

Suitcase Illuminated #6 Tunnel effect Jos De Gruyter & Harald Thys

KALEIDOSCOPE

Curated by Dipartimento Curatoriale Mobile

(Katia Anguelova, Alessandra Poggianti, Andrea Wiarda)

27 May – 30 June 2009 @ KALEIDOSCOPE HQ, Milan

Opening 26 May, 6 pm screening, 7 pm conversation with the artists, followed by reception

Simultaneous openings at Raffaella Cortese (Jana Sterbak), Francesca Kaufmann (Pierpaolo Campanini) and Giò Marconi ("Solaris", group show) galleries.

This first solo exhibition of Belgian artists **Jos De Gruyter and Harald Thys** takes place in Kaleidoscope HQ's project space in Milan, opening on the 26th of May. It is the first in a series of events and presentations entitled **Tunnel Effect**, curated by Katia Anguelova, Alessandra Poggianti and Andrea Wiarda and it also initiates the activities of the **Dipartimento Curatoriale Mobile**.

On the occasion of the opening the three latest films of the artists' duo will be screened followed by a conversation between the artists, Francesco Garutti (art critic), the curators and the audience.

During the exhibition De Gruyter and Thys will be showing their latest series of photographs (**Untitled N°1-9**), three large video projections **The Frigate** (2008), **Der Schlamm von Branst** (2008) and **Ten Weyngaert** (2007) as well as a selection of previous video works. The artists have produced an edition of 20 sculptures especially for the occasion.

The meticulous and slightly absurd work of De Gruyter and Thys is characterised by loaded atmospheres and claustrophobic spaces populated by strange figures, impersonated by non-professional actors, captured in no apparent relation with the 'real world'. With dialogue reduced to a minimum, sound and often surreal gestures drive the attention to what is left of a narrative structure. The singular and theatrical parallel world they create is however paradoxically not that much different from the one we live in. The films transmit apparently trivial situations in a way reminiscent of experimental dramaturgy and performance in which black humour becomes the key to extend our inquiry and reflection into behavioural mechanisms and routines in contemporary society.

Jos De Gruyter & Harald Thys (De Gruyter 1965, Geel, B / Thys 1966, Wilrijk, B) live and work in Brussels, Belgium and collaborate since the second half of the 1980s. Major exhibitions include: *Dependance*, Brussels (2009); *Manifesta7*, Trento; 5th Berlin Biennial (2008); Gallery Artspeak, Vancouver; MuHKA, Antwerp; De Appel, Amsterdam; Galerie Carlier/Gebauer, Berlin (2007); Gallery Isabella Bortolozzi, Berlin (2006); Bozar, Brussels; SMP, Marseille (2005).

Tunnel Effect is the first instance of the activities of the Dipartimento Curatoriale Mobile. The project is articulated through a programme of video presentations in various locations and moments in the city of Milan, Italy. *Tunnel Effect* is a natural manifestation supposed by quantum physics in which a particle in movement succeeds in moving through a barrier, creating interactive flows with other particles. The effect occurs equally when the given particle has a lower quantity of energy than the potential barrier. It is a phenomenon that has been largely ignored in classical mechanics. Each occasion in *Tunnel Effect* will be presented by DCM in a different location in town, representing a crossing and a movement as a means of knowledge, as a perceptive and creative act, a reading and writing of the urban territory as well as a format to discuss artistic practices. The spaces involved are viewed as particles of a manifestation capable of putting forward their own energies to move through and annul the symbolic and physical barriers of urban space.

Tunnel Effect is the 6th edition of **Suitcase Illuminated**, a project initiated by Katia Anguelova and Alessandra Poggianti that proposes itself as a video node and container for different video researches and compilations. *Suitcase Illuminated* hosts projects of its own and from third parties. It proposes a global itinerary to outline an immaterial and nomadic geography. *Suitcase Illuminated* assumes video compilations as a node that opens further perspectives through the occupations of the expository space that generates multiple relations and connections. After the 5th edition "On Parallel Economy" presented at Mac/Val in Paris and P74 Center and Gallery in Ljubljana, *Suitcase Illuminated #6* takes the format of a spatio-temporal video programme in the city of Milan throughout 2009-10.

The activities of the **Dipartimento Curatoriale Mobile** are realised in collaboration with **Associazione FARE**, set up in 2008 with the objective to spread culture as a means of social integration and a territorial reformulation. FARE's main focus is on networking and the creation of liaisons between the operators of the contemporary.

KALEIDOSCOPE is a multi-layered project and an enthusiastic venture. It is above all a publishing house with the publication of the first European free magazine on contemporary art and culture as its core activity, Kaleidoscope also aims to develop editorial production of catalogues, monographs, academic texts, artists' books and limited editions. Kaleidoscope headquarters houses a project space animated by a rigorous programme and features an extensive stock of European art, architecture, design and fashion magazines available to browse or buy. Kaleidoscope furthermore offers its services as a very art agency.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Title: **Suitcase Illuminated #6 Tunnel Effect**; 1st installation by **Jos De Gruyter & Harald Thys** // Curated by: **Dipartimento Curatoriale Mobile** // Opening: **26 May, 6 pm screening, 7 pm conversation with artists and Francesco Garutti** // Dates: **27 May – 30 June 2009, Monday through Saturday from 15:00 – 19:00** // Location: **Kaleidoscope Headquarters (ex Spazio Lima) // Via Masera in front of no. 10, Milano** // Email: info@thekaleidoscope.eu / dipartimentomobile@gmail.com // Tel: **+39.02.36535563**