



Press kit

Investigations of a dog

October 23th, 2010 to January 16th, 2011

Press preview: Friday October 22, 2010 from 9am to 11am

Preview : Friday October 22, 2010 from 6pm to 9pm



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contents

p.3 FACE

p.5 *Investigation of a dog*

p.6 the catalogue

p.7 selected images

p.9 la maison rouge

p.11 useful informations

Cover, right to left, Stéphane Thidet, *Untitled (le terri)*, 2008, AG, Martin Parr, *Common Sense*, 1999, AG, Urs Fischer, *Mackintosh Staccato*, 2006, DJ, Esko Männikko, *Kittlä, 1995, Kuivaniemi, 1994, Kuivaniemi, 1993, Kuivaniemi, 1992, Hyrynsalmi, 1992, Hyrynsalmi, 1990, Utajärvi, 1990*, M3, Aurel Schmidt, *So Damn Pure*, 2008, SRR, Kimsooja, *Bottari Truck*, 2005, M3.
Vue de l'exposition à la Fondation Ellipse. © DMF (Cascais)

Investigations of a dog

Works from the FACE collections

La maison rouge is pleased to announce the forthcoming exhibition *Investigations of a Dog*, the first exhibition organized and curated by the FACE group Foundation of Arts for a Contemporary Europe, initially presented at Foundation Sandretto Re Rebaudengo (Autumn 2009) and at Ellipse Foundation in Portugal (Spring 2010).

FACE

FACE founding members are non-profit foundations established by private collectors who have set up public spaces for the production and promotion of contemporary art. This new alliance aims at broadening and empowering the scope of their activities through ambitious international projects.

FACE (www.art-face.eu) aims to promote international artists by supporting the production and exhibition of new works. In particular, FACE Partner Foundations aim to work towards: promoting contemporary art in Europe and the rest of the world; supporting artists; bringing an ever-growing public closer to contemporary art and culture; promoting the activities and the art collections of each partner foundation. With these aims, the Partner Foundations will particularly be able to: develop collaborations between the partner foundations and, in particular, exchange programmes between partner collections; produce contemporary art works; produce publications and catalogues; design joint promotional and advertising campaigns, public relation strategies, take part in contemporary art fairs; produce a periodical with analysis on contemporary art; produce and organize international exhibitions; conduct market research, study programmes and special arts projects; offer consultation and services to third parties based on their joint experience and development in the field.

The **FACE** project was first presented at the European Parliament in Brussels in 2008.

FACE Partner Foundations

The DESTE Foundation - Established in 1983 by international art collector Dakis Joannou, the DESTE Foundation for contemporary art is based in Athens, Greece. DESTE is a nonprofit foundation that organizes exhibitions and supports publications that explore the relationship between contemporary art and culture. It aims to broaden the audience for contemporary art, to enhance opportunities for young artists and to establish a dialogue through an exhibition program that promotes emerging as well as established artists. Through its exhibition and publishing program, the DESTE Foundation aspires to act as a host to innovative expressions, and operate as an open space for the redefinition of the current artistic production and emergent cultural realities.

Apart from the shows that focus on the Dakis Joannou Collection, the DESTE Foundation also supports and hosts a number of external projects. Such as the DESTE Prize which was introduced in 1999.

The Ellipse Foundation – The Ellipse Foundation began as an initiative by João Oliveira-Rendeiro with support from the Banca Privado Portugu•s. It was formally established in 2004 to support contemporary artists through a variety of initiatives, including acquisitions and commissions as well as a residency, scholarship and educational programmes. The collection currently includes more than 600 works in a variety of mediums – painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, film and video and installation. João Oliveira-Rendeiro began collecting in the 1980s, initially acquiring key works by

important modern masters and contemporary Portuguese artists. He has since expanded his focus to develop an international collection of considerable scope.

Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo - The Italian contemporary art foundation *Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo* was founded in 1995 by the international contemporary art collector Patrizia Sandretto Re Rebaudengo. The Foundation's first exhibition space was set up at the Palazzo Re Rebaudengo in Guarene d'Alba, in 1997.

In September 2002, the Fondazione SRR opened its current headquarters, a centre for contemporary art in Turin with a gallery space of over 1,500 square metres, a book shop, auditorium, educational dept., cafeteria and restaurant. The new centre is a flexible structure that can put together exhibitions quickly and efficiently to respond to today's trends. A range of activities and events (films, talks, music, theatre and dance) are organised parallel to all the main exhibitions, whereby audiences can enjoy, interact and gain greater understanding of the centre and of contemporary art.

In 2005, the FSRR opened its third exhibition venue at Villa Remert in Cirie, a town near Turin airport where educational style exhibitions are organised.

Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo has three main aims: to promote both Italian and international artists by supporting the production and exhibition of new works, bring an ever growing public closer to contemporary art and to create dialogue, exchange and partnerships with other worldwide art institutions.

Every year FSRR produces a rich calendar of major exhibitions and events, as well as running an educational centre with courses for children and adults, a residency programme for international curators and a Prize honouring women over the world.

The Sandretto Re Rebaudengo Collection was started in the early 1990s and today consists of over 1,000 works. The collection contains photography, painting, sculpture, installation, film and video and features works by both internationally acclaimed and emerging artists.

Magasin 3 - Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall was founded 1987 and is one of the leading institutions of contemporary art in Sweden. Since its inception Magasin 3 has become recognized for major exhibitions presenting works by internationally established artists. The aim is to actively participate in contemporary culture by introducing and presenting artists and supporting artistic work. The building of Magasin 3, dated 1930, is a former warehouse in the old Freeport district of Stockholm with an exhibition space of 2,500 square meters. David Neuman has been the director since 1987.

The exhibition program of Magasin 3 is regarded as a complement and a challenge to other institutions of contemporary art. Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall produces and presents approximately six to eight exhibitions every year. This often involves commissioning and production of new works.

The Collection of Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall currently consists of approximately 600 works of art. The focus is on three-dimensional and site-specific works. Acquisitions are made in conjunction with the exhibitions as well as outside the exhibition program. Through close collaboration with artists and institutions the Collection is in constant progress. Works from the Collection is mainly presented at Magasin 3 Stockholm Konsthall but as a result of its unique history and composition, there is an active lending program. During the last 15 years Magasin 3 has lent works from the Collection to numerous museums around the world.

and la maison rouge

Investigations of a dog

The exhibition will feature around 40 works from the collections of the five partner institutions. *Investigations of a Dog*, takes its title from the short story by Franz Kafka, whose main character, a dog, questions the limits of his canine existence, or rather the sense of the community to which he belongs. This constant questioning distances the dog from the others and forces him into the position of outsider, yet in his solitude he expresses his most intense form of interest for the community and his compatriots.

The artists in the exhibition share this eccentric position and employ a new language to analyse society and politics today, thus creating small worlds that are open to the world as a whole. They do so through the practice of what we could call a *minor art*, a term that echoes Delueze&Guattari's notion of *minor literature* in their analysis of the works of Kafka.

According to French philosophers, this would be characterised by the subversive use of a language in power, by the connection of the individual and the political and by the collective arrangement of utterance, which is the process through which the individual voice turns into a communal speech. In this perspective “*minor* no longer characterises certain literatures but describes the revolutionary conditions of any literature within what we call the great (or established).”

The exhibiting artists share an interest in the political dimension of their time, which is expressed not only in the content of their works but primarily in the development of a practice that subverts the conventions of the adopted medium, an eccentric discourse of art that makes them talk as if they were nomads, immigrants in relation to their own language. In this sense, they are not trying to represent the voice of specific, existing communities but they are creating the potential for new collectivities to exist and express themselves.

from “Introduction” in exhibition guide of *Investigations of a Dog, Art Collections from Five European Foundations* - Turin: Face, 2009, pp.6-7

Participating artists are:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Vasco Araújo | Sherrie Levine |
| Virginie Barré | DeAnna Maganias |
| Philippe Bazin | Mark Manders |
| Mircea Cantor | Esko Männikkö |
| Maurizio Cattelan | Marepe |
| Roberto Cuoghi | Paul McCarthy |
| Mark Dion | Boris Mikhailov |
| Gardar Eide Einarsson | Bruce Nauman |
| Urs Fischer | Cady Noland |
| Fischli&Weiss | Martin Parr |
| Claire Fontaine | Navin Rawanchaikul |
| David Hammons | Aurel Schmidt |
| Annika von Hausswolff | Gregor Schneider |
| Thomas Hirschhorn | Lara Schnitger |
| William Kentridge | Santiago Sierra |
| Kimsooja | Lorna Simpson |
| Jeff Koons | Stéphane Thidet |
| Sigalit Landau | Kara Walker |

Catalogue

The exhibition catalogue, published by JRP-Ringier, is a project in itself.

Drawing on the short story by Kafka, from which the exhibition takes its name, and the works shown, five authors have been commissioned to write a short story.

They will be published as individual paperbacks in the HAPAX collection, each in its original language and illustrated by images from the exhibition. They will also be translated into English in a sixth book, completed by information on the exhibition and on the five foundations and members of Face.

complete set: €35 (6 books of which 5 with 64 pages and 1 with 128 pages)

one book (64 pages): €8 except n°6 (128 pages) €12

published on October 22nd 2010 by JRP-Ringier

The writers

-**Aristide Antonas** is a Greek architect and a writer with a PhD on Philosophy (Nanterre, Paris X). 1986 he started publishing his literary texts in the Greek magazine *Black Museum* using different pseudonyms. He has published the prose writings *The Episcopo* (Moments, 2001), *The Three-Headed* (Moments, 2001), *The Four Gardens* (Moments, 2001), *The Two Halves* (Moments, 2001), as well as the novels *The Handler*, *Numbers* and *The Singer and the Couch*. Since 2006 he has been publishing online his prose writings and architectural designs.

-**Jonas Hassen Khemiri**, born 1978, is an award-winning Swedish author. In 2003, *One Eye Red*, sold over 200.000 copies in Sweden and became the best-selling paperback of any category in 2004. *Fils d'un Tunisien et d'une Suédoise*, Khemiri currently lives and works somewhere between Stockholm and Berlin. Il a gagné de nombreux prix pour ses nouvelles ou ses pièces de théâtre traduites et/ou jouées dans le monde entier.

-**Tiziano Scarpa**, was born in Venice in 1963. A multi-faceted and original writer, Scarpa is a novelist, poet, essayist and dramatic. In 2009, he won the prestigious Strega Prize for the novel *Stabat mater*, a narrative with profound poetic influence. His books have been translated worldwide. He is co-founder and contributor to the online magazine *Il primo amore*.

-**Rui Cardoso Martins**. Born 1967 in Portalegre. After studying journalism at Lisbon University, he founded the journal *Público*.

He has published *E Se Eu Gostasse Muito De Morrer*, (2006), *Y Si Me Gustara Morir*, (2008) and *Deixem Passar o Homem Invisível* (2009).

-**Emmanuelle Pagano** is a writer living in the south of France. She has published seven books, the most recent of which is *L'absence d'oiseaux d'eau* (2010). She is the recipient of several literary awards and enjoys the short story format. Her books have been translated into a number of languages including German, Italian and Spanish.

selected images



right to left Ell. Navin Rawanchaikul, *Fly Me To Another World (dedicated)*, 1999, SRR,
DJ Marepe, *Rio Fundo*, 2004, Paul McCarthy, *Pig*, 2003. Vue de l'exposition à la Fondation Ellipse. © DMF (Cascais)



right to left, Maurizio Cattelan, *Untitled (Natale 95) Stella con BR*, 1995, SRR, Virginie Barré, *Les Hommes Venus d'Ailleurs*, 2007, AG, Jeff Koons, *Wrecking Ball*, 2002, DJ. Vue de l'exposition à la Fondation Ellipse. © DMF (Cascais)



right to left, Claire Fontaine, *Strike V. II*, 2005-2007, AG, Stéphane Thidet, *Untitled (le terri!)*, 2008, AG, Martin Parr, *Common Sense*, 1999, AG. Vue de l'exposition à la Fondation Ellipse. © DMF (Cascais)



right to left, Mark Dion, *Les nécrophores-L'enterrement (Hommage à Henri Fabre)*, 1997, AG, Kimsooja, *Bottari Truck*, 2005, M3, Gregor Schneider, *Das Grosse Wichsen*, 1997, SRR, De Anna Maganias, *The View From Bed*, 2007, DJ, Mark Manders, *Fragment from self-portrait as a building/Room with Landscape with Fake Ballpoint*, 1993, SRR, , Urs Fischer, *Mackintosh Staccato*, 2006, DJ. Vue de l'exposition à la Fondation Ellipse. © DMF (Cascais)

la maison rouge



presentation

la maison rouge, a private, non-profit foundation, opened in June 2004 in Paris. Its purpose is to promote contemporary creation through a programme of three solo or thematic temporary exhibitions a year, certain of which are staged by independent curators.

La maison rouge was created on the initiative of Antoine de Galbert, an art collector and active figure on the French art scene. While Antoine de Galbert's own collection is not shown, the entire project is fashioned by his personality and outlook as a collector. Beginning with L'intime [Behind Closed Doors: the private life of collections], la maison rouge stages exhibitions on the theme of private collections and the issues and questions surrounding them.

Antoine de Galbert,

Born in 1955 and a graduate in political science, Antoine de Galbert worked in corporate management before opening a contemporary art gallery in Grenoble for some ten years. Concurrently, he purchased the first works in a collection that was to take on growing importance in his life. In 2000 he chose to create a foundation as a means of both anchoring his commitment to contemporary creation and opening his collection to the public.

The building

La maison rouge is installed in a renovated factory in the Bastille district of Paris, overlooking the Arsenal marina. The 2,500 square meters site, including 1,300 square meters of exhibition space, is centred around "la maison rouge" or red house.

By naming the venue after this house, la maison rouge makes clear its vocation as a welcoming, convivial space where visitors can see exhibitions, attend lectures, enjoy a drink or explore the bookstore.

The artist Jean-Michel Alberola (born in Paris in 1953) was commissioned for the interior design of the reception areas.

The bookstore

la maison rouge has chosen Bookstorming, a specialist in contemporary art publications, for its bookstore at 10 bis, boulevard de la Bastille. Its selection of titles is regularly updated to reflect the current exhibitions at la maison rouge. It also stocks art DVDs and videos, publications on the latest developments in the contemporary art world, and proposes an important catalogue of out-of-print books and books by artists.

les amis de la maison rouge

A non-profit organisation, les amis de la maison rouge is closely involved with and supports Antoine de Galbert's project. It contributes to reflection and debates on the theme of the private collection, organises activities to coincide with the exhibitions, and promotes la maison rouge among French and international audiences.

Membership from €90

+33 (0)1 40 01 94 38, amis@lamaisonrouge.org

activities at la maison rouge

for children

le mercredi, on goûte aux contes

One Wednesday a month, a story-teller takes children aged from 4 to 11 on a journey into the land of imagination.

Story + snack: €7 for children and accompanying adults.

Lasts around 90 minutes

Information and reservations : stephaniemolinard@lamaisonrouge.org

guided tours

for individuals

Free guided tour in French of the exhibitions every Saturday and Sunday at 4 pm.

for groups

guided tours in french :€75

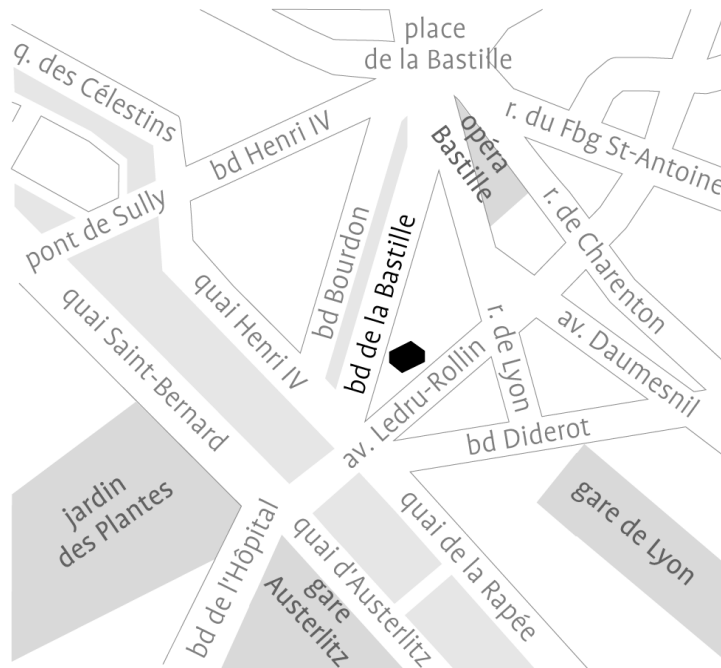
Visits are assured by students in history of art, specialized in contemporary art.

informations et reservations: Stéphanie Molinard, 01.40.01.92.79 or stephaniemolinard@lamaisonrouge.org

> The full programme and dates for activities are at www.lamaisonrouge.org

useful information

la maison rouge is open Wednesday to Sunday from 11am to 7pm
open late Thursday until 9pm
closed on December 25th, January 1st and May 1st



transport

metro: Quai de la Rapée (line 5) or Bastille (lines 1, 5 or 8)
RER: Gare de Lyon
bus: 20/29/91

access

the exhibition areas are accessible to disabled visitors and people with restricted mobility.

admission

full price: €7
concessions: €5 (ages 13-18, students, full-time artists, over-65s)
free: under-13s, job-seekers, persons accompanying disabled visitors, members of ICOM and Les Amis de la maison rouge
annual pass, full price: €19
annual pass, concessions: €14
free and unlimited admission to the exhibitions
free admission or reduced rates for related events