

Matthieu Laurette

Real Estate

11.11 - 16.12.07

In his second solo show for Deweer Art Gallery French artist Matthieu Laurette (1970) brings together two concepts often recurring in his work. On the one hand he deals with the values 'real / true', 'original / remake', 'unique / multiple' that are of great importance and that are frequently used within the art economy. On the other hand he investigates concepts such as 'meaning' and 'significance', 'heritage' and 'estate' in relation to the production, the social reception and meaning of art, and the history of visual arts.

To this, a third dimension is added, with the title of the show referring to property as an economic and commercial fact. We thus arrive at one of the essentials of Matthieu Laurette's art, the economics of art. For the first time though, Matthieu Laurette is not only focused on the world of the media or the *Society of the Spectacle*. This show features works which indeed are quite new in his work. Laurette now even works with the codes and format of painting as well as with those of very large scale installations.

The exhibition *Matthieu Laurette - Real Estate* contains two new, multilayered installations.

Certificate of Death and Will (2007)

In the first room is presented the work *Certificate of Death and Will* (2007) that consists of 10 large canvases. A series of 9 canvases shows us the enlarged photocopy images of the complete, original 9 page last will of Andy Warhol (1928-1987). The 10th canvas is an image of the artist's death certificate. Each canvas has been made using the same technique as did Andy Warhol for his paintings, by silkscreening the images onto canvas.

Plight 2 (2007)

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 Paris 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*. *Plight 2* is an update of the Paris installation especially conceived for Deweer Art Gallery. *Plight 2* indeed uses materials from the 'estate' of the recently 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.

In *Plight 2* an automatic grand piano plays *The International* anthem, a 1888 composition by Ghent

composer Pierre De Geyter. De Geyter wrote the music for the workers from the Lille and the French-Belgian border 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.

Art = Capital = Spectacle

Finally, Matthieu Laurette considers the invitation card as the third essential part of the show. The statement *Art = Capital = Spectacle* that he wrote down on a 500 Euro note, is a synthesis of statements of both Joseph Beuys and Andy Warhol. The notion *Art=Capital* is one of the most important ideas behind the art of Joseph Beuys. And nobody will deny that Andy Warhol turned into a spectacle and made famous the image and the symbols of money.

Andy Warhol's last will nor his death certificate did mean the end to his artistic significance. By creating *Plight 2* Matthieu Laurette made a sequel to Joseph Beuys' *Plight*.

In his exhibition *Matthieu Laurette – Real Estate* Matthieu Laurette quotes, paraphrases and conceptualizes the work and art of other artists. He thus secures their artistic estate and at the same time confronts to their history and the history of art.

Real Estate - List of works

Certificate of Death and Will, 2007

10 parts, silkscreened acryl on canvas, each part 175 x 135 cm, ed. 3 + II A.P.

Certificate of Death, 2007

silkscreened acryl on canvas, 85 x 65 cm, ed. 8 + IV A.P.

Plight 2, 2007

installation, 401 carpets, automatic grand piano Yamaha Disklavier, sound (piano transcription *The Internationale* anthem), wood, paint and neon light

Matthieu Laurette - biography

born in 1970 in Villeneuve St. Georges, FR, lives and works in Amsterdam.

Selected solo shows and projects since 2003

2007

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

2006

Tapis Rouge (Photo Call TF1 Publicité), Palais de Tokyo, Paris
Let's Make Lots of Money, Blow de la Barra, London
With a Special Appearance by Matthieu Laurette, (as part of the 8th Video Marathon), 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
What Do They Wear At Frieze Art Fair, 21–23 October 2005, Daily guided tours of Frieze Art Fair led by international fashion experts: Peter Saville, Isabella Blow, Bay Garnett and Kira Jolliffe. 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, The7th 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.
Commodities: featuring Jeff Koons, Robert Ryman & Andy Warhol, Deweer Art Gallery, Otegem, Belgium. (Exh. cat.).

2003

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

Selected group shows and projects since 2005

2007

ReadyMedia, 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. (Curated by Beatrice Leanza and BAO Atelier)
The Spam Show, an unsolicited email show. (curated by Dessislava Dimova).

ReadyMedia, Montevideo-Netherlands
Media Art Institute, Amsterdam, The Netherlands. (Curated by Maria Rus-Bojan).
My 2007, Colette, Paris, France. (Curated by Sarah Lefel) (Exh. cat.).

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 1414 - 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 (curated by Sinisa Mitrovic). (Exh. cat.).
La Force de l'Art, Grand Palais, Paris. (Exh. cat.).
New Media 1965-2005, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei (curated by Christine Van Assche). (Exh. cat.).
Para Todos Publicos, Sala Rekalde, Basque Country, 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, PS1/MOMA, Long Island, New York, 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 Vailant). (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, Netherlands. (curated by Lars Bang Larsen, Cristina Ricupero and Nicolaus Schafhausen). (Exh. cat.).

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Fri 10:00 - 18:00

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