

SECOND

03.04.–16.05.21

An exhibition by Gianmaria Andreetta
with Huw Lemmey, Luzie Meyer, Becket MWN,
Angharad Williams, Bruno Zhu



Fri Art Kunsthalle Fribourg

Contact :

Julie Folly
comm@fri-art.ch
+41 26 323 23 51
www.fri-art.ch

Petites-Rames 22
CH-1700 Fribourg

SECOND

The exhibition **SECOND** highlights the writing and compositional strategies of a group of artists assembled by the editor and curator Gianmaria Andreetta. For the exhibition, newly commissioned works address the critical relationship between the artists' literary projects and the making of a public, pointing to what was once materially inaccessible or unavailable, and what has been flattened or obscured by the bigger picture. Revisiting previous works and investigating previously overlooked objects, **SECOND** uses practice-based explorations to reconnect key concepts of collaboration, ephemerality and fiction. This mode of commissioning demonstrates and realizes recent developments in the ways artists use writing to generate art, develop editorial relationships and initiate meaningful exchanges on the value of words.

Through different registers such as memoir, fiction, poetry, songwriting, playwright and screenplay, artists and writers Huw Lemmey, Luzie Meyer, Becket MWN, Angharad Williams and Bruno Zhu play with and navigate through their own predictions (real, imaginary and deceptive) whilst candidly looking at the past.

The exhibition is organized in partnership with the Swiss Art Awards.

Press visit :
Thursday, 2nd April 2021,
11pm

Due to the current situation, we kindly ask you to announce your attendance to the press visit at the following address: comm@fri-art.ch

Download press
images



Angharad Williams photographed in her studio in Berlin by Gianmaria Andreetta, January 25th 2021

The exhibition **SECOND** is best understood through the lens of collaboration. Bringing together a group of artists all knowing one another, or having already participated in each other's work, curator and editor Gianmaria Andreetta proposed artists and writers Huw Lemmey, Luzie Meyer, Becket MWN, Angharad Williams and Bruno Zhu to work collectively.

As a function of that, works shown in the exhibition are intertwined through a common form of address, direct yet open and porous to their fellows insights and contributions :

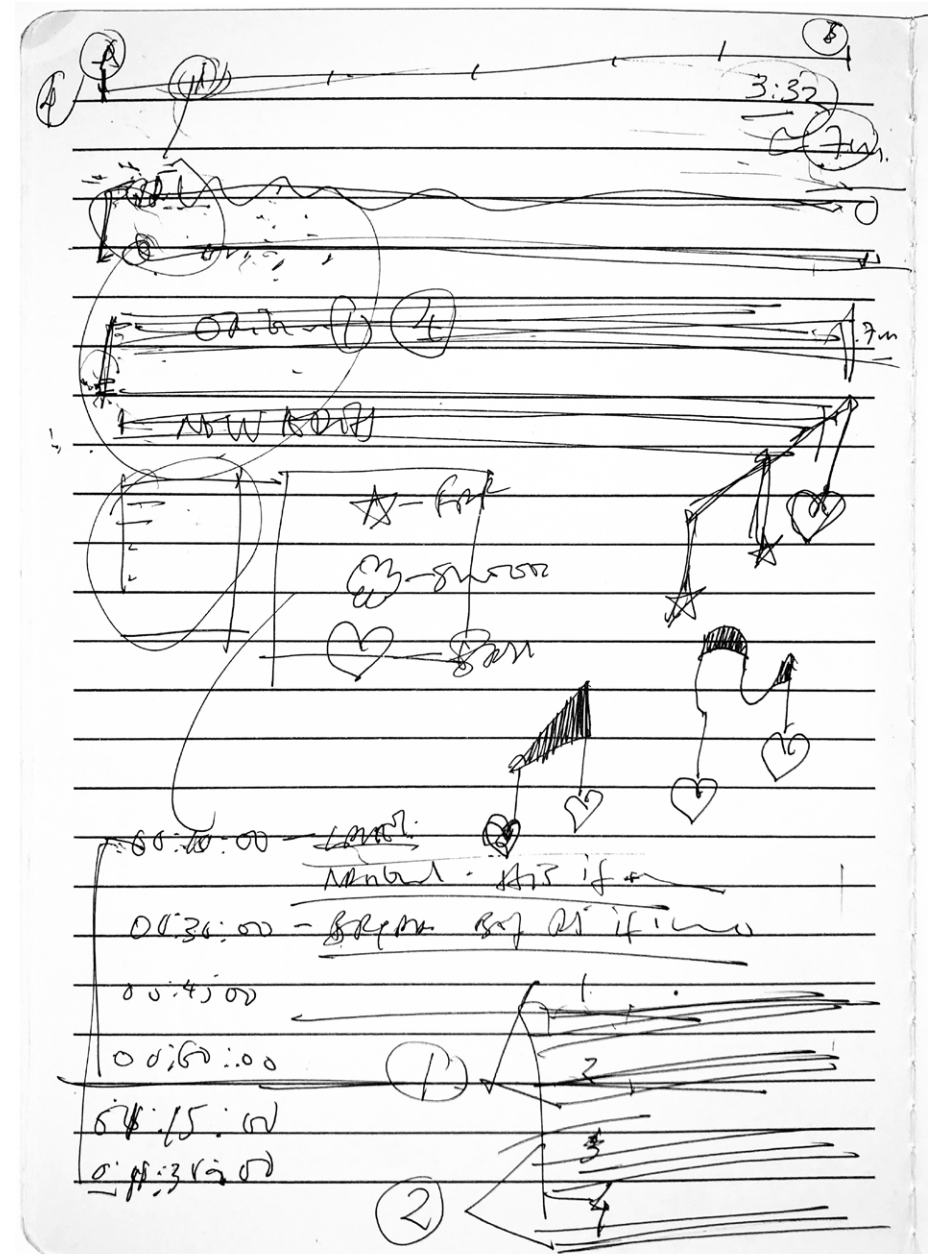
Artist **Bruno Zhu** formed the fictitious band *The Unplugged* to delve, together with **Gianmaria Andreetta**, into a dialogue of complex feelings and a yearning for extreme release.

Becket MWN and **Luzie Meyer** co-star in both Meyer's film and puppet installation, forming a personal and dialogic adaptation of a *Ghost Trio*, the only play Samuel Beckett ever made for television. Becket's own work is multi-vocal and spreads around the space into five uncanny sound embodiments.

Angharad Williams's sculpture came about through conversation around an unpublished text, which both Williams and Andreetta kept on turning back to.

The writer **Huw Lemmey** likewise reveals in painting areas of contact and a map to his literary project.

The exhibition demonstrates how writing is a privileged space for collaborative work for a new generation of artists.



Bruno Zhu, *The Unplugged* (scores sketches), 2020-2021

The artists

Angharad Williams is an artist and writer who lives in Wales and Berlin. Recent solo projects, performances, and group exhibitions have taken place at Schiefe Zähne, Berlin; KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin; Stadtgalerie Bern, Bern; Kunstverein Munich, Munich (all 2020); Haus zur Liebe, Schaffhausen; ICA, London; Galerie Barbara Weiss, Berlin; No Bounds Festival, Sheffield; Peak, London (all 2019); Radiophrenia, Glasgow; and Liszt, Berlin (all 2018). Forthcoming exhibitions will take place at Kevin Space, Vienna and G39, Cardiff. Since 2016 Williams has been working collaboratively with Swiss artist Mathis Gasser on *Hergest*; the latest installment of which is currently on display at the Swiss Institute, NYC.

Bruno Zhu (*1991) lives and works in Amsterdam. Recent projects include presentations at UKS in Oslo, Fragile in Berlin, Frans Hals Museum in Haarlem, EXILE in Vienna, Antenna Space in Shanghai and Kunsthalle Lissabon in Lisbon. Zhu is a member of A Maior, a curatorial program set in a home furnishings and clothing store in Viseu, Portugal.

Luzie Meyer (*1990) is an artist, poet, musician, and translator based in Berlin. She graduated from Städelschule in Frankfurt in 2016. Her work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions, amongst others at Efremidis, Berlin (2020), Bel Ami, Los Angeles (2019), Sweetwater, Berlin (2019); Halle für Kunst, Lüneburg (2019); Kunstverein Braunschweig (2018); Kölnischer Kunstverein (2018); Tramway, Glasgow (2018); Le Bourgeois, London (2017); CACBM, Paris (2018) Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden (2017); Portikus, Frankfurt (2017).



Angharad Williams, *Eraser*, 2020. Performance still. In collaboration with Richard Sides. Performed at KW, Berlin. Photo by Giorgia Palmisano & Giulia Baresi. Courtesy of Archivio Conz, Berlin



Luzie Meyer, *unidentified IV*, 2020, Framed c-print, 4 x 30 cm (9 1/2 x 11 3/4 in)

Becket MWN (*1985) is an Amsterdam-based writer and artist, whose recent projects have focused on the relation between language, speaking, and the production of the self to question current forms of political subjectivity. He received his MFA from the University of Southern California in 2014, and was a resident artist at the Rijksakademie in Amsterdam from 2015 to 2017. He has recently exhibited at SculptureCenter (New York), TG Gallery (Nottingham), Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen (Haarlem), Root Canal (Amsterdam), and Vleeshal (Middelburg). His recent performances include Saliva (Barcelona) and HTSU Cooperative (Amsterdam).

Huw Lemmey is a novelist, artist and critic living in Barcelona. He is the author of three novels: *Unknown Language* (Ignota Books 2020), *Red Tory: My Corbyn Chemsex Hell* (Montez Press, 2019), and *Chubz: The Demonization of my Working Arse* (Montez Press, 2016). He writes on culture, sexuality and cities for the Guardian, Frieze, Flash Art, Tribune, TANK, The Architectural Review, Art Monthly, New Humanist, Rhizome, The White Review, and L'Uomo Vogue, amongst others. He writes the weekly essay series utopian drivel and is the co-host of Bad Gays.



Hildegard of Bingen and Huw Lemmey, *Unknown Language*, Ignota Books, 2020



Becket MWN, *The inside of my inside is my outside*, 2020

The curator

Gianmaria Andreetta is the winner of the Swiss Art Award 2019 in the category criticism, exhibition edition. He's a curator and writer born in Lugano, Switzerland and living and working in Amsterdam and Berlin. He is the co-founder of the artists Cooperative HTSU Coöperatie U.A., a visiting tutor at the CCC Research Masters Programme, Haute Ecole d'Art et de Design Geneva, and a fellow of the RPDP-A, Research Platform and Doctoral Practice in Arts.

Recent commissions explore the nature of cooperatives through relationships with a public and public ownership (Ghislaine Leung, premiering Spring 2021); have developed the concept of "Sitcom Architecture" as a built- environment for broadcast and familial relations (Becket Mingwen); supported ongoing artistic research on prophecy and breath pointing to corresponding physical and spiritual worship within Pentecostal traditions (Ima-Abasi Okon).

Coming shows include: Matrices Noires with Noémi Michel, Tunnel Tunnel, Lausanne ; solo and group show with Angharad Williams, DREI, Cologne ; and group show with Richard John Jones, Stadtgalerie Bern (all 2021).



Gianmaria Andreetta photographed by Angharad Williams, March 23th 2021



third.fri-art.ch

To complete **SECOND**, Gianmaria Andreetta and Fri Art will launch the editorial digital platform *THIRD* during the exhibition. Conceived partly in response to the current situation, in which we have now to actively consider distance as a way to view exhibitions, and partly to expand the literary explorations of **SECOND**, *THIRD* will showcase the textual works and the collaborative and editorial process stemming from the group presentation. *THIRD* will grow organically and explore questions of poetics, of collection and collectivity, and of self-organisation. After the end of the show, *THIRD* will develop into a permanent digital and literary feature of Fri Art's programme. The process of the making will tell how long such a platform can exist. The lifespan of the platform, as well as its exact form, is not fixed, leaving room for experimentation and failure rather against the rigid agenda of digital planification.

A group show with Huw Lemmey, Luzie Meyer,
Becket MWN, Angharad Williams and Bruno Zhu.
Curated by Gianmaria Andreetta

April–May
2021

SECOND Fri Art
Kunsthalle Fribourg

«They don't want you doing anything in here but time.
There are 12 counts a day. We count the hours.
The bulls count us, and well – the king-bulls count the counts.»

[Traduction libre] «Ils ne veulent pas qu'on soit face à autre chose que le temps ici.
Il y a 12 comptes par jour. Nous on compte les heures.
Les matons nous comptent et puis – les chefs-matons recomptent les comptes.»

[Freie Übersetzung] «Sie wollen uns hier nichts anderem aussetzen als der Zeit.
Pro Tag werden 12 Zählungen gemacht. Wir zählen die Stunden.
Die Wärter zählen uns und naja – die Oberwärter zählen die Zählungen.»

Angharad Williams, *Now watch this drive*, prologue, 2018

Thanks

Thank you HTSU cooperative, Catherine Queloz, Sophia Dinkel, Annie Goodner, Noémi Michel, Léa Fluck, Richard John Jones and the Swiss Art Awards.

Exhibitions until May 16th 2021

Groundfloor: *The films of Guillaume Dustan*

1st Floor: *SECOND*, curated by Gianmaria Andreetta
With Huw Lemmey, Luzie Meyer, Becket MWN,
Angharad Williams, Bruno Zhu

Opening hours

Wednesday to Friday: 12am - 18pm

Saturday and Sunday: 1pm - 6pm

Monday and Tuesday: by appointment (info@fri-art.ch)

Dates of the exhibitions and complete program : fri-art.ch
Art mediation and school visits : info@fri-art.ch

Contact

Julie Folly
comm@fri-art.ch

Fri Art Kunsthalle +41(0)26 323 23 51
Petites-Rames 22 info@fri-art.ch
1700 Fribourg fri-art.ch

fri-art.ch

With the support of

Agglomération de Fribourg
Canton de Fribourg
Loterie Romande
Ville de Fribourg
Pro Helvetia, Fondation suisse pour la culture
Migros pour-cent culturel
Stiftung Temperatio
Ernst & Olga Gubler-Hablützel Stiftung



MIGROS
pour-cent culturel



prohelvetia

temperatio
Stiftung für Umwelt | Soziales | Kultur

ERNST & OLGA
GUBLER-HABLÜTZEL
STIFTUNG

Fri Art Kunsthalle | Petites-Rames 22, 1700 Fribourg | +41 26 323 23 51 | info@fri-art.ch | fri-art.ch

third.fri-art.ch