

COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

« 10 YEARS OF FRI-ART »

Etats des lieux # 1

Nicolas Bourriaud

Contacts

(Relationships, DIY and Consumer Works)

Monica Bonvicini - Claude Closky - Alicia Framis - Liam Gillick - Joseph Grigely
Swetlana Heger & Plamen Dejanov - Pierre Joseph - Ben Kinmont - Agence/Agentur
Mathieu Mercier - Navin Rawanchaikul - Gitte Villesen

February 13 through April 9, 2000

Opening: Saturday 12 February at 5 p.m.

FRI-ART Centre d'Art Contemporain - Kunsthalle - Petites-Rames 22 – CH 1700 Fribourg

Tel. 026 323 23 51 – Fax 026 323 15 34 – www.fri-art.ch

Opening hours : Tues.-Fri. 2-6 p.m., Sat.-Sun. 2-5 p.m., Thursday evenings 8-10 p.m.

" Our productions would be like mirrors reciprocally reflecting our beings. "

Karl Marx

" Contacts " is an informal gathering of artists whose work is closely linked to an emerging economic sector already designated by the term " knowledge industries ". It is based on mutual exchange, customised services, and on the as yet not officially acknowledged domain of DIY and housework. The artists explore these areas of endeavour to claim possession of the flux of industrial production, and to announce new forms and relationships within the capitalist economy. The works presented in " Contacts " chart a map that blends interpersonal relationships, DIY and the active recycling of the great flow of goods.

Joseph Grigely and the notes by which he communicates with his partners; the data banks collected by **Kobe Matthys**; **Swetlana Heger & Plamen Dejanov** and their contract with BMW, which doubles and critically reflects the company's communication strategy (the contract is coming to an end shortly after the exhibition); the inter-personal strategies of **Ben Kinmont** and his "third sculpture", consisting of the interactions between people; **Alicia Framis**, who explores the solitary lives of people in today's megacities; **Navin Rawanchaikul** with his " taxi project " - all these artists explore the realm of human relationships. **Monica Bonvicini**, who conducts interviews with construction workers, or **Liam Gillick**, whose work deals with the complex architecture of relations in the service sector, offer a particular interface to investigate the things that happen between people and the world of labour. Where does work stop? **Pierre Joseph** has given up on being an expert, and decided to be a lifelong apprentice. Artists such as **Mathieu Mercier** or **Claude Closky** use different means to reflect the permanent formatting of daily life - in a first step, by means of the minor domestic chores with which individuals tame their environment; in a second step, by regaining control over the flux of advertising.

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This exhibition was staged with the generous support of the French Embassy in Berne.

During the show, **La Cuisine** will be open every Thursday evening. Information and reservations : 026 323 23 51

Thursday 6 April at 8 p.m. : Guided visit of the exhibition with Michel Ritter, director of FRI-ART

Coming exhibition : Etat des lieux # 2A Harm Lux : "powersources" with Cindy Bernard - Christoph Büchel - Bob Gramsma - Jörg Lenzlinger/Gerda Steiner - Derek Stierli - Bruno Hass - Mirjam Staub - Fiona Tan - Tony Tasset - Markus Wetzel; **Etat des lieux # 2B Hans-Ulrich Obrist; Etat des lieux # 2C "Flash"**, from 30 April through 30 July, Opening Saturday 29 April, 17:00.