

THE DIE IS CAST RYAN GANDER

(GALERIES DU PATIO ET DES CYPRÈS)

June 26th to October 18th 2009

Opening on June 25th 2009 at 6:00 pm

The die is cast is the British artist's first institutional solo exhibition in France and the first overview of the artist's work to date. A selection of more than fifty works from the last ten years will be shown alongside new works produced during a three month residency at Villa Arson. These works are inspired by the specificity of the place, and are testimonies to his sometimes unexpected meetings with the students of the art school.

Ryan Gander describes his practice as answering the intention to create something totally disconcerting. His work is like a vast puzzle to which each new piece adds an element. Installations, sculptures, photographs, videos, texts or sound pieces create a body of work that questions both the conditions of creation, and the mechanisms of perception and apprehension of a work of art. Most of his works play with displacing common objects, situations or systems in which he instils an often enigmatic narrative, following the notion of loose associations. He navigates between autobiography and fiction, truth and falsehood, the visible and the invisible. Surprisingly each piece functions as an incipit. The rest of the story is left to be invented, as if the artist wanted to stimulate our imagination by revealing only parts of it. His ambition is to summon the desire and responsibility of the viewer by offering the possibility to compose a narrative continuity based on traces and ill-assorted elements.

Curator : Eric Mangion

Ryan Gander was born in 1976 in Chester (U.K.). He lives and works in London.

Having completed a research residency at the Jan van Eyck Akademie in Maastricht, Gander participated in the artists' residency program of the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam. His first solo exhibition was held in March 2002 at the International 3 Gallery in Manchester, accompanied by a monograph entitled «In a language you don't understand». In 2007, the Stedelijk Museum (Amsterdam), MUMOK (Vienna), Taro Nasu Gallery (Tokyo) and CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts (San Francisco) hosted solo shows. In 2009, gb agency and Kadist Art Foundation in Paris held simultaneously in both spaces a solo exhibition of Ryan Gander : «It's a right Heath Robinson affair (A stuttering exhibition in two parts)». He has just won the 2009 Zürich Art Prize.

Ryan Gander is represented by Tanya Bonakdar Gallery (New York), Annet Gelink Gallery (Amsterdam), Lisson Gallery (London) and Taro Nasu Gallery (Tokyo).

Ryan Gander completed a three months residency at the Villa Arson from april to june 2009 in order to produce this exhibition.

PRACTICAL INFORMATIONS

The Centre national d'art contemporain is open daily from 2 to 6pm, and 2 to 7 pm in July and August.

Closed on Tuesdays.

Free admission.

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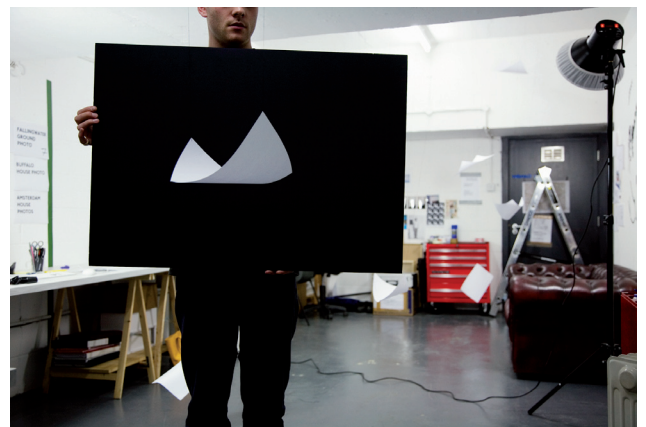
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Ryan Gander,
Already aware of its own helplessness, 2009.
Courtesy of the artist, Art At Work (Milan)
and Tanya Bonakdar Gallery (New York)



Ryan Gander, *Things that mean things and things that look like they mean things*, 2008.
Collection Kadist Art Foundation (Paris)
Courtesy of the artist and Annet Gelink Gallery (Amsterdam)



Ryan Gander, *Felix provides a stage – 11 - (Eleven sketches for 'A sheet of paper on which I was about to draw, as it slipped from my table and fell to the floor')*, 2008.
Courtesy of the artist, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery (New York), Annet Gelink Gallery (Amsterdam),
Lisson Gallery (London) and Taro Nasu Gallery, (Tokyo)

Informations in the exhibition : students of Villa Arson's Art school are involved in informing and training the public in contemporary art by welcoming independent visitors. An informative booklet is given to each visitor.

This exhibition takes part of the event « PLEIN SOLEIL / ART CENTERS SUMMER 2009 ».
More informations on www.flowersway.com/pleinsoleil2009 et www.dca-art.com

La Villa Arson is a public administrative establishment under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture and Communication.
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