

Idiorrhythmia

March 15 – April 29, 2018

In the context of his research on eremitism, Roland Barthes used the term idiorrhythmia to describe the collective and organized loneliness of the monks living in the convents of Mount Athos.

Idiorrhythmia designates an imaginary place where we could live together, but each at his own rhythm.

We live in times marked by the return of nationalisms. Xenophobic groups denounce the lack of cohesion in their nation's territories while brutalizing democracy and being distrustful in the capacity of moderate governments to protect individual liberties.

At the same time that traditional political parties seem to implode, extreme discourses tend to be normalized. When facts are being debated and expertise shunned, how to make informed choices as a society? Just like Barthes asked, *how to live together?*

Without postulating the wisdom of crowds, nor their madness, the works exhibited here question the conditions of collective engagement.

With Guillaume Bijl, Melanie Gilligan, Nicolás Guagnini, Carey Young.

Guillaume Bijl

Nieuwe Demokratische Partij (A New Democratic Party), 2016

Poster, Dimensions variable

Courtesy the Artist

Guillaume Bijl's work is an electoral campaign poster from the candidate Stef Duyck, fictional leader of a *New Democratic Party*. His discourse is radical, although impossible to situate ideologically on the political spectrum.

Melanie Gilligan

Popular Unrest, 2010

Video Drama in 5 episodes, HD video, 80 minutes

Courtesy the Artist and Max Mayer, Düsseldorf

Popular Unrest is a feature film in 5 chapters written and directed by Melanie Gilligan. In a near and dystopian future, the Orwellian entity called The Spirit is regimenting each and every aspect of human interactions. Several murders are perpetrated randomly by an invisible assassin whom the viewer can identify as the invisible hand of the market. Meanwhile, individuals with no apparent connections to each other start to group, driven by feelings and sensations they can hardly explain. With the assistance of a scientific team, one of these groupings undertakes to investigate the nature of the link uniting them, suspecting it might be related to the murders.

Link to the video: popularunrest.org

Nicolás Guagnini

Clear Allegiance, 2012/2017

Wood, Plastic

Courtesy the Artist, Bortolami Gallery, New York and Max Mayer, Düsseldorf

Nicolás Guagnini's transparent flag was used originally in an eponymous video. Guagnini is being filmed walking from Harlem's poorest area to the island of privileges constituted by Columbia University. Mobilized but alone, anti-heroically waving a banner without a cause. *Clear Allegiance* admits the failed promise of the 1968 revolutionary ideals.

Link to the video: vimeo.com/87349871 Password: guagnini2014

Carey Young,

I am a Revolutionary, 2001

Single Channel Video, 4min 8sec

Courtesy the Artist and Paula Cooper Gallery, New York.

Carey Young's work illustrates the pathetic quest for a radical position in the political discourse.

In *I am a Revolutionary*, the artist rehearses tirelessly a section from a larger speech. With the assistance of a personal coach, she carefully pronounces the words "I am a revolutionary", searching for the appropriate tone of voice for an undefined audience.