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Mudam Luxembourg
Musée d'Art Moderne
Grand-Duc Jean

PRESS KIT

I'VE DREAMT ABOUT . COLLECTION MUDAM
23/11/2011 - 04/03/2012

PRESS RELEASE

I'VE DREAMT ABOUT

COLLECTION MUDAM

Exhibition from November 23, 2011 to March 4, 2012

Curator Marie-Noëlle Farcy

Artists Vyacheslav Akhunov, Michael Ashkin, Chto Delat? / What is to be done?, Julien Grossmann, Steven C. Harvey, Filip Markiewicz, David Maljkovic, Chad McCail, Yves Netzhammer, Paulo Nozolino, Sven Johnne, Philippe Parreno, Michel Paysant, Pavel Pepperstein, Nikolay Polissky, François Roche / R&Sie(n), Fernando Sánchez Castillo, Tomás Saraceno, Eric Schockmel, Judith Walgenbach

Opening Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at 6pm

Press visit Wednesday, November 23, 2011 at 5pm

The societies we live in are the outcome of thinking; they take form, they are re-formed, they are transformed and they are revolutionized, above all by the mind. The idea of coming up with "realist utopias", which may seem a paradoxical expression, is, indeed the feat achieved by those artists endowed with both daring and fantasy who invent worlds with unsuspected outlines, and whose works offset our most diehard habits.

So Tomás Saraceno has a go at the free flight game and imagines nomadic dwellings, inflatable structures which can be modulated and also make any idea of boundaries and circumscribed territories obsolete. Above the mere pleasure of conducting experiments, he invites us to shift the way we look at things, and think differently about the political world.

Michel Paysant, for his part, metaphorically conjures up that space in the making which is the European Community, a burning issue if ever there was. For *Peradam (project)*, he has thus pushed back the strictly administrative confines, and taken, samplelike, 55 bits of asphalt from different symbolic places, from Mitrovica bridge to the square where Frankfurt's stock exchange stands, which he has then filmed in a slow continuous movement, like a changing organic entity.

We find this same moving dynamic, forever gestating and evolving, in François Roche's experimental work, and the R&Sie(n) research platform he has initiated. His multi-faceted maquettes propose novel models of urban expansion. He replaces the principle of city planning applying pre-established rules, by the dynamic of an organic development in which forms produce themselves, and thus become, not the outcome of a concept, but something generated by a principle of energy.

Stimulated by the most unexpected architectural experiments, François Roche, together with the artist Philippe Parreno, has responded to the invitation of Rirkrit Tiravanija and Kamin Letchaiprasert - who have developed the *The Land* project in the very heart of Thailand, to wit a space of creation and life linked in with surrounding communities and connected to the whole world. They have duly come up with an open structure supplied with electricity by a buffalo's power. A collective venture during which Tiravanija and Letchaiprasert's utopian project, R&Sie(n)'s forward-looking architecture, and Parreno's film with its bewitching atmospheric poetry, *The Boy from Mars*, all emerge in a connected way, and reciprocally enrich each other.

The characters in Judith Walgenbach's photographs seem informed by a similar spirit of quest and experiment, all given the distinctive signs of the perfect scholar as he appears in our collective imagination. Grey smock, the look on his face concentrated, and spectacles with severe frames, all at once alert to the world and isolated in their searches, they seem to focus on phenomena which the advances and techniques of science enable them to observe.

It is with the same ironical distance, with regard to the idea of scientific progress that, in 2009, Nikolay Polissky created the work *Large Hadron Collider* for the museum's Grand Hall. Now on view outside, this sculpture with its fantastic cogs has lost nothing of its evocative power and its capacity to get us to dream. The series of drawings which preceded and went hand-in-hand with the execution of the project helps us to discover the many different developments of this machine which, though directly inspired by the same-named particle accelerator, and extremely complex, technologically speaking, bears the patina of time and is akin to certain rudimentary but fascinating ancient tools.

For their part, Steven C. Harvey's surprisingly subtle drawings, teeming with details, plunge us into a future with at times apocalyptic overtones. His complex compositions represent so many scenes which draw as much from a collective fount as from fantastic projections. For this artist it is not a matter of being visionary, but of staging visions in which man finds himself confined within an organized, not to say authoritarian system.

Chad McCail's seemingly more larksome, if schematic drawings also plunge us into a world governed by coercive "natural" laws, and the way it is packaged is such that any escape from it seems illusory: the various stages inexorably follow on, one from the other, in a cold progression.

This disenchantment seems to permeate the work of Michael Ashkin, who develops in space what might be vast desolate urban expanses, as are to be found in American cities. Through an anarchic succession of standardized dwellings, the flaws and cracks of our societies are drawn, in the negative.

These societies are revealed in all their harshness, in the raw light of the lens wielded by Paulo Nozolino, a longhaul traveller who never stops globetrotting unto the planet's farthest flung nooks. His candid eye, which makes no concessions but is not without propriety and delicacy, reveals an extremely sensitive portrait of humankind.

Because, if various hope-inspiring utopias have informed our societies - *Nous sommes tous indésirables* ("We all are undesirable") declares the work of Fernando Sánchez Castillo referring to May '68 slogans in France - many of them have nevertheless been short-lived. Without counting those caught up in rigid ideological systems, which are themselves now vanished or contested. Filip Markiewicz's Mao Dollar, the video *The Partisan Songspiel. A Belgrade Story* by Chto Delat? / What is to be done? and Vyacheslav Akhunov's collages involving the figure of Lenin all remind us of the not that distant era when the world was bipolar.

So the exhibition *I've dreamt about* symbolically mingles Thomas More's city of Amaurote and Jeremy Bentham's Panopticon, proof of the complexity of our societies and above all of the significance of the challenges putting the focus on both the hope and the dark side of our projections.

MY MUDAM

On November 23, 2011 from 6pm to 8pm

Within the framework of My Mudam, several events take place for the opening of the exhibition: guided tours to discover the art works of the collection at the first floor of the museum; the presentation of a wallpainting at Mudam Boutique; a musical performance at Mudam Café and a tasting of a special My Mudam Cocktail.

I'VE DREAMT ABOUT . COLLECTION MUDAM

Guided tours (level 1)

Guided tours in Luxembourgish at 6.30pm and in French at 7.15pm. Duration 30'.

FRESKE by Samuël Levy

Presentation at Mudam Boutique

Taking automatic writing as a base and using tools he refers to as "invidious", such as ballpoint pens, fluorescent marker pens and humble post-its, Samuël Levy gives free rein on the Mudam Boutique wall, to his organic line from which is emitted a flux that only the limits of the support can halt. To this original creation, presented until March 4, 2012 at Mudam Boutique, the artist adds a Screen print (50x62cm). This Limited edition counts 100 numbered copies which are for sale at Mudam Boutique.

Marie Madeleine Live-Set

Musical performance at Mudam Café

Marie Madeleine, consisting of Herr 2003, Gregory Wagenheim and Jarco Weiss, mixes new wave and disco in order to create hybrid music with heady texts and catchy melodies.

ADDRESS

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OPENING HOURS

Wednesday-Friday: 11am-8pm. Saturday-Monday: 11am-6pm.
Tuesday closed.

REGULAR TOURS

Every Saturday at 4pm in French.
Every Sunday at 3pm in German and at 4pm in Luxembourgish.
On 04/12/2011, 08/01/2012, 05/02/2012 and 04/03/2012 at 11am in English.
On 27/11/2011, 29/01/2012 and 26/02/2012 at 3.30pm in Portuguese.

PRESS

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Mudam thanks

The Ministry for Culture
Mister Jacques Santer, Honorary Prime Minister and President of the Board, as well as the Board of Directors of the Fondation Musée d'Art Moderne Grand-Duc Jean.
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WORKS IN THE EXHIBITION I'VE DREAMT ABOUT . COLLECTION MUDAM

Vyacheslav Akhunov

Lenin-Art or Leniniana, 1977-1982

Series of 18 collages, 30 x 42 cm each

Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2009 - KBL European Private Bankers

Michael Ashkin

Untitled [where the toll for dreaming is exacted daily upon awakening]. [an abridged title, the first of twenty lines], (détail), 2008

Cardboard, variable dimensions

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Chto delat/What is to be done?

Partisan Songspiel. A Belgrade Story, 2009

Colour film, sound, 29 min 35 s

Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2009 - KBL European Private Bankers

Julien Grossmann

If I Had Known, 2010

16 mm projector, 16 mm blank audio film, wood, 95 x 220 x 290 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Steven C. Harvey

Série Vehicles, 2006-2007

Ark, 2007 (42 x 59 cm), ***Drillcopter, 2007*** (42 x 59 cm), ***Landing Zone, 2006*** (42 x 120 cm)

Aircraft, 2007 (42 x 59 cm), ***Motorway, 2007*** (59 x 42 cm), ***Refueling, 2007*** (59 x 42 cm),

Taxiing, 2010 (71 x 86 cm, private collection)

Pencil on paper

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Sven Johne

Bilder der Stadt Vinh, 2009

Series of 24 colour printings, 130 x 260 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2009 - KBL European Private Bankers

Filip Markiewicz

Mao Dollar, 2010

Pencil on paper, 150 x 340 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

David Maljkovic

Lost Cabinet, 2008

Cabinet, collages, plants, curtains, lamps, 228 x 540 x 103 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2010 - KBL European Private Bankers

Chad McCail

Alien Genital, 1999

Series of 6 gouache paintings and 6 texts on paper, 59,5 x 73 cm each

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Chad McCail

Ourobouros, 2002

Mosaik project for Mudam (not produced), inc on paper/inc and gouache on paper

150 x 150 cm / 41 x 44 cm

Commission and Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Yves Netzhammer

Das Reservat, 2010

Plaster, lace, metal, variable dimensions

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Paulo Nozolino

Casal Ventoso, Lisbon, 1996

Series of 9 black and white photographs, silver chlorobromide on aluminium

60 x 90 cm each

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Philippe Parreno

The Boy from Mars, 2003

35 mm film transfered to HD video, colour, sound, music by Devendra Banhart, 10 min 38 s

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Philippe Parreno & R&Sie(n)

Battery House, 2002

Prototype of an animated stucture made of recycled plastic banana tree leaves, 523 x 280 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Michel Paysant

Nusquam, 2007

Installation made of two units *Poussière d'Océan* and *La Maison d'Utopie*, and of a wallpainting

Sound composition by Muadhib, variable dimensions

Commission and Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Peradam (Project), 2007

Digital film, 65 min, sound composition by Muadhib

Commission and Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Pavel Pepperstein

Untitled, 2005

Watercolour on paper, 114 x 199 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Nikolay Polissky

Large Hadron Collider, 2009

Series of 20 drawings, pen on paper, 21 x 29,7 cm each

Commission and Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2009 - KBL European Private Bankers

François Roche

I've heard about (Modèles de sécrétion), 2005

Series of architectural models, resin powder and corn powder

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Fernando Sánchez Castillo

Nous sommes tous indésirables, 2006

Bulbs and metal frame, 300 x 500 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Tomás Saraceno

Space Elevator II (working title), 2009

Series of 6 colour photographs, 50 x 33 cm each

1MW/Air-Port-City, 2007

Pillow, webbing, air, pump, 63,5 x ø 114,3 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Eric Schockmel

Circuit I (Syscapes), 2008-2011

Digital animation, sound

Collection Mudam Luxembourg

Judith Walgenbach

Aus der Serie: Transplantation into History

Locus Politicus, 2008; Jugend Forscht, 2008

Photomontages – Lambda printings, 100 x 80 cm each

Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2010 – Nadine and Pierre Metzler

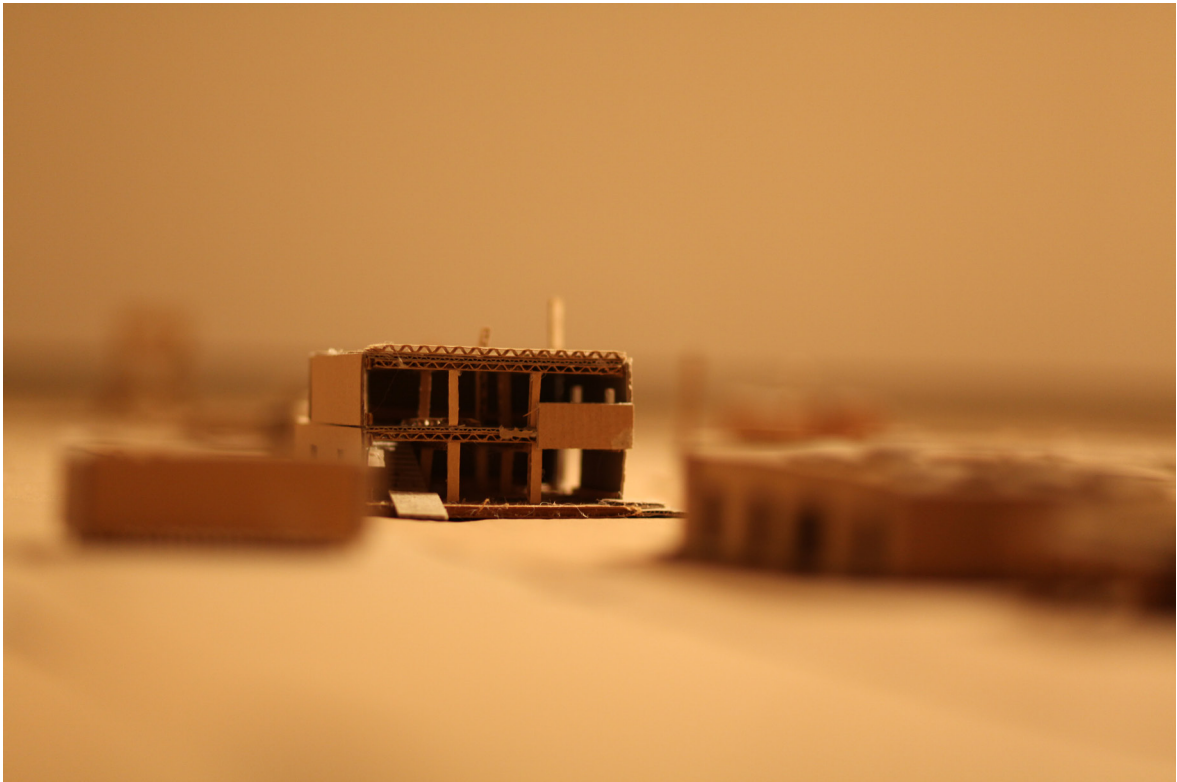
Neues Atlantis, 2008

Drawing – Lambda printing, 64 x 55 cm

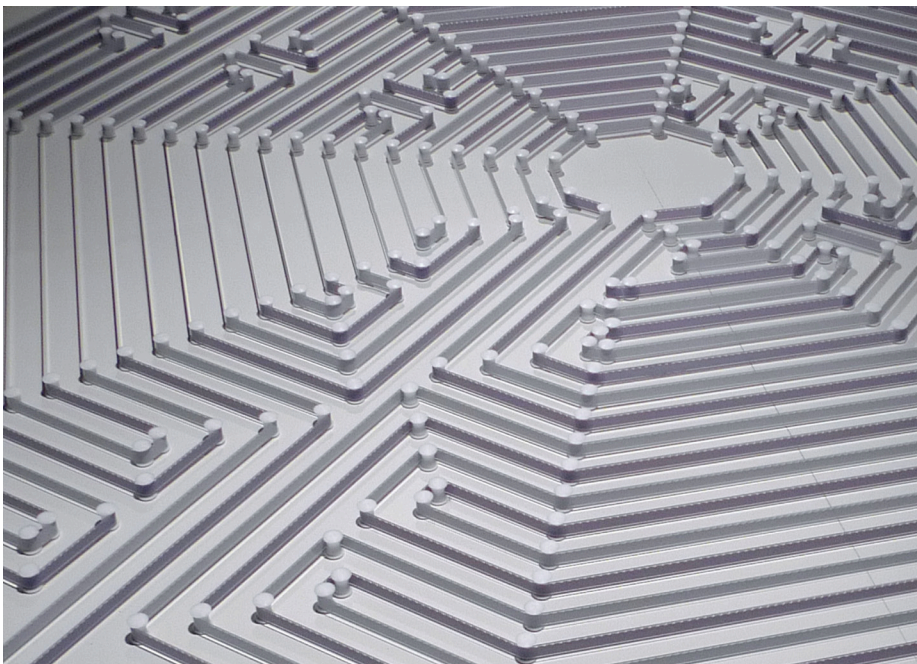
Locus Atomisticus, 2008

Model, 150 x 80 x 80 cm

Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2010 – Nadine and Pierre Metzler



Michael Ashkin, *Untitled (where the toll for dreaming is exacted daily upon awakening)*. [an abridged title, the first of twenty lines], 2008 (detail)
Collection Mudam Luxembourg
© Photo: Markus Kaesler / Heidelberg Kunstverein



Julien Grossmann, *If I Had Known*, 2010 (detail)
Collection Mudam Luxembourg
© Photo: Julien Grossmann



Sven Johné, *Bilder der Stadt Vinh*, 2009
Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation KBL European Private Bankers
© Photo: Courtesy the artist and Galerie Klemm's, Berlin



Paulo Nozolino, *Casal Ventoso, Lisbon*, 1996
Collection Mudam Luxembourg
© Photo: Paulo Nozolino



Chto Delat? / What is to be done?, *Partisan Songspiel. A Belgrade Story*, 2009
Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation KBL European Private Bankers
© Video still: Chto Delat? / What is to be done?



Vyacheslav Akhunov, *Lenin-Art or Leniniana*, 1977-1982
Collection Mudam Luxembourg, donation 2009 - KBL European Private Bankers
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