

Press preview
On request

Visit
20.09–19.11.23
Wed–Sun,
10:00–13:00 / 14:00–17:00,
upon reservation

Location
Woning Van Wassenhove
Brakelstraat 50
B-9830 Sint-Martens-Latem
E. info@museumdd.be
T. +32 (0)9-330 17 30

Tickets
€ 12 / € 8 / € 0
via [eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)

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Mark Manders

The Absence of Mark Manders

20.09–19.11.23



Mark Manders, *Working Table*, 2023. Woning Van Wassenhove © Juliaan Lampens.

Mark Manders exhibits in a post-Brutalist masterpiece by architect Juliaan Lampens.

Partners



About the exhibition

The Absence of Mark Manders unfolds in the Woning Van Wassenhove. This is a post-Brutalist house for a bachelor designed by Juliaan Lampens in 1974. In jarring contrast to prevailing depictions of clean and mostly empty Brutalist interiors, the original occupant, Albert Van Wassenhove, who lived there until his passing in 2012, stuffed the house to hoarder-like proportions.

The Absence of Mark Manders treats Lampens's architecture with the dignity of the permanent sculpture that it is, while also putting forth Van Wassenhove's logic of accumulation. Although Manders has hardly touched some spaces, he treats the bed, office, and kitchen as stages for aggregation in line with the original occupant's mindset: drawings, architectural proposals, photographs, artworks, paint pots, and seemingly wet clay are piled on top of one another. These spaces have been used as an artist's studio, unveiling traces of a temporary occupant living in, and thinking with, Lampens's architecture.

“The aim is to show the house in a perfect situation. While some spaces derail when you zoom in on them, there is a kaleidoscopic element to them, as if you are looking inside a head.”

—Mark Manders

About the artist

Mark Manders (1968, woont en werkt in Ronse, BE) werkt sinds 1986 aan het doorlopende project *Self-Portrait as a Building*. Het idee voor dit monumentale, refelecterende, project ontstond toen de kunstenaar *Inhabited for a Survey (First Floor Plan from Self-Portrait as a Building)* (1986) creëerde: een fictieve plattegrond van schrijfgerei dat op Manders' bureau lag toen hij het sculptuur maakte. Door voortdurend specifieke configuraties en objecten – bestaand menselijke figuren, dieren, meubels en architectonische elementen – te recyclen, te wijzigen en opnieuw te arrangeren, verlegt Manders voortdurend de grenzen van dit doorlopende conceptuele zelfportret.

Recente solotentoonstellingen zijn onder meer *The Absence of Mark Manders*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan (2021); *Michaël Borremans & Mark Manders: Double Silence*, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan (2020-2021). *The Absence of Mark Manders*, Bonnefanten Museum, Maastricht, Nederland (2020); *Silent Studio*, Kistefos Museum, Noorwegen (2020).

Belangrijke solotentoonstellingen zijn verder onder meer *Mark Manders: Parallel Occurrences/Documented Assignments* (Hammer Museum, Aspen Art Museum, Walker Art Center, Dallas Museum of Art, 2010-2012); *Two Interconnected Houses*, La Casa Luis Barragán, Mexico City (2011); *The Absence of Mark Manders*, die opende in Kunstverein Hannover, Duitsland (2007), en reisde naar S.M.A.K., Gent, Kunsthaus Zürich en Bergen Kunsthall, Noorwegen (2009); Art Institute of Chicago en Renaissance Society, Chicago (2003).

Manders vertegenwoordigde Nederland op de 55e Biënnale van Venetië in 2013.

Practical info

Visit with reservation

As Woning Van Wassenhove is a heritage property, a visit is only possible by booking a ticket with a time slot. This way, we can guarantee a smooth visit and preserve the intimate experience of the space.

Press visits

If you would like to visit the exhibition – in advance or during visiting hours – or would like a conversation with the artist or curator, please contact us at rik.vannevel@museumdd.be.

Artist Talk

Mark Manders & Angélique Campens
07.10.23, 11:00

On the occasion of the exhibition, MDD is organizing a conversation between Mark Manders and Angélique Campens in the Kerselare Chapel designed by Juliaan Lampens.

Angélique Campens is a Belgian art historian, writer, educator, and curator. Her work focuses on the interplay between sculpture and architecture in the 20th and 21st centuries, with an emphasis on sculptural concrete (béton brut) and the integration of sculpture in public spaces. She has worked with international museums and public art venues such as the Whitney Museum,

Kulturprojekte Berlin, Fondazione Sandretto, Bozar, and Wiels. Her writings have appeared in various catalogs and magazines, including Taschen's Art Now Vol. 4, Abitare, Domus, Sculpture Journal, and Aspect. In 2010, she published her first monograph on the architecture of Belgian modernist Juliaan Lampens.

[more info and tickets](#)

Publication

House with all existing words

Featuring photographs by Tim Van de Velde and Mark Manders and designed collaboratively by Roger Willems and Mark Manders, this publication accompanies the exhibition *The Absence of Mark Manders* at Woning Van Wassenhove.

Edited by Laurens Otto, the publication draws inspiration from the publications of the Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam in the 1950s, which harmoniously converged text and images through simple and effective production and layout. This booklet will be available through Roma Publications and the MDD webshop, as well as at the exhibition.

The publication will be available from 20 September through publisher Roma Publications and MDD's webshop.



Mark Manders – *The Absence of Mark Manders*.
Images: Tim Van de Velde. Woning Van Wassenhove © Juliaan Lampens
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