

THE SHYNESS OF THE CROWNS

CURATOR: BEATRIZ ALONSO, LAUREATE OF THE AWARD 2016 FOR
YOUNG CURATORS MARCO/49 NORD 6 EST/SFKM



MARCH 17 - JUNE 4, 2017

Opening: March 16, 7-9pm in presence of the curator and artists
At 7.30pm "484 Pulsations", performance by Marta Fernández Calvo



Outbursts of solidarity, spontaneous mobilizations, and virtual micro-communities springing to life: now is the time to rethink the collective. Beatriz Alonso, the winner of the 2016 MARCO/49 Nord 6 Est/SFKM Award reminds us about the urgent need to reinvent oneself, to collectively imagine alternative forms of 'living together'. Starting with 'crown shyness'— a phenomenon observed in tree canopies— the Spanish curator uses this group exhibition to suggest artistic pathways leading to new participatory scenarios. Let's enrich each other by respecting others and their differences.

Curator: Beatriz Alonso
Prix 2016 laureate of the award 2016 of the
young curators MARCO/49 NORD 6 EST/SFKM

Artists: Lara Almarcegui, Helena
Almeida, Kader Attia, Jeremy Deller,
Marta Fernández Calvo, Dora García,
Jiří Kovanda, Amalia Pica, Rita Ponce
de León, Alex Reynolds, Cecilia Vicuña

Coproduction: 49 Nord 6 Est, MARCO-
Museo de Arte Contemporánea de Vigo et
SFKM-Sogn og Fjordane Kunstmuseum.

Tour:
MARCO, Vigo (ES) : June 17 - Jan 18
SFKM, Førde (NO) : Feb - June 18

Thank to Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum,
New York

AC/E With the support of Acción
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Trees come together in the canopy to protect the ecosystem. They maintain common harmony even while preserving their individuality thanks to 'crown shyness'. Transposed into our present societies, these interstices represent a space full of potential. This exhibition draws inspiration from this natural intelligence, as well as its limitations, to envision new modes of cohabitation. Beatriz Alonso invites us to explore alterity and reflect together on a society where everyone would have their place... without ever denying conflict, instability, or fragility. Participatory performances (Jiří Kovanda, Amalia Pica, Marta Fernández Calvo), exchange of popular lore (Lara Almarcegui, Jeremy Deller), invisible resistance (Cecilia Vicuña, Kader Attia), encounters with communities (Alex Reynolds, Dora García), shared intimate moments (Rita Ponce de León, Helena Almeida)... are a boarding call to a journey of otherness. A poetic and eminently intuitive approach to nature.

By participating in workshops, meetings, experiments, and other «round-the-world tables», you too are part in the collective. Get involved with 49 Nord 6 Est and help create a new future!

paris art www.paris-art.com

The 49 Nord 6 Est is supported by Région Grand Est - Alsace Champagne-Ardenne Lorraine
and by the Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication - Drac Grand Est



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FREE ADMISSION

Tuesday through Wednesday,
from 2pm to 7pm
Saturday and Sunday,
from 11am to 7pm

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Open during school and public
holidays

A word from the curator



Is it feasible to promote new forms of living together beyond individualism and global competition, even if this objective seems almost unattainable? Are we capable of establishing links based on compromise, mutual commitment and cooperation without necessarily relinquishing our differences? What practical implementation, theoretical and symbolic positioning may we imagine in the midst of the current socio-political context governed as it by antagonism and division?

Crown Shyness is a botanical phenomenon in which trees define the limit of their growth, thereby allowing their harmonious coexistence in the canopy. Among the large body of research conducted on such awareness in trees, our point of departure is a study focused on their internal communication system. Through the exchange of chemical signals, they guard against the occurrence of diseases, of environmental stress, or simply delimit their own breathing space in harmony with other trees. These infrastructures within the vegetation create 'shyness gaps' which allow the trees to agree, for instance, on letting the light through, while preventing the intrusion of elements that are harmful to group living: such channel-like gaps might be construed in this context as spaces of possibility.

The poetical observation of this phenomenon challenges some of the modern views according to which nature is hegemonic and the fittest prevails in the fight for survival. To bring it into the human domain, this collective intelligence, this concern for the common good, could be put into perspective with our contemporaneous existence and remind us of the urgent need to take action – as members of a society – with a view to creating an ecosystem in which relationships, encounters and exchanges can always emerge from synergies. In doing so, it challenges the justification of wild competition within our current socio-economic framework.

EVENTS IN MARCH

WEEK-END OF CONTEMPORARY ART

> TABLE MONDE / Fri 17 March 2pm
Université de Lorraine, Metz,
Free admission
Art & citoyenneté

with Beatriz Alonso, curator;
Lara Almarcegui, artist; Denis
Grison, member of collectif
Cultures d'Urgence, Vandœuvre ;
Mathilde Villeneuve, co-director
of Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers ;
The Cheapest University
Modération : Ophélie Naessens,
maîtresse de conférence en arts

> PERFORMANCE / Sat 18 March
3pm & 5pm. 49 Nord 6 Est, Metz,
Free admission

Kissing through glass
Jirí Kovanda, artist

> SPECIAL KIDS / Sun 19 March 3pm
49 Nord 6 Est, Metz, Free admission
L'atelier du dimanche

> PERFORMANCE / Monday 20 March
2pm. Université de Lorraine,
Saulcy, Metz, Free Admission
Asamble

Amalia Pica, artist
Thanks to Solomon R. Guggenheim
Museum, New York

Bearing in mind the potential of such metaphor, this exhibition engages with artistic practices that promote or make visible new scenarios devoted to living together and learning from one another while still accepting our otherness and our differences. To review the concept of community, through works of art that contribute to a broader understanding of what it entails (yet without denying the existence of conflict, instability or fragility). To set out on a quest for new horizons, building on our complexities, contradictions and weaknesses to live side by side and produce more subtle and flexible bonds with others in order to become stronger together. To this end, the exhibition highlights a stronger sense of connection with nature, coupled with more intuitive and poetic learning methodologies.

The works presented include, among others, actions which invite the public to participate both in and outside of 49 Nord 6 Est - Frac Lorraine, videos showing daily forms of sharing in existing communities and photographs that evidence the exchange of popular knowledge as well as relationships concerning and directly with nature. The whole forms a 'social sculpture', which may remind us of the feeling of solidarity that can be found during grassroots sit-ins and marches, where communication with others goes beyond words and finds its fullest expression in the union of bodies. We now face the challenge of dreaming and building, in a joint effort, genuine spaces of critique, desire and transformation, while taking into account not only what brings us together but also what separates us. Why not start from a radical imaginary, or even a tale, if it provides a means to our end?

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Beatriz Alonso



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BEATRIZ ALONSO

Born in Madrid in 1981 where she lives and works. She is an independent curator and researcher

She holds a BA in Art History from the Universidad Complutense (Madrid, ES) and a MA in Contemporary Art from the Universidad Europea (Madrid, ES).

She has curated different projects in Madrid such as :

- 2015 / 'Asoman las raíces', a cycle of two solo-shows at Alegría Gallery
- 2014 / 'Andar por casa', an ephemeral exhibition at the independent space Salón
- 'Lo que llamamos absurdo es nuestra ignorancia', a video programme with artworks from the MACBA Collections at MACBA and CA2M (Barcelona/Madrid)
- 2013 / 'Hacer en lo cotidiano', a long-term project at Sala de Arte Joven
- 2012 / 'Hazañas cotidianas', a cinema programme at CA2M

She has co-curated the exhibitions '¿Qué hace alguien como tú en un sitio como éste?' at La Regenta Art Centre (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, SP, 2010) and 'Como diría Roland Barthes, ni te cases, ni te embarques' at La Casa Encendida (Madrid, 2009).

She has been curator in residence at Lugar a dudas (Cali, CO, 2015), and researcher at Centre Pompidou (Paris, FR, 2010) and at the Musée du Louvre where she assisted in the preparation of an exhibition held at Casino Forum d'Art Contemporain (Luxemburg, LU, 2006-2007).

Upcoming projects include the exhibition 'La Timidité des Cimes' at 49 Nord 6 Est - FRAC Lorraine (Metz, FR, 2017), MARCO (Vigo, ES, 2017) and SFKM (Førde, NO, 2018), and a cycle of specific proposals in Madrid, 2017 at:

- Casa Museo Lope de Vega,
- Museo Casa Natal de Cervantes,
- Centro de interpretación de Nuevo Baztán
- Museo Picasso Colección Eugenio Arias

Pictures available

Valérie Guelton / communication@fracloiraine.org



Almercegui_Open air cafe ...



Almercegui_Open air cafe ...



Almeida-Untitled.jpg



Deller-11.jpg



Deller-16.jpg



Deller-20.jpg



FernandezCalvo-1.jpg



FernandezCalvo-2.jpg



Garcia_1.jpg



Garcia_3.jpg



Kovanda-1.jpg



Kovanda-2.jpg



PonceLeon-3.png



Vicuna2-1.jpg



Vicuna2-2.jpg



Vicuna2-3.jpg



Vicuna2-4.jpg



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