

European Education  
Workshop

**12-13 April 2012**

FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais  
Dunkirk/France  
L'ESCALE

# I need the visitor

Felix Gonzalez-Torres



# I need the visitor

Felix Gonzalez-Torres

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FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais is pleased to offer the first European Education Workshop, organised in collaboration with Turner Contemporary in Margate, Great Britain, S.M.A.K in Ghent, Belgium and Firstsite in Colchester, Great Britain.

For the past several years FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais has been developing a new relationship with its audience through participative artistic projects. Today, the FRAC wishes to go even further in audience involvement so that its future building, opening in 2013 on the site of the Grand Large in Dunkirk, will be a unique place in which to encounter our visitors.

Over the past year, a group of European experts has been meeting at FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais to exchange ideas on the education practices carried out by various venues devoted to contemporary art.

“I Need the Visitor”, to borrow the words of Felix Gonzalez-Torres, will explore the topic of artists who put the visitor at the centre of their practice. How can visitors be involved and become actors in the artist’s work? Contemporary art professionals who deal with this question on a daily basis will be on hand to share their experiences. Artists will offer practical sessions in the form of workshops for which they will have carte blanche.

**Thursday 12 April****13:30–18:00**

<b>13:30–13:45</b>	Welcoming remarks / introduction Sylvianne Lathuilière, FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais
<b>13:45–14:15</b>	Moderator: Judith Merrit, Firstsite Gallery, Colchester Firstsite Gallery introduction
<b>14:15–14:45</b>	Belinda Hak, Witte de With, Rotterdam
<b>14:45–15:15</b>	Virginie Bobin, Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers, Paris
<b>15:15–15:45</b>	Gilles Baume, FRAC Ile de France, Le Plateau, Paris
<b>15:45–16:00</b>	Break
<b>16:00–16:30</b>	Els Wuyts, TRACK / S.M.A.K., Gent
<b>16:30–17:00</b>	Bart Rooms, Piazza dell'Arte; TRACK / S.M.A.K., Gent
<b>17:00–18:00</b>	Panel discussion
<b>18:30</b>	Visit to the exhibition of the work of artist Régis Baudy: "Fishing Melody"

**Friday 13 April****09:30–17:00**

<b>09:30–09:45</b>	Welcome and selection of afternoon groups
<b>09:45–10:15</b>	Josep Maria Martín, Barcelona
<b>10:15–10:45</b>	Terry Smith, London
<b>10:45–11:15</b>	Stefaan Vandelacluze, MOOSS vzw; TRACK / S.M.A.K., Gent
<b>11:15–11:30</b>	Break
<b>11:30–12:00</b>	Emilio Lopez-Mencher, Brussels
<b>12:00–12:30</b>	Karen Eslea, Turner Contemporary, Margate
<b>12:30–14:00</b>	Lunch
<b>14:00–16:00</b>	Workshop with an artist — Josep Maria Martín Jakob Fenger, Superflex Emilio Lopez-Mencher Mehdi A.
<b>16:00–17:00</b>	Panel discussion

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## Terry Smith

London

“conversation with myself”

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In recent years Terry Smith has created large scale installations and site specific interventions producing work often inaccessible to the public. In 1994 he began a series of building interventions creating his first wall cuttings in houses ready to be demolished. Other works that evolved from this period include Capital, 1995 an intervention in Gallery 49 at the British Museum, six wall cuttings at Tate Modern during its reconstruction in 1996, and at MACBA, Barcelona where he fired 35,000 staples - 1m wide and 25m long - into the walls of the museum.

Preoccupied with exploring and experimenting in new media, recent shows, have included Broken Voices, “The Foundling and last year” (2011) “Caracol” a work made in Caracas, with twenty five singers. The last exhibition “Parallax”, was a solo show at the John Hansard Gallery, Southampton.

He is currently working on a project in Cuba, working with musicians and dancers.

Terry Smith is a founder member of the Experimental Art School, workinprogress and HumanrightsTV.

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## Superflex

Copenhagen

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The Danish collective Superflex was founded in 1993 by Bjørnstjerne Reuter Christiansen (1969), Jakob Fenger (1968) and Rasmus Nielsen (1969). It works on a series of projects with a marked interest in political and social involvement on a local scale. Superflex sees art as a TOOL in the service of people to intervene and act intelligently in reality. The group works with collaborators from very diverse backgrounds, from NGOs and scientists to engineers and computer programmers.

<http://superflex.net/>

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## Josep Maria Martín

Barcelona

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An instructor at the Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design in Geneva and the Ecole Supérieur des Beaux-arts in Perpignan, Josep Maria Martín lives and works in Barcelona. He incorporates work with audiences into his artistic projects, be they art professionals or local residents. The viewer becomes an actor and participates in a true reflection on social issues, going beyond art's mere aesthetic role. Josep Maria Martín is currently developing a project with FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais based on the idea of freedom and involving audiences in the Dunkirk region.

[www.josep-mariamartin.org](http://www.josep-mariamartin.org)

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# Emilio Lopez-Menchero

Brussels

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Born in 1960 in Mol, Belgium, Emilio Lopez-Menchero is an artist with a multidisciplinary practice (photography, sculpture, drawing, installation, performance) that examines the identity of the artist today. In the series "Trying to be", he attempts to embody great art figures such as Balzac, Picasso and Rodin. He involves the population in his urban interventions, creating in Brussels in 2006 the public work "Pasionaria", an immense steel megaphone that passers-by can use. He also participated in "Over the Edges" in 2000, giving out a Tarzan cry at regular intervals in downtown Gent, thereby disturbing the peace and public order of the urban jungle. His interventions stage everyday gestures, playing on conventions and creating zones of turbulence which question our social behaviour.

[www.emiliolopez-menchero.be](http://www.emiliolopez-menchero.be)

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# Mehdi A.

Dunkirk

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In one of his most recent works, Mehdi A. presents a portrait of a city using formal and informal documents (music, photographs, writings, etc.) collected from residents. By reactivating the "map of Tendre" he creates a geography of allegorical spaces during a performance involving the public; later, the work will become an installation (Besançon, June 2012).

For Mehdi A., narrative and memory are the point of departure for encountering and connecting with the world. Thus in the performance Universal Attraction (Aalst, January 2012), the story of the candied apple becomes a catalyst for capturing the scent of the audience present. Inscribing these scents on the wall afterwards becomes a marker in the search for the other.

The installation 99 balloons invested the space with latex and blown sugar balloons. With its fragility and versatile beauty, the material placed the audience at the centre of the remains of a party (Marseille, June 2011).

The use of blackboards in several of his earliest installations (on which the audience could write) called up memories of our first group experiences, at school. This gathering produces an interactivity that renders the work fortuitous and unexpected, with no modelled exit.

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Mehdi A. creates living and active moments for viewers, pushing them to put themselves at the forefront, to become more visible and to rely on their own imagination.

These encounters often lead the artist to wander, something that is probably tied to his dual culture. An example of his attachment to his origins is the project Raz el hanout/de re coquinaria, in which the public will be invited to help themselves to spices to try out at home in their own cooking (Paris, October 2012). In this way the process is continued outside the exhibition space.

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## Virginie Bobin

Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers,  
Paris

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Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers is a site of artistic inquiry. It works to create the necessary conditions for projects which are not adapted to the usual systems of artistic and cultural production. The projects it accepts come from every discipline. They are aimed at the public through formats produced in the course of the exploratory process (public talks, performances, films, books, newsletters, workshops, etc.) and experiment with alternative approaches to ways of sharing knowledge and practices. Through this method, Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers intends to critique and provide constant renewal of the issues around artistic experimentation. Virginie Bobin will present some of the projects accepted for residencies since 2010, from the perspective of the relationships they established between the artist and the audience.

Following studies at the Ecole du Louvre, Virginie Bobin trained in curatorial practices at the Ecole du Magasin in 2008. She assisted the exhibition curator Philippe Pirotte on the exhibition "United Technologies" for Lismore Castle Arts in Ireland. She also participated in curating "Performa" in New York. She is presently project coordinator at Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers in Paris.

[www.leslaboratoires.org](http://www.leslaboratoires.org)

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## Belinda Hak

Witte de With,  
Rotterdam

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Witte de With is an international contemporary art centre in Rotterdam. Founded in 1990, it explores developments in contemporary art and conveys them to audiences by means of exhibitions, a research and outreach programme, publications and events. An experimental venue, over the past 20 years it has become one of the most influential and innovative in the contemporary art world. Thinking about the role of the audience is at the centre of Witte de With's concerns. By means of educational programmes and events, a broad public has become involved in the centre's projects. Participatory work is carried out in such a way as to reduce the distance between visitors and artists as much as possible.

Belinda Hak studied art and graduated in cultural management from the University of Rotterdam. She is in charge of patronage at Witte de With, where she has worked since 2000. When she was in charge of audience development with the organisation she introduced a number of innovative projects. She has been a member of the FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais working group since 2009 as an expert in outreach.

[www.wdw.nl](http://www.wdw.nl)

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## Karen Eslea

Turner Contemporary,  
Margate

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Turner Contemporary's activities support the idea of an open and relevant art capable of contributing to the personal fulfilment of all. Inspired by the spirit of Turner, the institution offers everyone the possibility of discovering contemporary art via every possible mode of exploration and observation. A stimulating programme of temporary exhibitions and events makes possible intriguing connections between art since 1750 to the present day.

The new building inaugurated in April 2011, designed by David Chipperfield Architects, is situated on Margate's seafront.

"Turner Contemporary's purpose is to stretch the boundaries of current visual arts practice, to make the exhibitions sufficiently varied and to bridge the gap between the historical and contemporary." Victoria Pomey, Director, Turner Contemporary

Following a post-graduate study entitled "Museums and Galleries in Education" at the University of London's Institute of Education, Karen Eslea worked in the education departments of the Camden Arts Centre and the Whitechapel Art Gallery. While in charge of outreach at the Chisenhale Gallery in London she managed "Get Art", an innovative project that enables young people with special needs to explore contemporary art. At the Hayward Gallery she developed a programme with the support of the Department of Health which gave young people living in care greater access to culture.

She is currently Head of Learning at Turner Contemporary in Margate, a new gallery which opened in 2011 but which has been working with artists and the community since 2001.

[www.turnercontemporary.org](http://www.turnercontemporary.org)

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## Judith Merrit

Firstsite Gallery,  
Colchester

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Firstsite is a visual arts organisation based in Colchester, Essex. Its mission is to make contemporary art accessible to a broad public by means of a wealth of learning projects. It has developed an extensive programme for raising awareness of contemporary art amongst students through projects involving artists in a variety of outreach activities. It has also established support mechanisms for the development of artistic creation in eastern England. In September 2011 Firstsite moved into its new building, where it continues to work with local communities and to take part in nationwide networks in Great Britain.

Judith Merritt has been Head of Learning for firstsite since October 2009. She studied Theatre and Visual Performance at Dartington College of Arts in Devon then worked as a performer and scenographer for 7 years in the UK, Canada and New Zealand. She relocated to Colchester from Inverness where she had been Arts Education Manager for Eden Court, a regional performing arts centre. There she led an education team of 16 arts and drama educators working in one of the largest arts education programmes in Scotland. With firstsite, Judith has consolidated the work of the Learning department through the Associate Artist programme with six artists, testing activities in spaces in the newly opened firstsite building. During this time she has supported the department in achieving recognition for high standards and quality arts practice at a national level.

[www.firstsite.uk.net](http://www.firstsite.uk.net)

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## Gilles Baume

FRAC Ile de France,  
Le Plateau, Paris

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L'Antenne, the outreach department of FRAC Île-de-France / Le Plateau, is a tool for producing situations to raise public awareness of and interest in contemporary art by way of a variety of innovative and experimental activities: artists' projects in collaboration with the public; artists' interventions in schools; residencies; the creation of outreach tools; and artistic training.

Using examples of projects which involve encounters between artists and the public, we will examine the reciprocal contributions generated and a few inherent questions such as the project's logic, the role of practice, visibility in one's region and the role of the outreach person.

A graduate of the museum studies and art history programs of the Ecole du Louvre, specialising in contemporary art, Gilles Baume is in charge of the cultural programme of Le Plateau / FRAC Île-de-France in Paris. He has a range of professional experience with respect to audiences and contemporary art in a number of organisations in the Ile de France region, including the Centre Pompidou and the Jeu de Paume: designing and carrying out guided tours, workshops, professional development activities and educational materials. He also writes on art for the journal Standard, works with the Laboratoire artistique of the Bel (Lab'Bel) group and curates exhibitions.

[www.fracidf-leplateau.com](http://www.fracidf-leplateau.com)

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## Bart Rooms

Piazza dell'Arte;  
TRACK / S.M.A.K., Gent

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Piazza dell'Arte (PDA) is a mobile, multidisciplinary, educational art organization, established from the conviction that every youngster, regardless of his or her background, should receive the same opportunities to develop their creative talents. In the field, Piazza dell'Arte attempts to ease the step towards art by actively bringing the artistic experience to the young people (with our caravan of busses) and encouraging them to be creative themselves via numerous multimedia art labs.

Piazza dell'Arte directs itself to young people aged 14 years or older and sets up its art-labs in their surroundings: whether it be in schools and suburbs or in museums, youth clubs and cultural centres. There, guided by professional artists, youngsters get the chance to take part in the ateliers Word & drama, Dance & movement, Electronic music, Video, Video animation, Graphic design, Photography, Mixed media, Costume design and Monumental art, and as an option also Percussion and Press & communication.

<http://piazza.me/>

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## Els Wuyts

TRACK / S.M.A.K., Gent

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The Gent museum for contemporary art, founded in 1975, was the first Belgian museum devoted to contemporary art. The museum moved to its present location, facing the Museum of Fine Art, in 1999 and was re-baptised S.M.A.K. (Stedelijk Museum voor Actuele Kunst). Today the two museums are an artistic haven in a park located on the outskirts of the city of Ghent.

TRACK is a temporary exhibition organised by the S.M.A.K. which, from 12 May to 16 September 2012, will invite thirty international artists to leave a permanent mark on a space, be it personal, private or public.

The two curators, Philippe Van Cauteren and Mirjam Varadinis, have taken the time to choose characteristic places in downtown Gent. They have invited artists with affinities with the thematic context of these places. The artists chosen found in local reality a rich source of inspiration. The results of their plunge into the city are thus not works of art in the traditional sense of the term, but rather artistic projects which employ various media to explore the social, economic, cultural and political conditions of the city and our day and age. Their works urge participation, place various styles in interaction with the community and leave permanent traces.

TRACK has been designed as a world of stories, events and parallel histories. It is divided into six clusters, which together provide a historical, cultural, architectural and intellectual cross-section of Gent and of our conception of the contemporary city. Each cluster has its own ambience and deals with a specific theme: mobility, religion, immigration, economy, language, science, the evolution of the city ...

TRACK invites the public to discover the exhibition from various perspectives.

There is thus no predetermined itinerary, no directives to follow. Each visitor will create his or her own TRACK by choosing the clusters which interest them most, thereby weaving a narrative based on their own background and the way they approach the exhibition. This is a necessary mode of exploration in a globalised world and reflects the idea that several realities can occur at the same time.

TRACK invites everyone to visit the exhibition and to let themselves be inspired by the visionary potential of art.

Els Wuyts is in charge of audience development and communication at the S.M.A.K.

[www.smak.be](http://www.smak.be)  
[www.track.be](http://www.track.be)

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## Stefaan Vandelacluze

MOOSS vzw;  
TRACK / S.M.A.K., Gent

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Every year, the Louvain-based MOOSS organises 5000 activities for more than 75,000 participants. These include a great variety of projects: art workshops, skills acquisition, cultural participation projects, festivals, classes for children, etc. MOOSS informs the public about cultural themes and organises arts awareness campaigns with the goal of reaching as many young people as possible between the age of 5 and 30.

The audience is not limited to members of youth movements or of MOOSS itself. The activities on offer are adapted to the needs of all those concerned with the cultural well-being of young people and with arts education: facilitators, educators, teachers, parents and officials. As a youth association, MOOSS attaches great importance to solidarity, tolerance, pluralism and respect for democratic values.

Following studies for a master's degree in Art and Science, with distinction in theatre, at Gent University, Stefaan Vandelacluze completed his program of study for a DEA Théâtre et Arts du spectacle at Université Paris X Nanterre, Paris VIII St.-Denis and Paris III Sorbonne Nouvelle. He has worked in the field of art criticism. Presently director of MOOSS and part-time instructor in cultural professions at the Université de Louvain, Stefaan Vandelacluze will present an overview of outreach in Flemish Belgium, introduce Mooss vzw and the outreach activities that take place there, with a focus on the programme around the TRACK event organised by the S.M.A.K.

[www.mooss.org](http://www.mooss.org)

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Around Dunkirk

## **Régis Baudy, Fishing Melody**

**Le 180, Tétheghem**

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In 2011 Régis Baudy explored the Dunkirk shore along the Saint-Pol and Clipon jettys, immersing himself in the everyday lives of weekend fishers and the everyday existence of an threatening and threatened industrial environment.

The video installation shown in the exhibition space of the association Le 180 features Johan, who Baudy met on the jetty. Like Wanderer above the Sea of Fog by the Romantic painter Caspar David Friedrich, this work is a vision of postmodern man in the grips of a struggle with a hostile environment.

Le 180 is an exhibition space located near Dunkirk in a former farmhouse of 150 sq. m. The association was founded in May 2011 by Juliette Malémont, Claire Pollet and Emmanuel Vaesken. This rough space, the antithesis of the white cube, exhibits singular projects which respond to the site's specific character.

Association Le 180,  
espace d'exposition d'art contemporain  
180 rue de la 32 ème D.I.  
59229 Tétheghem

<http://asso.le180.free.fr/>  
[www.fracnfdc.fr](http://www.fracnfdc.fr)

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Lille

## **Lille Art Fair**

**Lille Grand Palais**

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For its 5th edition, the European contemporary art fair Lille Art Fair will take place in Lille's Grand Palais.

With more than 15,000 visitors in 2011, the Lille Art Fair has become an essential gathering place for contemporary art at the heart of the Paris-Brussels-London triangle.

This year, FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais will be exhibiting part of its travelling exhibition "Destrøÿ Design" at the Lille Art Fair.

From 12 to 15 April 2012  
Lille Grand Palais  
[www.lilleartfair.com](http://www.lilleartfair.com)

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LAM, Villeneuve d'Ascq

**Déplacer, déplier,  
découvrir –  
La peinture en actes,  
1960-1999**

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This exhibition is devoted to five singular figures in French painting: Simon Hantaï, Martin Barré, Marc Devade, Jean Degottex and Michel Parmentier.

Curator: Marc Donnadieu, curator of contemporary art at the LaM, and Marie-Amélie Senot, curatorial attaché at the LaM

From March, 3rd to May, 27th  
[www.musee-lam.fr](http://www.musee-lam.fr)

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La Piscine, Roubaix

**Picasso à l'œuvre.  
Dans l'objectif  
de David Douglas  
Duncan**

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This exhibition celebrates the work of two exceptional artists: Picasso and the great American photographer David Douglas Duncan. A selection of snapshots taken between 1956 and 1973 shows the private moments of Picasso's life as an artist. The works seen in the photographs are shown alongside them, extending this Russian-doll effect.

From February, 18th to May, 20th  
[www.roubaix-lapiscine.com](http://www.roubaix-lapiscine.com)

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Le Fresnoy, studio national des  
arts contemporains, Tourcoing

**Visions Fugitives**

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Animation is perfect for showing the phenomena of metamorphosis, but is not simply destined to the mythical or the magical. It is the realm of traces, of the ephemeral and reveals the transformations linked to passing time, lending itself to mental projections, of memory as well as fantasy, dream and nightmare, to individual or collective fleeting visions. From the very first animated cartoons to digital images, the transient and changing nature of the images echoes the instability of the world, with the hopes and anxiety it generates.

Curator : Marie Thérèse Champesme and Pascale Pronnier

From February, 11th to April, 15th  
[www.lefresnoy.net](http://www.lefresnoy.net)

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Belgium

## Beaufort 04 Coxyde

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Some thirty venues in the 9 coastal municipalities: La Panne, Coxyde/ Oostduinkerke, Nieuport, Middelkerke/ Westende, Ostende, Bredene, De Haan/ Wenduine, Blankenberge and Zeebrugge.

For the first time, FRAC Nord-Pas de Calais is participating in Beaufort04, a major event along the Belgian coast, by presenting a selection of work by the French collective Claire Fontaine à Coxyde.

From March to September 2012  
[www.beaufort04.be](http://www.beaufort04.be)  
[www.fracnordc.fr](http://www.fracnordc.fr)

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Belgium

## Fat Birds don't Fly Netwerk, Aalst

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David Bergé / Holly Davey / Greet De Gendt / Ieva Epnere / Karin Hanssen / Hou Chien Cheng / Johanna Lecklin / Charlotte Lybeer / Bie Michels / Ingrid Mostrey / Emilie Pitoiset / Sonia Si Ahmed & Maya Dalinsky / Pilvi Takala / Caecilia Tripp / Els van Riel

The group exhibition *Fat Birds don't Fly* speaks of people and their (de) constructed identities. It explores the way in which artists see the individual – or the group. Using painting, texts, photographs, video, dance and performance, the artists in the show propose a vision of individual and collective identity, examining the margins at the same time.

As part of the year devoted to Louis Paul Boon, the exhibition is punctuated by sound clips and quotations from his books *go Mensen* and *De Paradijsvogel*. The kaleidoscopic and atemporal work of this Aalst-born writer offers a fascinating – and as persuasive as ever – approach to the construction of identity.

From March, 24th to May, 13rd  
[www.netwerk-art.be](http://www.netwerk-art.be)

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Belgium

## Traité de l'admirable diversité de la vie et du monde à l'usage des enfants

MAC's, Musée des arts  
contemporain,  
Site du Grand Hornu  
Le grand Atelier, Hornu

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The artists: anonymous works and work by Orla Barry, Christian Boltanski, Balthasar Burkhard, Jean-Marc Bustamante, Julia Margaret Cameron, David Claerbout, Hannah Collins, Paul De Cock, Denicolai & Provoost, Rineke Dijkstra, Monica Droste & Guy Rombouts, Jacques Duez, Jean Fautrier, Léon Frédéric, Seydou Keita, Charles-Honoré Lallement, Marcel G. Lefrancq, René Magritte, Jonathan Monk, Dennis Oppenheim, August Sander, José Maria Sicilia, Walter Swennen, Pierre-Augustin Van den Berghe, Mona Vatamanu & Florin Tudor, Angel Vergara Santiago, Matthias de Visch.

Curator: Laurent Busine, with the assistance of the educational service of MAC's

From March, 4th to June, 3rd  
[www.mac-s.be](http://www.mac-s.be)

### **L'Escale**

L'Escale auberge de jeunesse  
351 avenue des Bancs de Flandres  
59140 DUNKIRK  
Tel.: (+33) 03.28.63.36.34  
ajlescale@afeji.org

### **How to get there**

If you're coming from the A16:  
Take exit 62 towards Dunkerque-Centre/  
Dunkerque-Malo/Dunkerque-Rosendaël.  
Continue on D635. After the bridge turn right  
into rue du 110ème régiment d'infanterie,  
then continue straight ahead until you reach  
boulevard Paul Verley. Take your second right,  
avenue des Bains, and the third left, rue des  
Chantiers de France. Continue on 150 metres  
and at the fork go left, avenue des Bancs de  
Flandres.

With DKBus:

From the station, take the bus line 3 to Bray  
Dune, stop at Malo Plage. Take on your left on  
Asserman Place, after the bridge, turn right  
onto Avenue des Bancs de Flandres.

### **Accommodation in Dunkirk:**

Hotel Bed and Breakfast  
15 Avenue Belle Vue - Place de la Gare  
59140 DUNKIRK  
Tel.: +33 (0)8 92 70 22 60  
Fax: +33 (0)3 28 58 88 00

Ibis Dunkerque Centre  
13 rue de Leughenaer  
59140 - DUNKIRK  
Tel.: +33 (0)3 28 66 29 07  
Fax: +33(0)3 28 63 67 87

Hotel Borel  
6 Rue l'Hermitte (Entrance to the port)  
59140 DUNKIRK  
Tel.: +33 (0)3 28 66 51 80  
Fax: +33 (0)3 59 33 82