

OUI - From September 8 to October 20 in 2007

LOW DEF

Press release

BASSE DEF with Wilfrid Almendra, Serge Comte, Clôde Coulpier, Fabrice Croux, Grégory Cuquel, Patrice Gaillard et Claude avec Daniel Dewar, Camille Laurelli, Elodie Lecat, David Lefebvre, Pierre Lesclauze, Fanette Muxart, Alice Nikitina, Denis Savary, Tolga Taluy.

Curators : Stéphane Sauzedde, Nicolas Thély

LOW DEF (BASSE DEF) is a thematic exhibition which is a suite for the BASSE DEF - preview, selection of videos from YouTube website for the «Web supplement» of journal Libération, visible online at www.ecrans.fr. It has never been so easy to make images, videos or drawings, to manipulate and share them. The wallpapers of the screen, blogs, Webzines, animated gifs, photo albums in the mobile phone, playlists proposed by some initiators here and there...: there are tremendously many guises of forms of «low definition» and they flow.

A whole generation of artists, being the contemporaries of this ecosystem, don't hesitate to drink from these impure sources, and without complex, this generation displays the radical universes that put on question the heavy banality as well as the spectacle of mastering of the professionals. All of this may be «low def» but it is also so beautiful that it just makes you cry.

The exhibition LOW DEF, with its litteral and poor title, goes on disguised. As the artists that it presents, the exhibition wants first and foremost to cite the crazy energy that the network and the usage of the technical tools in every direction generates. In order to cite it, the exhibition puts on display the recent photos of Clôde Coulpier of the burst of water in his bathroom, together with Fabrice Croux and his posters with invented drawings of an unconditional fan of groups accommodated on MySpace, with Serge Comte and his phantom images, ephemeral in the digital frame, with David Lefebvre and his oil painting treated as a wall paper, etc. etc.

Fundamentally, the artists gathered here are players. They know, as Camille Laurelli with his origamis, that whoever can make the same. And for that matter, it makes them laugh. They seem like the heritors of Filliou, Maciunas and other Flux-artists. But they are also bigheads, and even if they don't claim to «master» anything, they are still first and foremost demanding towards the result. First of all, it has to be «mor-tal»; hard-hitting and unstoppable. And in this sense, they seem to be equally eminently post-punk, or post-rock or post-techno – all depends of who or what we talk about. Anyway, most of them work as musicians do, searching to fix their productions only on variable, provisory formats that are connected to circumstances (paper, CD, video clip, website, concert, objects etc.)

Starting from the domestic space – the room, the office, the computer –, low definition spreads out as a general regime in all directions and infects all the means of expression. Exhibition LOW DEF presents the works that state of things. It is not about showing pop art once again (talking about the shining things), but about scratching until the bone and trying to evaluate the continuation of a pathetic work of production, to think about the way we can negotiate with the images, to search amongst other things what is there to do except of consuming.

Stéphane Sauzedde

Nicolas Thély

June 2007

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LOW DEF
FAQ / PRACTICAL INFORMATION/ OUI
56-58 Bd de l'Esplanade
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Open from Tuesday to Sunday from 1 to 7 PM, free entrance

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OUI is a contemporary art center dedicated to the young creation and to prospecting.

OUI is of course affirmative and its action wants to be tense.

Installed in Grenoble in a old garage with a simple architecture, OUI has an exhibition space which measures about 200m².

Since September 2007, OUI proposes curating thematic projects about questions asked to our time, but also monographic exhibitions, dedicated to young artists of which the work appears eminently necessary.

Besides exhibitions which structure the programming, OUI receives regular public events (performances, shorts exhibitions, conferences, débats...), taking advantage of its green area (garden) et « grey » area (the Esplanade piazza).

Since September 2007 : BASSE DEF, thematic exhibition (curators Stéphane Sauzedde and Nicolas Thély) ; UNE RENTREE 2007 (12 tables, 12 artists, 12 piles of drawings) ; ELODIE LECAT, TE UMU TI, TE UMU TI, monographic exhibition; LE NOEL DE OUI ; FABRICE CROUX, LA MEUTE TRANQUILLE, monographic exhibition.

AAA

OUI is managed by AAA (Association pour l'Agencement des Activités), its direction is assured by Stéphane Sauzedde, with Emmanuel Hermange, Anaëlle Pirat and Nicolas Thély.

AAA works as a label with the authentication « AAA », the association assumes the diffusion and the promotion of young artists' works, the production of works of art and events outside and edition (BASSE DEF, Partage de données, first book originally from AAA's activities appeared in December 2007 in Presses du Réel).

LOW DEF participates at the LYON BIENNIAL 2007, in «Resonance»