



Boris Chouvelon

Modern express

la maison rouge

in the patio

**Exhibition: July 8th –
September 18th 2016**

Press release

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Preview Thursday July 7th 2016

Press preview 9.30am – 11.30am

Professional preview 6pm – 9pm

in the patio at La maison rouge

**Once a year,
les Amis de la maison rouge
produces a work
specifically for the patio,
by an artist it selected
the previous year.**

In 2015, these Amis de la maison rouge chose **Boris Chouvelon**, a French visual artist. His *Modern Express* will be shown in the patio of la maison rouge from July 8th to September 18th 2016.

A keen observer, Boris Chouvelon concentrates on the fringes of urban space and its physical, social and human periphery. Travelling on foot, by car or by train, he navigates through frontier zones (ringroads, motorways, coastlines, waterways) then seeks to produce a representation of modern ruins which can just as easily encompass farmland as industrial zones, commercial zones or abandoned, forgotten construction sites.

All these states of the contemporary world are documented, photographed, recorded and filmed. Chouvelon proceeds by taking objects, forms or impressions from the real world and transforming them either in his studio or on-site at the exhibition venue.

Thus displaced and disconnected, these fragments take on an imaginary, dreamlike state while at the same time revealing the condition of the real world.

The vast majority of his sculptures and installations are in concrete and steel, giving them a dense, solid materiality. References to physical labour and construction are omnipresent, right up to images of concreted landscapes and videos of heavy equipment, and have become the artist's signature. His works have an unsettling plastic force, as well as a brutal elegance that distances the observer while provoking a visual and sensitive impact. Their titles play on the meaning of words and reinforce the unexpectedly poetic aspect of the complex set of references which the artist has produced.

Modern Express

«The work, which was designed and formulated for the patio at Fondation Antoine de Galbert, plays on the surrounding architecture and its context; the ground and its geology, the walls, the bay windows, and most of all the patch of sky that visitors see when they look up, allowing their thoughts to stray... *Modern Express* is a mobile, hung from a bracket, that fills the proposed space in a poetic way. Positioned horizontally, from bottom to top, and held in place by chains, is a succession of concrete beams. Attached to the ends, removed from their usual context, are buckets from mechanical diggers. At once massive and fragile, this sculpture powerfully reinvents a construction system. It considers recurring themes in my work: our post-industrial, post-modern era, entropy, and ruin by anticipation.»
Boris Chouvelon, Paris, 2016.



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Biography

Boris Chouvelon (born 1980) is a French visual artist working with sculpture, photography and video. He lives and works in Paris, and is a graduate of the Ecole Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Marseille and Villa Arson, Nice. His work is regularly shown in France and internationally. His monumental sculptures have been part of open-air contemporary art exhibitions including *Hortillonnages, art, villes et paysages* at La Maison de la Culture in Amiens, Quatre in the Hautes-Alpes, SAC *Mari tra le mura* at the Pino Pascali Foundation in Polignano a Mare, Italy, and *Se souvenir de la mer* at Château d'Avignon. His work has also been seen in group shows at FRAC Basse-Normandie, Musée des Beaux Arts in Calais, SCVA in Norwich, England, Argo Art Centre in Brussels, Belgium, Centre Culturel Français in Hanoi, Vietnam, agYU Presents Buy-self in Toronto, Salon de Montrouge, and Zapping Unit at Mac Val. The Museum of Contemporary Art (MAC) in Marseille presented a solo show of his work in 2011, with a catalogue. Boris Chouvelon was artist-in-residence at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris from 2012 to 2014. Also in 2014, he was shortlisted for the Révélations Emerige grant. His work to date will feature in *Fondations*, a monograph to be published by Editions André Frère in July 2016.

Bruno Chouvelon is currently represented by Galerie Virginie Louvet in Paris.

also...

From July 8th to September 18th 2016,
La maison rouge presents a solo show by the artist
Eugen Gabritschevsky and a solo show
by the French artist **Nicolas Darrot**.

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#BorisChouvelon #Patio2016
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front page:
Boris Chouvelon, *Détournement de fond*, 2010,
reinforced concrete, metal



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Visitor information

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Getting here

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

Access

The galleries are accessible to the disabled and mobility impaired visitors

Opening days and times

Wednesday to Sunday from 11am to 7pm
Late nights Thursday until 9pm
January 1st and May 1st

Admission

Full price: € 10
Concessions: € 7 (13-18, students, full-time artists, over 65s)
Free for under 13s, job-seekers, companions to disabled visitors, members of ICOM and Amis de la maison rouge
Annual pass: full price € 28
Annual pass: concessions € 19
Free and unlimited access to the exhibitions
Free access or reduced rates to related events.

