

Press release / March 2014

LIAM GILLICK

Exhibition from June 6th to September 7th, 2014
Opening on Thursday 5th June at 6pm



« The Trial of Pol Pot » by Liam Gillick and Philippe Parreno from November 8th, 1998 to January 3rd, 1999. Photo credit : André Morin

MAGASIN - Centre National d'Art Contemporain de Grenoble is pleased to present an exhibition by British artist Liam Gillick whose initial form, *From 199A to 199B Liam Gillick*, has been presented at the Centre for Curatorial Studies at Bard College (New York) in 2012. As for the latter, the curatorial program of MAGASIN, the École du MAGASIN, collaborates in the realization of an exhibition which gathers a selection of the processes of its European works of the 1990s which will be reactivated.

The project of Liam Gillick appears at a time where exhibitions and publications dedicated to the 1990s multiply on the initiative of curators and critics which try to reconstitute a possible history. After the relative failure of the exhibition by Nancy Spector (*Theanyspacewhatever*, 2008), the most recent curatorial procedures inaugurated by *New York 93* by Massimiliano Gioni seem to hesitate between "active reinterpretations" and more or less sophisticated displays of artworks.

Liam Gillick put into perspective his first European works by favoring the situations, the collaborative platforms and the scenarios of their implementation to the detriment of their final materiality, the artworks.

By reactivating only their process, he questions not only the European institution of the beginning of 1990s that he criticized but the role of the curator in his relationship to the artist and the viewer.

He calls attention to the curatorial training programs, here the École du MAGASIN, whose contribution to the European art scene of the 1990s he underlined in his comment to the exhibition of *Air of Paris*, at that time in Nice : *Les ateliers du paradise changed the order of representation, while introducing elements of game-playing, irresponsibility and pleasure. Yet all of this was framed within a critical structure that was apparent rather than coy, calling to account the potential of a reframed model of exhibition making. (...) the moment of Les ateliers du paradise was the culmination of a number of temporary excursions into re-newed collaborative strategies by all involved. All this alongside the reordered contextualisation that was a product of the curator school at Le Magasin in Grenoble.*

The exhibition by Liam Gillick at MAGASIN aims to revisit these debates in the today's context through a collaboration with Session 23 of the École du MAGASIN. Re-activating Liam Gillick's works, the mutual relationship between the curatorial, the artist, the institution and the viewer will be investigated, providing a new perspective on the future of discursive forms of contemporary practice. The exhibition becomes a time game where the near future and the recent past collapse, creating a new scenario in which the artworks and the ideas of the artist are revealed anew ; a space of critical exchange and new debates is opened.

For the opening of the exhibition, a booklet gathering the material and documents of the project in Grenoble will be available while, following the exhibition, a publication documenting both projects will be released in partnership with the CCS of Bard College and in a projected collaboration with JRP Ringier and some texts by Paul O'Neil and Jörn Schaffaf.

The exhibition is being supported by the LUMA Foundation that supports the most experimental projects around the world and thus renews its support to the MAGASIN after *JapanCongo* by Carsten Höller.

Liam Gillick lives and works in New-York. He has presented his work on several occasions at MAGASIN, in particular with The Trial of Pol Pot (1998) alongside Philippe Parreno.

Solo exhibitions include The Wood Way, Whitechapel Gallery, London, 2002; A short text on the possibility of creating an economy of equivalence, Palais de Tokyo, 2005 and the retrospective project Three Perspectives and a short scenario, Witte de With, Rotterdam, Kunsthalle Zurich, Kunstverein, München and the MCA, Chicago, 2008-2010.

He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2002 and selected to represent Germany for the 53rd Venice Biennale in 2009.

Liam Gillick has published a number of texts that function in parallel to his artwork, by JRP-Ringier in 2007, MIT Press in 2009, Book Works, London in 2009. In addition he has contributed to many art magazines and journals including Parkett, Frieze, Art Monthly, October and Art Forum.

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Chloé Delarue, *Refine*, 2013. still screen

Founded in 1987, the *École du MAGASIN* is one of the first international curatorial study programs in Europe. More information on : www.ecoledumagasin.com

Session 23 gathers six participants from Lithuania, Italy, Bosnia, France and Poland : Neringa Bumblienė, Paola Bonino, Giulia Bortoluzzi, Selma Boskailo, Claire Astier and Anna Tomczak.

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