



CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME

PRESS KIT



SHILPA GUPTA
DRAWING IN THE DARK

OPENING FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER, 6PM
EXHIBITION FROM 21 OCTOBER 2017 TO 18 FEBRUARY 2018

DRAWING IN THE DARK

Indian artist Shilpa Gupta presents the solo exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*. The title refers to the clandestine movements and practices in borderlands, and to the metaphor of the line or threshold that links several of the works on display here.

The show is part of Gupta's ongoing investigation into interrelations between structures, specifically those of the state and the individual, and their rescaling as encountered, at what is both frontier and periphery. Continuing her six years of ongoing research – specifically in the borderlands of India and Bangladesh – this new series of works is an extension of the *My East is Your West* project she developed for the 2015 Venice Biennale. In late 2016 Gupta returned to parts around the border fence that India is building, encircling its neighbor Bangladesh and that is notorious for being the world's longest separation barrier under construction between two nation states. However, says the artist, "daily life in the borderland belies state intentions and the flows of people and goods continue, prompted by historical and social affinities, geographical continuity and economic imperative".

Accompanying the central sculpture *24:00:01* (motion flapboard, 2010 -12) are a series of new pieces which can be seen as a collection of clandestine stories. The drawings, photos and sculptures draw a picture of the subversive, illegal and informal stream of goods, people and desires. An object wound with a shredded Dhakai Jamdani saree (traditional clothing), drawings made with marijuana and photo collages with spare motor parts carry narratives of unlisted journeys over a meandering map line.

What Gupta's work aims to provoke in the visitor, rather than a passive aesthetic experience, are questions. She initiates a dialogue on the perception and construction of identity, and on those notions that exercise an influence over these processes: nationality, technology, religion, borders, conflicts, control or censorship: "I am interested in perception and therefore, with how definitions get stretched or trespassed, be it by gender, beliefs, or the notion of a nation. There exists a chasm between the larger construct which seeks singularity, and its own fragment which may not. Markings and measuring, seemingly logical acts may not necessarily provide solutions" (Shilpa Gupta in Indian Express, 2016).

In the borderlands Gupta evokes with *Drawing in the Dark*, our apparently rigorous laws reveal themselves as in constant motion and subject to debate. The fringe area is shown as a stretch of no man's land where practices and narratives develop "in the dark", or as a parallel circuit of goods that operates "invisibly" before the authorities' eyes. The "law" of each identity is replaced here by a set of conditional rules, freeing up mental and experimental space in which to question ourselves.

Drawing in the Dark is a new collaboration between three European art centres: the exhibition is co-produced with KIOSK in Ghent, Belgium and the Bielefelder Kunstverein in Germany.

Drawing in the Dark was presented from 11 February to 16 April 2017 at KIOSK and from 29 April to 16 July 2017 at the Bielefelder Kunstverein.

KIOSK



BIELEFELDER KUNSTVEREIN

This exhibition was made with the support of Galleria Continua and Dvir gallery.



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33 rue Poincaré F - 57590 Delme / +33 (0)3 87 01 43 42 / www.cac-synagoguedelme.org / info@cac-synagoguedelme.org

VISUALS AVAILABLE FOR THE PRESS



Shilpa Gupta, 1:444557, 2017, steel, brass plate.
View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.



Shilpa Gupta, 1:384943, 2017, steel, brass plate.
View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017.
Photo: Fanny Larcher-Collin.

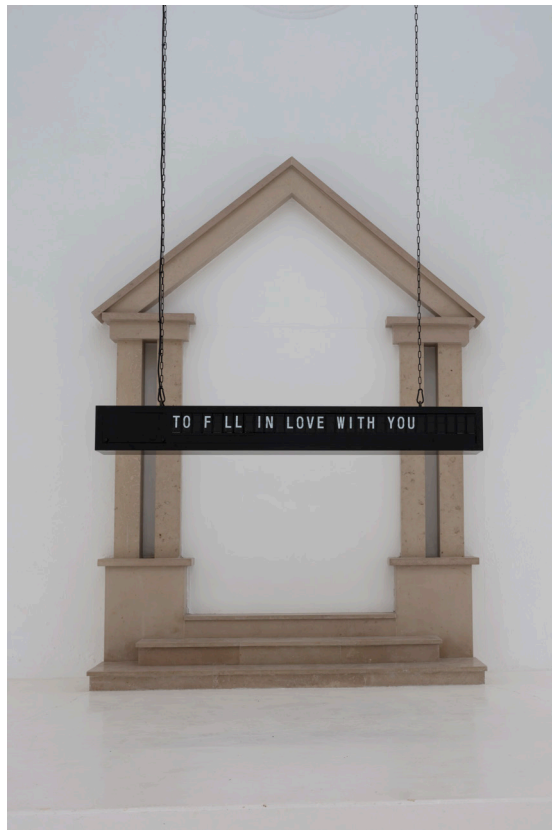




Shilpa Gupta, *Map Tracing # 5 – FR*, 2017, copper pipe.
View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.



Shilpa Gupta, *Map Tracing # 5 – FR*, 2017, copper pipe.
View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.



Shilpa Gupta, 24:00:01, 2010-12, flapboard.

Courtesy: Shilpa Gupta et Galerie CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins / Habana.
View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.



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Shilpa Gupta.
View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.



Shilpa Gupta, *Unnoticed*, 2017, C-print mounted on dibond, fragmented spare motor parts.
Courtesy : Shilpa Gupta et Galerie CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins / Habana.
View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.





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Shilpa Gupta, *Untitled*, 2017, Paper, pigment from marijuana.

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View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.



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View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.





Shilpa Gupta, *Untitled* [Sans titre], 2017, papier, pigment extrait de marijuana. Courtesy : Shilpa Gupta et Galerie CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins / Habana.
 Vue de l'exposition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo : O.H. Dancy.



Shilpa Gupta, *Untitled*, 2017, Paper, pigment from marijuana.
 Courtesy: Shilpa Gupta et Galerie CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins / Habana.
 View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.





Shilpa Gupta, *1:2138*, 2017, Vitrine, brass plate, shredded garment, 56 x 51 x 157,5 cm.
 Courtesy: Shilpa Gupta and Galerie CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins / Habana. View of
 the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: Fanny Larcher-Collin.



Shilpa Gupta, *1:2138*, 2017, Vitrine, brass plate, shredded garment, 56 x 51 x 157,5 cm.
 Courtesy: Shilpa Gupta and Galerie CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins / Habana. View of
 the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: Fanny Larcher-Collin.





Shilpa Gupta, *Song of the Ground*, 2017, Mechanical system, stones.

Courtesy : Shilpa Gupta et Galerie CONTINUA, San Gimignano / Beijing / Les Moulins / Habana.

View of the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark*, CAC - la synagogue de Delme, 2017. Photo: O.H. Dancy.



RELATED EVENTS

ART BUS EVENT / IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LoRA - LORRAINE ART CONTEMPORAIN

Saturday 28 October 2017 – GUIDED TOUR AT 11:30am

LoRA-Lorraine Réseau Art is inviting artist Morgane Britscher to make stops along the roads of Lorraine and introduce us to a selection of contemporary art exhibitions in Metz, Delme, Meisenthal, Saint-Louis-lès-Bitche and Bitche

Reservation required: contact@lora.fr / 06 43 83 65 50 / 5 euros

TEACHER MEETING

Thursday 9 November 2017 at 4:30pm

Teachers will be welcomed by Camille Grasser, head of visitor services, for an introduction to

the exhibition *Drawing in the Dark* and the *Gue(ho)st House*, a public commission by Christophe

Berdaguer and Marie Péjus.

ANIMAL K CONCERT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH EUROPEAN DAYS OF JEWISH CULTURE

Sunday 12 November at 3pm - Gue(ho)st House

Animal K is the meeting of Marie-Suzanne de Loye's baroque viola de gamba and Violaine Lochu's protean voice. These eclectic musicians join forces for a decompartmentalised exploration of the Jewish musical repertoire of Central Europe and the Mediterranean Basin. Free admission.

DUO-VISIT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CONSERVATOIRE D'ESPACES NATURELS DE LORRAINE

Date to be confirmed

Discover the exhibition in the company of Camille Grasser, head of visitor services at the art centre, then discover the Côte de Delme, regional natural reserve, with Thierry Gydé, head of nature activities at the CEN Lorraine. An extensive stroll through local history. Meet at 4pm at the CAC – Synagogue de Delme. Free. Reservation required.

“BIG IDEAS SMALL HANDS” WORKSHOPS > FOR CHILDREN AGED 6-11 > 2pm to 5pm

Wednesday 8 November 2017

Wednesday 13 December 2017

Wednesday 7 February 2018

Led by Camille Grasser, head of visitor services, and artist Katia Mourer, these workshops allow children to discover the current exhibition through a playful, concrete approach to the

exhibited works. Free. Reservation required.

PLAY-WORKSHOP > CHILDREN AGED 7 and up > 3pm to 4:30pm

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MÉDIATHÈQUE DE DELME

Wednesday 17 January 2018

Free. Reservation required with the Médiathèque: 03 87 01 39 91.

HAND-IN-HAND WORKSHOP > PARENTS AND CHILDREN > 3pm to 4pm

Saturday 27 January 2018

For children aged 5 to 12 accompanied by their parents. The art centre is offering a workshop

for children and their parents! Little ones and bigger ones can come and share a convivial moment playfully discovering works of art. Free. Reservation required.



LINDRE-BASSE RESIDENCY

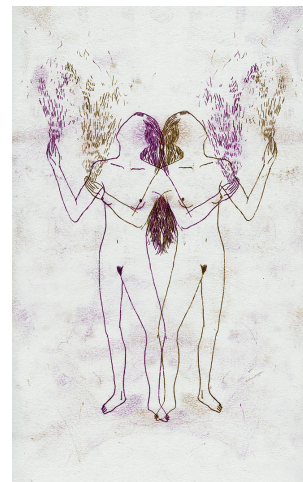
COMPAGNIE LA BRÈCHE - AURÉLIE GANDIT

September - November 2017

Open studio on 29th November at 6.30pm

10b rue des cigognes - 57260 Lindre-Basse

The company La Brèche - Aurélie Gandit is conducting research on spiritual feminist practices. This will give rise to a stage performance in 2018 entitled *Perchée dans les arbres*.

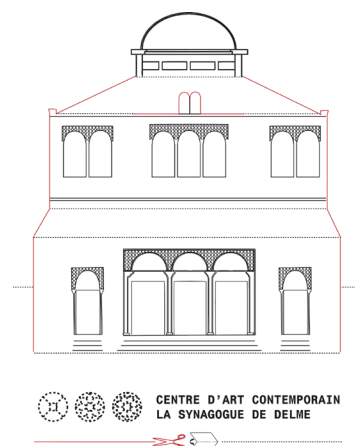


GUE(HO)ST HOUSE

EXHIBITION LA MAQUETTE > DU 29/11/17 AU 21/01/17

In partnership with Master Professionnel arts de l'exposition et scénographies - Université de Lorraine.

As part of their tutorial classes about model and architectural project, the students imagined various exhibitions for the synagogue of Delme. The exhibition at the Gue(ho)st House gathers eight models for eight dreamed exhibitions.



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 visitor reception spaces dedicated to mediation and documentation, and allows everyone to prolong their visit to the exhibitions at the art centre.



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CAC - LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME



Photo : O.H.Dancy

Catherine Jacquat
Chair

Marie Cozette
Director

Fanny Larcher-Collin
Administration and communication

Camille Grasser
Educational services and reception

Alain Colardelle
Production manager and head technician

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.
Art Contemporain.

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 Réseau Art contemporain and Arts en résidence - French national network.



The CAC - la synagogue de Delme receives the support from:



Picture on the front page :
Shilpa Gupta, *Unnoticed*, 2017. Photo : O.H. Dancy.



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