

Heritage Days / Journées du Patrimoine 2019

Hectolitre : a catalyst for exchange and a building in transition



www.hectolitre.space

September 14 & 15, 2019
exhibition, encounters,
guided visits

Rue de l'Hectolitre 3-5
1000 Bruxelles



Catalyseur d'échange

HECTOLITRE is a venue and project under development dedicated to artists who wish to delve deeper into their projects, experiment with transdisciplinarity or connect their art form/research to the neighborhood and its inhabitants. The artists living and working at Hectolitre are co-joining a set of interconnected community rings around the project, together with involved neighbors, local socio-cultural activists, international artists/curators and cultural workers/organizers.

However, Hectolitre is also an unusual building in the heart of the Marolles neighborhood undergoing a radical change of identity. A former swingers club filled with peculiar Art Brut interventions, and a storage space for the dealer of the nearby flea market, resulting in the building's interior resembling a memory forest. Thus, visually and symbolically complex, the surrounding is no obstacle, but rather is perceived as a living system to accept, associate, question, and experience. A place where complementarities among artists, curators, creatives and neighbours are catalyze exchange ; in addition to providing a shared atelier, hosting exhibitions, performances, musical encounters, film projections, debates and other initiatives.

Hectolitre is taking part in this year's Heritage Days with the frame "a place for art" in Brussels, which comes as an opportunity to further reflect on the double axis around which the project has its roots - the sense of collectivity and questions about memory. The two-day programme will encompass an **exhibition**, two **encounters** featuring a serie or presentations, and four guided **visits**.

Exposition

The exhibition brings the ongoing work of six individual artists and one artistic collective, currently sharing the studio space or being in residence at Hectolitre. From one side, the exhibition is conceived in a way to allow the interior of the Hectolitre to deliver its ambient identity consisting in the vertical landscape of the decorated atrium, with attached swimming pool, niches and balconies. From the other side, the works of these artists indicate the process of functionally transmuting the space, starting from its opposing corners, the top floor, basement, and the derived vitrine space. Open studio and installations are adding a new layer of life, growing from corners and adapting to the shape of the one already existing.

In this context artist and writer **Jennifer Brewer** will give a short performance alongside a narrative sculpture object. **Louise Brodsky** presents her research about domination, asking about intergenerational power relations, about the place of domination in sexuality, and about the individual and societal consequences of sexuality. **Mladen Bundalo** examines an idea of hyperinflation as a cultural and industrial process, in a video-installation ventriloquizing a cheap video-projector bought on Aliexpress.com. **Harry Chapman** has made a video which explores horses pulling in different directions by way of the physical properties of light. **Claire Ducène** in her work on the memory of spaces, immerses the spectator in the maze project realized with her collective «Endless House». **Danielle Freakley** performs «Equal opportunity to be a dictator», where people can tell each-other what to say. And the last, but not least, **Playful collective** showcase the recent works done by its members in fields of photography, graphic design and film.

Encounters

At the acoustic focal point of Hectolitre's inner atrium, the dance floor of the former swingers club, two discursive encounters with presentations open to the public take place in parallel with the exhibition. There are eight distinctive professional positions which share, from different angles, their working and living parkour and kickoff the discussion.

The first encounter comes with idea of questioning memory and its locality, (in)stability, belonging, influence, identity and ideology. **Eline Aroch** shares her work, capturing the remains of swingers evenings, the echo of erotic imaginaries that emerges to ask about desire and to who it belongs. In return, **Louise Brodsky** speaks about interaction between the subject of sexual domination and omnipresent traces of sexual iconography at Hectolitre, asking what are the psychological consequences of this seizure of power? **Adrijana Gvozdenović** takes us into her concept of relational potential of an art event, elaborating and empowering some ephemeral activities within the art production, representation and communication, as nodal points of a memory of art(work). **Serena Vittorini** will discuss her multimedial research about historical Italian labour migration to Belgium, and associated aspects of individual and collective experience of reconstituting and expression of recalling.

The second encounter, which takes place the day after, is conceived to unfold a multitude of options when it comes to a sense of collectivity in art and culture, its inner motivation, dynamics of exchange, group outreach, balance and openness.

Former **Bosch** shop in Rue des Tanneurs has been transformed into a co-living community, experienced in sharing and doing together (i.e. squat 123, Toestand vzw), and they share the experience of co-living and activating the space with socio-cultural activities. **Cinemaximiliaan** presents a project and method, sharing both artistic and social principles, or in their own words, an « itinerant 'living room » screening films in various remote asylum centers around Belgium on a regular basis, where there is a need for encounter and cultural exchange". **Peter Veyt** is an artist with extended experience in group creativity and what it means to coordinate a collective, creative process (i.e. the Zinneke parade). He tries to dance the cords between individual challenge and collective effort. And for the end, **Playful collective** speaks from the position of artists, graphic designers, film producers and coders working together and building a sense of common support and exchange.

Both days of presentations are accompanied by discussions, with all contributions welcome.

Visits

In addition to the exposition and discursive encounters, there are four guided visits.

Philippe Delvaux (project director) and **Mladen Bundalo** (project coordinator) are your hosts, leading you through the past, present and future of the project and the building.

Practical information:

EXHIBITION WITH THE ARTISTS-IN-RESIDENCY:

Jennifer Brewer, Louise Brodsky, Mladen Bundalo, Harry Chapman, Claire Ducène, Danielle Freakley, Playful collective
Open doors, Sat. 14 and Sun. 15 Sep. 2019 from 12h to 17h
Performances by *Jennifer Brewer* and *Danielle Freakley*, Sep. 14 at 19h
Finissage, Sun. 15 at 19h

ENCOUNTER ABOUT THE MEMORY QUESTION

Speakers/Presentations:

Eline Aroch, Louise Brodsky, Adrijana Gvozdenović, Serena Vittorini
Sat. 14 Sep. at 17h
Duration: 1h30min

ENCOUNTER ABOUT THE COLLECTIVE ASPECT OF ART

Speakers/Presentations:

Bosch project, Cinemaximiliaan, Playful collective, Peter Veyt
Sun. 15 Sep. at 17h
Duration: 1h30min

GUIDED VISITS

by Mladen Bundalo and Philippe Delvaux
Sat. 14 and Sun. 15 Sep. at 15h and 16h.
Duration: 40 min

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Realisation of the programme: *Philippe Delvaux, Lucie Fournier, Mladen Bundalo, Playful collective*

Realisation of the exhibition: *Jennifer Brewer, Louise Brodsky, Mladen Bundalo, Harry Chapman, Claire Ducène, Danielle Freakley, Playful collective*

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