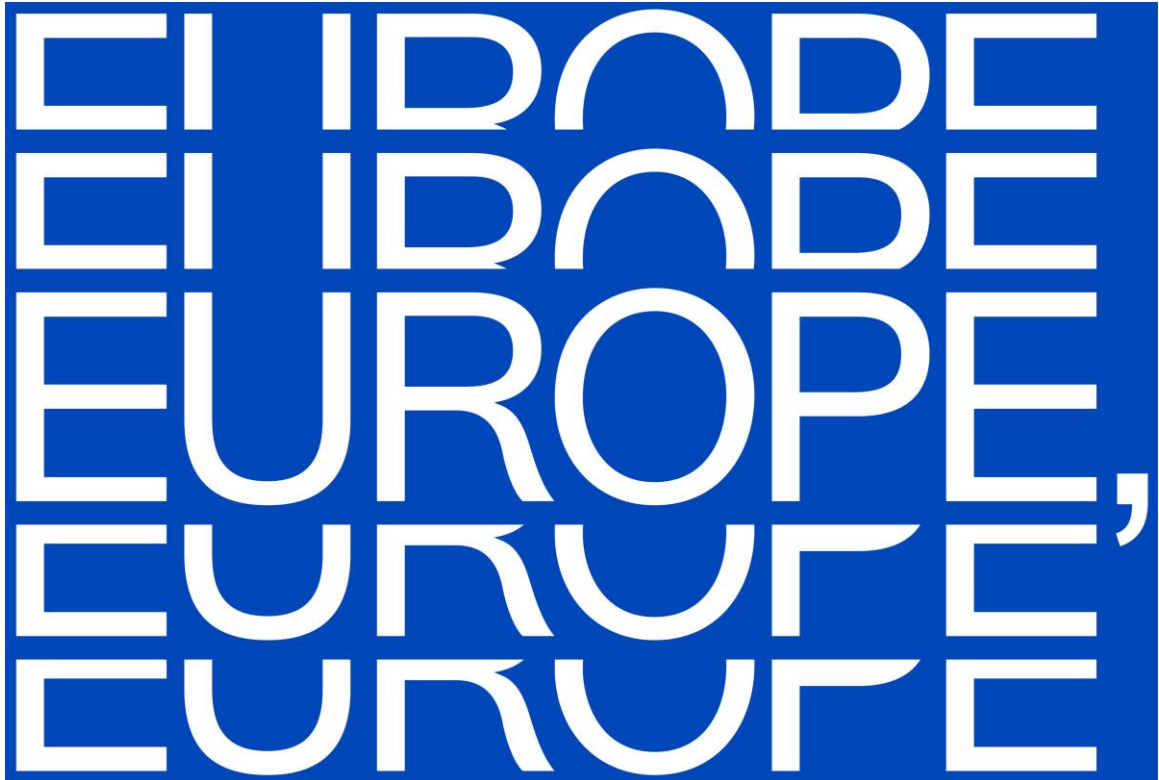


Astrup Fearnley Museet



Europe, Europe

18 September 2014 – 1 February 2015

Press Release
9 September 2014

Press Conference
17 September 12 p.m.

Astrup Fearnley Museet is pleased to present the exhibition *Europe, Europe*. Encompassing more than 40 artists and eight alternative spaces from eight European cities, it is the first part of an extensive and evolving exhibition series.

Over of the last 10 years, the Astrup Fearnley Museet has initiated a number of exhibitions that map different art scenes in different countries, including *Uncertain States of America*, *China Power Station*, *Indian Highway* and *Imagine Brazil*. Now, the Museum turns its focus to young European artists with *Europe, Europe*.

The European art scene is perhaps even more rich and multiple than those previously featured, since Europe is a continent composed of many different nations, languages and cultures. Because of the complexity of these different artistic scenes, and due to the scale of the project, the curatorial team has decided to work with an 'organic curatorial model', creating an exhibition that can change and develop over time. The exhibition is scheduled to travel to several key contemporary art venues in Europe over the coming years.

The curators, Hans Ulrich Obrist, Thomas Boutoux and Gunnar B. Kvaran, have been working on the show over the last three years. In addition to selecting artists, they have chosen one

correspondent (a local expert) and one alternative exhibition space from each of the eight cities featured – Oslo, Berlin, Brussels, Paris, London, Zurich, Prague and Lisbon/Porto. The correspondents have subsequently invited two additional artists to be included in the exhibition. Altogether, the show encompasses more than 40 artists, all under the age of 35, and eight alternative spaces. Throughout the autumn, the alternative spaces will create a number of exhibitions and projects within the exhibition, with separate openings, especially conceived for *Europe, Europe*.

In collaboration with other museums or exhibition spaces, *Europe, Europe* will cumulatively cover the entire continent by the end of the project, which will span several years. Each time the exhibition moves to a new institution, the constellation of European cities will grow, as each institution replaces four of the eight cities with four new ones.

The exhibition's theme

The general theme of the exhibition is the artist's mobility and migration in Europe, the fluidity of artistic ideas and the encounter between different artistic and cultural scenes. This development in recent years stems from the fact that the interrelationship between European countries has changed radically with the development of the EU (European Union) and the disappearance of frontiers between countries. Even though the EU has mainly developed to facilitate financial and commercial transactions in Europe, without showing any visible interest in including artistic and cultural questions in this important project, artists have taken advantage of the reduced frontiers and established themselves wherever they see new possibilities.

Adding to this is the Bologna Agreement, initiated by the EU during the 1990s, which directed traditional European art schools away from a basis in technical skills, towards a more academic research-based education. This reformation has radically changed knowledge production within art schools, resulting in the emergence of more intellectuals, who then become artists and even critics, curators, gallery workers or other kinds of professionals within the art world.

Europe is a territory that is more polycentric than ever before, where artists come and go from one city to another, without being attached to their home countries or restricted by the canons and rules that once defined and structured the various European nations. The exhibition will highlight this mobility and migration, and address the fluidity and encounter between different artistic and cultural scenes in Europe.

In conjunction with the exhibition in Oslo the Museum will publish several publications. For the opening a mini catalogue is launched with an introduction by the curatorial team. It will serve as a manual of how to comprehend the exhibition and its concept. Each of the eight correspondents contributes with a discerning introduction to the art scene in which he or she currently works in. In conjunction with the exhibition the Astrup Fearnley Museet will later publish an extensive catalogue presenting, debating and documenting EUROPE, EUROPE.

Artists (sorted by last name)

Gabriel Abrantes (1980), Portugal & Katie Widloski (1986), USA

Nel Aerts (1987), Belgium

Harold Ancart (1980), Belgium

Ed Atkins (1982), England

Neil Beloufa (1985) France

Juliette Blightman (1980), Germany
Petter Buhagen (1983), Norway
Simon Denny (1982), Germany
David Douard (1983), France
Anke Dyes (1980), Germany
Joana Escoval (1982), Portugal
Loretta Farenholz (1981), Germany
Eloise Hawser (1985), England
Camille Henrot (1978), France
Hedwig Houben (1983), Belgium
Emil M Klein (1982), Switzerland
Barbora Kleinhamplová (1984), Czech Republic
Richard Loskot (1984), Czech Republic
Helen Marten (1985), England
Joakim Martinussen (1984) & Halvor Rønning (1984), Norway
Mélanie Matranga (1985), France
Inka Meißner (1980), Germany
Caroline Mesquita (1989), France
Kaspar Müller (1983), Switzerland
Model Court (Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Sidsel Meineche Hansen, Lorenzo Pezzani, Oliver Rees), England
Shelly Nadashi (1981), Belgium
Katja Novitskova (1984), Germany
Richard Parry (1983), England
Aurora Passero (1984), Norway
André Romão (1984), Portugal
Pamela Rosenkranz (1979), Switzerland
Pavla Sceranková (1980), Czech Republic
Mariana Silva (1983), Portugal
Patrick Staff (1987), England
Pavel Sterec (1985), Czech Republic
the--family (Wojciech Kosma, Jessica Lauren Elizabeth Taylor, Llewellyn Reichman, Dwayne Browne, Irene Moray), Germany
Peter Wächtler (1979), Belgium
Hannah Weinberger (1987) Switzerland
Tori Wrånes (1978), Norway

Correspondents (sorted by last name)

John Beeson (1984), Germany
Fredri Fischli (1986), Switzerland
Monica Holmen (1982), Norway
Martha Kirszenbaum (1983), France
Vaclav Magid (1979), Czech Republic
João Mourão (1984), Portugal
Anne-Claire Schmitz (1982), Belgium
Luis da Silva (1978), Portugal
Jamie Stevens (1985), England

Alternative spaces

New Theater, Germany (Berlin). Opens September 25.

Abilene, Belgium (Brussels). Opens October 9.

A Certain Lack of Coherence, Portugal (Porto). Opens October 23.

Arcadia Missa, England (London). Opens November 6.

1857 Norway (Oslo). Opens November 20.

Treize, France (Paris). Opens December 4.

ETC gallery, Czech Republic (Prague). Opens January 8.

HA-CIE-ND-A, Switzerland (Zurich). Opens January 22.

Events

In conjunction with the exhibition, a Performance Weekend featuring the participating performance artists will take place on 1–2 November. On 15–16 November, a Film Weekend will place special focus on the exhibition's video artists. Throughout the duration of the exhibition period, our regular Thursday Events program will focus on the European art scene, the EU and cultural politics.

The exhibition is curated by Thomas Boutoux, Gunnar B. Kvaran, and Hans Ulrich Obrist

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THE
THIEF



BAHR

