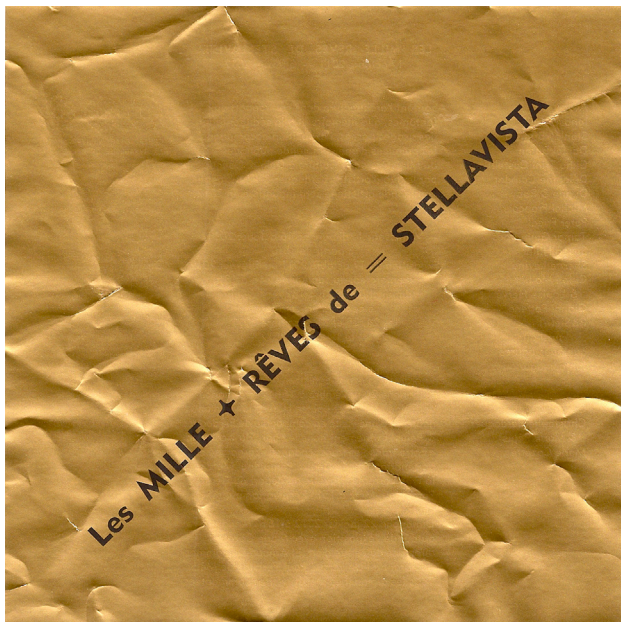




Press release



THE THOUSAND DREAMS OF STELLAVISTA
17.10.2011-05.02.2012

OPENING SUNDAY 16 OCTOBER at 3:00 pm

An exhibition with:

Ignasi Aballi, Stanley Brouwn, Daniel Buren, Clino Castelli, Delphine Coindet, Dunne and Raby, Michel François, Peter Friedl, Tamar Guimaraes, Louise Hervé & Chloé Maillet, Susan Hiller, Sherrie Levine, Gianni Pettena, R&Sie(n)

Curators:

Berdaguer & Péjus, Marie Cozette

For *The Thousand Dreams of Stellavista*¹, the Synagogue de Delme has joined forces with artistic duo Berdaguer & Péjus to conceive a group exhibition on ghosts, assembling some fifteen artists, designers and architects of all persuasions.

The exhibition precedes *Gue(ho)st House*, a work of art by Berdaguer and Péjus commissioned in Delme by the French Ministry of Culture. The aim of this commission is to redevelop the area surrounding the art centre and create a visitor reception space (to be inaugurated: summer 2012).

In the exhibition *The Thousand Dreams of Stellavista*, the works serve as crossing points at the intersection of diverse temporalities, more or less recent pasts and evolving futures. They act as thresholds, doors to memories of other places from which our own ghosts emerge here and there. Whether in literature or in cinema, the contemporary imagination is overrun by ghosts, since every new technology brings its share of phantoms and irrationalities. It goes without saying that these figures - more or less shapeless, more or less visible, alternatively frightening and benevolent - lend themselves to fruitful images in which science and fiction intermingle and blur their respective limits.

When Designer Clino Castelli takes up the plans Wittgenstein drew up for his sister's house, he reveals vibrations in the air and invisible forces at play in the dwelling. Immaterial parameters also define architecture in François Roche's work, in what he calls "the architecture of moods". And in the work of designers Dunne & Raby, the moods of domestic objects come under consideration, through a series of robots with various psychologies. Anxiety, hyperactivity, a penchant for calm or an apparent weakness fill the space with diffuse feelings.

The works disappear, then surface on the walls. Or they constitute stratified excrescences, becoming something fleeting, made of dust, snatched from oblivion. In a video by Susan Hiller, dead or endangered languages murmur in a collection of worlds dying along with the languages that convey them. These voices from the beyond mingle with artistic and intellectual figures who have been resuscitated for the occasion: philosopher Antonio Gramsci in Peter Friedl's installation, psychographic medium Francisco Candido Xavier, whose incredible life is evoked by Tamar Guimaraes, and even photographer Walker Evans, whom Sherrie Levine rephotographs by

¹ The title of the exhibition is a reference the novel of the same name by J. G. Ballard; the author conjures up a strange city whose houses retain in memory the psychology of successive inhabitants. These houses continue to react and transform in line with their owners' affects, as if they were physical extensions of their moods.

creating a set of temporal strata and mises en abyme. Further along, a few cinematographic ghosts punctuate the exhibition through patches of phantasmagoria, which have served to animate images for popular spectacles since the seventeenth century. Finally at the entrance, visitors are greeted by a Michel François work entitled *Piece of Evidence*, consisting of a completely shattered glass pavilion. Like a fractured dream, this mass of veined glass, alive and yet verging on collapse, acts as a prism at the heart of the exhibition: as if ideal transparency needed to be opposed to a more opaque vision and a few hiding places, a field open to uncertainty, in a perfectly charted, known world.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

Opening Sunday 16 October
at 3:00 pm
Exhibition open
17.10.2011-05.02.2012

Wednesday-Saturday : 2-6pm
Sundays : 11am-6pm
Closed: 24, 25, 31 December 2011, 1st January 2012
Admission free



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From Metz (by car, 30 mins): D955 (formerly route de Strasbourg)
From Nancy (by car, 40 mins): N74 towards Château-Salins then D955 towards Metz

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Press kit downloadable on www.cac-synagoguedelme.org/presse
Visuals available on request

RELATED EVENTS

SUNDAY 22 JANUARY AT 4PM: A TALK ON THE EXHIBITION

With Marie Cozette, Director of the art centre, and Arnaud Dejeammes, a PhD student from Paul Verlaine University in Metz.

For several years, Arnaud Dejeammes has been researching the theme of ghosts in visual arts. He will offer a cross-disciplinary examination of the exhibition, specifically exploring the notion of haunting.

EVERY SUNDAY AT 4PM: GUIDED TOURS

With Laurène Macé, Head of Public Relations.

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS AND "BIG IDEAS SMALL HANDS" WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

With Laurène Macé, Head of Public Relations, and a visual artist.

Free entry, by reservation.

Information, dates and schedules available from the art centre.



“BETWEEN TRANCE AND TRANSCENDENCE” WEEKEND

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 49 NORD 6 EST-FRAC LORRAINE AND THE CENTRE POMPIDOU-METZ
18 TO 20 NOVEMBER 2011

This weekend is a mental journey through secondary or altered states of consciousness offered between three sites and three exhibitions. From the complexities of thought in meditative states, from the search for other levels of perception to the evocation of wandering souls in other spheres of reality—performances, conferences and visits explore the means of accessing these rational beyonds.

49 NORD 6 EST - FRAC LORRAINE - FRIDAY 18 NOVEMBER AT 8PM

CONCERT: ORBES

Emmanuel Holterbach, Sophie Durand, musicians

Admission: 3/4 euros

In partnership with the FRAGMENT association

Coinciding with the exhibition *Le moins du monde*
from 7 October 2011 to 8 January 2012

CENTRE POMPIDOU-METZ - SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER AT 5PM

CONFERENCE: VERTIGES DU DÉPLACEMENT (VERTIGOS OF DISPLACEMENT)

Olivier Schefer, Doctor of Philosophy

& TALK / PERFORMANCE: TWO INTO ONE BECOME THREE

Matt Mullican, artist

Free entry. Seating limited.

Coinciding with the exhibition *Erre, variations labyrinthiques*
from 12 September 2011 to 5 March 2012

LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME - SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER AT 4PM

PERFORMANCE: L'ULTIME SUGGESTION DU DOCTEUR COUÉ

Louise Hervé and Chloé Maillet, artists



A recess and a reconstruction,
filmstill
film super8, 20mn, 2011

This performance was conceived not only in the context of *The Thousand Dreams of Stellavista*, but also in advance of their solo at the art centre (late February to mid-May 2012).

A performance by Chloé Maillet and Louise Hervé, at once a historical epic, a police investigation, a spy film, a retro-futuristic adventure, an archaeological reconstitution, a Bildungsroman... in which reality quickly spills over into fantasy simply through the two young women's power of evocation.

At Delme, one will confront science and parascience, while taking a detour through self-hypnosis and Doctor Coué's famous technique...

The performances will be followed by snacks and a guided tour with Berdager & Péjus. Shuttle leaves the Centre Pompidou Metz at 3pm, arriving back at Metz around 6pm. Free entry. Contact the art centre for reservations.



GUE(HO)ST HOUSE: A WORK OF ART BY BERDAGUER AND PÉJUS, COMMISSIONED IN DELME BY THE FRENCH MINISTRY OF CULTURE



For fifteen years, Berdaguer & Péjus have been developing a critical reinterpretation of the architectural utopias that punctuated the twentieth century like ghosts of history, and have been reinvesting the counter-utopias of radical Italian designers and architects. In the 1960s and 1970s, radical architecture pushed the madness of the modernist promises of happiness to the point of absurdity, by creating projections of the hyper-consumerist and hyper-rationalist worlds. If in their projects Berdaguer & Péjus assemble disciplines as heterogeneous as psychoanalysis, biology, neurology, sociology... this is because architecture and the city are understood as projections of the body, the psyche and social organisations. For them, a house is more a totality of affects and perceptions than a purely mechanical construct. In 2006, the artists began their *Psychoarchitectures* series—sculptures conceived from “house psychological tests”—which the public commission in Delme echoes. Marcel Duchamp’s wordplay *A Guest + A Host = A Ghost* served as a catalyst for rethinking the area surrounding the Synagogue de Delme and the restoration of a building behind it, which was once a school, then a prison, and until recently a funeral home. Wishing to latch onto the place’s memory and the archaeology of its past uses, they are making this future visitor reception space into a veritable “architectural phantasmagoria”. To use their terms, it is “the art of making ghosts speak in public”.

PARTNERS

The exhibition *The Thousand Dreams of Stellavista* has been made possible thanks to the support of artists, galleries and lenders:

- > Centre national des arts plastiques, Paris
- > 49 Nord 6 Est - Fonds régional d’art contemporain de Lorraine, Metz
- > Frac des Pays de la Loire, Carquefou
- > Galerie Mercier & Associés, Paris
- > Galerie Xavier Hufkens, Bruxelles
- > Musée Gassendi, Digne-Les-Bains
- > Timothy Taylor Gallery, London

Partners of “Between Trance and Transcendence”:
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