

An XXL Biennale!

A new exhibition within the Biennale

The 13th Biennale de Lyon is made up of four exhibitions: *La vie moderne*, *Ce fabuleux monde moderne*, *Rendez-vous 15* and *Anish Kapoor chez Le Corbusier*. The world-famous artist presents a monographic exhibition dialoging with the modernist architecture of the Couvent de la Tourette monastery in Éveux.



© Jonathan Letoubion

Anish Kapoor chez Le Corbusier

By Marc Chauveau, Curator

For seven years now, the Dominicans, who live in the Couvent de La Tourette, which Le Corbusier built for them in the 1950s in the Lyon area, have been holding exhibitions of contemporary art. They wish the monastery to strongly embrace today's world and, in particular, contemporary creative activity. These exhibitions are conceived as encounters between a visual artist's work and the architecture of Le Corbusier.

The guest artists so far: François Morellet (2009); Vera Molnar, Ian Tyson, Stéphane Couturier (2010); Alan Charlton (2011); Éric Michel (2012); Anne and Patrick Poirier (2013), and Philippe Favier (2014). Catalogues have been published for the exhibitions.

The project at La Tourette is unique on the French art scene. The purpose of the place reflects something which, in a sense, exists nowhere else: the singular fusion of Le Corbusier's architecture (the archetype of modern architecture), religious life, everyday life, and contemporary art.

The exhibitions of recent years have shown how naturally the artworks take their place in the monastery, so apposite is their dialogue with the architecture. The result? A renewed perspective on both the building and the exhibits.

This relationship between a living spiritual place, the architectural quality of the monastery, and the artistic quality of the chosen works makes each coming-together a unique experience. The works are no longer on display; they "inhabit" the monastery. They acquire the meaning of a presence in a place which is itself inhabited.

This year's guest artist is Anish Kapoor. He came to stay at La Tourette to discover and experiment with the architecture and to finalise the selection of artworks which he will install in conversation with Le Corbusier's architecture. In situ, he was attentive to the way in which light is crafted, creating chiaroscuro effects; and greatly moved by the textures of the walls covered in rough rendering or made of unfinished concrete, which hints at the grains of the wooden formwork, on which the light plays. He was delighted by the construction and formwork imperfections, for they indicate many defects, which ultimately prove appreciable and give this apparently rigorous architecture a lovable, human quality.

For the artist, in his perpetual quest for novel forms, this encounter with the architecture of La Tourette provided a stimulus. For example, he was inspired by the Modulor, designed by Le Corbusier according to the proportions of the human body. These proportions can be found in a piece Kapoor has made for the exhibition. The exhibits will play in various ways with the architecture: in reflections with mirrors; in a dialogue of materials and textures between concrete walls and paintings or waxworks; and, lastly, in the resonance between "light cannons" and round mirrors.

Once again, this coming-together will yield a fertile, arresting dialogue between artistic heritage and a contemporary creator.

Informations

Couvent de La Tourette
69210 Éveux
France

Thur 10 Sept. 2015 to
Sun 3 Jan. 2016.

Opening hours

Tue-Sun, 2-6.30pm,
and by appointment.

Tickets

+33(0)4 72 19 10 90
accueil@couventdelatourette.fr
info@couventdelatourette.fr

Tours

Guided tours every Saturday and
Sunday afternoon, and for groups
(booking required) all week.

Prices

Guided tour: €7
Self-guided tour: €5
School children: €3

guest curator
ralph rugoff
artistic director
thierry raspail

La vie moderne The list of artists is getting bigger!

Nina Beier and David Shrigley are completing the list of guest artists invited by Ralph Rugoff at *La vie moderne*.

Nina Beier

b. 1975 in Aarhus (Denemark); lives and works in Berlin (Germany)

Nina Beier's practice negotiates social and political questions of representation and exchange, inhabiting moments of conflict and correlation. She traces the convoluted relationships between objects and images, as mediation mutates information from things to representations and back again and images subsume or discard their referents to become distinct objects in their own right.

Nina Beier recently showed her work at David Roberts Art Foundation (London), at Kunstverein Hamburg and CAC (Vilnius).

David Shrigley

b. 1968 in Macclesfield (United Kingdom); lives and works in Glasgow (United Kingdom)

David Shrigley has developed a cult following for his stripped back, darkly humorous and deliberately crude drawings that explore existential dramas, human dysfunction and anxiety.

David Shrigley recently showed his work at the National Gallery of Victoria (Melbourne), at the Hayward Gallery (London) and at the Bergen Kunsthall.

The artists of *La vie moderne* - List as of 15 July 2015

Mickael Armitage	Mike Nelson
Kader Attia	Trinh Thi Nguyen
Darren Bader	Otobong Nkanga
Sammy Baloji	Katja Novitskova
Yto Barrada	Ahmet Ögüt
Nina Beier	George Osodi
Hicham Berrada	Anna Ostoya
Camille Blatrix	Tony Oursler
Michel Blazy	Marina Pinsky
Mohamed Bourouissa	Julien Prévieux
Célèste Boursier-Mougenot	Jon Rafman
Nina Canell	Miguel Angel Rios
George Condo	Ed Ruscha
Alex Da Corte	Massinissa Selmani
Jeremy Deller	Marinella Senatore
Simon Denny	David Shrigley
Jessica Diamond	Avery Singer
Thomas Eggerer	Lucie Stahl
Cyprien Gaillard	Tatiana Trouvé
Fabien Giraud et Raphaël Siboni	Andra Ursuta
Xiao Guan	Klaus Weber
Anthea Hamilton	T.J Wilcox
He Xiangyu	Haegue Yang
Camille Henrot	Yuan Goang-Ming
Hannah Hutzig	Arseny Zhilyaev
Jamie Cameron	
Johannes Kahrs	
Lai Chih Sheng	59 artists (or artists collectives) from 28 different countries
Emmanuelle Lainé	
Laura Lamiel	
Liu Wei	About 200 exhibited works
Andreas Lolis	
Magdi Mostafa	63 % of the works are specially created for the Biennale
Daniel Naudé	

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