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TEMPLE OF LOVE

Gaëlle Choïsne

From September 5 through December 15, 2018

Curated by Lucas Morin

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Press opening: 5 to 6 p.m. / Public opening: 6 to 9 p.m.

Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research presents *TEMPLE OF LOVE*, a solo show and new commission by Gaëlle Choïsne (1985, France) consisting in a sculptural installation addressing the concept of love.

At Bétonsalon, Gaëlle Choïsne explores the potentiality of love as an attitude and a form of resistance, a channeling source of profoundly political actions. In *TEMPLE OF LOVE*, the artist considers love as a social matter, subject to power struggles and a catalyst for courage and transgression. In this new body of work, she presents sculptures, textile banners, and a feast of oysters as offerings, summoning the subversively erotic Babylonian goddess Ishtar and the cigarettes of Haitian voodoo spirit Erzulie Dantor. The artist makes use of the language of architecture, organic shapes, permaculture and an abundance of textile materials to compose a collective living habitat. Gaëlle Choïsne reappropriates the features of the temple and those of the exhibition space: a place for congregation, sharing, and refuge where gaze and discourse are created and experienced.

A sanctuary, a place of life and encounters, the space of *TEMPLE OF LOVE* created by Gaëlle Choïsne will welcome, from September through December 2018, a series of temporary invitations, performances, *in situ* interventions, workshops and conferences. Named "LUVs" according to the neologism reshaping the term "love" to deprive it of its severity, as a series of flirts, these events will complete and interrogate the purpose of the exhibition, offering multiple, confusing and mixed influences.

Gaëlle Choisne

Gaëlle Choisne (1985, France) graduated from the National School of Fine Arts of Lyon. In January 2017, she was admitted into the Rijksakademie, after a one-year residency at the Cité internationale des arts in Paris. Her work has been featured in biennials, group shows and workshops, such as at the Beirut Art Center for the 13th Sharjah Biennial (2017), MAC Lyon (2016), the Lyon Biennial (2015) and the Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris (2018).

The artist addresses the issues of disaster, the exploitation of resources and the remains of colonialism in dynamic installations which mutate their environment. She unravels these themes through a series of workshops with school students in Port-au-Prince (Haiti) and is currently focusing on a project involving the manipulation of raw materials to elaborate socially and environmentally-conscious urbanism methods.

Gaëlle Choisne is represented by the untilthen gallery in Paris, which welcomed her last solo show *Hybris* in 2018.

The exhibition *TEMPLE OF LOVE* is supported by the untilthen gallery.



Hybris, untilthen, 2018. Credit : Vincent Royer



Culture Pop Marauders, Mains d'Œuvres, 2016. Credit : Cyril Boixel



Culture Pop Marauders, Mains d'Œuvres, 2016. Credit : Cyril Boixel

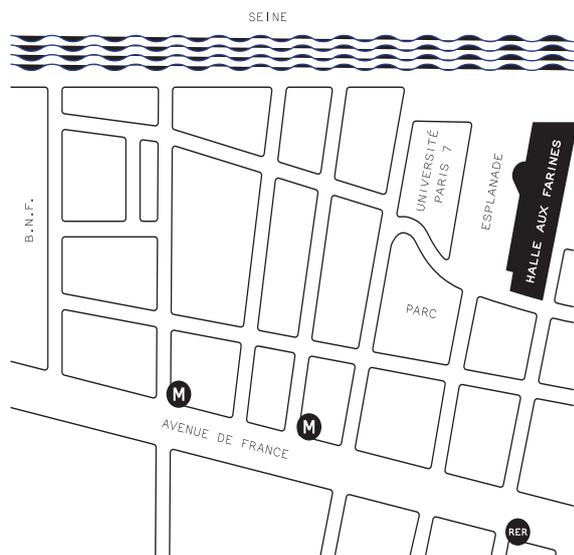
Information

About Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research & Villa Vassilieff

Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research offers a space of collective reflection that combines both artistic and academic practices, and questions the production and dissemination of knowledge. We develop our activities in a process-based, collaborative, and discursive manner, following different time spans, in cooperation with various local, national, and international organizations. Exhibitions are enriched by different associated events (workshops, conferences, performances, round table discussions...). We organize seminars and workshops in collaboration with faculty members from the Paris Diderot University. We lead off-site research projects in partnership with other institutions, and offer residency programs for researchers, artists, and curators.

Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research is a non-profit organization established in Paris in 2003. Since 2007, Bétonsalon has been located on the campus of the Paris Diderot University. In 2016, we launched the Académie Vivante (Living Academy) program, an experimental research laboratory within the Epigenetics and Cell Fate unit (CNRS / Université Paris Diderot) that invites artists in residency. This same year, we launched Villa Vassilieff, our second site of activities, in the former studio of artist Marie Vassilieff, located in the heart of the Montparnasse neighborhood. Until 2013, this location was the Museum of Montparnasse. Villa Vassilieff is a cultural establishment of the City of Paris.

Villa Vassilieff intends to reconnect with the history of its location by inviting artists and researchers to take a contemporary look at the heritage of Montparnasse. Our exhibitions and public programs focus on exploring lesser-known resources and aim at re-writing and diversifying historical art narratives. Among many grant and residency opportunities, we joined forces with our leading sponsor Pernod Ricard to create the Pernod Ricard Fellowship, a residency program inviting four international artists, curators, or researchers every year in the Villa's studio. We collaborate closely with museums and curators to design tailor-made research projects and bring innovative perspectives, as illustrated by the ongoing Marc Vaux program jointly led by Villa Vassilieff and Centre Pompidou's Kandinsky Library.



Entrance is free of charge from Tuesday to Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Group visits are free upon registration.
All programs at Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research and Villa Vassilieff are free for all.

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Find out more about the programming of Bétonsalon - Center for Art and Research and Villa Vassilieff - Pernod Ricard Fellowship on social media



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