

[PRESS RELEASE]

Matthieu Laurette - *Plight 2*

24.02 - 06.04.2008

opening 23.02.2008 15:00 - 18:30

in the presence of the artist

In 1985 Joseph Beuys (1921-1986) presented his installation *Plight* in the Anthony d'Offay Gallery in London. This installation was subsequently purchased by the Centre Pompidou in Paris. The installation from the Pompidou collection is an exact reconstruction of the London installation and gallery spaces.

In the former storage room of Deweer Art Gallery we are now confronted with Matthieu Laurette's *Plight 2*, a second reconstruction of the Paris installation especially conceived for *Real Estate*, his recent solo exhibition at Deweer Art Gallery. *Plight 2* uses materials from the 'estate' of the closed down rug factory Deweer nv in which buildings Deweer Art Gallery is still housed. In *Plight 2* rugs from the Deweer nv stock replace the wool filled felt rolls that are so iconic for the original *Plight* and its reconstruction.

Inside *Plight 2* an automatic grand piano plays *The Internationale* anthem, a 1888 composition by Ghent composer Pierre De Geyster. De Geyster wrote the music for the workers from the Lille and French-Belgian boarder area. Its melody now resonates in the space where once carpets were being woven. In the original *Plight* the grand piano is sealed.

The word 'plight' has a double meaning. It not only means 'situation' or 'position', it also means 'pledge'. It is a promise for the future. With this installation, Matthieu Laurette quotes and conceptualizes the work of artists who belong to our collective cultural memory and applies it to a new cultural context.



Matthieu Laurette, *Plight 2*, 2007, installation (401 carpets, automatic grand piano Yamaha Disklavier; sound (piano transcription of *The Internationale* anthem), dismountable wood construction, paint and neon light)

> the artist is available for interviews on 23 and 24.02.
Please contact us for an appointment

DEWEER ART GALLERY

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[exhibition hours] Wed-Sun 14:00-18:00 (fri 10:00-18.00) and by appointment [office hours] Mon-Fri 09:00-18:00 [road description] On E17 (Antwerpen - Kortrijk) take exit 4 (N36), direction Ronse - after 7 kms (past the Gulf gasstation) take first right, direction Avelgem - after 1,5 kms: gallery on the left side

www.deweearartgallery.com

Matthieu Laurette

born in Villeneuve St. Georges, France in 1970

lives and works in Amsterdam

www.laurette.net

selected solo shows and projects since 2003

2007

Real Estate, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem, Belgium
Mediascope: An Evening With Matthieu Laurette, MoMA, New York, USA

2006

Tapis Rouge (Photo Call TFI Publicité), Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
Let's Make Lots of Money, Blow de la Barra, London, UK
With a Special Appearance by Matthieu Laurette, Art in General, New York, USA (curated by Sofia Hernández Chong Cuy)

2005

Matthieu Laurette présente Raymond Hains au Musée Grévin, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
What Do They Wear At Frieze Art Fair, Frieze Projects, London (curated by Polly Stapple) (Exh. cat.)
Matthieu Laurette : Déjà Vu, Numark Gallery, Washington, USA
Matthieu Laurette : The Today Show, Yvon Lambert, Paris, France
Matthieu Laurette: Applause (The Today Show), Deweer Art Gallery / Art Brussels, Belgium

2004

Déjà vu, The 7th International Look-alike Convention at Dia Art Foundation's Fall Gala, New York, USA
Matthieu Laurette : Prix Ricard S.A. 2003, MNAM-Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Commodities: featuring Jeff Koons, Robert Ryman & Andy Warhol, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem, Belgium (Exh. cat.)

2003

Déjà vu, 6th International Look-alike Convention, CAC, Vilnius, Lithuania (as part of the show 24/7)
Publicness: Jens Hanning, Matthieu Laurette, Aleksandra Mir, ICA Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK (curated by Cristina Ricupero) (Exh. Brochure)
Déjà vu, Fifth International Look-alike Convention, ICA Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK

selected group shows and projects since 2005

2007

Informacion contra informacion, Centro Galego de Arte Contemporanea, Santiago de Compostela, Spain
Centre Pompidou Novo Media 1965-2003, Museo do Chiado, Lisbon, Portugal
There Is Always A Machine In Between Us, SFcameraworks, San Francisco, USA
The Leisure Class, Australian Cinémathèque - Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia
Off Pages, The Bookmakers Ed., Torino, Italy
The Art World, Gallery Feinkost, Berlin, Germany
ReadyMedia 2, Museum of Contemporary Art Salon, Belgrade, Serbia (curated by Maria Rus-Bojan)

Seduction - A Theory Between The Real And The Possible,

Borderline/Moving Images, SOHO, Beijing, China

The Spam Show, an unsolicited email show (curated by

Dessislava Dimova).

ReadyMedia, Montevideo, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

(curated by Maria Rus-Bojan)

My 2007, Colette, Paris, France

2006

Pompidou Video Art 1965-2005, MCA-Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney, Australia (curated by Christine Van Assche) (Exh. cat.)
Globalización: indicaciones/ efectos secundarios/ advertencias, Espacio I414 - Berezdivin Collection, Santurce, Puerto Rico (curated by Julieta Gonzalez).
Schein Sein, Sozialen Dimensionen Des Glamour In Der Aktuellen Kunst, Spinnrei, Leipzig, Germany (curated by Julia Moritz and Jana Sperling)
Video: An Art, A History, 1965-2005, New Media Collection, Centre Pompidou, Miami Art Central, Miami, USA (curated by Christine Van Assche) (Exh. cat.)
Ayermaniana, Facultad de Bellas Artes de la UCLM, Cuenca, Spain (curated by Rosa Pera and Gonzalo Puch)
Unfinished Business, Museum of Contemporary Art Belgrade - Salon, Belgrade, Serbia (curated by Sinisa Mitrovic)
La Force de l'Art, Grand Palais, Paris (Exh. cat.)
New Media 1965-2005, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei, Taiwan (curated by Christine Van Assche) (Exh. cat.)
Para Todos Publicos, Sala Rekalde, Bilbao, Spain (curated by Xabier Arakistain) (Exh. cat.)
Notre Histoire, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France (curated by Nicolas Bourriaud & Jerome Sans) (Exh. cat.)

2005

Superstars: Celebrity Factor in Art from Warhol to Madonna, Kunsthalle & Kunstforum, Vienna, Austria (curated by Ingrid Brugger, Gerald Matt, Thomas Mießgang, Heike Eipeldauer, Florian Steininger) (Exh. cat.)
Day Labor, PSI/MOMA, Long Island, USA (curated by Amy Smith Stewart).
M-City: European Cityscape, Kunsthhaus, Graz, Austria (curated by Marco De Michelis in cooperation with Peter Pakesch and Katrin Bucher). (Exh. cat.)
Black Market - The 9th Triennial of International Art, CAC, Vilnius, Lithuania (curated by Sofia Hernández Chong Cuy, Raimundas Malasauskas and Alexis Vaillant) (Exh. cat.)
Critical Societies, Art, Criticism and the Promises of Capitalism, Badischer Kunstverein, Karlsruhe, Germany
Cynisme? Manif d'art 3, La Biennale de Québec, Québec, Canada
Populism, CAC, Vilnius, Lithuania - National Museum, Oslo, Norway - Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany - Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands (curated by Lars Bang Larsen, Cristina Ricupero and Nicolaus Schafhausen) (Exh. cat.)