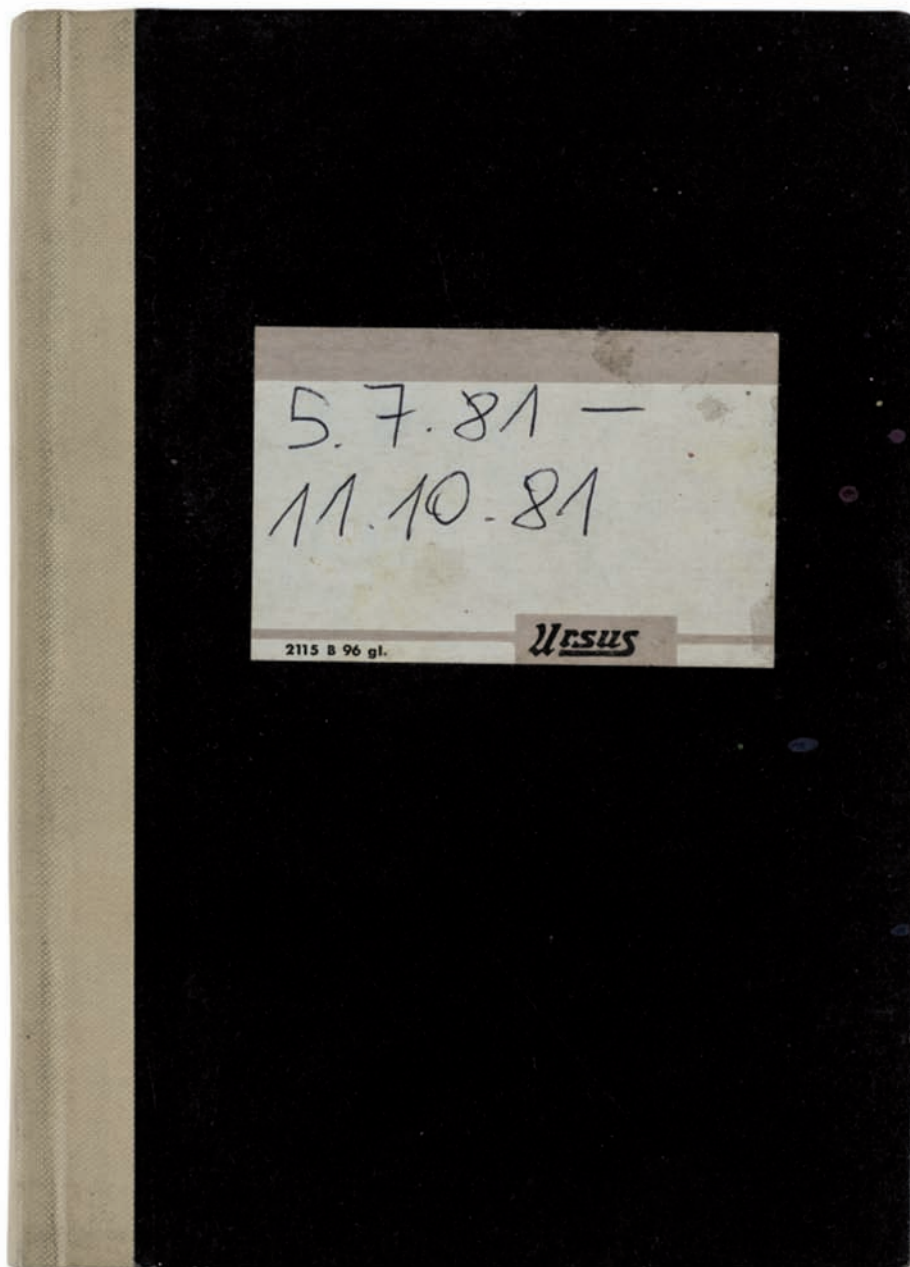




CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN  
LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME

Press Kit



**PETER FRIEDL**  
***THE DIARIES***

EXHIBITION 11 OCTOBER 2014 - 01 FEBRUARY 2015  
OPENING ATTENDED BY THE ARTIST FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER, 6PM

## PETER FRIEDL

### THE DIARIES

The centre d'art contemporain – la synagogue de Delme is pleased to present the solo exhibition *The Diaries* by Peter Friedl. Since his early beginnings, writing and drawing – in the broadest sense – have been core activities of Friedl's artistic practice, in which critical intimacy, displacement, political awareness, conceptual transfers, and new models of narration play an important role. For the first time, all of the artist's handwritten diaries from 1981 to 2014 will be on view in Delme.

More than three hundred closed notebooks are displayed in piles within specially designed museum showcases. As is often the case with Friedl's projects, juxtaposition and overexposure are the exhibition's very dynamics. In fact, *The Diaries* is an epic staging of real time, memory, volume, and text on paper. Thousands upon thousands of densely filled pages covering a period of over thirty years testify to the impossibility of capturing bare life in words. Like Friedl's other long-term projects such as *Playgrounds* (since 1995) and *Theory of Justice* (1992–2010) – both based on documentary photographic images – his diary installation is a study in narration and is open to change.

As private books and authentic documents authored equally by professional writers and amateurs, diaries sit ambivalently on the threshold of literature and history. Their centuries-long tradition has given rise to many ways of constructing, documenting and revoking subjectivity. By blocking access to the contents of his enshrined, closed diaries, Peter Friedl invites the viewer to contemplate the multi-layered meaning of how aesthetic experience and imagination work. In an era of open access and ubiquitous surveillance, overabundant communication and information, the artist's "real allegory" takes on critically new importance. It questions the power of display and imagination, the drama of form and content as well as the fragility of autonomy.

*The Diaries* plays with notions of the anachronistic, precarious, and unfinished. Yet Friedl's installation subverts the myth of immediacy in order to offer an alternative composed of withdrawal, silence, and introspection. Simple, mundane activities such as reading and writing become tools and aids for potential resistance and emancipation.

As a visual prologue to the diary project, the exhibition will include a selection of Friedl's own childhood drawings from the 1960s. Like the notebooks, the authenticating medium of the drawing can be experienced as a piece of material culture.



## BIOGRAPHY

### PETER FRIEDL

Peter Friedl (born 1960) is an artist who lives in Berlin.

His work has been exhibited worldwide, including at Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid; Centre Pompidou, Paris; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; MoMA PS1, New York; Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven; and Hamburger Kunsthalle. He has participated in documenta X (1997) and documenta 12 (2007), the 48th Venice Biennale (1999), the 3rd Berlin Biennial for Contemporary Art (2004), the 2nd International Biennial of Contemporary Art, Seville (2006), Manifesta 7, Trento (2008), the 7th Gwangju Biennale (2008), the 28th Bienal de São Paulo (2008), La Triennale, Paris (2012), the Taipei Biennial (2012), and the 12th São Paulo Architecture Biennale (2013).

Selected solo exhibitions include: *OUT OF THE SHADOWS: what is written cannot be unwritten*, Witte de With, Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam (2004); the retrospective survey *Work 1964–2006*, Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona, Miami Art Central, Musée d'Art Contemporain de Marseille (2006–07); *Blow Job*, Extra City Kunsthall, Antwerp (2008); *Working*, Kunsthalle Basel (2008); *Peter Friedl*, Sala Rekalde, Bilbao (2010); *King Kong*, Le Lieu Unique, Nantes (2013); and *The Dramatist*, Artspace Auckland (2014).

Since the 1980s, Peter Friedl has published numerous essays and book projects such as *Four or Five Roses* (2004), *Working at Copan* (2007), and *Playgrounds* (2008). A large selection of his writings and interviews was published in 2010 by Sternberg Press under the title *Secret Modernity*.

## PRACTICAL DETAILS

Opening Friday 10 October, 6pm.  
Exhibition open 11 October 2014 - 1 February 2015.  
Opening Friday 10 October, 6pm.  
Wednesday-Saturday: 2-6pm, Sunday: 11am-6pm.  
Free entrance.  
Guided tour every Sunday at 4pm.

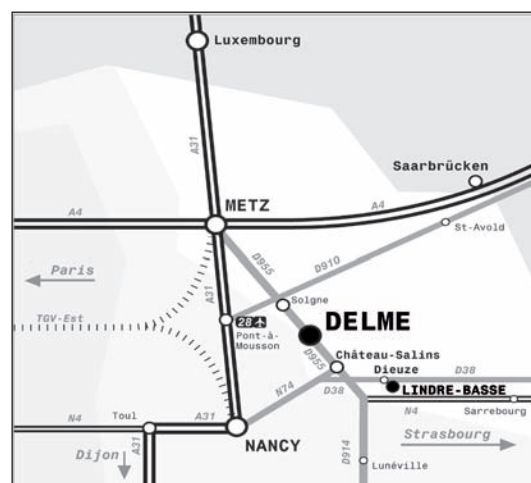
## LOCATION AND ACCES

Centre d'art contemporain la synagogue de Delme  
33 rue Poincaré 57590 Delme  
+33(0)3 87 01 43 42 / [cac.delme@wanadoo.fr](mailto:cac.delme@wanadoo.fr)  
[www.cac-synagoguedelme.org](http://www.cac-synagoguedelme.org)

FROM PARIS (by train 90 mins):  
TGV Est, get off at Metz or Nancy

FROM METZ (by car, 30 mins):  
D955, formerly route de Strasbourg

FROM NANCY (by car, 30 mins):  
N74 towards Château-Salins  
then D955 towards Metz



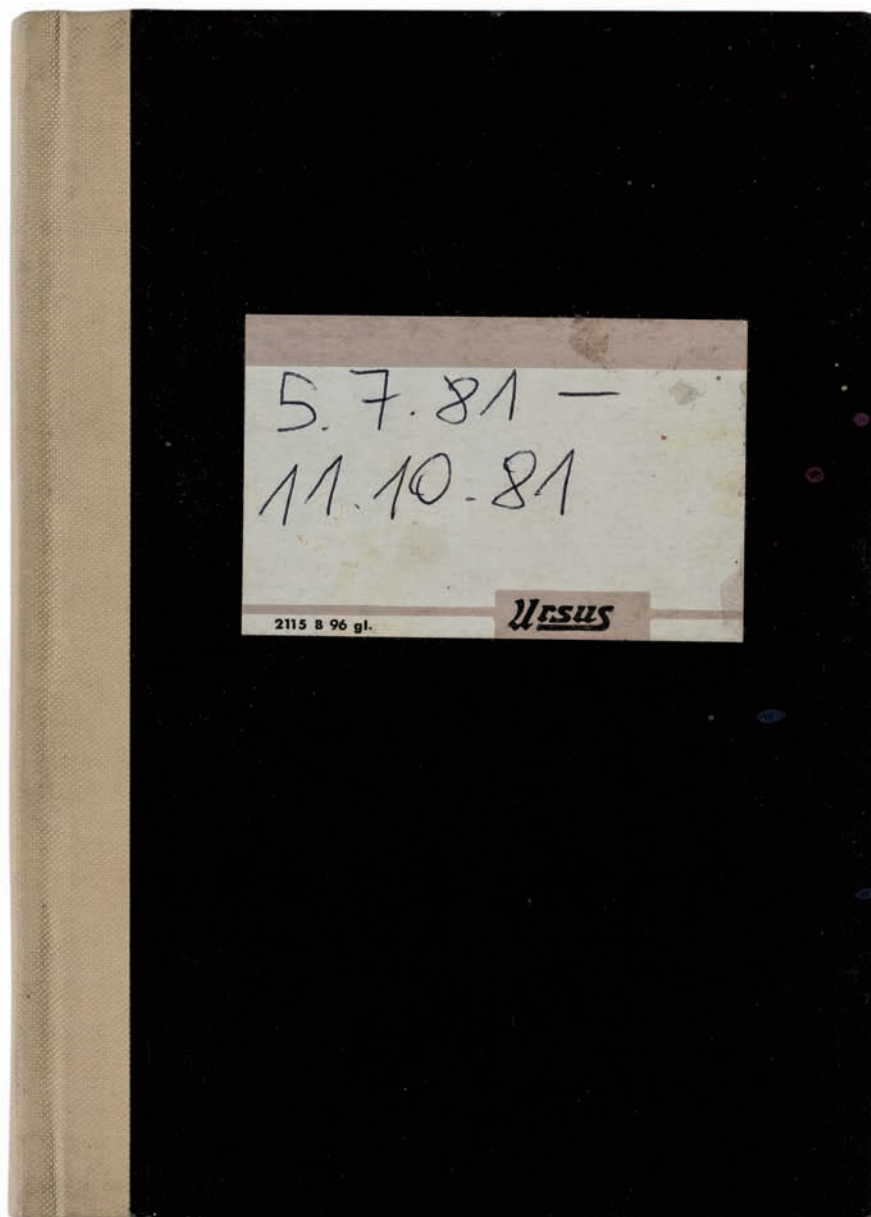
## PRESS

Pierre Viellard  
[communication@cac-synagoguedelme.org](mailto:communication@cac-synagoguedelme.org)  
+33(0)3 87 01 43 42  
Visuals available on request

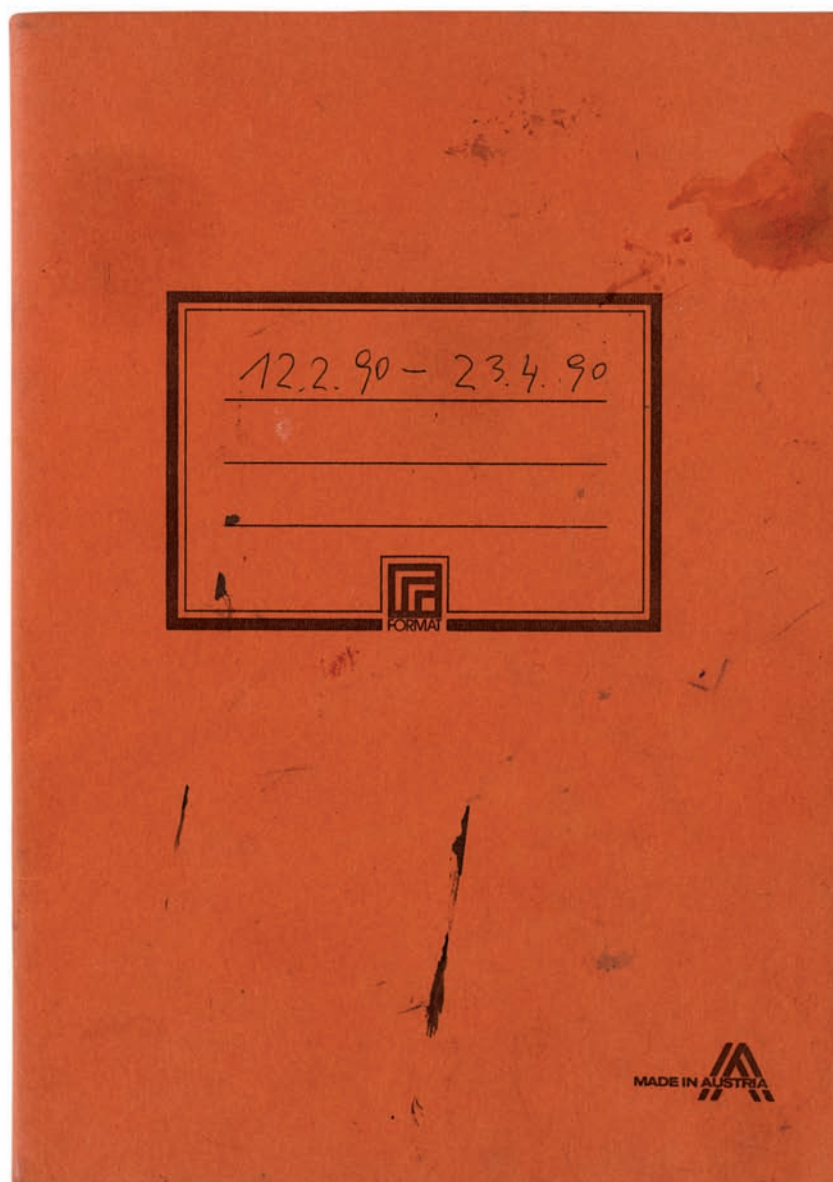


## VISUALS AVAILABLE FOR PRESS

All the images > Courtesy Peter Friedl

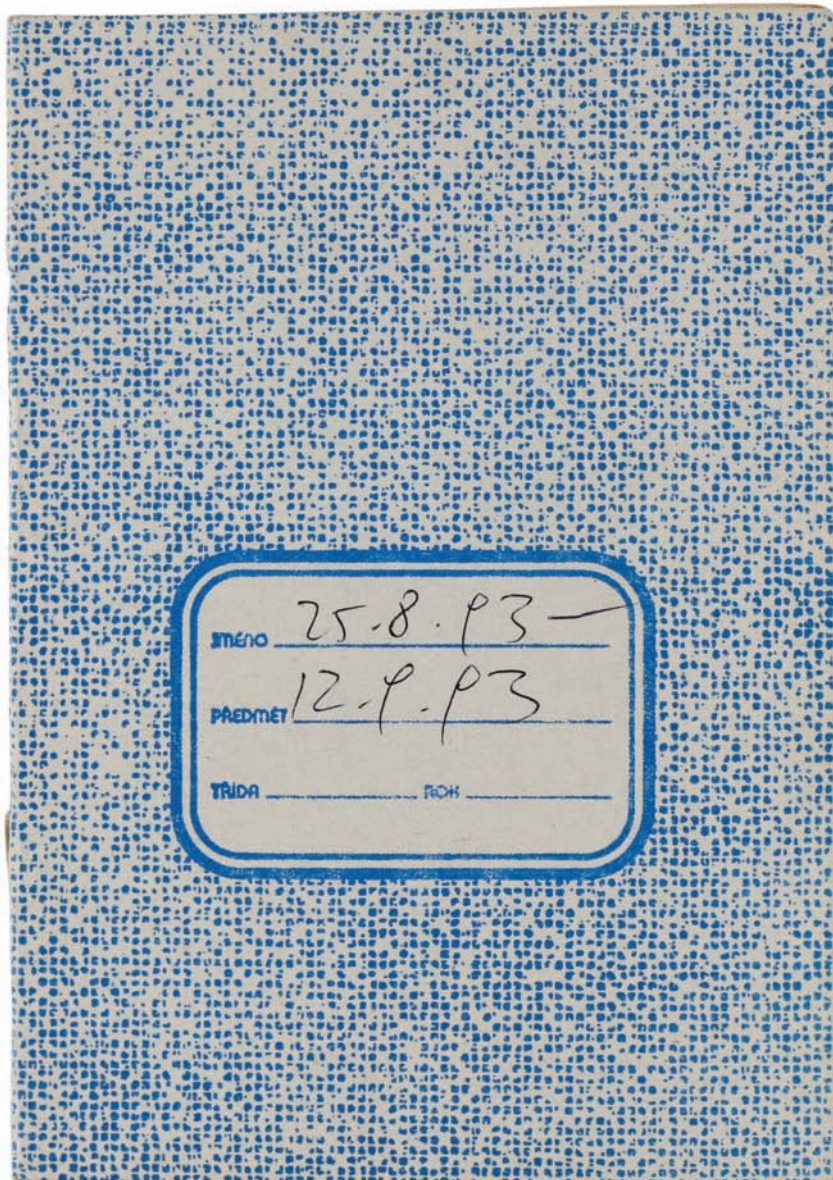


*The Diaries, 1981- 2014 (detail)*  
Courtesy Peter Friedl



*The Diaries, 1981- 2014 (detail)*  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl



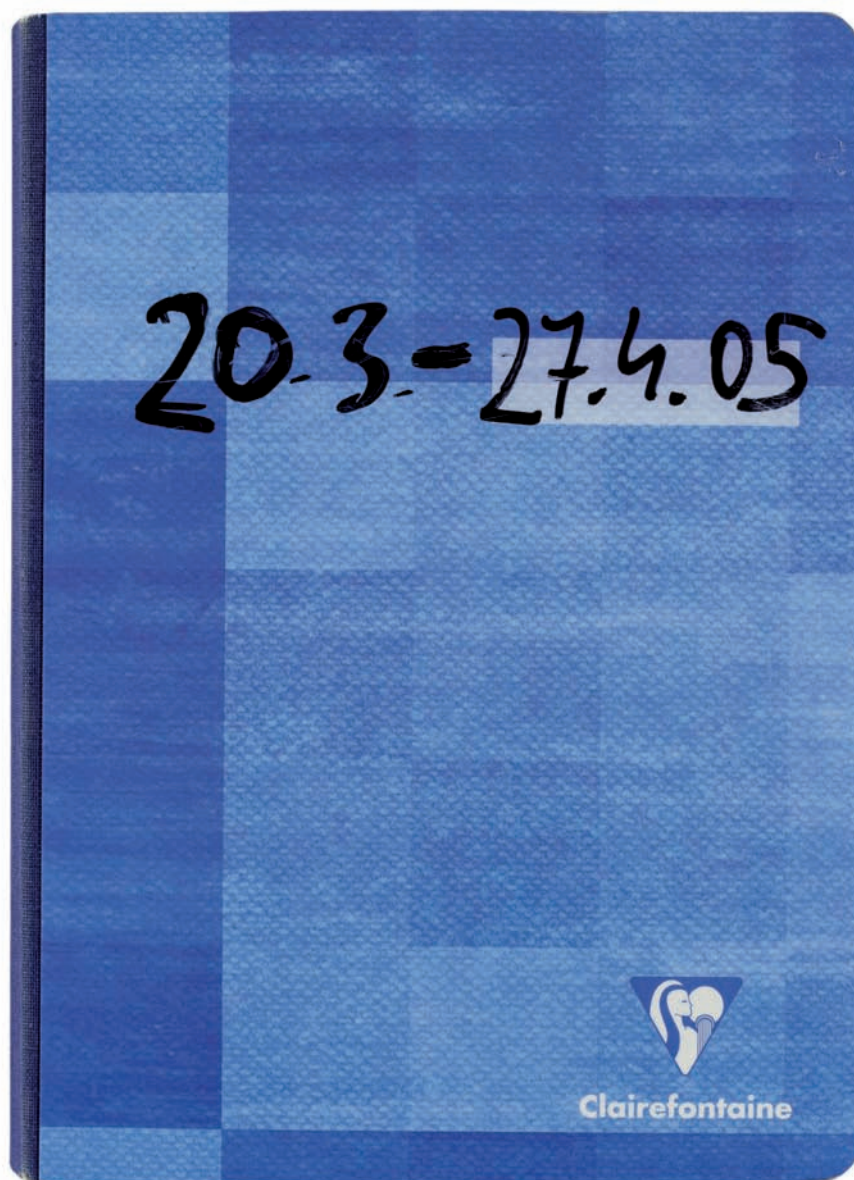


*The Diaries, 1981- 2014 (detail)*  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl



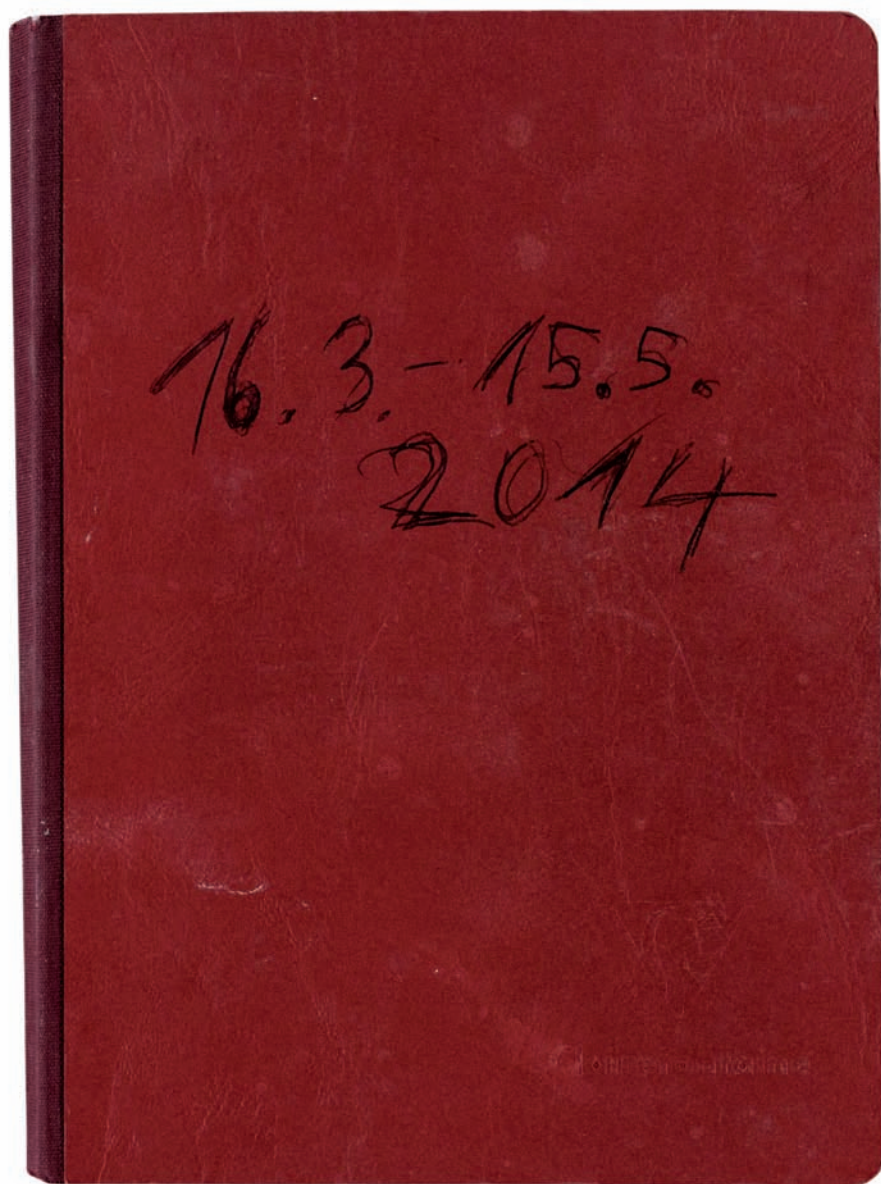
*The Diaries, 1981- 2014 (detail)*  
Courtesy Peter Friedl



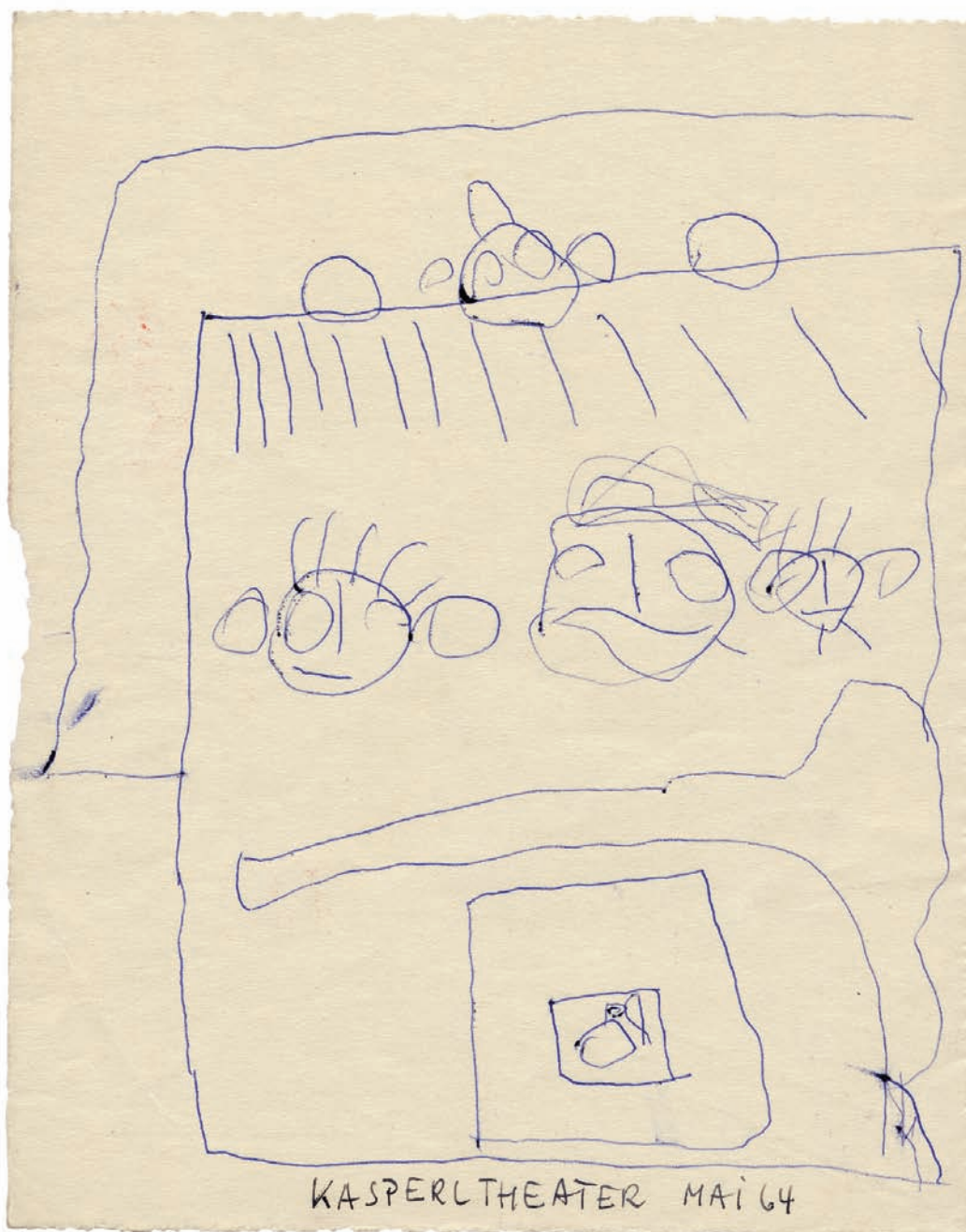


*The Diaries, 1981- 2014 (detail)*  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl





*The Diaries, 1981- 2014 (detail)*  
Courtesy Peter Friedl



*Untitled, 1964*  
 (May 1964)  
 Ballpoint pen on paper  
 24 x 19 cm  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl



*Untitled, 1964*  
 (November 1964)  
 Pencil, colored pencil on paper  
 14.9 x 19.9 cm  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl



*Untitled, 1965*  
 (23 April 1965)  
 Pencil, colored pencil on paper  
 21.3 x 29.7 cm  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl





*Untitled, 1966*  
 (15 February 1966)  
 Pencil, colored pencil on paper  
 29.7 x 42 cm  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl



*Untitled, 1968*  
 (30 November 1968)  
 Ballpoint pen on paper  
 29.7 x 42 cm  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl



*Playgrounds*, 1995–2014  
 Digitized color slides, 6 wall projections  
 Dimensions variable  
 Installation view Artspace, Auckland  
 Courtesy Peter Friedl  
 Photo: Sam Hartnett



*Theory of Justice*, 1992–2010  
 Newspaper clippings  
 16 display cases: steel, Plexiglas, painted plywood  
 100 x 160 x 75 cm each  
 Exhibition view Sala Rekalde, Bilbao, 2010  
 Collection Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid  
 Photo: Begoña Zubero

## UPCOMING EXHIBITION

JEAN-LUC GUIONNET - THOMAS TILLY  
Mid February - May 2015

## LINDRE-BASSE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

CAPUCINE VANDEBROUCK  
July - September 2014  
Open Studio 17 September 6.30 pm.

OPJ CYGANEK  
October - December 2014

RONAN LE CREURER  
March - May 2015

VINCENT CHEVILLON  
June - August 2015

## PUBLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE

### ERIC BAUDELAIRE - *Anabases*

Ed. Archive Books, Berlin. Coproduced with Gaswork, London ; Greta Meert Gallery, Brussels ; Juana de Aizpuru Gallery, Madrid ; CNAP - Centre National des Arts Plastiques  
With texts by Homa King, Jean-Pierre Rehm, Pierre Zaoui, Morad Montazami  
Graphic design by Regular  
32 euros

### ZBYNEK BALADRAN - *Dead Reckoning*

Ed. La Synagogue de Delme. Coproduced with Jocelyn Wolff Gallery.  
Texts by Zbynek Baladrán and François Piron.  
Graphic design by deValence.  
5 euros

## PUBLIC COMMISSION

### BERDAGUER & PÉJUS

#### *Gue(ho)st House*



*Gue(ho)st House*, public commission by Berdaguer & Péjus, 2012  
Synagogue de Delme Contemporary Art Centre  
© Adagp, Paris / photo OHDancy

Inaugurated on 22 September 2012, *Gue(ho)st House* is an architecture-sculpture made out of an existing building. It offers new visitor reception spaces dedicated to mediation and documentation, and allows everyone to prolong their visit to the exhibitions at the art centre.





## LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME CONTEMPORARY ART CENTRE



Photo : O.H.Dancy photographie

**Catherine Jacquat**  
President

**Marie Cozette**  
Director

**Pierre Viellard**  
Administrator and Media Relations  
Officer

**Emeline Socheleau**  
Visitor Service Officer

**Alain Colardelle**  
Registrar

The Centre for contemporary Art in Delme is located in a former synagogue, built in an Oriental style in the late nineteenth century. Not least among its special features are a dome, an arcaded entryway decorated with latticework, and windows with geometric stained glass.

The synagogue was partly destroyed during the Second World War. The outer walls survived, but the interior was rebuilt along stricter lines after the war. The synagogue was permanently de-consecrated in the early 1980s for lack of sufficient numbers of worshippers. The first art exhibition was held in 1993.

The many artists who have exhibited in this unusual venue in the past twenty years, generating an identity and reputation for the art center both locally and internationally, include: François Morellet, Daniel Buren, Tadashi Kawamata, Ann Veronica Janssens, Peter Downsbrough, Marc Camille Chaimowicz, Katinka Bock, Julien Prévieux, Gianni Motti, Yona Friedman, Eric Baudelaire, Chloé Maillet and Louise Hervé, Erik Beltran, Marie Cool and Fabio Balducci, Susan Hiller, Clément Rodzielski ... All have developed a special view of the venue by creating site specific works.

In addition to three or four temporary shows presented in the former synagogue every year, the Delme art center manages an artist-in-residence program in the village of Lindre-Basse in the heart of the Lorraine regional park area.

The Delme synagogue, of modest size and located in a rural region of Lorraine, has always positioned itself as an art lab, a site of artistic exploration and production. The art center makes a concerted effort to establish a dialogue with all potential audiences, focusing on the local area.

La synagogue de Delme Centre for Contemporary Art is a member of DCA-Association pour le Développement des Centres d'Art, Art en Résidence and Lora - Lorraine Art Contemporain.



La synagogue de Delme Centre for Contemporary Art is grateful for support from the French Ministry of Culture and Communication, the Lorraine contemporary art authority (DRAC), the regional and departmental governments of Lorraine and Moselle, and the municipality of Delme.

