

Béatrice Balcou

# BEIGE

Béatrice Balcou  
*Recent Paintings*  
31.03– 06.05.2023

Beige is pleased to announce the exhibition *Recent Paintings* by Béatrice Balcou, featuring new works on paper.

Whether through a stormy and atmospheric painting by William Turner; or a delicate and vibrant work by Agnes Martin; a rigorous and systematic print by Claude Rutault or a romantic yet melancholic photograph of Bas Jan Ader on his boat – in her solo show at Beige, Béatrice Balcou displays the restorative and emotional gestures that take care of the works of art. Through these gestures she investigates our relationship to the value and the role of art today.

The exhibition is composed of pages from monographic art books which suffered water and time damage. They were subsequently professionally restored in her studio with the help of two students from the restoration department of La Cambre. The project focusses on the restoration of the reproduction of a painting. The work of Balcou typically highlights the different agencies that take part in the life of the art work: the technicians, the registrars, sometimes even the cleaning agents and in the case of *Recent Paintings*, the restorers and in another way the publishers of art books. Balcou therefore levels the playing field between the artist, photographer, editor, collector, printer, restorer.

Lying underneath this apparently unrelated choice of works is their approach in portraying a natural element such as a seascape through abstraction; projecting through the lens of their own sensibility a depiction of one of the most classic examples of the aesthetic sublime. Through restoring their appearance to what it originally was, the artist underlines how every transformation and passage from a medium to the other - from actual artwork to catalogue reproduction – has already transformed them into something distinct.

Béatrice Balcou describes the process as follows:

*« The restoration was carried out in collaboration with Mathilde Bezon and Camille Jallu. The pages were restored to be preserved over time. They were first dry cleaned, and then washed in various agar baths. Discolorations and distortions were reduced to improve the readability of the work. Next, they were stabilized in order to restore their physical integrity. The missing parts in the sheets were recovered with paper fibers similar to the original support. The most difficult part was filling the big or small gaps by “illusionist retouching” or by a neutral background. Some actions were even not possible at the risk of destroying the work. When finally the decision has been made to stop restoring, the last step consisted in flattening and relaxing each sheet - protected in between non-woven papers and blotters - under several weights, and then wait... ».*

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Exhibition view

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Exhibition view

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Exhibition view

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Exhibition view

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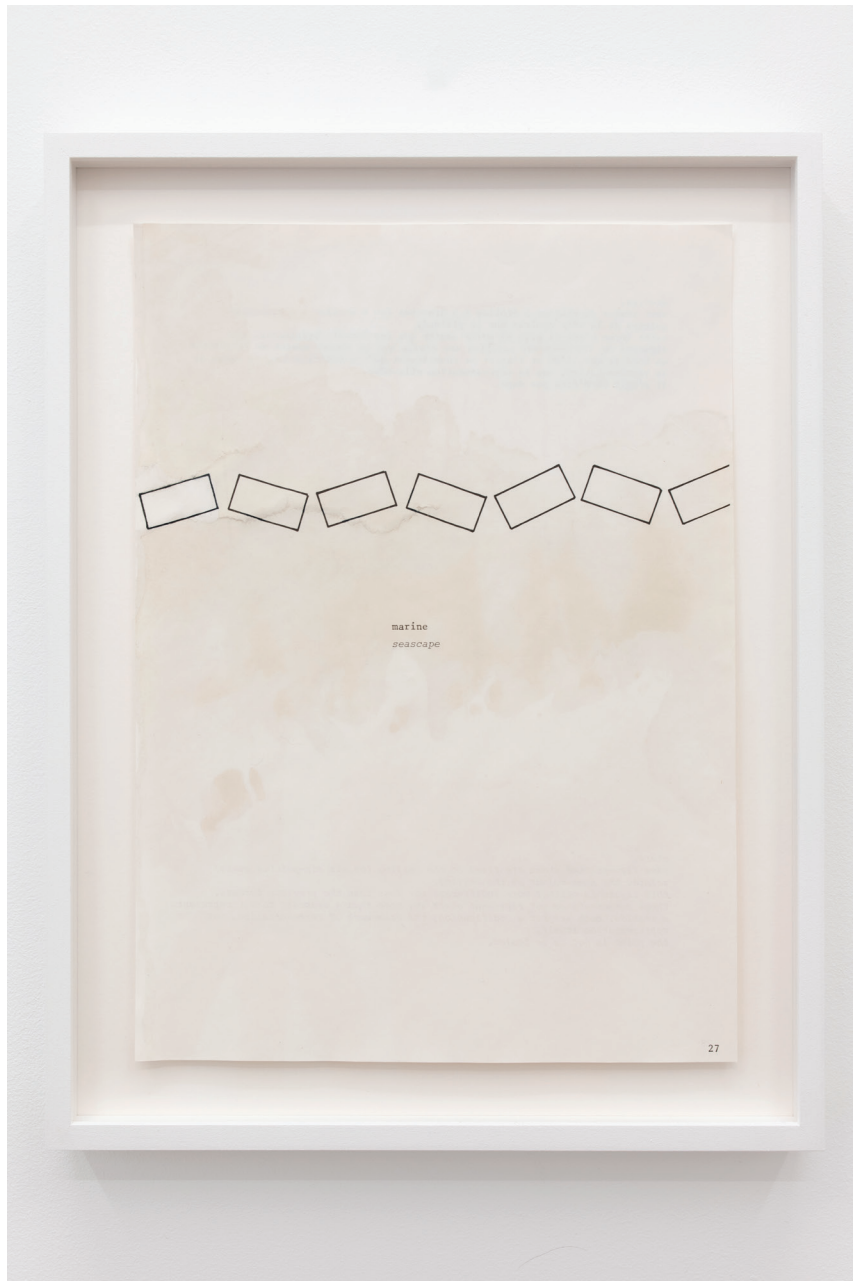


Exhibition view

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# Works





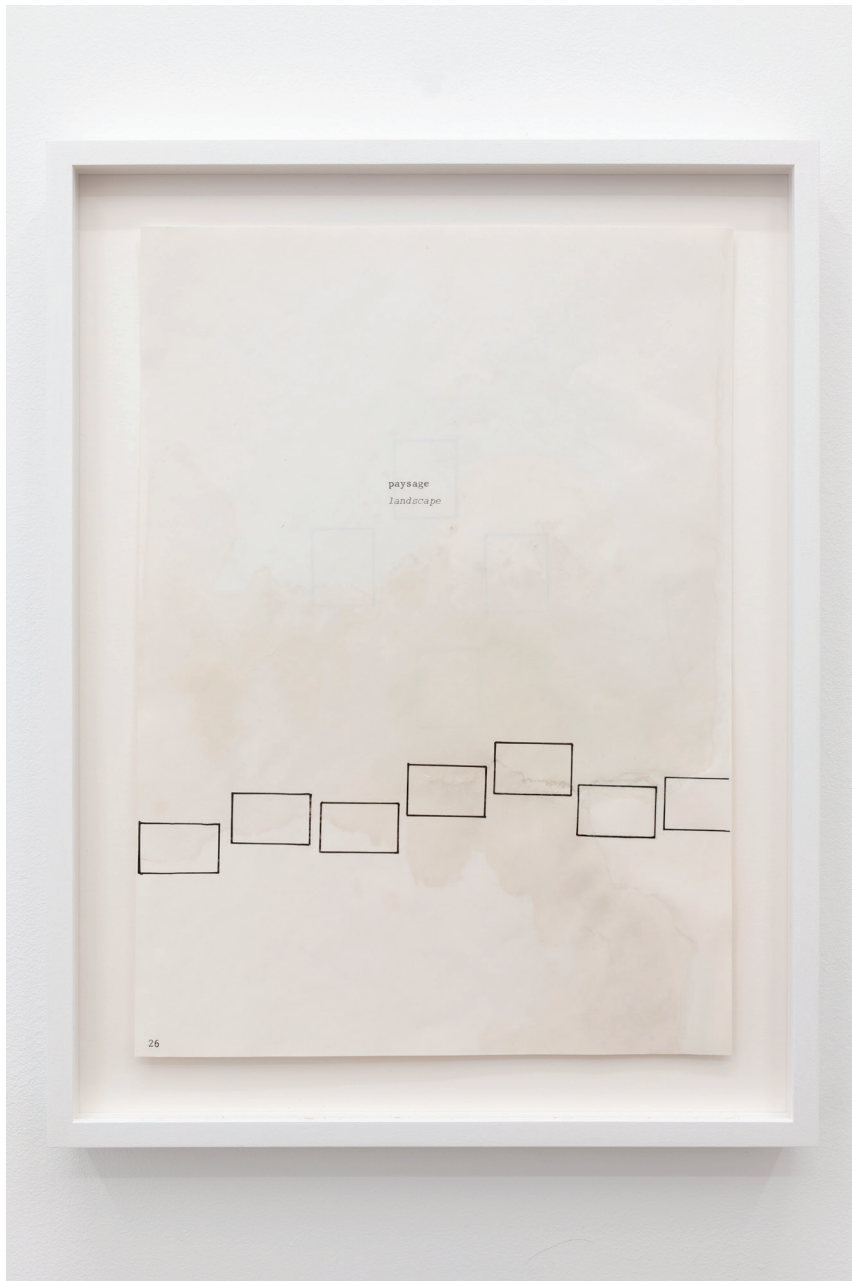
Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #13 (Claude Rutault définitions / méthodes,  
edited by Intelligence Service Productions, Paris, 1981, p. 27)*

2023

Black ink, rainwater, tea, China ink, graphite pencil, methyl  
cellulose paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated  
wove paper

29,3 x 21 cm



Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #12 (Claude Rutault définitions / méthodes,  
edited by Intelligence Service Productions, Paris, 1981, p. 26)*

2023

Black ink, rainwater, tea, China ink, graphite pencil, methyl cellulose  
paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
29,3 × 21 cm



Béatrice Balcou  
*Recent Painting #1 (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke,*  
*edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 31)*  
2023

Colored inks, rainwater, vinegar, dust, watercolor, wheat starch  
paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
25,3 × 18,9 cm



Béatrice Balcou  
*Recent Painting #3* (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke,  
edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 35)  
2023

Colored inks, rainwater, dust, watercolor, wheat starch paste  
and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
25,3 × 18,9 cm



Béatrice Balcou  
*Recent Painting #8* (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke,  
edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 57)  
2023

Colored inks, rainwater, tea, dust, watercolor, wheat starch paste, methyl  
cellulose paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
25,3 × 18,9 cm



Night Sea, 1963  
Oil and gold leaf on canvas  
72 x 72 inches (183 x 183 cm)  
The Doris and Donald Fisher Collection, San Francisco

Béatrice Balcou  
*Recent Painting #4 (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke,*  
*edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 39)*  
2023

Colored inks, rainwater, tea, dust, watercolor, wheat starch  
paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
25,3 x 18,9 cm



Béatrice Balcou  
*Recent Painting #5* (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke,  
edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 34)  
2023

Colored inks, rainwater, tea, dust, watercolor, wheat starch  
paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
25,3 x 18,9 cm



Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #6 (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke, edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 38)*

2023

Colored inks, rainwater, dust, watercolor, methyl cellulose paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper

25,3 × 18,9 cm



# BEIGE



Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #7 (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke, edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 46)*

2023

Colored inks, rainwater, dust, watercolor, wheat starch paste and 100%  
Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper

25,3 × 18,9 cm



Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #2 (Agnes Martin, dir. Lynne Cooke, edited by Yale University Press, 2012, p. 30)*

2023

Colored inks, rainwater, tea, dust, watercolor, China ink, wheat starch paste, methyl cellulose paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper

25,3 × 18,9 cm

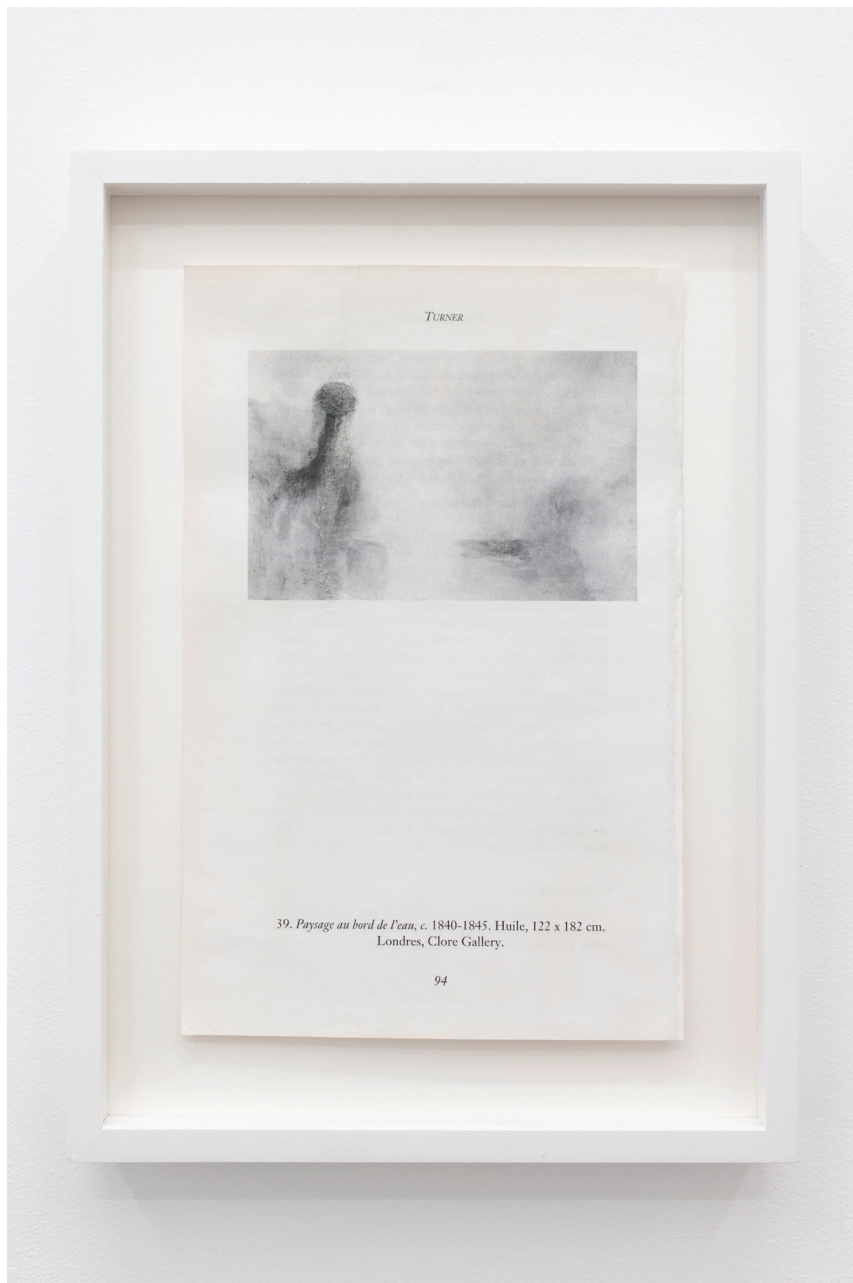


Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #10 (Turner: peindre le rien, Lawrence Gowing, éditions Macula, Paris, 1994, p. 55)*

2023

Black ink, rainwater, extracts of dead leaves, graphite pencil, wheat starch paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
20,5 × 13,3 cm



Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #9 (Turner: peindre le rien, Lawrence Gowing, éditions Macula, Paris, 1994, p. 94)*

2023

Black ink, rainwater, extracts of dead leaves, graphite pencil, wheat starch paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
20,5 × 13,3 cm



Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #11 (Turner: peindre le rien, Lawrence Gowing,  
éditions Macula, Paris, 1994, p. 70)*

2023

Colored inks, rainwater, extracts of dead leaves, colored pencils, wheat  
starch paste and 100% Kozo Japanese paper on coated wove paper  
20,5 x 13,3 cm



Figure 44. Bas Jan Ader, In Search of the Miraculous. Center spread of the first page of *Prover Bulletin* by Jorjy, on the back page is the score for "A Little in the Ocean Wave." © The Estate of Bas Jan Ader.

Béatrice Balcou

*Recent Painting #14 (Bas Jan Ader - Death is elsewhere, Alexander Dumbadze, edited by The University of Chicago Press, 2015, p. 146 - 147)*

2023

Black ink, lemonade, watercolor, China ink and wheat starch paste on Typing paper and Lens tissue paper  
22,9 x 30,2 cm

Béatrice Balcou  
Born 1976 in Tréguier, France.  
Lives and works in Brussels.

SELECTED SOLO AND DUO EXHIBITIONS

2023

*Recent Paintings*, BEIGE, Bruxelles / BE

2022

*Tenir le silence* (curatrice : Anne-Marie St-Jean Aubre), Musée d'art de Joliette, Québec / CA

*The Carpenter of Spring* (curator : Els Vermang), Société, Bruxelles / BE

2021

*Untitled Ceremony #16*, Tlön Projects, Rozenstraat – a rose is a rose is a rose, Amsterdam / NL

2019

*Béatrice Balcou* (curator: Eva Wittocx), Musée M, Leuven / BE

2018

*L'économie des apostrophes* (curator: Julie Pellegrin), La Ferme du Buisson CAC, Noisiel/Paris / FR

*Beatrice Balcou x Yuki Okumura : Double Suicide at Kumagusuku*, Kyoto Art Hostel kumagusuku, Kyoto / JP

2017

*Kazuko Miyamoto <> Béatrice Balcou*, Exile, Berlin / DE

2016

*Béatrice Balcou - Kazuko Miyamoto* (curator: Florence Cheval), L'iselp, Bruxelles / BE

2014

*Walk In Beauty* (curators: Kevin Muhlen et Christine Walentiny), Casino Luxembourg / LU

*Calme, Luxe et Volupté* (curator: Keren Detton), Le Quartier CAC, Quimper / FR

2013

*Chaque Chose En Son temps*, FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

PERFORMANCES

2022

*Cérémonie sans titre #11*, FRAC Corsica, Corte / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #20*, Musée d'art de Joliette, Québec / CA

*Cérémonie sans titre #18*, Jeu de Paume, Paris / FR

2021

*Cérémonie sans titre #16*, ROZENSTRAAT - a rose is a rose is a rose ,  
Amsterdam / NL

*Cérémonie sans titre #04*, Jeu de Paume, Paris / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #17*, Fondation CAB, Bruxelles / BE

2019

*Cérémonie sans titre #10 and Untitled Ceremony #05*, Playground  
Festival, Musée M, Louvain / BE

*The Bridegroom Suites II* (proposition by Émilie Renard and Hugues  
Decointet), in Performance Day #4, La Ferme du Buisson CAC, Noisiel/  
Paris / FR

2018

*Cérémonie sans titre #14*, Attention Fragile Festival, MAC VAL,  
Vitry-sur-Seine / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #14*, La Ferme du Buisson CAC, Noisiel/Paris / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #10*, La Nouvelle Adresse, CNAP, Pantin/Paris / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #10*, during the exhibition *Sculptor (faire à l'atelier)*,  
FRAC Bretagne, Rennes / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #12*, Été 78, Bruxelles / BE

*Cérémonie sans titre #07*, FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

2017

*Cérémonie sans titre #11*, dans l'exposition *Collectionner, le désir in-  
achevé*, Musée des Beaux-arts, Angers / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #10*, in Performance Day #2, La Ferme du Buisson  
CAC, Noisiel/Paris / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre inversée*, in *In the echoes of my room - Ane Mette  
Hol* exhibition, La Kunsthalle, Mulhouse / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #10*, La Galerie CAC, Noisy-le-Sec/Paris / FR



BEIGE

2016

*Cérémonie sans titre #09*, Amsterdam Art Weekend, The Absence of Work, Oudekerk, Amsterdam / NL

*Cérémonie sans titre #08*, L'Iselp, Bruxelles / BE

2015

*Cérémonie sans titre #06*, during the exhibition Un-Scene III, WIELS, Brussels / BE

*Performance sans titre #03*, during the exhibition Plateforme de jeux, Un Nouveau Festival, Centre Pompidou, Paris / FR

*Performance sans titre #03*, in *Se prendre au jeu : rêves, répétitions et autres détours* (The artist is a mysterious entertainer), FRAC

Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #05*, Performatik, Kaaithheater, Bruxelles / BE

*Performance sans titre #02*, in *Autour d'un geste*, Théâtre de Privas / FR

2014

*Cérémonie sans titre #04*, Playground Festival, Musée M, Leuven / BE

*Computer Performance*, in *Art/Temps/Performance: décaler les gestes*, Le Laboratoire du geste, Université Paris I La Sorbonne, Paris / FR

*Performance sans titre #02*, in *Des Choses en moins, des choses en plus*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris / FR

*Computer Performance*, in *Fata Morgana*, Ikob, Eupen / BE

*Cérémonie sans titre #03*, Casino Luxembourg / LU

*Cérémonie sans titre #02*, Centre d'art le Quartier, Quimper / FR

2013

*Performance sans titre #02*, in *Chaque Chose En Son Temps*, FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

*Cérémonie sans titre #01*, Brasserie Haecht (251 Nord), Liège / BE

2012

*Performance sans titre #02*, in *Temps libre, Partitions (performances)*, Fondation Ricard, Paris / FR

2011

*Opening performance*, in *David Dubois & guests*, galerie Elaine Levy, Bruxelles / BE

*Small-scale performance*, in *Other Possible Worlds*, Casino Luxembourg / LU

*Cardboard Performance*, Komplot, Bruxelles / BE

2010

*Computer Performance*, Artconnexion, Lille / FR

SELECTION OF GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022

*Different than it seems* (curator: Nico Anklam), Kunsthalle Recklinghausen, DE

*La Beauté du diable* (curators: Benjamin Bianciotto & Sylvie Zavatta), FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

*Janelas* (curators: Marc Buchy & Tiago de Abreu Pinto), Bibliothèque Jean Laude du Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Saint-Étienne / FR

*Les nouvelles acquisitions de l'Artothèque*, Musée des Beaux-arts, Brest / FR

*La seconde main - L'art de la citation* (in collaboration with FRAC Franche-Comté), Musée Courbet, Flagey / FR

*Fata Morgana* (curator: Béatrice Gross with Katinka Bock), Jeu de Paume, Paris / FR

*Aller contre le Vent - Performances*, actions et autres rituels (cur: Sylvie Zavatta), FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

*Austerlitz was his name* (curator: Sam Steverlynck with TLön Projects), A Tale of A Tub, Rotterdam / NL

*Riga International Biennial of Contemporary Art* (curator: René Block with Nico Anklam), RIBOCA3, Riga / LV

2021

*Insideout* (curator: Els Vermang), Société, Bruxelles / BE

*Monts Analogues* (curator: Boris Bergmann et Marie Griffay), FRAC Champagne-Ardenne, Reims / FR

*Structures of Radical Will* (curator: Béatrice Gross), Fondation CAB, Saint-Paul-de-Vence / FR

*The Constant Glitch*, Musée M, Leuven / BE

*With Salle Principale*, FIAC, Paris / FR

*Structures of Radical Will* (curator: Béatrice Gross), Fondation CAB, Bruxelles / BE

*L'usage des richesses* (curator: Maryline Brustolin), galerie Salle Principale, Paris / FR

2020

*En mouvement* (Nuit Blanche Kyoto), Villa kujoyama, Kyoto / JP

2019

*De la Lenteur et de la Mesure* (curator: Emmanuel Lambion), Maison Grégoire, Bruxelles / BE

*It boils down* (curator: Tom Lowe), Pure Propaganda, Rotterdam / NL

*Some of Us* (curator: Jérôme Cotinet-Alphaize avec Marianne Derrien), Nordart, Büdelsdorf / DE

*Article 132-75* (conceived by Gallien Déjean, Emmanuel Guy, Juliette Pollet and Fanny Schulmann, with Reynaldo Gomez and Sif Jeppesen), kunstverein Langenhagen / DE

2018

*Viva Villa* (curators: Cécile Debray et Federico Nicolao), Villa Méditerranée, Marseille / FR

*La Nouvelle Adresse* (curators: Juliette Pollet with Pascal Beausse, Philippe Bettinelli, Pascale Cassagnau, Sandra Cattini and Max-Louis Raugel), CNAP, Pantin/Paris / FR

*Déclassement* (curator: Barbara Sirieix), Château d'Oiron / FR

*Sculpter (faire à l'atelier)* (curators: Anne Dary, Catherine Elkar and Sophie Kaplan), FRAC Bretagne, Rennes / FR

*La Norme Idéale* (curator: Florent Delval), galerie Levy-Delval, Bruxelles / BE

2017

*Le Secret* (curators: Françoise Docquier, Paul-Antoine Parot, Corinne Le Neün, Christophe Viart, Nayla Tamraz, Tatiana Nedelskaya), Ensapc Ygrec, Paris / FR

*Grotto Capital*, Exile, Berlin / DE

*Wrapped - Unwrapped* (curator: Patrice Joly), Zoo Gallery, Nantes / FR

*Tes mains dans mes chaussures*, (curatrices: Émilie Renard and Vanessa Desclaux), La Galerie CAC, Noisy-le-Sec/Paris / FR

2016

*Tes mains dans mes chaussures* (curators: Émilie Renard and Vanessa Desclaux), La Galerie CAC, Noisy-le-Sec/Paris / FR

*Architropismes* (curators: Rozenn Canevet et Marlise van der Jagt), Les Moulins de Paillard, Poncé-sur-le-Loir / FR

2015

*Un-Scene III* (curatrices: Devrim Bayar and Zoë Gray), WIELS, Brussels / BE

*Se prendre au jeu : rêves, répétitions et autres détours (The artist is a mysterious entertainer)* (curator: Vanessa Desclaux), FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

2014

*Des choses en moins, des choses en plus* (curator: Agnes Violeau and Sébastien Faucon), Palais de Tokyo, Paris / FR

*Fata Morgana* (curator: Maïté Vissault), IKOB, Eupen / BE

2012

*Cinémathèque de Tanger* (curatrice: Olga Rozenblum), Tangers / MA

2011

*Other Possible Worlds* (curators: Dorothee Albrecht, Berit Fischer and Paul di Felice), Casino Luxembourg / LU

2010

*Art Contest*, Brussels / BE

*Biennial of photography*, Liège / BE

2008

*Carboniferus to Open-eyed Artists on Landscape*, Artconnexion, Lille / FR

## COLLECTIONS

2023

MNAM - Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris / FR

2022

Kunsthalle Recklinghausen / DE

FRAC Normandie, Rouen / FR

FRAC Lorraine, Metz / FR

2021

Collection Cera - Musée M, Leuven / BE

Fondation CAB, Brussels / BE

FRAC Ile-de-France - Le Plateau, Paris / FR

FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

2020

CIRVA, Marseille / FR

2019

FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

FRAC Ile-de-France - Le Plateau, Paris / FR

# BEIGE

2017

Centre National des Arts Plastiques, CNAP, Paris / FR

FRAC Ile-de-France - Le Plateau, Paris / FR

2016

FRAC Corsica, Corte / FR

Artothèque - Musée des Beaux-arts, Brest / FR

2015

FRAC Franche-Comté, Besançon / FR

2014

Centre National des Arts Plastiques, CNAP, Paris / FR