

CAMILLE BLATRIX

Weather Stork Point



CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN
LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME

PRESS RELEASE

CAMILLE BLATRIX
Weather Stork Point

EXHIBITION FROM SEPTEMBER 25TH 2021 TO JANUARY 30TH 2022

OPENING FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 24th FROM 6PM ATTENDED BY THE ARTIST

This exhibition is co-produced with the Kunsthalle Basel where was presented Camille Blatrix' solo exhibition Standby Mice Station from January 17th to March 15th, 2020.

The CAC – la synagogue de Delme and Camille Blatrix would like to thank Elena Filipovic and Basel Kunsthalle's team ; Marine Sainsily ; Thomas Boutoux and Paraguay Press ; Balice Hertling, Paris ; Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York ; Guillaume Trap, scientific director at Luxembourg Science Center ; Yorick Simon ; Hugo Benayoun Bost ; Se-Lyung Moon ; Thibaud Schneider and Julien Matoska; the municipal employees of Delme.



Camille Blatrix creates environments filled with sculptures and inlaid objects whose origins of fabrication often remain ambivalent: his artworks emerge as hybrid beings/machines that aim to synthesise abstract ideas and intimate romances, artisanal techniques and a fascination for high-tech design, a dreamlike imagination and hermetic materiality. He creates incoherent objects, with indeterminate functions that nevertheless give rise to an impression of déjà-vu.

His works often aim to activate a given space that, while usually neutralised and sanitised to showcase the artworks (sometimes neglecting the psychological comfort of the viewer), also enable the artist to transform it as he sees fit. Inspired by the start-up aesthetics of GAFA or international corporations and their promises of a warm public space for users, intended to make them feel at home, Camille Blatrix proposes a different, more sensitive and lively approach to accommodating the theoretical impasse of the white cube. The artist's exhibitions and projects thus disseminate a familiar futurist atmosphere, a parallel temporality in which intimacy and well-being maintain a constant struggle with the exhibition space, often perceived as exclusive, uncomfortable, and representative of institutional power or that of the market. We therefore encounter here "machines" endowed with souls, staging the typical scenarios of romantic comedies or children's stories with their archetypal characters – the unfortunate, the happy, the joker, the presumptuous, or the jilted lover – but also anecdotes corresponding to his family life. This is how his artworks talk, flash, standby, come to life, and disseminate powerful emotional charges in order to express their need for recognition, their thirst for living and for being perceived as alive, by removing themselves as best they can from their muted, mechanical envelope.

Entitled *Weather Stork Point*, his project presented at CAC – la synagogue de Delme has travelled a long way and it is after this long journey full of transitions from one dimension to another, that his artworks have finally traversed the ark of the synagogue to occupy the venue. After their exhibition at the Kunsthalle Basel in early 2020, the latter were trapped in various space-times, preventing them from reaching their destination, and delaying the date of their exhibition in Delme. The cabin animated by an oscillating glimmer houses the space of the exhibition at the Kunsthalle, at the end of which visitors found themselves in front of a mirror, hung on a wall preventing access to a mysterious room. This hidden room here turns out to be the space of the Synagogue de Delme, from which a window provides a glimpse of the exhibition space in Basel, as though the visitor were suddenly on the other side of the mirror, over a year ago. Each artwork presented is a character in this story of ambling through uncertainty: we find an orientation point, schematized animals (mouse, swan, crocodile, etc.), a games table for children, and various objects with unknown functions. The painted spirals come from marquetry designs exhibited in Basel, and here feature trans-dimensional thoroughfares. *Weather Stork Point* thus presents the culmination of a long period of waiting, filled with hope and despair, laughter and tears, depression and enthusiasm, and operates as an ultra-compressed synthesis of this array of fleeting emotions.

The exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix will be accompanied by a publication by Paraguay Press, edited in partnership with the Kunsthalle Basel, the Balice-Hertling Gallery, and enjoys the support of the CNAP.

Translated by Anna Knight



CAMILLE BLATRIX'S BIOGRAPHY

Camille Blatrix (France, 1984) lives and works in Paris. He graduated from École nationale supérieure des beaux-arts de Paris.

His work has been exhibited on the occasion of solo shows at Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York ; Kunsthalle Basel ; la Verrière Hermès, Brussels ; Lafayette Anticipation, Paris ; Kunstverein, Braunschweig ; Balice Hertling, Paris ; Bad Reputation, Los Angeles ; CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco ; Mostyn, Llandudno (UK) ; Gasconade, Milan... and featured in duo and group shows at Stuart Shave - Modern Art, London ; Kunstmuseum St. Gallen ; Gallery Plan B, Berlin ; Fri Art, Fribourg ; Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris ; la Verrière Hermès, Brussels ; Hessel Museum of Art and at CCS Bard Galleries, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York ; Musée Régional d'Art Contemporain, Sérignan ; Andrew Kreps Gallery, New York ; Villa Medici, Rome ; Museo el Eco, Mexico ; Biennale de Rennes ; Le Plateau, FRAC Île-de-France, Paris ; Bodega, New York ; Alison Jacques Gallery, London ; Biennale de Lyon ; Goton & Edouard Montassut, Paris ; Palais de Tokyo, Paris ; Sculpture Center, New York ; Fondation d'entreprise Ricard, Paris ; Balice Hertling, Paris...

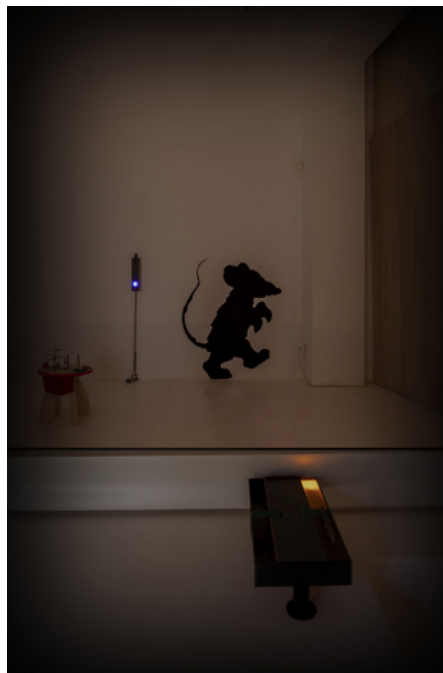


PRESS IMAGES

HD visuals can be downloaded from the press page at www.cac-synagoguedelme.org (username and password provided upon request).



View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *Two candles (Veritas)*, 2021.
Sapelli, wooden marquetry, resin, plexiglass, 110 x 60 cm.
Camille Blatrix, *Stork*, 2020.
Electronic component, plastic, plexiglass, resin, rubber, stainless steel, 129.5 x 15 x 12 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *Two candles (Veritas)*, 2021.
Sapelli, wooden marquetry, resin, plexiglass, 110 x 60 cm.
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View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *They play We play (Javier/ Sabine)*, 2021. Maple, resin, plexiglass, LED system, Ø 60 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *They play We play (Javier/ Sabine)*, 2021. Maple, resin, plexiglass, LED system, Ø 60 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *They play We play*, 2021. Aluminum furniture, maple, resin, 120 x 70 x 28 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.





Camille Blatrix, *They play We play*, 2021. Aluminum furniture, maple, resin, 120 x 70 x 28 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *Weather Stork Point*, 2020. Electronic component, feather, maple, wooden marquetry, painted foam, plastic, PVC fabric, resin, stainless steel, wood, 20 cm height Ø 150 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



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Photo: OH Dancy.



View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *They play We play*, 2021. Maple, stainless steel, resin, Ø 50 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *The guy at the end of the movie*, 2021. Maple, wooden marquetry, 35 x 50 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *Croc*, 2021. Resin, Ø 15 x 10 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



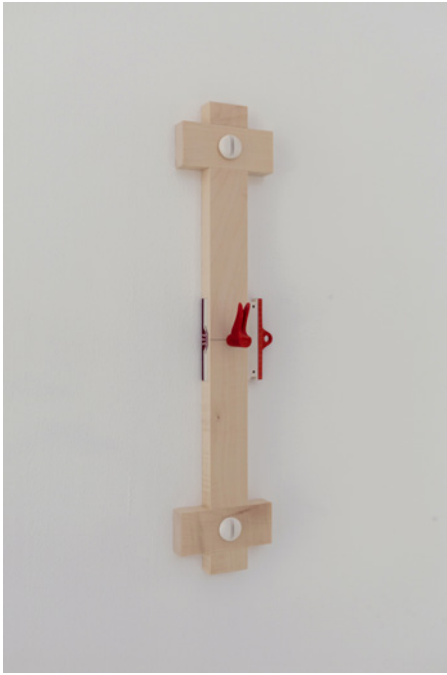
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, 🤨, 2021. Japanese soda bottle, silver,
 Ø 6 x 19 cm.
 View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
 Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *Waiting for someone*, 2021. Maple, resin,
 plexiglass, 50 x 12 x 5 cm.
 View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix,
 CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
 Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, *Waiting for someone*, 2021. Maple, resin, plexiglass, 50 x 12 x 5 cm.
View of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point* by Camille Blatrix, CAC-La synagogue de Delme, 2021.
Photo: OH Dancy.



Camille Blatrix, 🙄, 2021. Japanese soda bottle, silver, Ø 6 x 19 cm.
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Photo: OH Dancy.

TOURS

GUIDED TOUR BY BENOÎT LAMY DE LA CHAPELLE, DIRECTOR OF THE ART CENTER

Saturday, November 28th 2021 at 4 pm

Free, reservation not required.

TEACHER MEETING

Teachers will be welcomed by Camille Grasser, head of visitor services, for an introduction to the exhibition *Weather Stork Point*.

Thursday, 30 September 2021 at 5 pm

WEEKLY TOUR

Guided tour of the exhibition *Weather Stork Point*.

Every Sunday at 4 pm

Free, reservation not required.

VISIT-CONFERENCE « JOURNEY IN SPACE TIME »

With Guillaume Trap, physicist and scientific director at the Luxembourg Science Center.

Could modern physics make possible the spatio-temporal portals suggested in the *Weather Stork Point* exhibition by artist Camille Blatrix ? From black holes to quantum teleportation: a little escapade between art, science and science fiction.

This visit proposes to explore the notion of space-time with regard to the works presented and to put them into perspective through a scientific point of view with the intervention of Guillaume Trap, physicist and scientific director at the Luxembourg Science Center.

Saturday, January 29th 2022 from 2.30 PM to 4.30 PM.

Free, reservation on 03 87 01 43 42 or info@cac-synagoguedelme.org at 2.30 PM at the CAC - la synagogue de Delme.

DOUBLE VISITE

Guided tour of Camille Blatrix's *Weather Stork Point* exhibition in the old synagogue, followed by the discovery of the CAC – la synagogue de Delme's residency program' studio in Lindre-Basse. This moment will be an opportunity to meet Kévin Desbouis, artist in residency from September to December 2021, and to discuss his research project with him.

The artist and poet Kevin Desbouis operates by the vampirization and reappropriation of images, objects and words from which he extracts the most confused, pathetic, seductive, or violent aspects.

Saturday, November 6th 2021, from 2 PM to 4 PM.

Free, reservation on 03 87 01 43 42 or info@cac-synagoguedelme.org



WORKSHOPS

“BIG IDEAS SMALL HANDS” WORKSHOPS > FOR CHILDREN AGED 6-11

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.

Wednesdays, 20 October, 17 November 2021 and 19 January 2022 from 2 pm to 5 pm.

Free. Reservation required on 03 87 01 43 42.

HAND-IN-HAND WORKSHOP > PARENTS AND CHILDREN AGED 5-12

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.

Sunday, 15 January 2022 from 3 pm to 4.30 pm.

Free. Reservation required on 03 87 01 43 42.

VISITE BOUT'CHOUX > FROM 1 TO 3 YEARS OLD

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PARENTS CHILDCARE ASSISTANT RELAY OF THE COMMUNITY OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE SAULNOIS

Discovery of the current exhibition *Weather Stork Point* through a sensitive approach of the artworks: observation, listening, experimentation. An exploration filled with emotions and sensations !

Wednesday, 27 October 2021 from 10 am to 10.45 am.

Free. Reservation required by e-mail to rpam@cc-saulnois.fr / 03 87 01 17 88.

PLAY-WORKSHOP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MÉDIATHÈQUE DE DELME > CHILDREN AGED 7 AND UP

Play-workshop around the exhibition *Weather Stork Point*.

Wednesday, 24 November 2021 from 10 am to 11.30 am.

Free. Reservation required on 03 87 01 39 91.



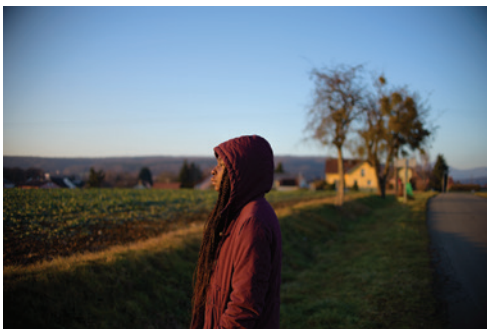
LINDRE-BASSE RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Photo: OH Dancy

Since 2002, in close collaboration with the commune of Lindre-Basse and the Lorraine Regional Natural Park, the CAC - la synagogue de Delme has been running a programme of artist residencies in the former presbytery of Lindre-Basse, which was specially refitted as a studio. The residency session offers the artist a chance to develop a specific project outside of his or her day-to-day context. The natural environment, the local population, the region's socio-economic data, its traffic, its potential in terms of history or tourism, or simply the structure of the studio offer many new possibilities to the resident artist. This residency also involves an ongoing dialogue with the art centre and meetings with professionals and other regional contacts.

UPCOMING RESIDENCIES



MARCH - MAY 2022
Princia Itoua

Princia Itoua, *New Homelands*, 2017-20XX.



JUNE - AUGUST 2022
Hilary Galbreath, Corentin Canesson et TNHCH

Hilary Galbreath, *Parade*. Photo: Chiara Lombardi.



ONGOING RESIDENCY



SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER: KEVIN DESBOUIS

OPEN STUDIO

ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 10TH 2021 - 6.00PM

Perhaps it is possible to say that the idiosyncrasy of Kevin Desbouis's art is that it has no idiosyncrasy. But that would mean confining the artist's approach to a category that, without however seeking to extract himself from it, would not correspond to what he aims to show. Because Kevin Desbouis does not represent an artist's attitude critical of his environment that would attempt to directly oppose any categorisation or labelling. His approach simply does not really correspond to anything identifiable, which also allows him to escape any form of recuperation of his inconstant actions, with style, delicacy, and light-heartedness.

He loves writing poems, in succinct, sometimes brutal forms, or more episodically in a style similar to Diary, evoking clumsy, pathetic, frustrating, and laughable situations, reflections of a worn out, absurd, and confused world, yet abounding in very inspiring details for the

creative spirits that find in it, as he does, the means to compose modern verses. His prose is developed based on tiny details taken from reality, those of everyday, inexpensive comfort, lowly advertising, vintage pornography with a seductive patina, family celebrations in suburbia, the late teen years and its pleasures, and so on... Without, however, falling into condescendence or disgust for a society catering to the lowest common denominator, wallowing in endless mediocrity. Beyond merely seeking inspiration from these kinds of sources, Kevin Desbouis gives them a benevolent place in his heart and confesses a sincere interest in them mixed with tenderness. From this writing work, assemblages are derived or built up in parallel, using popular or mass-produced objects, found here and there online or at antique shops. Chosen for their symbolic charge, they are installed "as is" in the exhibition space, because they suffice in themselves and reveal to audiences the artist's feelings about his environment, often by presenting themselves as symptoms attesting to the activities or taboos underpinning them. But these objects presented in this way do not indicate any particular result after research, and eventually continue their existence elsewhere, in other contexts, if they are not transformed into something else. Because the artistic practice of Kevin Desbouis does not culminate in the exhibition that, in its seeming finitude, does not sit well with an approach that considers art as an active entity developing over time. Modes such as circulation will therefore be preferred to those of standing still, the fleeting preferred to taking root, as with some of the content he gleans on the Net and via other slipstreams enabling him to glide from one reality to another, to construct hybrid atmospheres in which the most unexpected contrasts play out. This fluidity also allows an adaptation to others, whom Kevin Desbouis does not hide the need for in his work, often operating through collaboration, sharing knowledge, composing books as a group, etc. Kevin Desbouis is an artist who does not seek to consign proof of his passage, but instead the essence of his journey, like the breathiness in his voice, which possesses the strange gift of enveloping you in a cosy sensation as he talks.

Within the framework of his residency at Lindre-Basse, the artist intends to pursue his polymorphic writing of scenarios inspired by sources around him. The village of Lindre-Basse has emerged as a script-worthy area, into which he will inject a dose of imagination, adding an extra layer of reality to a place brimming with life. For this, the artist joins forces with one H.C. Palmer, based in the United States, suggesting that he install within public space at Lindre-Basse an American letterbox that will allow him to disseminate his poetry for the first time in France. Through the unusual appearance of this foreign object in the heart of a French village, the artist seeks to establish an epistolary connection with the local residents, by sending original translations of the poems of H.C. Palmer through it, in envelopes that the locals and passers-by can open and read, if their curiosity encourages them to ponder the letterbox and appropriate the content within it. Between the letterbox representing circulation and the sharing of intimate exchanges, and a work of art within public space, this box will act as a site of liaison between beings and minds, whether they are familiar or foreign to one another.

Translated by Anna Knight.



CENTRE D'ART CONTEMPORAIN - LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME / Weather Stork Point CAMILLE BLATRIX
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CAC - LA SYNAGOGUE DE DELME



CAC - la synagogue de Delme.
Photo OH Dancy.

Jean-Jacques Dumont
Interim president

Benoît Lamy de La Chapelle
Director

Fanny Larcher-Collin
Administration et communication

Camille Grasser
Educational services and residency coordinator

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-five years, generating an identity and reputation for the art center both locally and internationally, include: François Morellet, Daniel Buren, Tadashi Kawamata, Ann Veronica Janssens, Marc Camille Chaimowicz, Katinka Bock, Julien Prévieux, Gianni Motti, Yona Friedman, Eric Baudelaire, Clovis Maillet et Louise Hervé, Marie Cool et Fabio Balducci, Susan Hiller, Clément Rodzielski, Jimmie Robert, Jean-Luc Moulène, Shilpa Gupta, Merlin Carpenter etc.

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, 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.

Since 2019, the CAC - la synagogue de Delme obtained the label « Contemporary art center of national interest » by the french Ministry of Culture.



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.

It's signed by the artists Christophe Berdager and Marie Péjus.

CAC - la synagogue de Delme.
Gue(ho)st House, Berdager & Péjus, 2012.
© Adagp Paris 2012 / Berdager & Péjus.
Photo: OH Dancy.

PRATICAL INFORMATIONS

Exhibition Camille Blatrix *Weather Stork Point* from September 25th 2021 to January 30th 2022.
Opening: Friday September 24th from 6 pm.

Admissions to the CAC - la synagogue de Delme will only be granted with a valid European Covid-19 certificate or «Health Pass». The Health Pass is required for any adult aged 18 and over. From 30 September 2021, it will be required for children aged 12 and over.

Due to the epidemic situation linked to COVID-19, wearing a mask is compulsory in all areas of the art center and other safety rules must be observed (physical distancing, hand washing with hydroalcoholic gel).

The art center team thanks you for respecting these instructions and would like to remind you that this event may be subject to modification or cancellation depending on the health context and government measures. Any program changes will be communicated in good time.

From Wednesday to Saturday, 2 pm - 6 pm and Sunday 11 am - 6 pm.

Admission free.

Guided tour every Sunday at 4 pm.

The CAC will be open on November 11th 2021 and closed from December 20th 2021 to January 4th 2022 included.

PRESS CONTACT

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Images available upon request.

CONTACT AND ACCESS

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www.cac-synagoguedelme.org

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

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

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

PARTNERS

Since 2019, the CAC - la synagogue de Delme obtained the label « Contemporary art center of national interest » from the french Ministry of Culture.

The CAC - la synagogue de Delme is supported by



This exhibition is co-produced with the Kunsthalle Basel where was presented Camille Blatrix' solo exhibition *Standby Mice Station* from January 17th to March 15th, 2020.

Kunsthalle Basel

The art center is a member of d.c.a / association française de développement des centres d'art, Lora - Lorraine Réseau Art contemporain, Arts en résidence - French national network and Plan d'Est - visual arts pole Grand Est.

