

OLIVER BEER

RABBIT HOLE

PRESS
RELEASE

05.06 >
17.08.14



Oliver Beer, 2012

Inauguration

Wednesday 4th June 2014 at 6:30 pm
in the presence of the artist

Opening hours

Wednesday - Sunday, from 11 am to 6 pm

Press contacts

Muriel Jaby / Élise Vion-Delphin

T +33 (0)4 72 69 17 05 / 25

communication@mac-lyon.com

High resolution pictures (300 dpi) are available on request

Musée d'art contemporain
Cité internationale
81 quai Charles de Gaulle
69006 LYON - FR

T +33 (0)4 72 69 17 17
F +33 (0)4 72 69 17 00

www.mac-lyon.com

mac musée
d'art contemporain
de Lyon

OLIVER BEER

RABBIT HOLE

05.06 >
17.08.14



GALERIE THADDAEUS ROPAC



+

chœur**britten**
nicole corti

m d c LYON
m d c

THE EXHIBITION

Musicians Laurie Anderson, Morton Feldman, La Monte Young and Terry Riley are all part of the museum's collection with major pieces. Indeed since its creation in 1984, the mac^{LYON} has striven to portray the privileged link that exists between sound and space, these certain volumes of sound which are more than just music and whose experience is nevertheless visual.

This is why we held the exhibitions *New York, New Sounds, New Spaces* with Stephen Vitiello in 2002, *Soundtrack for an Exhibition* with Mathieu Copeland in 2006, and more recently *Cage's Satie: Composition for Museum* with Laura Kuhn in 2012 and *Listen Profoundly* (Morton Feldman, Heiner Goebbels, Ulf Langheinrich) in 2014.

An entire floor of the mac^{LYON} will be devoted to the solo exhibition of young British artist, Oliver Beer. This will feature a new work (*Rabbit Hole*) created by the artist, following on from *The Resonance Project*, complemented by certain pieces displayed to the public for the first time.



Oliver Beer, *Alice Falling*, 2014 - From the series *Reanimation*.
Animation 16 mm film - digital, composed of 54 drawings
Production: Villa Arson, Nice
Courtesy Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris/Salzburg
© Oliver Beer

Oliver Beer

In reference to Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, the title of the exhibition «*Rabbit Hole*», chosen by Oliver Beer, draws on an artistic approach that questions our perception of the world.

His works invite us to see, hear, feel, objects, images and sounds differently. Both a musician and an artist by training, Oliver Beer is particularly interested in architecture and the principle of resonance. Since 2007 he has been developing the *Resonance Project*, a series of performances and films which work with this acoustic phenomenon. For the exhibition space of the mac^{LYON}, his research is taken to a new level.

Experimenting with the interaction between architecture and the voice, he has created an impressive modular sculpture into which the visitor is invited to enter. This structure vibrates through the intervention of opera singers who perform a score created specifically for the exhibition. This disorientating experience, this passage into a different world, is also to be found in the animated film entitled *Alice Falling* (From the series *Reanimation*), made from children's drawings of Alice falling into the rabbit hole, tumbling into a fantastic universe. The disorder is reinforced by a frieze of objects which seem to be drawn, but are in fact very real: cut through the middle and embedded in the wall. A reference to the March Hare cutting a cup in half to give Alice «half» a cup of tea, it is also the inscription into the wall of objects related to the loss of volume or the passage of air (a pipe, a revolver ...).

Combining references to his own life (his grandfather's pipes and cane, the rifles of which his father is an avid collector ...), the history of art, the history of music... the exhibition offers us an oscillation between illusion and reality, memories and relics, an immersion into the curious world of Oliver Beer.

THE ARTIST

www.oliverbeer.co.uk

Oliver Beer was born in 1985 in Pembury (United Kingdom). A composer by training, he studied at the Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art from the University of Oxford (United Kingdom). He also followed the Film and Audiovisual Studies masters at the University Paris-Sorbonne (France). He lives and works in London (United Kingdom) and Paris (France).

In 2009, he won the Saatchi Gallery's New Sensations Prize. He has held numerous artist residencies including at the Pavillon of the Palais de Tokyo in 2011, at the Saint-Louis glassworks with the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès in 2012 and at the Villa Arson (along with artist Shingo Yoshida) at the end of December 2013.

Solo shows

2014

Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris (septembre 2014)
Rabbit Hole, Musée d'art contemporain de Lyon, Lyon
Prospectif Cinéma - Oliver Beer, Centre Pompidou, Paris

2013

Composition for hearing an architectural space, Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac Pantin, Paris
Oliver Beer, Villa Arson, Nice (avec Shingo Yoshida), France
Outside-In, Ikon Gallery (permanent), Birmingham, UK
Out of Shot, Silencio, Paris, France

2012

Klang, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

2011

Pay and Display, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK

2010

Deep and Meaningful, MurmurART, Hoxton Square, London, UK
Training, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham (Tower Room), UK

2009

Die Budgie History, Dolphin Gallery, Oxford, UK

2008

The Resonance Project, Abbazia di Farfa, Rome, Italy

2007

Oliver Beer, La Viande Gallery, London, UK

Group exhibitions

2014

Condensation (Hermès), South Korea (18th September - 9th November 2014) and Le Forum, Japan (19th March - 30 June 2014)
Saint Jerome, Meessen de Clerq, Bruxelles, Belgium
Sunday Sessions, MoMA PS1, New York, USA

2013

A Road to nowhere and *Oma's Kitchen Floor*, « resonance » with la Biennale de Lyon (Palais de Tokyo hors-les-murs, Modules of the Fondation Pierre Bergé - Yves Saint-Laurent), Lyon, France
Nouvelles Vagues, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
The Resonance Project Performance, Wiels Centre d'Art Contemporain / Art Bruxel, Belgium
Screening of Mum's Continuous Note, 2012, Modern Art Oxford, GB
Screening of The Resonance Project: Deep and Meaningful 8pm, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Klang, Palais de Tokyo (Tokyo Art Club), Paris, France

2012

Saatchi Gallery, "100 Curators"
Biennale de Belleville, Paris, France
Whitstable Biennale, Kent, UK
Nuit Blanche 2012, Paris, France
Two solo performances for the reopening of the Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
Galerie de Roussan, Paris, France
Hebbel Theatre, Berlin, Germany
Ménagerie de Verre, Paris, France
FRAC Corse, with the Palais de Tokyo Pavillon, Corte, France

2011

Saatchi Gallery for the Big Chill, Herefordshire, UK
Mindful, Old Vic Tunnels, London, UK
Bonhams Macmillan De'Longhi Art Auction, London, UK

2010

Sir John Soane's Museum, London, UK
Macmillan Auction, Christie's, London, UK
Anticipation, Selfridges, London, UK
Ruskin Shorts, Oxford Playhouse, Oxford, UK
Concrete and Glass, 20 Hoxton Square, London, UK
Salon Contemporary, 'Best of the UK, Class of 2009'
Reflections, DNA Gallery, Berlin, Germany
Photo50 / London Art Fair, Islington, UK

2009

Saatchi Gallery '4 New Sensations', A Foundation, London, UK
Channel 4 '3-Minute Wonders', UK Broadcast
Resonance FM, London, UK / Online
Ruskin Degree, Oxford, UK
Ruskin Shorts, Phoenix Picturehouse, Oxford, UK
The Fringe, Old Master's Studio, Oxford, UK

2008

Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Performance avec Goodbooks, ICA London, UK
20 Eventi, Rome, Italy
Modern Art Oxford, UK
Beaconsfield Gallery, performance with Matmos, London, UK
Vivarosi Gallery, Budapest, Hungary

2007

Chelsea College of Art, London, UK

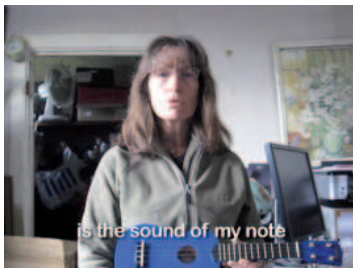
2006

Beardsmore Gallery, (with Oliver Barratt) London, UK
Balaton Film Festival, Balatonfüred, Hungary
Vivarosi Gallery, Budapest, Hungary



Oliver Beer, 2013

PRESS VISUALS



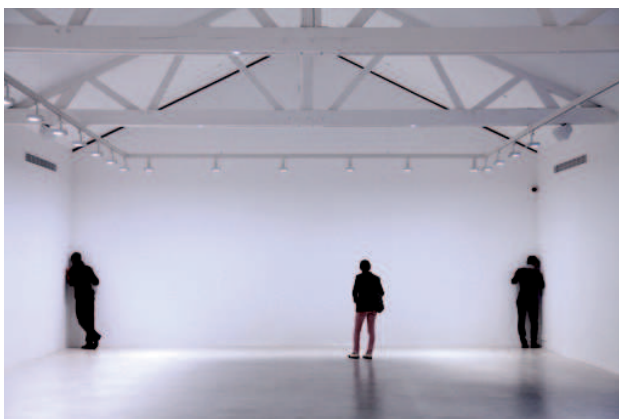
Oliver Beer, *Mum's Continuous Note*, 2012
Video, colour, sound, 3'10"
Collection Musée d'art contemporain, Lyon
Courtesy Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris/Salzburg
© Oliver Beer

Mum's Continuous Note 2012 (macLYON collection) is an ode to the beauty of sound in 3 minutes and presents a moment of intimacy with the artist's mother. In this video, she holds a continuous note, without seeming to take a breath and through the use of subtitles she explains her apparent skill, her method of circular breathing, as well as the emotional potential created by her melodies with the aid of a miniature blue guitar.



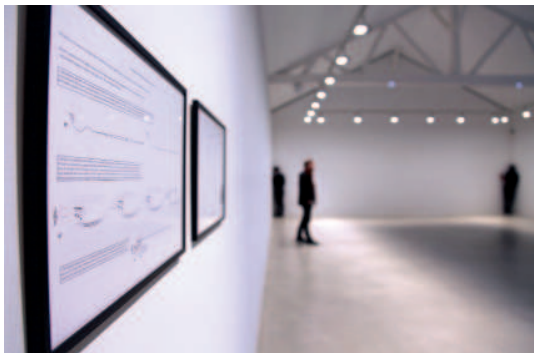
Oliver Beer, *Alice Falling*, 2014 - From the series *Reanimation*
Animation 16 mm film - digital, composed of 54 drawings
Production: Villa Arson, Nice
Courtesy Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris/Salzburg
© Oliver Beer

Alice Falling, 2014 (from the series *Reanimation*) During his residency at the Villa Arson, Oliver Beer began a somewhat unusual project—the reconstruction, image by image, of an extract from Walt Disney's *Snow White* (1937). Students from 23 primary schools in the Greater Nice region participated in this project by producing some of the 700 drawings necessary for the reconstruction of the animated film. *Alice Falling* (from the series *Reanimation*) follows the same idea and reconstructs a scene from *Alice in Wonderland*: the fall into a well.



Oliver Beer, *Composition for Hearing an Architectural Space*, 2013
Performance, 2 scores - Variable dimensions
Collection Musée d'art contemporain de Lyon
Courtesy Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris/Salzburg
© Oliver Beer

The performance **Composition for Hearing an Architectural Space**, 2013 (macLYON collection) is part of *The Resonance Project*, 2007-2013, which features anything from 2 to 6 singers who interact with the space through their voices. Seeking to generate the acoustic feedback of the site, the singers perform a score composed by the artist and use a method of natural frequency which brings about the resonance and reverberation of the site. All of a sudden, the space begins to amplify the voices of the singers.



Oliver Beer, *Composition for Hearing an Architectural Space*, 2013
Performance, 2 scores - Variable dimensions
Collection Musée d'art contemporain de Lyon
Courtesy Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris/Salzburg
© Oliver Beer



Oliver Beer, *This is a Pipe*, 2013. Installation of an half cut pipe in the wall
12 cm x 8,5 cm
Courtesy Galerie Thaddaeus Ropac, Paris/Salzburg
© Oliver Beer

This is a Pipe (*Ceci est une pipe*), 2013 What seems at first a drawing is, in fact, a sculpture so finely embedded in the wall that it gives the illusion of being flat. While alluding to René Magritte's (*Ceci n'est pas une pipe*, from the series 'La Trahison des images' ['The Treachery of images'], 1929), Oliver Beer's three-dimensional piece, inlaid in the wall, is a humorous and thoughtful transposition of the power of illusion. This is actually half of a real pipe, seen from the side, and its shape may be said to evoke a human ear or a musical instrument.

VISITOR INFORMATION

The exhibition

General curator:
Thierry Raspail
Exhibition manager:
Isabelle Bertolotti, assisted by
Marilou Laneuville
Head of production:
Thierry Prat

Press contacts

Muriel Jaby / Élise Vion-Delphin
T (33) 04 72 69 17 05 / 25
communication@mac-lyon.com

Address

Musée d'art contemporain
Cité internationale
81 quai Charles de Gaulle
69006 LYON - France
T +33 (0)4 72 69 17 17
F +33 (0)4 72 69 17 00
info@mac-lyon.com
www.mac-lyon.com

Opening hours

Wednesday - Sunday, from 11 am to 6 pm

Access

By car:

- Along quai Charles de Gaulle.
Car parks P0, P1 et P2.

By bus, stop «Musée d'art contemporain»

- Line C1, Gare Part-Dieu/Cuire
- Line C4 Jean Macé/Cité internationale
change with Metro Foch line A or Metro
Saxe-Gambetta lines B and D
- Line C5, Bellecour/Rillieux-
Vancia (via Hôtel de Ville)

By bike

- Several Vélo'v stations are
located around the museum

Admission

Full rate: 6 euros
Concessions: 4 euros
Free for visitors under 18

**+ VARIED GUIDED TOURS: FOR
ADULTS, FAMILIES, IN ONE
HOUR...**

+ WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

Simultaneously:

IMAGINE BRAZIL

**BEN
SCHUMACHER**