

31 May–26 July 2008

Opening, Saturday 31 May, from 5pm to 9pm

Diagonal Argument

Bad Beuys Entertainment

Gilles Barbier

Claude Closky

Collectif 1.0.3

Eric Duyckaerts

León Ferrari

Alexandra Grant

Julien Prévieux

Michael Snow

Mürüvvet Türkyılmaz

Keith Tyson



Diagonal Argument

An exhibition for those who like gardens of forking paths

In the sixties, American philosopher and sociologist Ted Nelson started taking computer training classes to help him write his philosophy books and organise his ideas, because he could not control the stream of thoughts running through his head. He was hoping to find a way “to create a document based on a vast body of nonstructured and non-sequential ideas”. He wanted to be able to write a paragraph where doors could be opened to reveal thousands of new possibilities that could not be seen at first sight.

Dreaming of a super brain with unlimited potential for knowledge, this new process could store endless tree structures and function by an association of ideas and hyperlinks. Ted Nelson coined the word “hypertext” in 1965 and created the Xanadu project which prefigures the Internet. Conceived as a wide computer network, it would make books available at anytime to everyone everywhere. Unfortunately this project failed and Nelson himself admits he still scribbles his ideas on Post-it notes classified by date.

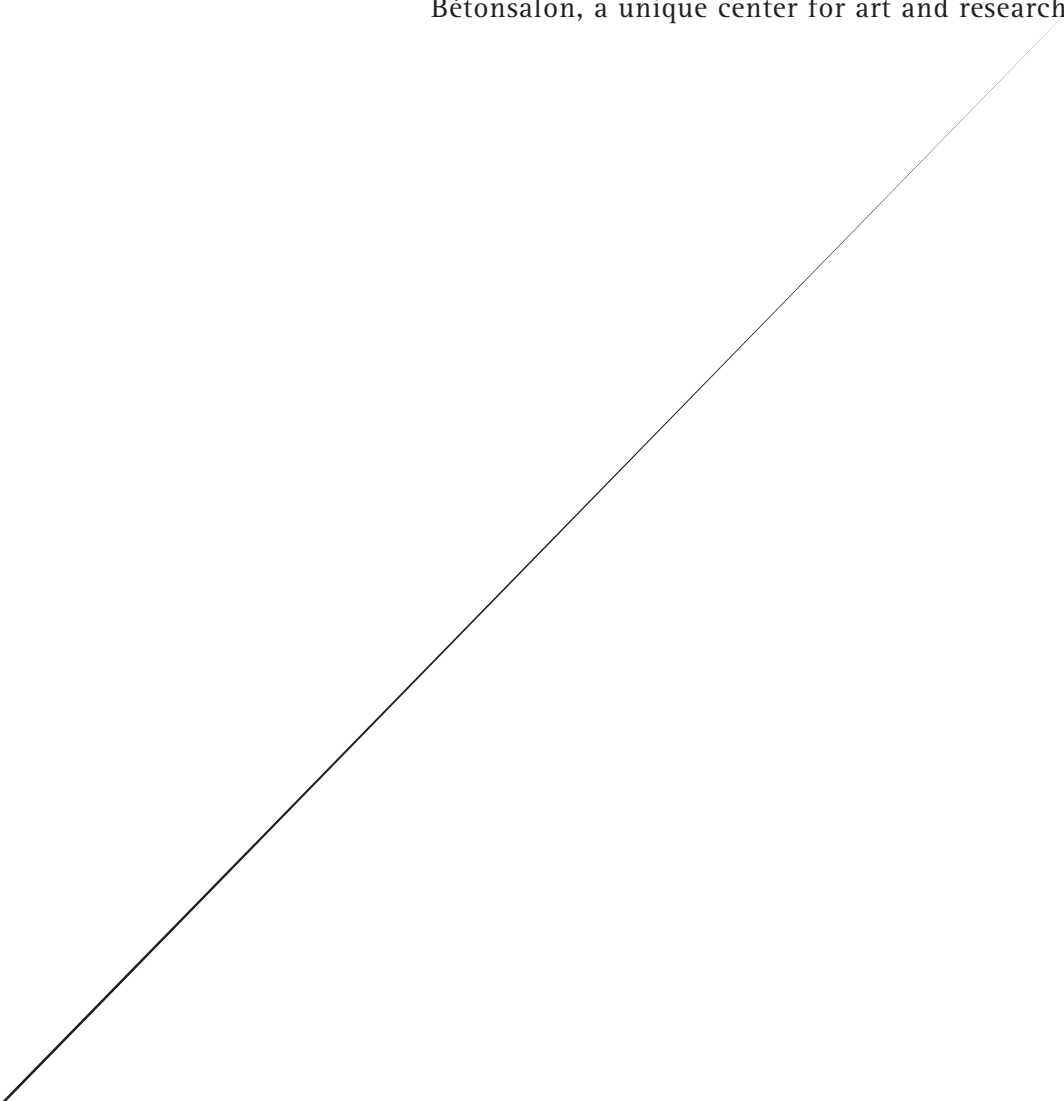
Inevitably, with an intense organisation and classification of thoughts, one risks having the “tree” structures start to resemble a labyrinth. The initial ideas get lost. The exhibition Diagonal Argument mirrors the progression of a method trying to seek and find its way through and struggles through the entanglement of its own thought process. It is the story of a method making the hopeless attempt to control the maze of hyperlinking and the ramifications of ideas.

As a tribute to one of Eric Duyckaerts’ performances and Georg Cantor’s well-known mathematical demonstration, Diagonal Argument is a project in the shape of a zigzag that embraces forking methodologies, oblique strategies and the dizzying analogies. Far from following a linear structure, this exhibition gathers artists whose works deliver the secret of their own method by experimenting with alternative reasoning and conceptual tools to create an equivalent to the system of mind-mapping.

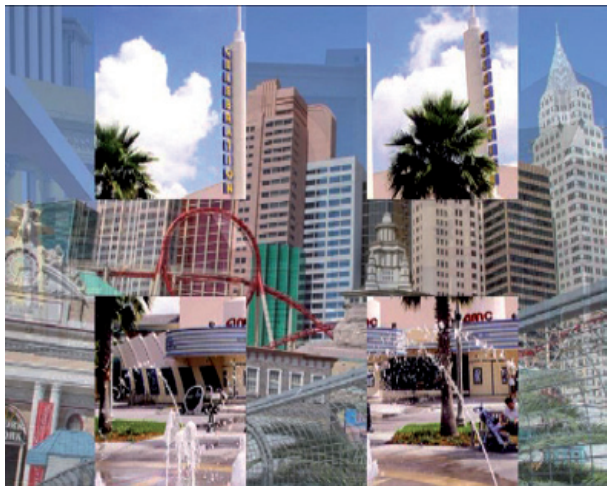


To understand this project, picture a crab dancing in a garden of forking paths while demonstrating the fundamental rules of graph theory.

The exhibition will be accompanied every Saturday by a comprehensive program of performances, lectures, screenings and talks, gathering artists, philosophers, writers, curators, art critics as well as the exceptional participation of scientists from the Laboratoire Matière et Systèmes Complexes located next to Bétonsalon in the heart of the University Paris Diderot. Diagonal Argument is an exhibition specifically curated for Bétonsalon, a unique center for art and research in Paris.



Bad Beuys Entertainment



Une petite histoire de l'urbanisme. 2005

Gilles Barbier



Projet de Conservation des pages de Dictionnaire. 1995

Collectif 1.0.3



Planiscope version Sylvain Courrech. Date de catalogue: 28 mars 2008.

Claude Closky



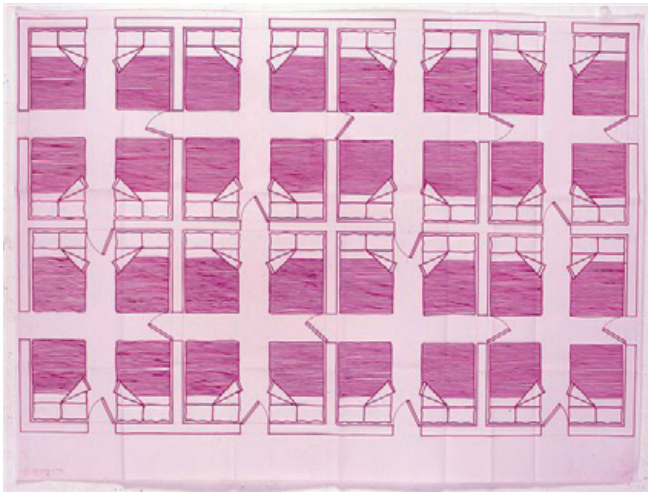
Click Here. 2001

Eric Duyckaerts



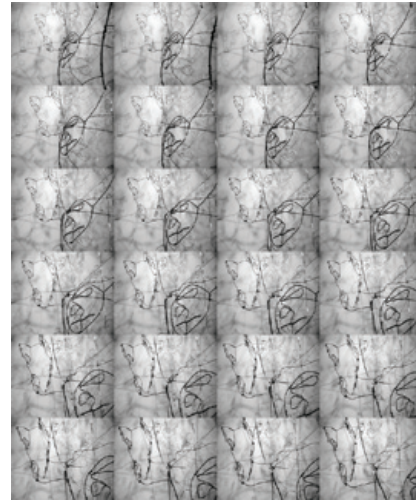
Analogie. 2007

León Ferrari



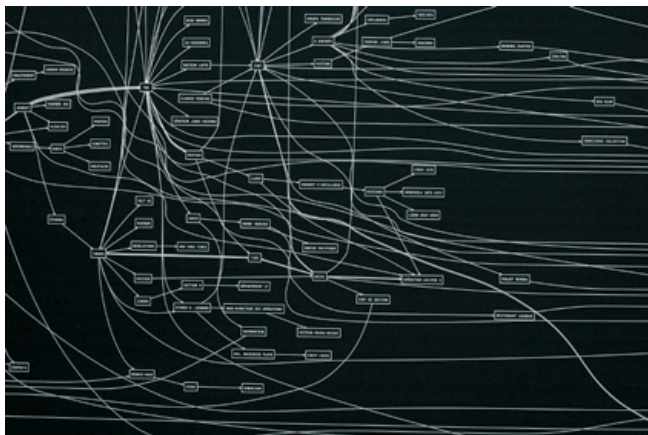
Série de 27 héliographies. 1980-1986

Alexandra Grant



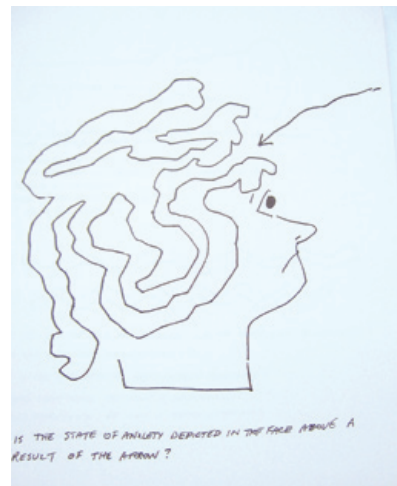
Motion. 2007

Julien Prévieux



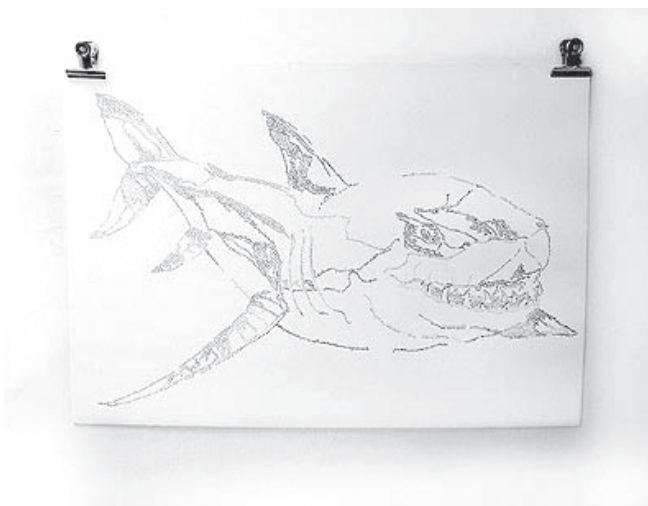
La somme de toutes les peurs, detail. 2008

Michael Snow



Michael Snow, High school. 1979

Mürüvvet Türkyılmaz



Geography of Fear. 2005

Keith Tyson



Studio Wall Drawing : Nov 2006 (everyday at 4.00 PM the same questions...)





List of the artworks

Bad Beuys Entertainment

Une petite histoire de l'urbanisme
2005
Video projection, DVD, light box
duraflex print
Collection of the artist

Gilles Barbier

De « Exploiter » à « Flocculation » + 3 errata
2006
Ink and gouache on paper
215 x 215 cm + 60 x 50 cm
Collection GP Vallois, Paris
Courtesy Galerie GP & N Vallois, Paris

Projet de Conservation des pages de Dictionnaire

1995
Mixed technique on paper
109 x 150 cm
Private collection
Courtesy Galerie GP & N Vallois, Paris

Claude Closky

Click Here
2001
Video installation, stereo sound
variable dimensions, unlimited duration.
Programming Jean-Noël Lafargue
Courtesy galerie Laurent Godin, Paris

Collectif 1.0.3

Planiscope version Sylvain Courrech,
Laboratoire MSC (Matière et Systèmes
Complexes), Université Paris-Diderot –Paris 7
cataloguing date : 28 March 2008,
flash animation

Eric Duyckaerts

Analogie
2007
DVD, monitor
Courtesy Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin

Entrelacs

2007
DVD, monitor
Courtesy Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin

Anneau de Soury

2001
Hermès leather
3m diameter
Courtesy Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin

León Ferrari

Série de 27 héliographies
1980-1986
Variable dimensions
Collection of the artist

Alexandra Grant

Motion
2007
DVD, monitor
Collection of the artist

Michael Snow

High School
1979
Spiral-bound notebook - 28 cm
Collection Bibliothèque Kandinsky, Centre Pompidou

Julien Prévieux

La somme de toutes les peurs, detail
2008
Courtesy Galerie Jousse Entreprise
Production ENSAPC / La Vitrine

Mürüvvet Türkyılmaz

Geography of Fear
2005
Serie of drawings, pencil on paper 50x50cm
Collection of the artist

Keith Tyson

Studio Wall Drawing : 5th July 2006
(The Castration of Uranus by Cronus (part II))
2006
Mixed technique on paper 157 x 126 cm
Particular Collection
Courtesy Galerie GP & N Vallois, Paris

Studio Wall Drawing : Nov 2006
(everyday at 4.00 PM the same questions...)
2006

Mixed technique on paper 157 x 126 cm
Particular Collection
Courtesy Galerie GP & N Vallois, Paris

Studio Wall Drawing : April 17th 2006
(The sum of all possible paths)

2006
Mixed technique on paper 157 x 126 cm
Collection Galerie GP & N Vallois, Paris
Courtesy Galerie GP & N Vallois, Paris

Plug the Well

2003
Mixed technique on paper 157 x 126 cm
Collection Kadist Art Foundation, Paris



Events

Events, each saturday at 5pm.

Saturday 31 May

* Opening

Saturday 7 June: Oblique Strategies

* Screening: Eric Duyckaerts, Petra Mzryk & Jean-François Moriceau, John Deneuve, Johnny Kelly...

* *Monologues for Minerals*, performance by artist Julien Bismuth in collaboration with composer Giancarlo Vulcano

Saturday 14 June: A Neurological Journey

* Discussion and book signing (*Un Abézédaire dans le Désordre*, éditions du Regard, 2008) with artist Gilles Barbier and art critic Pierre Sterckx

Saturday 21 June: Connecting Words

* *Ping-Pong* lecture about the exhibition by curators Isabelle Le Normand and Florence Ostende

* *Que faire de notre cerveau ?*, lecture by philosopher Catherine Malabou

* *Literature and arborescence*, talk by writer Tanguy Viel

Saturday 28 June: Matter and Complex Systems

* Introduction to graph theory by researcher Samuel Bottani from the laboratory

Matière et Systèmes Complexes (MSC), Paris-Diderot University

* Discussion with artist Julien Prévieux and writer Jean-Charles Massera

* *Dérive suburbaine et glissement de terrain*, talk by artists Bad Beuys Entertainment

* *Image d'une archive*, talk by artists from the Collectif 1.0.3 and researcher Sylvain Courrech from MSC laboratory

Saturday 5 July: Hans-Ulrich Obrist Marathon

* Lecture by Hans-Ulrich Obrist at the Centre Pompidou at 5pm

* *A brain feeding a brain*, lecture by Isabelle Le Normand and Florence Ostende at 9pm

* *Nocturnal brainstorming*, lecture by Hans-Ulrich Obrist at 11pm

Saturday 12 July: Invasion of the Ideas

* Lecture on León Ferrari and the artistic scene of Buenos Aires by historian Anne Yanover

* Screening of documentary *Invasion of the Ideas* by Hermann Vaske

Saturday 19 July: Z for Zigzag

* *La fabrique du bois*, presentation on Gilles Deleuze by researchers Silvia Maglioni and Graeme Thomson

* Screening of Gilles Deleuze's ABC Primer

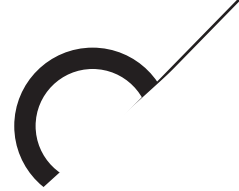
Saturday 26 July: Think/Classify

* *The tree of Shannon*, reading by artist Fayçal Baghriche

* *Phobies*, reading by artist Thomas Barbey

* *Think/classify*, lecture by Nathalie Leleu about the notion of inventory

* Cocktail to celebrate the final day of the exhibition



Practical informations

Opening hours

Tuesday to Saturday from 12 noon to 9 pm / free entrance

Access

Métro ligne 14 or RER ligne C, stop Bibliothèque François Mitterrand



bétonsalon

Location

9, Esplanade Pierre Vidal-Naquet
75013 Paris

Postal address

Association Bétonsalon
37, Bd Ornano
F-75018 Paris

Team **bétonsalon**

Advisory board:

Cyril Dietrich, artiste (president)
Paolo Codeluppi, photographe
Marie Cozette, director of the Delme art centre, France

Director: Mélanie Bouteloup

Director's assistant: Juliette Courtillier

Administration: Evelyne Mondésir

Educator: Grégory Castera

Educator assistant: Dorothee Arnaud

Press manager: Véovansy Véopraset

Residency assistant: Diana Lorena Diaz

Project assistant: Sébastien Martins

Bétonsalon is supported by the City of Paris, the Department of Paris, the Université Paris 7 – Denis Diderot, the Île-de-France Regional Board of Cultural Affairs – Ministry of Culture and Communication and Hiscox Assurances.



Partner of the exhibition



Media partners



Events partners

