

EXHIBITION HIPPOLYTE HENTGEN OVERLAY

FROM FEBRUARY 7 TO JUNE 18, 2018

Opening on Tuesday, February 6, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

LA GRANDE PLACE, MUSÉE DU CRISTAL SAINT-LOUIS
SAINT-LOUIS-LÈS-BITCHE

This solo exhibition of the French duo Hippolyte Hentgen at La Grande Place, musée du cristal Saint-Louis, in Saint-Louis-lès-Bitche (Moselle, France) is produced by the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, as part of its continuing support for temporary exhibitions at the Foundation's own art spaces (in Brussels, Singapore, Seoul and Tokyo).

Each year, the Foundation presents two exhibitions of contemporary art at Saint-Louis, with a focus on artisanship and/or skilled expertise. Each season of three monographic or themed exhibitions is co-produced with a leading cultural institution in the Lorraine region, in association with the cristallerie Saint-Louis and La Grande Place, Musée du Cristal Saint-Louis. Following the inaugural and follow-up seasons, in partnership with the Centre Pompidou-Metz and 49 Nord 6 Est – Frac Lorraine (Metz), the Foundation has invited the Moselle-based contemporary arts centre - la synagogue de Delme to devise the third cycle of exhibitions.

Under the title *L'héritage des secrets* ('The heritage of secrets') Marie Cozette, director of CAC - la synagogue de Delme, has devised a series of three exhibitions exploring the historical, architectural, aesthetic, technical and human facets of the crystal workshops, over their four-hundred-year existence. As Marie Cozette explains: "The guest artists for the series – art duo Hippolyte Hentgen, Thu Van Tran, and Dominique Ghesquière – have immersed themselves in the unique world of the cristallerie, to create new works that seek to diffract meaning, just as crystal diffracts the light."

"For their exhibition at La Grande Place, musée du cristal Saint-Louis, artist duo Hippolyte Hentgen have created a panorama tailored to the scale of the setting. The visual and choral installation enters into the multi-faceted world of the cristallerie [...] Hippolyte Hentgen draws on a broad range of materials and means to pay a deceptively simple tribute to the multiplicity of gestures, expertise and techniques that attend the birth of each object manufactured at the workshops."

GUEST ARTISTS

GAËLLE HIPPOLYTE

b. 1977 in Perpignan (France)

Lives and works in Paris (France)

LINA HENTGEN

b. 1980 in Clermont-Ferrand (France)

Lives and works in Paris (France)



“Gaëlle Hippolyte and Lina Hentgen have worked together for ten years as Hippolyte Hentgen, a third personality with absolute stylistic and expressive freedom. Besides drawing, at which both excel, their work features sculpture, objects for the stage, and animated films, developed over a number of years.

Hippolyte Hentgen deploys an infinitely varied vocabulary of forms, drawing on popular culture, press cartoons, animated films, posters from the inter-war years, anonymous photographs, advertising bills, packaging and more: ephemera from the margins of History, products of our industrial society and the mechanical mass-reproduction of images. Hippolyte Hentgen imbues these frequently orphaned, ‘un-authored’ images with a new life and soul, through the use of collage, overlay, cut-outs and visual borrowings.

For their exhibition at La Grande Place, musée du cristal Saint-Louis, the duo have created a panorama tailored to the scale of the setting, a visual and choral installation that enters into the multi-faceted world of the cristallerie: the shape of the tools, the surrounding landscape, the crystal colours obtained at the workshops through the addition of metallic oxides, the rejects destined for recycling or destruction, the catalogues of shapes preserved in the workshop archives, diagrams annotated by the artisan engravers, gilders, and polishers.

Hippolyte Hentgen draws on multiple materials and means to pay a vibrant, deceptively simple tribute to the multiplicity of gestures, expertise and techniques that attend the birth of each object produced at the workshops. In so doing, the duo’s work boldly and deftly bridges ‘high’ and popular culture, excellence and abject failure in an approach conceived as a continuous challenge to established hierarchies and a permanent dialogue between ‘good’ and ‘bad’ taste, the high and the low, the margins and the centre.”

Curator: Marie Cozette,
Director, CAC - la synagogue de Delme

ABOUT L’HÉRITAGE DES SECRETS – A cycle of three monographic exhibitions devised by the CAC - la synagogue de Delme and La Grande Place, musée du cristal Saint-Louis

“Imagine for a moment that the colourful, sparkling carafes, vases, and *millefiori* paperweights that line the shelves of the museum are the products of magic, divination or witchcraft. In this context, they would stand as the archaeological record of past rites whose origins and secrets we have yet to discover: a mystery to which three successive artists will each offer their own, poetic solution, opening the doors to further mysteries along the way...”

“*L’héritage des secrets* is a series of three monographic exhibitions exploring the historical, architectural, aesthetic, technical and human facets of the museum and the workshop it celebrates, over the four-hundred years of its existence. In the neighbouring workshops that are the beating heart of the complex, artisan expertise is handed down from one generation to the next, through skilled gestures acquired over the course of a lengthy initiation. The guest artists have immersed themselves in the unique world of the cristallerie, to create new works that seek to diffract meaning, just as crystal diffracts the line.”



GUEST ARTISTS

HIPPOLYTE HENTGEN is an art duo comprising **GAËLLE HIPPOLYTE** (b. Perpignan, 1977) and **LINA HENTGEN** (b. Clermont Ferrand, 1980), active since 2007. Both artists live and work in Paris. The duo has staged numerous monographic exhibitions in recent years, including La Box in Bourges, La Traverse in Alfortville, the Musée de l'Abbaye de Sainte-Croix in Les-Sables-d'Olonne, the Artothèque in Pessac, the chapel of the Genêteil in Château-Gontier, Emba/Galerie Édouard Manet in Gennevilliers, and the Parvis in Ibos (France). In 2018, the duo will feature at the Printemps de Septembre in Toulouse, and in residence at the Villa Kujoyama in Kyoto (Japan). The artists are represented by Semiose galerie (Paris).

hippolytehentgen.tumblr.com



Hippolyte Hentgen © Bruno Fert



PRESS IMAGES

Hi-resolution images available for download at www.fondationentreprisehermes.org/en/press-room (password on request). Views of the exhibition will be available after the opening.



Hippolyte Hentgen, *Document series*, 2015
Collage on paper, 47 x 49 cm
Photo: R. Fanuele – Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris



Hippolyte Hentgen, *Overlay*, 2017
© Hippolyte Hentgen – courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris



Hippolyte Hentgen, *Documents 3*, 2015
Mixed media, 43,5 x 50 cm
Photo: R. Fanuele – Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris



Hippolyte Hentgen, *Untitled*, 2016
Collage on paper, 31 x 29 cm
Photo: A. Mole – Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris



Hippolyte Hentgen, *Document series*, 2016
Collage on paper, 36 x 34,4 cm
Photo: A. Mole – Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris





Hippolyte Hentgen, From *the resistants* series, 2016
Ink on paper, 160 x 120 cm
Photo: A. Mole – Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris



Hippolyte Hentgen, *Untitled*, 2016
Acrylic on paper, 35 x 28,5 cm
Photo: A. Mole – Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris



Hippolyte Hentgen
Photo: Bruno Fert



Hippolyte Hentgen, *Untitled*, 2016
Acrylic on paper, 31,5 x 23 cm
Photo: A. Mole – Courtesy Semiose galerie, Paris



SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FONDATION D'ENTREPRISE HERMÈS

EXHIBITION *LES MAINS SANS SOMMEIL*

Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France
November 24, 2017 – January 7, 2018

MANUFACTO PROGRAMME, *THE FACTORY SKILLS*

First full year in twenty schools across France
October 2017 – June 2018

PUBLICATION *CAHIERS DE RÉSIDENCES* BIANCA ARGIMON, LUCIA BRU, ANASTASIA DOUKA

Co-published with Actes Sud
October 2017

EXHIBITION NORIKO AMBE *(UN)FILTERED REFLECTIONS*

Aloft at Hermès, Singapore
November 22, 2017 – February 11, 2018

EXHIBITION ROSA MARIA UNDA SOUKI *ON THE CORNER OF LONDRES AND ALLENDE STREETS (1938-1954)*

Atelier Hermès, Seoul, South Korea
December 7, 2017 – February 4, 2018

EXHIBITION FUJIKO & UKICHIRO NAKAYA *GREENLAND*

Le Forum, Tokyo, Japan
December 22, 2017 – March 4, 2018

EXHIBITION JEAN-LUC MOULÈNE *EN ANGLE MORT*

La Verrière, Brussels, Belgium
January 19 – March 31, 2018

IMMERSION PROGRAMME EXHIBITION TAYSIR BATNIJI *HOME AWAY FROM HOME*

Aperture Gallery, New York, USA
March 15 – May 10, 2018

ARTISTS' RESIDENCIES PROGRAMME, 3RD CYCLE

3 artists in residence in Hermès workshops
1st Semester 2018



FONDATION D'ENTREPRISE HERMÈS

The Fondation d'entreprise Hermès supports men and women seeking to learn, perfect, transmit and celebrate the creative skills that shape our lives today and into the future. The Foundation operates eight major programmes centred on skills, creativity and transmission: **New Settings** for the performing arts, **Exhibitions** and **Artists' residencies** for the visual arts, **Immersion** for photography, **Manufacto – the Skills Factory** and its **Skills Academy** for the discovery and perfection of artisan trades. **H³** is the Foundation's worldwide programme of support for organisations whose work reflects these central aims. Our **Biodiversity** programme enacts a core commitment to protect fragile ecosystems for future generations. The Foundation's diverse activities are governed by a single, over-arching belief: *Our gestures define us.* • www.fondationentreprisehermes.org

THE MANUFACTURE DE SAINT-LOUIS AND LA GRANDE PLACE, MUSÉE DU CRISTAL SAINT-LOUIS

Founded in 1586, the Müntzthal glassworks became France's 'Verrerie royale' in 1767, when the factory received letters of patent from Louis XV, and changed its name to the Verrerie Saint-Louis. The secrets of crystal-making were discovered at the workshop in 1781. The factory joined the Hermès Group in 1989. Every day, Saint-Louis produces signature crystal wares – tableware, decorative objects, lighting and furniture – created by master glass-workers and glass-cutters, many of whom are ranked Meilleurs Ouvriers de France. All are the custodians of unique, ancestral expertise, handed down and enriched from generation to generation. All Saint-Louis crystal is blown, shaped and decorated by hand, in 24-carat gold or platinum. Opened in 2007 at the heart of the workshop complex, La Grande Place, musée du cristal Saint-Louis, presents a permanent collection of some two thousand fascinating and beautiful objects, illustrating four centuries of technical innovation and artistic creativity at the site.

Guided tours of the *Manufacture Saint-Louis*

Beginning at the musée du cristal Saint-Louis, in the company of an expert workshop guide, the detailed tour introduces visitors to each of the skilled artisan trades that are the bedrock of Saint-Louis's international renown: master glass-workers shape objects from the molten crystal, followed by the work of the master glass-cutters, engravers and gilders. The tour includes a visit to the paper-weight workshops, to discover the fascinating world of these remarkable objects, beloved and collected by the French writer Colette. The visit continues with an overview of the contemporary collections, continuing the factory's centuries-old tradition of creativity and innovation through the work of in-house and guest designers such as French artist Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance. The chandelier workshops bring the visit to a dazzling conclusion. Throughout the guided tour, visitors are able to observe at close quarters the work of leading artisans, including several Meilleur Ouvriers de France.

Guided group tours (advance bookings only): Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Duration: 90 minutes (FR, DE, EN)

Closed mid-July to mid-August, Christmas, New Year and public holidays

Bookings: +33 3 87 06 64 70 – lagrandeplace@saint-louis.com

• lagrandeplace.fr

LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME

Over twenty-five years, the Moselle-based contemporary arts centre – la synagogue de Delme has mounted over 60 exhibitions and developed a strong identity as an innovative, experimental workshop and venue. Artists are invited to work on specific projects, and works are often produced *in situ*. The unusual space – a former synagogue in an Orientalist style, built in 1881 to serve a small town of 1,000 people in a rural area 35 kilometres from Metz and Nancy – stages three or four exhibitions each year.

Parallel to its programme of exhibitions, the art centre runs artists' residencies in the village of Lindre-Basse, hosting three artists per year, each for a period of three months. The artists create new projects that resonate with the surrounding landscape, and the Lorraine region's Natural Park area.

In 2012, the centre opened an additional space dedicated to cultural and teaching activities. Following an open competition, the building – a public commission – was designed by artists Berdaguer and Péjus.

• www.cac-synagoguedelme.org



VISITOR INFORMATION

LA GRANDE PLACE, MUSÉE DU CRISTAL SAINT-LOUIS

Rue Coëtlosquet 57620 Saint-Louis-lès-Bitche

Open to the public from February 7 to June 18, 2018.

Daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except Tuesday.

Free admission with a valid museum ticket (tarifs: 6€, 3€), or with a combined ticket for the museum and the Manufacture de Saint-Louis (tarifs: 17€, 10€)

Information: +33 3 87 06 40 04 or lagrandeplace@saint-louis.com

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