

**PASSAGES CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER 9 RUE JEANNE D'ARC - TROYES**

**EVEILLÉE**

**AN EXHIBITION BY MÉLANIE MATRANGA  
FROM SEPTEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 16, 2023  
OPENING ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2023 FROM 6:00 PM**

**PRESS RELEASE**





Photo credit: Clarisse Canteloube

## PRESS RELEASE

Passages is pleased to present *Éveillée*, a solo exhibition by Mélanie Matranga.

Mélanie Matranga was born in Marseille in 1985. She graduated from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris in 2011. In 2014, she won the Frieze Artist Award, then was nominated for the Ricard Corporate Foundation Prize the same year, and the Aware Prize in 2018. She is represented by the galleries High Art (Paris, Arles, FR) and Karma International (Zurich, CH). Her work, which unfolds through installations, sculptures and films, has been the subject of several monographic exhibitions, notably at the Palais de Tokyo (2015) at the Villa Vassiliev (2018) and in her French and Swiss galleries.

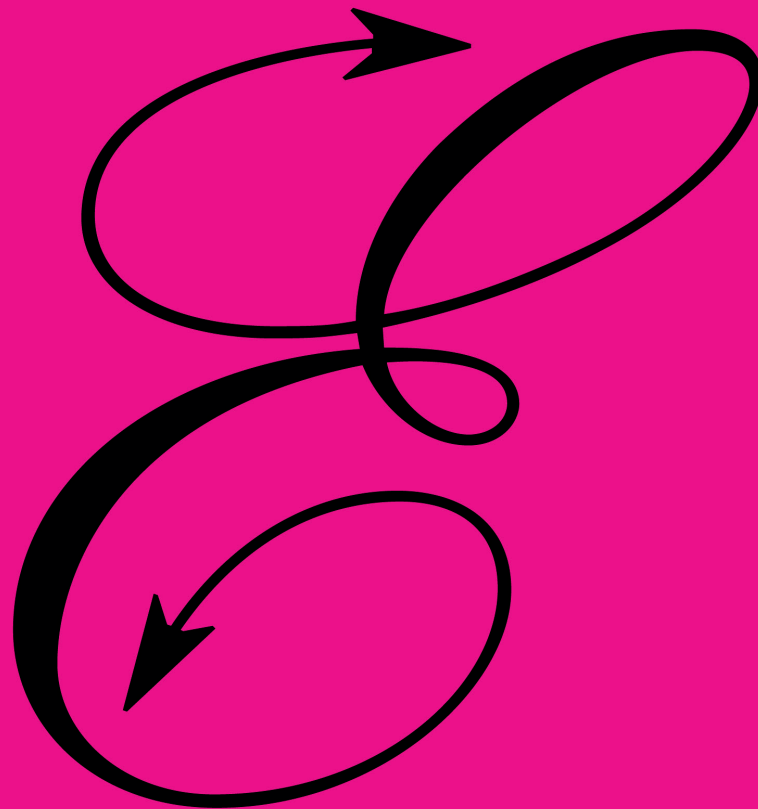
She uses language as a witness, which she approaches with (personal stories, pieces of music...) or direct messages integrated into her works. Her relationship with space, altered in a sensitive apprehension through its architecture or its light perception, disturbs the visit and thus increases the dreamlike sensation of the *Eveillée* exhibition itinerary.



PASSAGES  
CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN  
9 RUE DE JEANNE D'ARC - TROYES

MÉLANIE  
MATRANGA

Identité Visuelle: Marie-Mam Sali Boller & Clara Prasteau Imprimerie: La Renaissance, Troyes



29-09-23

16-12-23

# ÉVEILLÉE

VERNISSAGE PUBLIC LE 28-09-23 À PARTIR DE 18 HEURES



You enter the house and, to the left, you can dive in. First into the uncomfortable, dark absorbent cotton, then into the waves of a wild coastline.

Nevertheless, the surrounding sounds reveal a great calm. Perhaps it's white noise. Voices, from which revolt is never far away. The violence in us is tinged with love, tinged with desire, frustration, possibility. You can open one eye, and quickly close it again, out of modesty.

At the front, doors. What's behind the threshold? The halo of sweat and light doesn't tell us much. We can incline an ear and close it again, out of modesty.

Maybe you're in the film, maybe you're in a half-sleep, in that suspended moment just before the alarm goes off. Or maybe it's the day that reveals the strange sensation of those inner changes that make everything seem different.

Maëla Bescond



© Mélanie Matranga, *Le Rêve de Federico*, 2023

**Éveillée** presents itself as a situation of enunciation, in front of which we remain suspended between forms, images, sounds or impalpable situations. A **mixture of elegance and unease** can seize you, as you move through a spectrum of sensations, from nightmare to dream.

**Dreamlike and political**, this exhibition can have a very concrete, direct impact on the public, but it can also **be adorned with every possible subtext**, expressing the richness of the artist's pieces, serving sometimes as transmitter, sometimes as receiver, always as links between ourselves.

Mélanie Matranga speaks of **her environment, transforming it a burning testimony to a society that hesitates, suffers and and questioning itself**. People, (*People*, 2022), live together, love each other, confide in each other, get angry. The attention paid to clothing says it all: whether it's the identical outfits worn by his actors throughout the films, (*Pharmakon*, 2022), fragile, light lamps, (*Fortune light*, 2015) or old teeshirts filled with suspended moments, the woven material is always charged, with a visible and particular emotion.

There's an **elevation of voices here, a polyphony that transforms the viewer's immersion into a more political situation**, beyond the construction of cinematic forms and images.

**Language and vivid writing are at play** in each of our video, sculptural and immersive pieces, creating a blurred universe close to disappearance (*Nervous*, 2023).

**The perception of the art center's space is thus altered: light and darkness, impassable thresholds, displaced partitions and doors** (*Éveillée et Endormie*, 2023), the installations are full of skewed points of view, **just as in the artist's films**, in which the camera always seems to infiltrate the space.

*Éveillée* is **an experience in which we immerse ourselves completely**, our bodies mobilized in a space that becomes one, **a maze of rooms between which we organize our thoughts**, awake.



People, 2020, Still film



## LIST OF ARTWORKS

- *Pharmakon*, 16mm film transferred to HD, 35 min, color, sound, 2022. Courtesy Mélanie Matranga and Misia films, Paris, With the support Mondes Nouveaux and the Centre des Monuments Nationaux and the French Ministry of Culture.

- *Éveillée*, Installation beds sheets white glue variable dimensions, 2023 Courtesy Mélanie Matranga and galerie Karma International, Zurich.

- *Fortune light*, tissue paper lamp, variable dimensions, 2015 Courtesy Mélanie Matranga and galerie High Art, Paris.

- *People*, 19mm film transferred to HD, 26 min, black & white, sound, 2020 Courtesy Mélanie Matranga and Misia films, Paris.

- *Endormie*, Installation, tissue paper kimono, sodium lamps, door, dimensions variable, 2023. Courtesy Mélanie Matranga and galerie High Art, Paris.

- *Nervous*, Installation, tissue paper, clothes, rope, dried flowers, sodium lamps, soundtrack, door, dimensions variable, 2023 Courtesy Mélanie Matranga and galerie High Art, Paris.

- *Salve*, sculptures in unbaked clay, dimensions variable, 2023. Courtesy Mélanie Matranga and galerie High Art, Paris.



Pharmakon, 2022, Still film

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### FORMATION

**2011**

ENSBA, Paris, FR

### EXPOSITIONS PERSONNELLES

**2022**

*Notes*, Karma International, Zürich, CH

*Dieu*, High Art, Paris, FR

**2021**

*0, 1, 2, 3, 4*, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham, UK

*Nervous*, High Art, Arles, FR

**2020**

Mélanie Matranga, *Furiosa*, MO

**2018**

Mélanie Matranga, curated by Camille Chenais, Villa Vassilieff, Paris, FR

*Sorry*, High Art, Paris, FR

**2017**

*Focus: Mélanie Matranga*, Centre des éditions Contemporaines, Geneva, CH

**2016**

*Feeling Myself*, Karma International, Los Angeles, US

*Needy*, tongewölbe T25, Ingolstadt, DE

*Denim*, Indipendenza, Rome, IT

*Club*, Edouard Montassut, Paris, FR

**2015**

*A perspective, somehow*, Karma International, Zürich, CH

反复 [*fanfu*], Palais de Tokyo, curated by Benjamin Thorel and Thomas Boutoux, Paris, FR

### EXPOSITIONS COLLECTIVES (SÉLECTION)

**2022**

*MOVE: Intimacy as Resistance*, National Gallery Prague, Prague, CZ

**2020**

*Nottingham Contemporary*, Nottingham, UK

Your Friends and Neighbors, High Art, Paris, FR

**2019**

*This is my body, My Body Is Your Body*,

*My Body Is the Body of the Word*, le Delta, Namur, BE

*Foncteur d'oubli*, FRAC île-de-france, le plateau, Paris, FR

*Poésie Proletaire* (curated by François Piron),

*Fondation d'entreprise Pernod Ricard*, Paris, FR

*The Weather Outside*, Galerie Freedman Fitzpatrick, Paris, FR

**2018**

*Summer Rhapsody*, KURA, Fonderia Artistica Battaglia, Milan, IT

*Seven Sisters*, Kasia Michalski, Warsaw, PL

*1977-2017, L'Encyclopédie des images Pascal Doury*,

CNEAI, centre national édition art image, Paris, FR

*Home visit*, Museum Ludwig, Cologne, DE

**2016**

*Incorporated!*, Biennale de Rennes, Frac Bretagne, Rennes, FR

Paris: 18th Fondation d'entreprise Ricard

*8 Femmes*, Office Baroque, Brussels, BE

Pacific, Union Pacific, London, UK

*Group show*, Karma International, Zürich, CH

**2015**

*Drawings*, William Arnold, New York, US

*Cookie Gate*, Ellis King, Dublin, IR

*Vava with Oliver Payne*, Milan, IT

*Columbidae*, Cell Project Space, London, UK

**2014**

The Issues of our time 3 : Less time more issues, Artists Space, New York, US

*Theater objects : a stage for architecture and art*, LUMA Westbau, Zürich, CH

*L'époque, les humeurs, les valeurs, l'attention*,

16<sup>ème</sup> Prix Fondation d'entreprise Ricard,

Fondation d'entreprise Ricard, Paris, FR

**2013**

*The Issues of our time*, Castillo/Corrales, Paris, FR

### PRIX ET NOMINATIONS

**2017**

Nominated for the Prix AWARD, Archives Nationale, Paris, FR

**2016**

Nominated for the Prix Fondation d'entreprise Ricard, Paris, FR

**2014**

Frieze artist award, London, UK

Nominated for the Prix Fondation d'entreprise Ricard, Paris, FR

### PUBLICATIONS

**2016**

Mélanie Matranga, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, FR

### COLLECTIONS

Kadist Collection, San Francisco, US

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION



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