

## **What on Hell Happened to This Music ?**

### **Arnaud Maguet & guests**

**June 29<sup>th</sup> – September 28<sup>th</sup> 2008**

Opening on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm

Using very diversified means, Arnaud Maguet questions the basic aspects of the 1950's to 1970's subculture. He starts with music (rock'n'roll, punk, krautrock, hip-hop, free jazz, psychedelic music...), then goes on to Kenneth Anger's or Andy Warhol's experimental films, D.I.Y. graphics, underground literature, popular films (and all the letters that categorise them, from B to Z and vice-versa) ; in so doing he calls forth a great many more or less well known legends. These legends have in common a garage type of aesthetic – or how, after one has completely and urgently failed to replicate the hoped for model, one chooses to marvel at the result rather than just to make the best of it.

Like T.W. Adorno who underscored the “fetishist aspect in music”, Arnaud Maguet's pieces turn these legends into relics of our collective memory, magnifying or distorting the original fiction. Thus he produces a body of work in which each added element completes the programme of a show that takes shape as it is being performed, creating a record company (Les Disques en Rotin Réunis (United Rattan Records)) , while at the same time becoming a member of various groups himself (Alpha-60, Beauty and the Beat, the Groovers...).

In the maze of the exhibition rooms of the art centre of the Villa Arson (sealed for the event), one will discover all the possible “objects” or “scenery” of this permanent show: a ghost café, a grandstand full of hysterical fans, a dump for signs glorifying Elvis, a corner piece of furniture for lo-fi recordings, a monument to afro-futurism, a series of fans in C major, a sequential *surf movie*, generic memories of holidays, the epilogue of a compulsive collection of objects, a hothouse for gods' plants, or the only real Tarzan.

Lastly, the exhibition will bring to light the many collaborations between the artist and other musicians, writers, architects, visual artists, gardeners, or associations such as Pierre la Police, Vincent Epplay, Thierry Lombardi, Monoquini, Jean-Luc Verna, Fred *Electronicat* Bigot, Gauthier Tassart, Le Dojo, Bruce Bégout, Nicolas Moulin, Marc *WarmBaby* Galliani, Christian Vialard, Olivier Millagou, Patrice Lorho, Richard Prompt, Gibus de Soultrait, Ma Asso, Olivier Michelon...

A double vinyl record and booklet containing the soundtrack of the exhibition will be released next fall.

Curator: Eric Mangion

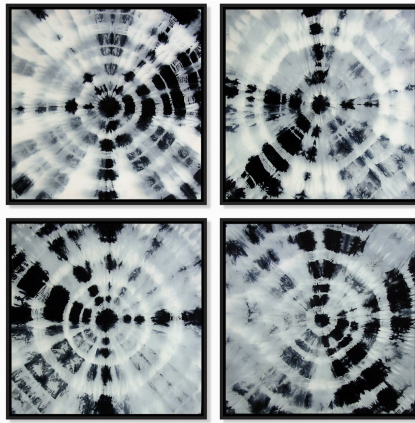
With the support of Cari, Swan Hamonica  
and l'Etablissement public du parc et de la grande halle de la Villette (Paris).

With the partnership of La Strada.

**Arnaud Maguet**

*Le Phénomène Hippie (studies 1 / 2 3 / 4), 2008*

Teinture sur toiles tendues sur châssis encadrés  
220 cm x 220 cm  
courtesy La Blanchisserie galerie (Boulogne-Billancourt)



**Arnaud Maguet**

*The Fetishist Aspect of Music: Fender, Vox&Marshall (series 2), 2007*

Fabric, plastic and metal on wood  
155 cm x 70 cm (each)  
Single copies  
Collection of the FNAC



**Arnaud Maguet**

*MONO vs STEREO, 2007*

Wood, Plexiglas, adhesive cut-outs, fluorescent tubes, cables, switch  
Variable dimensions

Single copy

Exhibition : *So You Want To Be a Rock'n Roll Star* / VF Gallery / Marseille



**Arnaud Maguet**

*La Société du Spectacle (Backstage), 2008*

Bois, tubes fluos, papier aluminium, impression sur plexiglass, film autocollant et câble. 160 cm x 95 cm  
Courtesy La Blanchisserie galerie (Boulogne-Billancourt)

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

The Centre national d'art contemporain is open daily from 2 to 6pm. (2 to 7 pm in july and august)  
Closed on Tuesdays. Free admission.

**VILLA ARSON**

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