ROBERT WILHITE
EARTHPILLARS

EVOR
FORTRESSES

MATTHIEU MANCHE
MADE IN CHINA

ELLA DE BURCA
ILLUMINATING KUNSTHOLES

KURT RYSLAVY
LA PÉRUODE VERTE (jamming money)

JAMES BECKETT

"That's that, that way 'round, basically – as you probably know"

YVES GRENET
LA FABRIQUE D'ÉMOTIONS

CHRISTOPHE TERLINDEN
BEEP

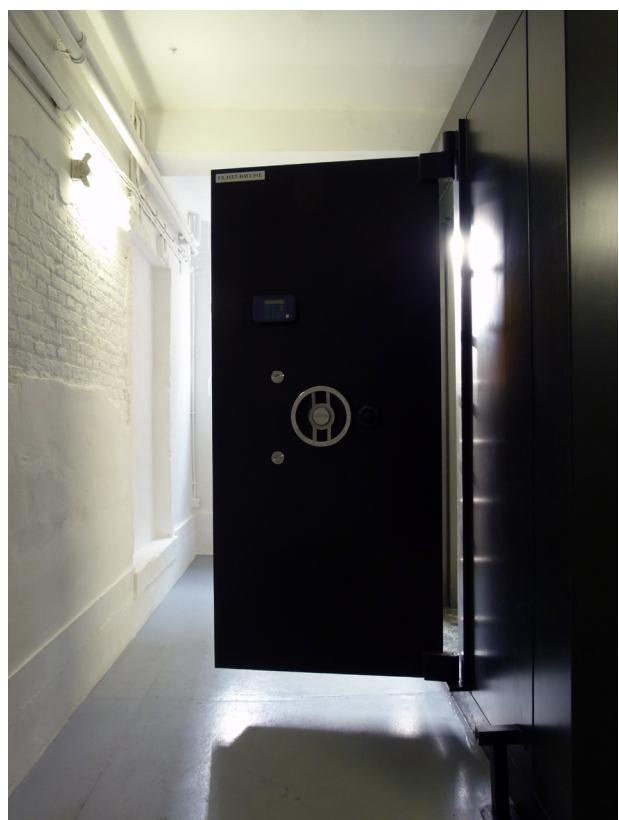
SADAHARU HORIO + On-Site Art Squad «KUKI»

A C C F hors les murs

BRUSSELS COLOGNE CONTEMPORARIES 2013

ART BRUSSELS 2015 - 25-27 Avril - Brussels expo





Coffre Fort

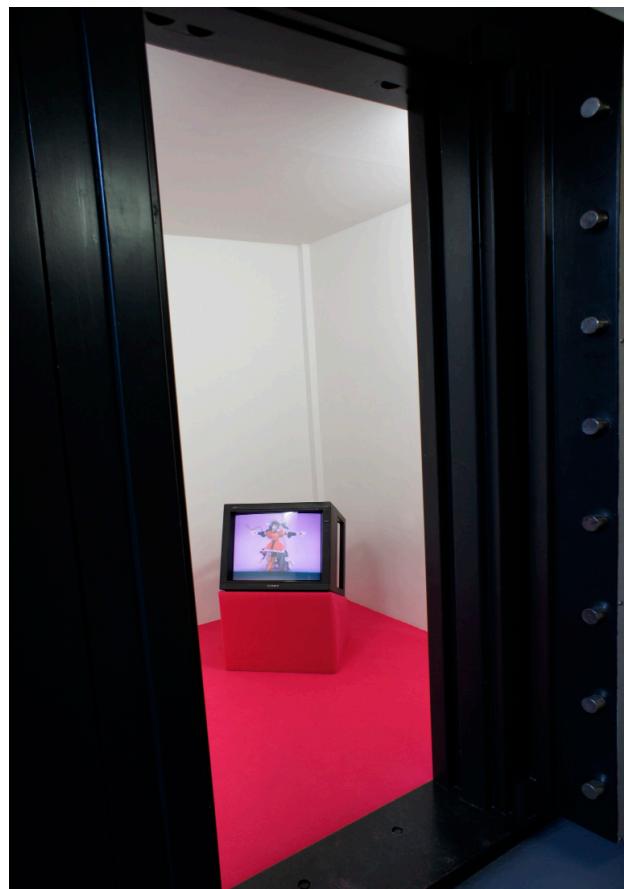
DE TOUR MIRA. MAR Y OTROS



Libreto para el Bicentenario



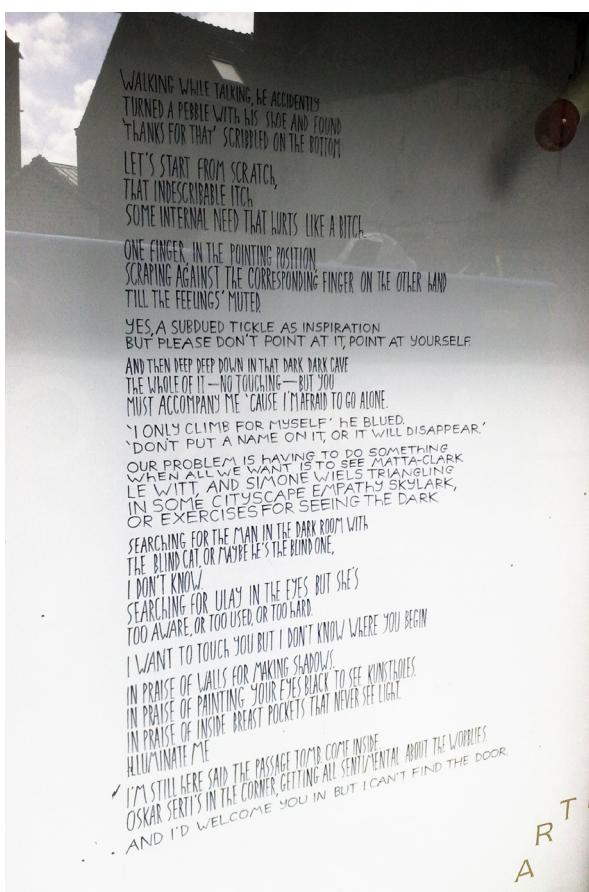
Barbara Pereyra & Filip Van Dingenen, MIRA. MAR Y OTROS
Robert Wilhite EARTHPILLARS



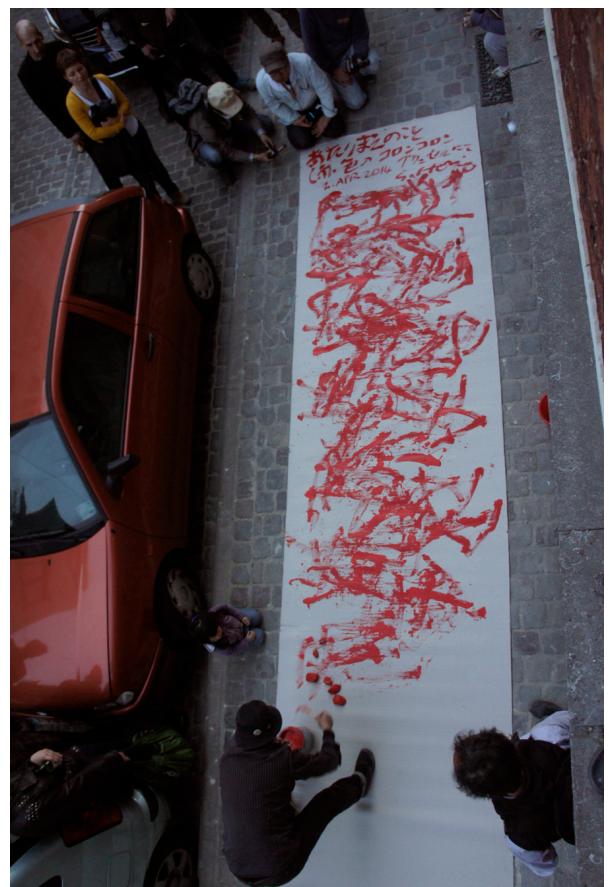
Kurt Ryslavy, LA PÉRUODE VERTE
Evor, FORTRESSES
Matthieu Manche, MADE IN CHINA



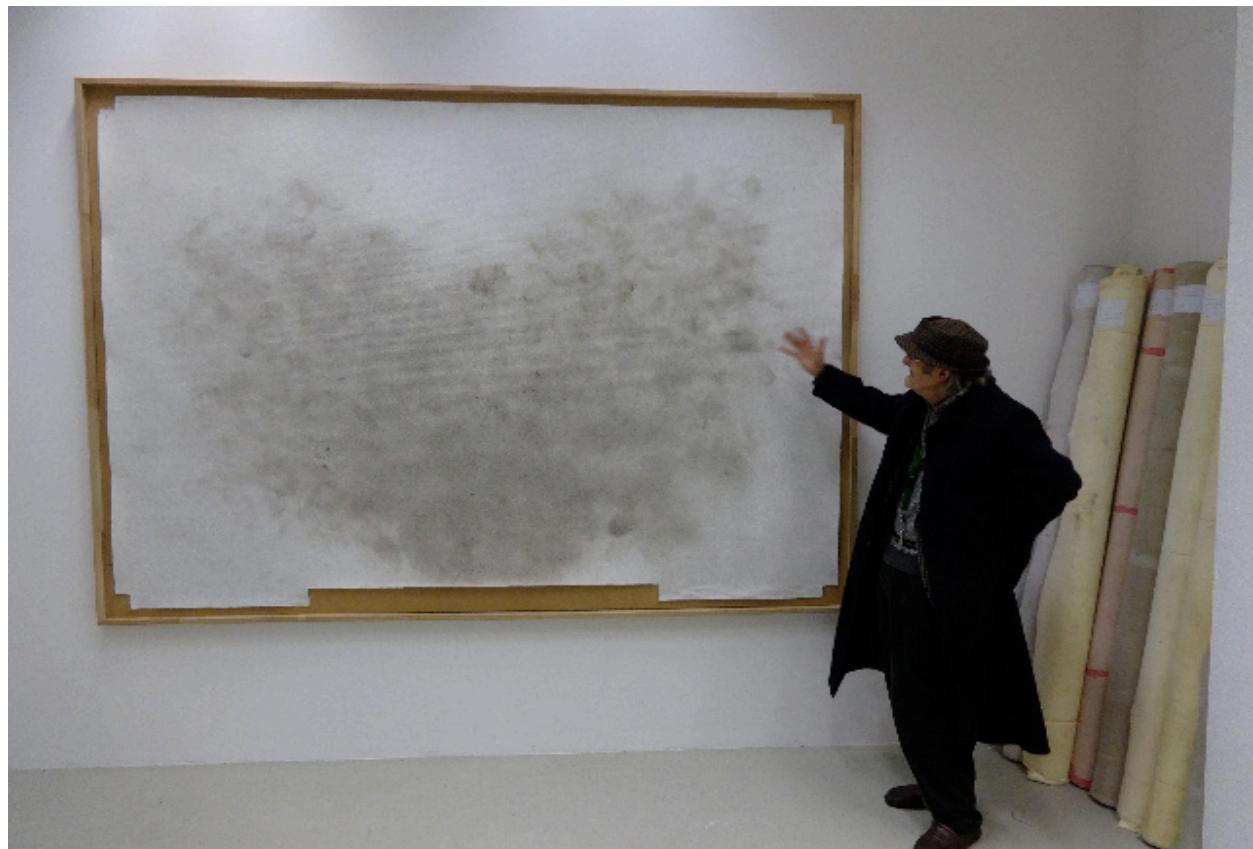
James Becket, "That's that, that way 'round, basically – as you probably know"
Ella De Burca, ILLUMINATING KUNSTHOLES



Christophe Terlinden, BEEP
Ella De Burca, ILLUMINATING KUNSTHOLES
Christophe Terlinden, BEEP



Yves Grenet, LA FABRIQUE D'ÉMOTIONS
SADAHARU HORIO + On-Site Art Squad «KUKI»



Artists Club, MARCHANDS DE TAPIS, Brussels Cologne Contemporaries 2013

PRESSE

this is tomorrow

Contemporary Art Magazine

Various venues, Brussels, 18 Sep 2013

Brussels Art Days: the Brussels contemporary art scene

For their current project, they invited Amsterdam-based visual artist James Beckett, who in turn appointed a professional, registered dowser to investigate the space using an angular rod, looking for a treasure that is supposedly hidden behind the walls. The whole process is recorded by the artist and played back in the vault on a reel-to-reel tape deck, almost summoning the dowser's presence. After the investigation, Beckett decided to do the proof by digging into the wall on some of the indicated parts – obviously without result, but that's beside the point. Beckett managed to develop a proposal that fits the space so well, it feels like it has always been there. And which, at the same time, makes 'Coffre Fort' well worth another visit.

With just a few snapshots of the Brussels art scene, it is hard to do justice to its sparkling variety. In a series of articles and interviews, we will continue this ongoing exploration, in order to slowly make you believe the hype.

Boom in Brussel Les Instituts / De instituten



Installatie Jan Andriesse bij A.VE.NU.DE.JET.TE – INSTITUT DE CARTON

Brussel is het nieuwe Berlijn. Een onophoudelijke stroom van jonge kunstenaars en curatoren vestigt zich er. Door hun komst schieten de onafhankelijke kunstruimtes als paddenstoelen uit de grond.

In Metropolis M Nr 6 schrijft Maaike Lauwaert over de bloeiende kunstscene in Brussel, aan de hand van een aantal van de meest inspirerende kleinere initiatieven. Hier de adressenlijst. Aanvullingen welkom.

Datum 11 December 2013

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The Quay Brothers' Universum nu bij EYE, t/m 9 maart

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Abilene Gallery

Rue de la Victoire 163
1060 Saint Gilles
Bruxelles
<http://www.abilenegallery.com/>

Artist's Club Coffre Fort

Hopstraat 63
1000 Brussel
[Facebook](#)

A.VE.NU.DE.JET.TE - INSTITUT DE CARTON

Avenue de Jette 41 – Jetselaan 41
1081 Koekelberg / Brussels
Metro Simonis, 10 minutes walk.
<http://avenudejette.blogspot.nl/>

105 Resme



Homage to Haneke and Les Nuits sounds off. This weekend in Belgium.

9TH MAY 2013

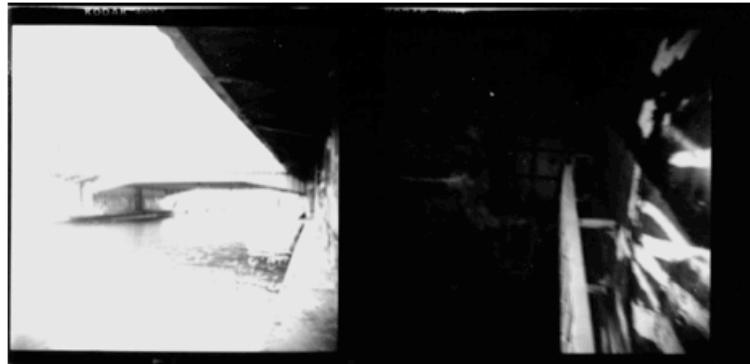
Writers

[SARAH SCHUG](#),
[CHARLINE STOELZAED](#)



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Illuminating Kunstholes, Brussels



Coffre-Fort, or Artists Club, is an initiative thunk up by artists Thibaut Espiau, Išvan Huzjan and Gregoire Motte who, since last year, have been running a studio and exhibition space in a former jewellery vault. Their most recent expo opens this week and is centred around a project by Irish artist Ella de Burca who is known for her conceptual approach to creating situational and performance-based work. Illuminating Kunstholes is the intriguing result of city walks made by the three Coffre-Fort founders in their neighbourhood: each one of them was asked to find a spot where the sun never shines and paint it black.

Opening 4 May
Artists Club Coffre-Fort, Rue de Houblon 63 Hopstraat – 1000 Brussels
www.artistsclubcoffrefort.com

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The Artists Club Coffre-Fort in Brussels



One of the recent additions to the evolving artistic landscape in Brussels is the artist-run non-profit initiative The Artists Club Coffre-Fort, set up towards the end of last year by three individuals Thibaut Espiau, Ištvan Išt Huzjan and Gregoire Motte, who have been running this studio and exhibition space in the vault of a former jeweller that they have turned into a white cube. Since then, they have been organising an energetic series of exhibitions at the space, focusing on supporting experimental practices and the production of new work. Their most recent exhibition, by Irish artist Ella de Burca, who is currently based in Brussels, continued this ethos. Her exhibition at The Artists Club responded to the physical context of the space and its surrounds, and as well as to being the first woman artists to have a solo exhibition at the space. The exhibition itself was the presentation of a sparse display within the vault, which was the delicate trace of a wider process-based mode of collaboration.

Twee jonge
kunstenaarscollectieven

ONGEWONE PLEKKEN WORDEN TENTOONSTEL- LINGSRUIMTES

Uit de voorwaarden kunnen jonge kunstenaars verschillende twee collectieven - noemt dit grotendeels kleine groepen van kunstenaars. Deze collectieven kunnen ruimtes in maar het ateliers van een enkele kunstenaar. Raamtes die beschikbaar zijn plekken zijn om te delen, om andere kunstenaars te ontmoeten en die voor indienstkomers toegankelijk blijven zijn.

COFFRE-FORT

Op de verlaten koffieruimte van een oude juwelenwinkel, van historisch architectuur model) is hier grote ruimte, heeft een leuke mogelijkheid de klok gedraagende enkele soort van dagelijks passen van verhuisdag van juwelenwinkel. De klokken van 'Coffre-fort' ligt in Artis Club, een collectief van drie jonge kunstenaars: Thibaut Espagnol, Iñaki de Huerta en Grégoire Motsje. Midden in een kleine kamer, een verborgen ruimte voor een klok, een object in huisgangspas niet meer dan deze voorwerpen dat grote status hebben om ergens, zoals draaiende. Wij meer breder staan, ook wel een zachte witte vader (van de cloe) tot aan het plafond) die doen als expressie en tegelijkertijd als uitnodiging voor de bezoekers. Na de opening in mei 2012 worden al gepland tentoonstellingen van wie zijn: Barbara Poeyras en Filip Van Dingenen.

MIRA MARX

In de oude fabriekshal van 'Tours d'Otros' huis, Robert Wilhite maakt zijn 'Tours d'Otros' installatie op de Parijse. Een aantal van zijn werk 'Tours d'Otros' in Madrid huisvest de Franse kunstenaar Matthieu Marche en de Amerikaanse artiesten 'Earth Pillar'. De voorstelling van de Amerikaanse Barbara Poeyras en Kurt Rylsky. De klok is een uitdrukking van de kunstenaars, die deel uitmaken van de collectieven 'Coffre-fort' en 'Rectangular'. De collectieven zijn een resultaat van de samenwerking.

Deux jeunes collectifs d'artistes

TRANSFORMER DES ESPACES INACCOUTUMÉS EN LIEUX D'EXPOSITION

Ni galeries, ni institutions, deux collectifs sont nés d'affinités entre jeunes artistes. Ils investissent des espaces adjacents aux ateliers qu'un ou deux membres occupent. Ils sont alors tout un espace de partage d'une œuvre, de rencontre d'un artiste et se veulent résolument ouverts sur le monde.



Photo: Adrien, Koen, Iñaki, Thibaut

RECTANGLE

Sur les dalles d'une ancienne usine textile, dans l'atelier du Centre des Techniques de l'Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Paris, deux artistes travaillent à leur travail: Barbara Poeyras et Filip Van Dingenen. Ils ont choisi une grande surface allant de deux mètres jusqu'à huit. Ils ont donc proposé 'Rectangle' qui sera produite, utilisée dans le cadre d'expositions. Barbara Poeyras et Filip Van Dingenen ont montré leur vidéo 'MIRA MARX'.

'Tours d'Otros', artiste américain Robert Wilhite a réalisé 'Earth Pillar', le Français Evaro a présenté 'Partage'. Le 19 avril, Matthieu Marche, un artiste français va montrer un 'slide show' de sa série 'Made in China'. Ensuite, en mai ou juin pourra découvrir l'Américaine Ella de Burca et retrouver Kurt Rylsky. Le coffre-fort n'est pas seulement un lieu d'expositions éphémères, c'est aussi, un fil de celes-ci, la constitution d'un travail commun aux trois artistes, à partir des reliquats des expositions: une sculpture dessinée surréaliste, une maquette d'ancien avion, une photographie, une œuvre faite de documents.

mais, un peu plus tard, une autre œuvre sera exposée, une autre œuvre, une autre œuvre, une autre œuvre.

Le lieu est alors une sorte de musée à ciel ouvert, avec une grande surface allant de 25 m² au maximum, une petite table de 25 m², un bureau, une valise ou une valise en bois avec une grande poignée, une photographie, une œuvre faite de documents.

RECTANGLE

Sur le toit d'une ancienne imprimerie d'étiquettes, entre la gare de Mud et de Wies, un panneau d'affichage de quatre mètres sur trois se présente comme une adresse au passage. Il s'agissait au début publicitaire, mais une impression manuscrite de grand format, elle y reste très belle. Outre il y a un 'rectangle' se veut un lieu de production, d'échange et de réflexion pour les artistes contemporains, tous médiums confondus. Il envisage un avenir relativement proche de s'ouvrir vers d'autres terrains, d'autres questions, d'autres

ART BRUSSELS 19.



werken en affichages de sites de Martin Belou et Mélanie Bouga. Tôt ou tard, une œuvre 'Camel' sera ajoutée, une œuvre de Philippe Durand. Van 18 tot 22 april verwelkent 'Rectangle' de weer Les Editions du Tigre en het Atelier Teknike de Marseille voor een collectieve tentoonstelling op basis van een geruime tijd selectie.

Colette DUBOIS

Photo: Adrien, Koen, Iñaki, Thibaut
Photo: Barbara Poeyras et Filip Van Dingenen
Photo: Adrien, Koen, Iñaki, Thibaut

Two young artist collectives

TURNING UNUSUAL SPACES INTO EXHIBITION SPACES

Neither galleries, nor institutions, two collectives have been born of affinities between young artists. They occupy spaces adjoining the workshops of one of their members, relatively open to the world they are, above all, a place to share a work or meet an artist.

COFFRE-FORT

In the abandoned cellar of a former jeweller's shop, visible from the street via two large

windows, a freshly painted sofa (coffre-fort in French, hence the name) is home to artist interventions which can last anything from several hours to several days. The Artis Club, a group of three young artists: Thibaut Espagnol, Iñaki de Huerta and Grégoire Motsje is at the origin of 'Coffre-fort'. In the middle of a small 25 m² room, there is the sofa, a caviar green sofa covered with its heavy door, large soft hugs and large circular handle. When you enter you discover an actual white cube (from the floor to the ceiling) which serves both as an exhibition space and as a showcase for the work within. It opened last December and regularly plays host to artists: Barbara Poeyras and Filip Van Dingenen showed their video 'MIRA MARX'.

There, the American artist, Robert Wilhite was born with 'Earth Pillar'. The French Evaro presented 'Partage'. On 19 April, French artist Matthieu Marche will put on a 'slide show' of his 'Made in China' series. Then, in May it will be time to discover the Scottish Ella de Burca and to realize

over Kurt Rylsky. The sofa is not just a sofa for short-lived exhibitions, as they come and go a body of work, common to the three artists, is gradually being constituted from the remainders of the exhibitions: a daily framed floor cloth, a dirty white chair, a photograph: a work made of documents.

RECTANGLE

On the roof of a former sticker factory, between Mud Station and Wies, a four by three metre billboard is presented as an address to the passer-by. There is no patience, but rather a large digital print, which stays in place for two months. Opened one year ago, 'Rectangle' is a place of production, exchange and reflection for contemporary artists, whatever the medium. In a relatively near future it plans to move into other domains, other areas, other media. The space and its activities are managed by four young artists: Cedric Aleg, Sébastien Bayard (the owner of the

workshop), Pierre-Pascal Lecouturier and Xavier Pauwels. On the day after which each new image is inaugurated, an exhibition of other works by the author can be admired in the workshop on the ground floor; it is also possible to order a smaller edition of the poster and to use it again by reprinting over the week. The first billboards were the work of members of Rectangle. Since then we have been treated to a poster by Martin Belou and another by Mélanie Bouga. From now till May, it is the turn of 'Camel', a work by Philippe Durand, and from 18 to 21 April, 'Rectangle' invites Les Editions du Tigre and Marseille's Atelier Teknike for a collective exhibition which will present a selection of multiples.

Colette DUBOIS

La Collectionneuse à Houtain-lez-Bruge, www.artbrussels.be/artistes
Bruxelles, 19-20-21 April, Rectangle invite Les Editions du Tigre et Marseille's Atelier Teknike

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L'IMPRENABLE COFFRE-FORT ARTIST'S CLUB

03.2013

Hopstraat 63, 1000
Bruxelles

Par Septembre Tiberghien

L'IMPRENABLE COFFRE-FORT

En investissant le sous-sol d'un immeuble laissé vacant par un ancien diamantaire, l'Artists Club – un collectif piqué de dandysme, formé de trois artistes : Thibaut Espiau, Istvan Ist Huzjan et Grégoire Motte – a trouvé une véritable mine d'or. L'identité du groupe s'est d'ailleurs forgée autour de ce coffre et de son probable contenu: leur logo, dessiné par les graphistes de Überknackig bureau, adopte la forme d'une bague où le mot *coffre-fort* tient lieu de diamant, s'inspirant des insignes des grands clubs sélects. Comme toute société secrète qui se respecte, l'Artists club communique peu sur ses activités, qui à défaut d'être clandestines, sont à tout le moins nocturnes. Les évènements qui y sont organisés n'y durent guère plus qu'une soirée, les œuvres disparaissant ensuite comme par magie. Car, en plus d'offrir un espace mental propice au déploiement de réflexions métaphysiques, quelque chose de l'ordre du paranormal semble émaner de ce coffre.

Au-delà de la mise à disposition du lieu, qui est en soit une donnée très stimulante, les membres de l'Artists Club affirment ne pas avoir de visées curatoriales. Pour eux, le coffre-fort est en quelque sorte un accélérateur de particules. Il leur permet de laisser carte blanche à des artistes de diverses origines ou générations, de susciter des liens inattendus, sans avoir à assumer le rôle ni le propos de commissaires d'expositions. Ici, tout est question de rencontres et d'affinités électives, ce qui génère dans le meilleur des cas une énergie communicative, alors qu'en d'autres occasions l'enthousiasme est plus mesuré.

