



All Along the Watchtower

Václav Magid, Kim Engelen,
Kathrin Wolkowicz and René Lazcano

Opening Thursday 8 September 7pm

Exhibition 9-11 September 1-5pm

Duende is proud to present our current artists in residence Václav Magid and Kim Engelen together with Kathrin Wolkowicz and René Lazcano in the exhibition 'All Along the Watchtower'

Václav Magid's (CZ) point of departure is the tension between our normative ideas (e.g. in political, moral or aesthetic dimension) and our real existential attitudes which reveal themselves in everyday practices – in other words, a sense of impossibility to fulfill the ideal of 'authentic life'. In his works he often confronts documentation of mundane situations with their wider 'ideological' frameworks. His primary form of expression is text, usually a short narrative, while visual elements mostly function as kind of subversive illustrations which slightly shift its meaning.

Magid currently lives and works in Prague (Czech Republic) and is Duende's artist in residence as part of our exchange with FUTURA in Prague. He also took part in the residence of the international Studio & Curatorial Program in New York City.

Within the work of **Kim Engelen** (NL) the human plays a central role, with the focus on the intrinsic thinking world and the inner strength of this individual. People keep learning, re/creating and re/positioning themselves. This process of change and growth she finds interesting. Her work is about themes that are in her opinion the keywords of humanism: fulfillment and development, autonomy (within the meaning of freedom and the pursuit of a good and beautiful life), critical thinking, equality and humanity.

Engelen studied at the St. Joost in Breda and at the California College of the Arts, San Francisco (USA). In 2007 she won the Short Rotterdam Prize to create her short film 'Woman'. She was also part of the AIR program in Hangar Barcelona and exhibited amongst others during Projector festival Madrid, International Festival of Art and Mobile Media, Sao Paulo (Brazil) and Paradoxes in Video in San Diego/United States.

For All Along the Watchtower Kim Engelen will collaborate with **René Lazcano** (MX), a philosopher currently living in Rotterdam. He studied literature, philosophy, and video art (with Rafael Corkidi at Universidad de las Américas Puebla), political philosophy (U.N.A.M.) and philosophy and economics (EUR). His work and interests are divided between political philosophy, in particular critical theory (Habermas v. and Rawls on the question of justice, notions and measures of poverty in mainstream and heterodox economics discourse and practice), video art and installation. This is the first time he collaborates with Kim Engelen on an installation.

Kathrin Wolkowicz (DE/PL) has been invited to participate in this exhibition as part of her 3 month artist-in-residence at FUTURA, Prague. Wolkowicz is a Rotterdam based artist working with text and image in the field of video, film, book and installation. Usually the text that she writes forms the base for her works which circle around memory, identity and desire. In her recent works, Kathrin Wolkowicz investigates the perception of time and space within the medium of film and book. Using text to tickle the memory of the spectator, she is primarily interested in the haptic experience of text and film.

Wolkowicz finished her Master of Fine Arts in 2009 at Piet Zwart Institute Rotterdam. Her recent exhibitions include 'An Exchange with Sol LeWitt', Mass MoCA, Massachusetts and 'Tapetenwechsel' in Kunst- und Kulturverein Drensteinfurt.

The title of this exhibition is taken from a song title by Bob Dylan, which he wrote during his recuperation from a motorcycle accident in 1966.

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