

DISPLAY

Maarten Van Roy

Plain Chords of Spectral Bliss

18.05.2024 - 30.06.2024

curated by Ilaria Monti

A supernova explodes and is blown to pieces.
There must be a way to gather its remnants, scattered among the galaxies.

Above us, stars. Beneath us, constellations.'

Interstellar travel originates from fractures, from the dust and dirt settling on surfaces – likewise, Maarten Van Roy's works appear as nebulae, they are clusters, assemblages, concretions, overlapping matter and time. Layers and layers of images and things eclipse, introducing new morphogenesis. Sky and earth can be profoundly close to each other in the chaos and mystery of the world, where chords and harmonies and dissonances arise : seen up close, the wax stains on a table top form a constellation, a crumpled t-shirt evokes a desert land, a crack in a pane of glass is a portal to somewhere else: a void in which past and present violently collide.

Maarten Van Roy develops his practice as an odyssey through everyday skyscapes and landscapes. As in architectural language, the spaces, angles, surfaces and the bare floor are existential and semantic properties of the works. Taking the cue from the internal and external features of DISPLAY – from its urban location to the chipped glass of the entrance door – he conceives the installation process as a local and situated action. It is bound to the exhibition environment as much as at the mercy of the unplanned. The works subsequently amplify and condense the space, acting like dynamic magnets for the gaze. Like a conductor, Van Roy propels his own universe, where chaos and complexity mark hectic rhythms of life and personal narratives, and where the forms and functions of things blur or transcend themselves. His works recall black holes, they are densities and concentrations of mass, bodies sinking into themselves – stars dying and then reconfiguring. Perhaps it is true that even they are destined to consume themselves and disappear unless someone gathers their crumbs.

' Ted Kooser, Flying at Night: Poems 1965-1985

—Ilaria Monti



Maarten Van Roy, Plain Chords of Spectral Bliss, 2024, exhibition view, DISPLAY, Parma, Italy



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Maarten Van Roy
Coxcomb Red, Viper Black, 2023
Table top, wax, dust, t-shirt
120 x 61 x 4 cm

Maarten Van Roy
Coxcomb Red, Viper Black, 2023 (detail)
Table top, wax, dust, t-shirt
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Maarten Van Roy, Plain Chords of Spectral Bliss, 2024, exhibition view, DISPLAY, Parma, Italy



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Maarten Van Roy
Stellar Blade (Plain Chords of Spectral Bliss), 2024
Glass, rebond foam, funnel
148 x 82 x 13 cm



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Maarten Van Roy
Rimm Roll, 2022-2024
Kodak print, beech framed
30 x 22 x 3 cm



Maarten Van Roy
Rimm Roll, 2022-2024 (detail)
Kodak print, beech framed
30 x 22 x 3 cm



Maarten Van Roy, Plain Chords of Spectral Bliss, 2024, exhibition view, DISPLAY, Parma, Italy



Maarten Van Roy
Das Herz hat einen Mund und schreit, 2024
Terracotta, synthetic resin, halogen spots
17 x 12 x 20 cm



Maarten Van Roy
Stellar Blade (d'Oro 4/A), 2024
Chipped window pane
Dimension variable

DISPLAY

artist – run/project space h24/7
Founded and curated by Massimo Allevato & perfettipietro
Vicolo al Leon d'Oro 4/A, Parma, Italy

Maarten Van Roy

Born in 1985 in Bonheiden, BE, lives and works in Brussels and Cologne.

Recent solo and group exhibitions include: 2024, *Body Moving*, with Max Kesteloot, 10N Gallery, Menorca, ES; 2023, *Mine of You with Me*, Avey Gallery, Kortrijk, BE; *The Postcard Party*, CC Strombeek, Strombeek-Bever, BE; *Lavender Snows*, La Traverse, Marseille, FR; *Haberdashery Show*, 10N Gallery / La Mercerie, Brussels, BE; 2022, *Chambers*, FLAT\$, Brussels, BE; *AQUATURF*, Triphasé, Brussels, BE; 2021, *Shannon's Law*, with Pierre Clement, 10N Gallery, Brussels, BE; *Shallow Shallow*, Spazio Orr, Brescia, IT; *Black Hole*, *Blind Spot*, *Dead Angle*, artothek - Raum für junge Kunst, Cologne, DE; *Twilight Objects*, Pas une Orange, Barcelona, ES; *Ricominciare dal Silenzio*, co_atto, Milan, IT; *Ganz viel jeden Tag*, Byvier / Michael Horbach Stiftung, Cologne, DE; *Fête Permanente*, Espace Voltaire, Paris, FR; *ECHO*, Avey Gallery, Kortrijk, BE.

<https://www.maartenvanroy.com>

DISPLAY is an artist-run/project space based in Parma (Italy), founded in 2018 and directed by Massimo Allevato and perfettipietro.

Taking a cue from a curatorial and artistic approach based on researching and collecting images found on the Internet, the exhibition space is conceived as a hybrid device, an analogical and digital display visible 24/7 through its large glazed door.

Full documentation of the past exhibitions at DISPLAY is available at www.spaziodisplay.com

CONTACT

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