



GALLERY BOOKLET

49 NORD 6 EST

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A SERPENTINE GESTURE AND OTHER PROPHECIES

B. BILLOTTE, I. BONILLAS, A. GORMLEY,
M. GRZYMALA, W. HERZOG, C. MCCORKLE,
P-E. MORELLE, P. PHINTHONG, I. WILSON

15 JAN -
01 MAY
11

YOUR VISIT



How to put an end to the apocalypse and the philosophy of end-times—this is the motivation governing the interpretation of works shown in this exhibition.

Contemporary prophetic discourses (Mayan, Evangelical, and other prophecies) derive from a linear conception of time, whereas other conceptions exist or pre-exist, such as the circular vision associated with pagan and Asian civilizations. Above all, however, there are other influences which we have only begun to assimilate: the research in quantum physics and theory of relativity (formulated by Einstein in 1905) which force us to invent a new conceptual framework of Time. Intuitively, we posit time as unidirectional, like walking forward from the past towards the future. Nevertheless, many laws of mathematics bend the famous Arrow of Time.

The works presented here take on forms having to do with the line and the curve; however, they are metaphors enabling us finally to confront this conceptual reversal and to rethink our notion of time and our vision of the world.

IAN WILSON *Born in 1940 in Durban, South Africa. Lives and works in Los Angeles CA, (US).*

Time (spoken), 1982

Oral performance

FRAC Lorraine Collection

For Ian Wilson, all art is information and communication. Since the late 1960s, he has abandoned minimalist art in order to elaborate “discussions” which he carries out in museums, galleries, or at private collectors’ homes. He invites us to approach a philosophical subject by inciting us to question an everyday word.

Time is an oral description of a speech act. The work exists by way of curiosity awakened by this word and in an oral dialogue which we initiate, to satisfy that curiosity, with the present audience:

“What does *Time* consist in?”

“It’s the word time being spoken.”

COURTYARD

PIERRE-ÉTIENNE MORELLE

Born in 1980 in Château-Thierry (FR). Lives in Berlin (DE).

Grow, 2008-2010

Installation. Inner tubes

Loan from the artist

Using rubber inner tubes which have been joined together, the artist has created a twelve-mile-long band. He rolled it up into a ball which grows exponentially as his strength wanes. The rubber ball has replaced the rock, our modern world stands in for ancient Greece, but Sisyphus continues to repeat his absurd, existential task. Greek mythology teaches us that there is no more terrible punishment than laboring in vain, forever starting anew. Perhaps in this circularity there is, however, some wisdom that is neither rash nor vain, pointing to neither an elsewhere nor to a tomorrow. A wisdom of immortal “simplicity” (A. Berthoz), such as Nature teaches us.

PRATCHAYA PHINTHONG

Born in 1974 in Thailand (TH). Lives in Bangkok (TH).

2017, 2009

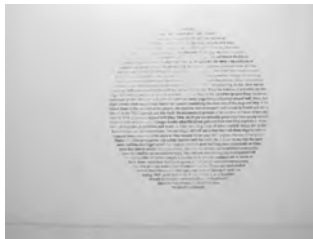
Wall painting of a text found on Internet and realized with disappearing ink

Diameter: 241 cm

FRAC Lorraine Collection

The text, arranged in the shape of a perfect circle, is an extract copied and pasted from a blog found on the internet. Its anonymous, alarmist, and paranoid author claims that secret experiments are being conducted at the heart of the CERN particle accelerator located underground at the French-Swiss border. According to the blog's author, the real purpose of that machine, controlled by the Americans, is teleportation to Mars of a select portion of the population before Earth collides with another planet in 2017.

This date provides Pratchaya Phinthong with the title of his work, alluding to futuristic predictions and classical dystopias of apocalyptic science fiction, from Orwell's *1984* to Roland Emmerich's *2012*. The unlikely scenario, however, culminates here in an unexpected way, namely in the conviction that Buddha is going to save his disciples, the author among them. This final, almost screwball reversal neutralizes the anxiety of impending doom. Written directly on the wall, the disastrous and gradually fading prediction allows for the renewal of secrets and mystery. Unlike the internet, where it would be as popular as its message is spectacular, the work *2017* makes the prophecy evanescent, magical, nearly supernatural.



WERNER HERZOG *Born in 1942 in Germany (DE). Lives in Los Angeles, CA (US).*

Lessons of Darkness, 1992

Super 16mm film transferred onto DVD, color, 55'

Werner Herzog Film

Pillars of flame, walls of smoke, cracked craters, wrecked cars, and devastated forests. Werner Herzog paints an apocalyptic vision of the earth destroyed by man.

What place is this? There is nothing in the documentary to allow us identify the Kuwait oil wells, destroyed during the First Gulf War (1991). Spellbound by the future of humanity in a Promised Land about to be destroyed, the film maker contemplates the aftermath of the catastrophe. The first images of the survivors and the traces of what was show us that the world does not crumble into nothingness, but regenerates in the chaos of natural elements.

IÑAKI BONILLAS *Born in 1981 in Mexico (MX). Lives in Mexico (MX).*

Naufragio en silencio [Shipwreck in Silence], 2007

Paper, chalk line reel

35 drawings on paper, 30.5 x 63 x 2 cm each

Loan from La Colección Jumex, Mexico

Our Western conception of time has been dominated by the image of the line. This directional axis is associated with a river's flow; hence the persistent yet mistaken idea that "time passes." Iñaki Bonillas's drawings, made with blue chalk line reel, take up the classical motif of the horizon line at the edge of the sea, of the in-between.

We are no longer immersed in a flowing river, but facing the open expanse of a sea... We are no longer in linear, continuous time punctuated by multiple dates and events and bounded by a beginning and an end, but in an elusive present. A present that at once persists and vanishes. Here, time is discontinuous, interrupted from one frame to the next. Iñaki Bonillas includes the gaps, the dark holes for thinking, dreaming, forgetting or, perhaps, reinventing.

COREY MCCORKLE

Born in 1969 in La Crosse, WI (US). Lives New York (US).

Heiligenschein, 2005

Installation, wood and light. Diameter: 2 m

FRAC Lorraine Collection

In absolute darkness, light appears: at first timid, then intensifying, it outlines a luminous circle, approaching architectural materiality, irradiating the entire room. The day has just risen. This work employs one of the most basic visual procedures: beveled cuts in the wall, an effect of condensation of outdoor light; the illusion is perfect. But while the work radiates in the light of day, it gradually dies down when the sun sets... in order to be infinitely reborn. A perfect geometric form, the circle calls to mind cyclical time—time of an eternal return where everything has always already been there.

BENOÎT BILLOTTE *Born in 1983 in Metz (FR). Lives in Geneva (CH).****Sunline, 2011***

Chalk on chalk board paint

1,20 m x 10,14 m

Commissioned by FRAC Lorraine

If, on the scale of a human life, the life span of planets is not perceptible, their evolution seems nevertheless to have an impact on our existence. The glacial epochs on Earth stemmed from solar activity. Scientists have determined that the Sun operates in eleven to twelve-year-long cycles (Schwabe cycles) and repeats more or less the same activity over each period. The artist has drawn up an inventory of these graphic data and created a frieze using the different graph curves. Deceptively infinite (the sun will die in a few billion years), this bears witness to the cyclic dimension of time in Nature. That time, based on rhythmic pulses, relies on repetition of the same elements which, if one looks more closely, are never identical.

ANTONY GORMLEY *Born in 1950 in London (GB). Lives in London (GB).*

Firmament III, 2009

stainless steel elements

3.81 x 10.942 x 6.97 m

Loan from the artist and Xavier Hufkens, Brussels

Ribs joined by spherical nodes form geometrical figures. These “bubble matrices” constitute autonomous units and recurrent motifs. They comprise a metal structure which seems capable of growth. The formal and the formless, order and randomness, mass and transparency coexist here side by side.

Firmament refers to the vault of heavens. The Latin origin of the word reminds us that the firmament is that which firmly supports the sky overhead. The space extends without end: this is our door to the cosmos, our window onto the universe, at the limit of eternity.

2ND FLOOR

MONIKA GRZYMALA *Born in 1970 in Zabrze (PL). Lives in Berlin (DE).*

Polyeder/Polyhedron, 2011

Site specific three-dimensional drawing, black matte adhesive tape

Commissioned by FRAC Lorraine / FRAC Lorraine Collection

Polyhedra interlocking one within the other... without beginning or end... sometimes two-, sometimes three-dimensional... real forms of dreamlike appearance... they constitute a stream of information that confuses our spatio-temporal orientation.

And what if this tensile form is a manifestation of the four-dimensional world (three spatial dimensions plus a temporal dimension) defined by Einstein in his *Theory of Relativity*? A world in which time would not be universal but proper to the observer and having no chronology...

PARALLEL GLANCES

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The events include nine invitations extended by FRAC and its partners to disseminators of passionate and fascinating ideas. They will make our heads spin, challenge our prejudices, and debunk our misconceptions!

PERFORMING ARTS

PERFORMANCE

Various materials

T. Guedes

→ 19 JAN / 8.30pm

Centre Pompidou-Metz

PERFORMANCE (IN FRENCH)

Eden matin midi et soir

C. Delaume, A. Steffens

→ 10 FEB / 7pm, Frac Lorraine

CONCERT

Beyond the limits of time

J.C. Eloy, E. Cordier

→ 19 FEB / 7pm - 11pm

Frac Lorraine

READING (IN FRENCH)

De tant en temps

N. Renaude, N. Maury

→ 20 APR / 7pm, Frac Lorraine

CONFERENCES/TALK

VIEWERS' WORKSHOP (IN FRENCH)

The floor is yours!

T. Bartolomeu Costa

→ 17 JAN / 2pm - 5pm, Frac Lorraine

ARTIST TALK (IN GERMAN/FRENCH)

Free the line

M. Grzymala

→ 18 JAN / 6pm, ENSA, Nancy

CONFERENCE (IN FRENCH)

So, what is time?

E. Klein

→ 03 FEB / 7pm, Frac Lorraine

CONFERENCE (IN FRENCH)

Werner Herzog, an apocalyptic vision

M. Kummer

→ 24 MARCH / 7pm, Frac Lorraine

CONFERENCE (IN FRENCH)

News on messianisms in Africa and elsewhere

S. Mboukou, J.P. Dozon

→ 31 MARCH / 7pm, Frac Lorraine



MORE ABOUT OUR COLLECTION:

<http://collection.fraclorraine.org>

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE FRAC, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

www.fraclorraine.org

TO GO FURTHER

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SELECTION OF FILMS

After life

Koreeda Hirokazu, 1998, Japan
Drama, 118 mn, original version with
french subtitled



Toute une nuit

Chantal Akerman, 1981, France
Drama, 89 mn, French version

Un homme qui dort

Georges Pérec et Bernard Queysanne, 1974,
France
Drama, 77 mn, French version



Sacrifice

Andrei Tarkovski, 1986, Russia
Sci-fi, 162 mn, original version with
french subtitled



Je t'aime, je t'aime

Alain Resnais, 1968, France
Sci-fi, 91 mn, VF

Il giardino delle delizie

Silvano Agosti, 1967, Italy
Drama, 68 mn, original version with french
subtitled



La jetée

Chris Marker, 1962, France
Science fiction, 28 mn, VF

Vertigo

Alfred Hitchcock, 1958, United States
Thriller, drame, 129 mn, original version
with french subtitled

It happened Tomorrow

René Clair, 1944, United States
Science fiction, 81 mn, original version
with french subtitled

TO GO FURTHER

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SELECTION OF BOOKS

Henri BERGSON, *Durée et simultanéité*

Quadrige/Presses Universitaires de France, 1998 (1^{ère} éd. 1968)

Paul COUTEAU, *Les Rêves de l'infini*

Flammarion, 1996

Jérôme DUMOULIN, *Divagations sur la fin des temps*

Grasset, 2010

Étienne KLEIN, *Les Tactiques de Chronos*

Flammarion, 2003

Werner HERZOG, *Manuel de survie*

Entretien avec Hervé Aubron et Emmanuel Burdeau

Capricci, 2008

Aldous HUXLEY, *Time must have a shop*

Librairie Plon, 1946 (1^{ère} éd. 1944)

Howard Phillips LOVECRAFT, *the Shadow out of Time*

Denoël, 1991 (1^{ère} éd. 1954)

Noëlle RENAUDE, *De tant en temps*

Éditions MIX + Frac Aquitaine, 2010

Carlo ROVELLI, *Qu'est-ce que le temps ? Qu'est-ce que l'espace ?*

Bernard Gilson Éditeur, 2008 (1^{ère} éd. 2004)

LIBRARY

Curious to learn more about contemporary art? Visit our documentation center and have a glance over thousands of art catalogues, theoretical works, international art magazines and videos.

Open upon reservation: to Tuesday from Friday, 9am-1pm and 2-6pm and Saturday 2-5pm

Tel.: +33 (0)3 87 74 55 00.

WHAT IS 49 NORD 6 EST – FRAC LORRAINE ?

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49 Nord 6 Est – Fonds régional d'art contemporain in Lorraine is both an exhibition space and an art collection belonging to the region. Following the idea that art is not destined for the mind and for the eye alone, FRAC often features works engage other senses—hearing, touch, or smell—and encourage the visitor to discover new modes of perception. It also offers a variety of other programming, including meetings, performances, conferences, films, and concerts which give the visitor multiple ways of approaching the exhibition themes.

The mission of FRAC is:

- to constitute a corpus of works representative of contemporary creation in the broad sense of the word (video art, installation, dance, music, film, performance, literature). At present, FRAC houses over 600 works.

→ <http://collection.fracloorraine.org>

to make the collection available across the region and beyond (Sarre, Luxembourg, Europe), namely through repositories, temporary loans, thematic and traveling exhibitions.

→ <http://www.fracloorraine.org/en/voyagez/region>

- to raise public awareness of art. FRAC collaborates with numerous partners (educational institutions, universities, art schools, associations, EMI, detention centers) to develop pedagogical projects, and strives to create targeted approaches in order to make works of art accessible to diversified audience.

→ <http://www.fracloorraine.org/en/visitez/scolaires>

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

EXHIBITION SPACE

Open Tuesday through Friday 2-7pm
and Saturday & Sunday 12-7pm.
Free admission.

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Group visits in English on request:
mediation@fracloorraine.org

> Free guided visits:
For all audiences:
Saturday & Sunday 5-6 pm.
For children: Sunday 2:30-4:15 pm
(visit + workshop).

> Free guided visits in French Sign
Language: 30 JAN ; 20 FEB ; 27 MAR ;
17 APR - 3pm ; or by request,
reserve by emailing:
mediation@fracloorraine.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

49 Nord 6 Est – FRAC Lorraine
1bis rue des Trinitaires, F-57000
Metz
Ph. +33 (0)3 87 74 74 20 02
Email: info@fracloorraine.org

