

Hifi Stereo Vacuum Tube

Céline Mathieu

PLUS-ONE Gallery
24.06–27.08.23

In her first exhibition in a commercial gallery, Céline Mathieu (1989, Belgium) looks into the (in)visible circulation of goods. The idea of a constant stream of material and its crossings with value, economy and feelings, forms the basis for 'Hifi Stereo Vacuum Tube'. As often in her performative installations, the exhibition is specific to site and conditions of showing. Her work is both conceptual and sensory, with sound setting a slightly hypnotic tone.

At PLUS-ONE Gallery, Céline Mathieu gives insight into the diet of the gallery workers, shares author rights on a photograph of influencer Rachelle Robinett's fridge, and plays on the home interior of potential buyers. She borrows a carpet store display, putting the carpet for sale here too. Interested in organic semi-solids, salt-cured egg yolks dot the space. The yolks were carefully preserved by T.B. and travelled from Berlin via Amsterdam, with the help of friends. Leaning into the wall is a Le Parfumeur 609, a gift from Manor Grunewald, the artist presenting next door to her. He has the same scent, of which he bought two for the price of one. Upon showing interest in photographs of a pair of ruby earrings online, the somewhat confused 2dehands.be seller told the artist that she could use the images, as long as she acquired the earrings.

In her broader research 'Conditions for Raw Materials', conducted at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts Antwerp, Céline looks for ways to make exhibitions without being left with material to store after the exhibition. She makes transparent the (buying/selling) value of her work by selling it at the price of an average rent and looks for ways in which texts can help to store the thinking and convey the sensibilities that go into her practice.

By the entrance of the gallery, you will find a white display with books. She invited Books@ to select and sell books in relation to her practice, giving them a segment of the gallery shop. All proceeds of the book sale are attributed to Books@ and a new exchange between them might occur if the drawer elements in the exhibition are left unsold. At the counter by the entrance you can ask to see a folder with architectural drawings inspired by Rem Koolhaas, keeping only the lines of his drawing that connect his sketch to this very exhibition space.

Thanks to PLUS-ONE Gallery Jason Poirier dit Caulier for being a true and good gallerist, Bengt Van de Mosselaer for assisting me and being kind, Elouan Le Bars for being the best personal assistant who can do anything, Ruud Ruttens for vibrant graphic design, Travis Broussard for salt curing egg yolks and my moods, Dara Jochum for the talk at M HKA, Ode De Kort for hosting and keeping me free of mosquitos, Anna Laganovska for hosting me and my thoughts, Jef Declercq for wine support and conversation, Koi Persyn for curatorial insights and friendship, Myrthe van der Mark for being my best friend, Natasja Mabeoone for support domesticity and endless exchanges, Levi Lanser for the music collaboration since 2019, Matt Hinkley from Books@ for the egg transport and the neat book selection, Nicolai Johansen for being my audio guide, Sandy Williams for edits, Gaute Granli

for being my audio guide also, Frederic Pels for being the calmest installer, Ralf Leeten for being a workhorse, Cas Heysse for glueing my letters, Zozan Carpet for the carpet and the book display, Manon Bolssens, Theresia Wastiau, Sofie Van de Velde, Astrid Vereycken and Joost Delsard for our crossings, Thomas De Ben for bringing technology in, Eva Vandekerckhove for that hug and your all-seeing eye, Nathalie Lauwereyns for thinking of invoices, Silvia Tosca Bertolini for bringing the eggs from Travis to Matt, to Lucie de Brécharde for your eye elegance and taste, to Joëlle Laederach for texting me at 7.22am, to Gero for the pasta and your papa for inspiring the text insert, to Rem Koolhaas and his sketc. And to my mama and everybody else I can't think of now because I'm not sleeping but is there. To invisible currents and doing this again. Thank you.

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