



CENTRE D'ART DE FRIBOURG  
KUNSTHALLE FREIBURG

PRESS RELEASE

**25.05 — 18.08.2013**



**Fabienne Audéoud, Natalie Czech, Olivia Dunbar,  
Sophie Erlund, Vidya Gastaldon, Isa Genzken,  
Isabella Girtanner, Roni Horn,  
Natalia Ibáñez Lario, Sherrie Levine,  
Yoan Mudry, NG, Mai-Thu Perret,  
Beatriz Preciado, Carissa Rodriguez, Kay Rosen,  
Anne Laure Sacriste, Cosima Von Bonin,  
Emily Wardill, Martina-Sofie Wildberger**

**Press Conference: Friday, May 24 at 4 pm**

**Opening: Friday, May 24 at 6 pm**

**Feminist art and entertainment magazine *Petunia*, founded in 2009 by Valérie Chartrain, Dorothée Dupuis and Lili Reynaud-Dewar, has been invited to curate an exhibition at Fri Art.**

*Pro-Choice* stems from the biography of Mary Shelley, one of the most prominent inventors of modern science fiction. Her political activism, insights on sexual freedom, radical unsettlement and continuous support of her partners' and friends' literary work, have provided grounds for imagining and exploring the processes of emancipation and choice at play within artistic practice.

And *Frankenstein*, creator of an individual generated outside the parameters of human reproduction, of a being everything but “natural” or “biologically correct”: a product from the mixture of dead flesh and marginal science... well, Frankenstein is the perfect figure to think about production, reproduction, construction and... why not? destruction. Recent readings of the Gothic novel have connected the dark origins of the monster with Shelley's traumatic loss of a number of her children and relatives. It is precisely these reactionary parallels between artistic production and biological reproduction, care and maternity imperatives: in simpler terms, parallels between the artist and the matrix -or the mother-, that *Pro-Choice* seeks to challenge and distort.

Explicitly referring to the pro-abortion movement and to the very idea of choice, *Pro-Choice* is a statement, or a mantra. It wishes to absorb and reflect the myriad of strategies artists can choose to make and create work from, to show how these choices generate meaning and how artists are bound to these meanings. From the refusal to produce at all to the reproduction, the theft, the copy, the invention of alter egos, the use of ventriloquism or the affirmation of the self at the core of the production process... This array of possibilities demonstrates a very special kind of freedom that echoes the radical re-framings of sexual polarities by queer politics, the mutations and delocalization of our private structures towards more opened, public and unknown models.



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Rooted within the contexts of techno-science, medically assisted procreation, new negotiations of the concept of family, Pro-Choice aims to navigate dangerously between the tropes of essentialism and constructivism which, still today, divide feminism.

**During the opening Petunia will launch its 5th issue**, with contributions by Cécile Bicler, Liz Cohen, le Corps collectif, Natalie Czech, Olivia Dunbar, Dorothée Dupuis, Marina Faust, Claire Guezengar, Sonia Leimer, Sylvère Lotringer, Daria Martin, Kobena Mercer, Eileen Myles, NG, Josephine Pryde, Lisa Robertson, Martina-Sofie Wildberger, Cathy Wilkes, and designed by Claire Moreux.

**Fabienne Audéoud** (\*1968, Besançon) lives and works in Paris.  
**Natalie Czech** (\*1976, France) lives and works in Berlin.  
**Olivia Dunbar** (\*1988, Canada) lives and works in Rotterdam.  
**Sophie Erlund** (\*1978, Denmark) lives and works in Berlin.  
**Vidya Gastaldon** (\*1974, France) lives and works in Geneva.  
**Isa Genzken** (\*1948, Germany) lives and works in Berlin.  
**Isabella Girtanner** (\*1984, Switzerland) lives and works in Vienna.  
**Roni Horn** (\*1955, USA) lives and works in New York and Reykjavík.  
**Natalia Ibáñez Lario** (\*1980, Spain) lives and works in Mexico City and New York.  
**Sherrie Levine** (\*1947, USA) lives and works in New York.  
**Yoan Mudry** (\*1990, Switzerland) lives and works in Geneva.  
**NG** (\*1970, France) lives and works in artistic residencies.  
**Mai-Thu Perret** (\*1976, Switzerland) lives and works in Geneva.  
**Beatriz Preciado** (\*1970, Spain) lives and works in France.  
**Carissa Rodriguez** (\*1970, USA) lives and works in New York.  
**Kay Rosen** (\*1949, USA) lives and works in USA.  
**Anne Laure Sacriste** (\*1970, France) lives and works in Paris.  
**Cosima Von Bonin** (\*1962, Kenya) lives and works in Cologne.  
**Emily Wardill** (\*1977, United Kingdom) lives and works in London.  
**Martina-Sofie Wildberger** (\*1985, Switzerland) lives and works in Geneva.

## AGENDA

### NUIT DES MUSÉES

#### NIGHT OF THE MUSEUMS

**Saturday, May 25 from 6 to 12 pm**

Guided Tours, Poetry, Workshop for Children and Raclette.

### GUIDED TOURS

**Thursday, June 6 at 6 pm**

**Thursday, July 4 at 6 pm**

Free admission, on appointment for groups and schools.

### VISITE POUR ENSEIGNANTS

**Wednesday, May 29 at 5 pm**

Free entry, on registration at [publics@fri-art.ch](mailto:publics@fri-art.ch)

## INFORMATIONS

### OPENING HOURS

Wed-Fri 12-6 PM

Sat-Sun 2-5 PM

Thu free entry 6-8 PM

### WITH THE SUPPORT OF

Loterie Romande, Canton de Fribourg,  
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### PRESS CONTACT

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Press kit and images available on request.