



5-29
July
2013

MATT MULLICAN



XIX CSAV
Artists
Research
Laboratory

MEANING OF THINGS

FAR
FONDAZIONE ANTONIO RATTI



**XIX CSAV
Artists Research Laboratory
Meaning of Things**

Invited Artist
Matt Mullican

Director
Annie Ratti

Coordinator
Anna Castelli

Dates
5-29 July 2013

Location
**FAR, Villa Sucota
via per Cernobbio 19
22100 Como, Italy**

Info
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Matt Mullican
Organizing the World
installation view
Haus der Kunst
Munich, 2011
photo: Jens Weber

Matt Mullican
Under Hypnosis
still from performance
Tate Modern
London, 2007
photo: Sheila Burnett

Laboratory

CSAV – Artists Research Laboratory is a project where dialogue and exchange among artists of different generations and nationalities stand at the heart of a unique artistic and learning experience. The laboratory is open to fifteen young artists of all nationalities, selected among the applicants by a jury. The programme lasts twenty-four days during which the participants attend a daily workshop activity and theoretical seminars run by the invited artist, the director, the curators and guest lecturers, as well as conferences held by artists, critics and experts of other disciplines. The programme begins with a presentation of the participants' work and ends with a publishing project which focuses on the laboratory and its outcomes.

Application

The lab is open to candidates over eighteen years of age. No study certificate is required, but English is essential. Attendance to the lab is free of charge. Accommodation expenses in Como (approximately 250 Euros per person for the whole duration of the programme) and costs of artwork production and shipment are to be covered by the participants. To apply, it is necessary to fill in the application form available online at www.fondazioneratti.org and upload a portfolio of artworks in pdf format (max 10 Mb). Audio and video files can be sent on CD or DVD to: CSAV, Fondazione Antonio Ratti Villa Sucota, Via per Cernobbio 19, 22100 Como, Italy. At the end of the selection process multimedia material can be returned upon request (costs are to be covered by the applicant).

The application and all required materials must be sent by the 5th of April 2013. Candidates who will pass the first selection process might subsequently be interviewed in case of need.

The portfolios of the selected artists will be published on the website of the Fondazione Antonio Ratti from the announcement date of the selection until the opening of next year's call for submission.

Matt Mullican

Matt Mullican (born September 18th, 1951 in Santa Monica, California) is an American artist who for over four decades has created a complex body of work concerned with systems of knowledge, meaning, language and signification. New York and Berlin based, Mullican has always been interested in relationship between perception and reality, between the ability to see something and the ability to represent it. Mullican creates artworks across a variety of mediums ranging from drawings and graphic works to sculptures and banners. He has developed a classification system that divides all subject matter into five categories. These *Five Worlds* represent natural raw materials, the real world we live in, arts, language and subjective understanding. Through this system the artist makes an attempt to observe and categorize all human experiences. In the 1970s Mullican began to experiment with trance-like states and hypnosis. Whilst hypnotized, he experiences the mundane details of existence more fully and deeply, creating a state of hyper-consciousness that allows him to better catalogue human behaviour.

The son of Luchita Hurtado, a Surrealist painter from Venezuela, and of the American painter Lee Mullican, Matt was a child of moved from California to Venezuela, to New York, to Rome, to finally return to California. Mullican cites his extensive travels at an early age as a great influence on him and his work. Through experiencing places like Pompeii and studying his parents' collection of Oceanic and tribal art, he became interested in the cosmologies reflected in anthropological objects. After finishing high school in Los Angeles he enrolled in the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia from where he received his BFA in

1974. At CalArts he would meet classmates David Salle, James Welling, Troy Brauntuch and Jack Goldstein as well as then tutor John Baldessari. Mullican's work has been exhibited internationally since the early 1970s in venues including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; Haus Der Kunst, Munich; National Galerie, Berlin; Stedelijk Museum, Schiedam, Netherlands; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; his work was also included in the 2008 Whitney Biennial. Mullican has taught and lectured at: Columbia University, New York; The Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam; Chelsea College of Art and Design, London; University of Southern California, Los Angeles; Hochschule für bildende Künste, Hamburg.

Meaning of things

Engaging the picture

Mullican will discuss his work and ongoing research into the emotional interpretation of pictures and signs. Since the early 1970s Mullican has been interested in the ability a picture has to grab our consciousness and create an experience. This ongoing investigation of sign-language will be discussed during the lab as well as the nature of the theatrical experience, its ability to transform extreme emotional states, and of the trance-like phenomenon that is the core of Mullican's performances.

Exhibitions & Lectures

Corso Aperto

Villa del Grumello
10-11 July

Presentation of the works by the young artists taking part in the laboratory.

Matt Mullican: Lecture
Fondazione Antonio Ratti – Villa Sucota
11 July

Matt Mullican: Solo show
Spazio Culturale Antonio Ratti
Largo Spallino 1, Como

The programme of the laboratory will also include other conferences open to the public held by international experts.

Publications

All the activities of CSAV are documented in the publications dedicated to the invited artist, the laboratory and the participating artists.

Past publications include: Joseph Kosuth (1995), John Armleder (1996), Allan Kaprow (1997), ed. Skira; Hamish Fulton (1998), Haim Steinbach (1999), Ilya Kabakov (2000), Marina Abramović (2001), Giulio Paolini (2002), Richard Nonas (2003), Jimmie Durham (2004), Joan Jonas (2007), Yona Friedman (2008) ed. Charta; Alfredo Jaar (2005), Marjetica Potrč (2006), ed. Actar; *Aesthetics of Resistance* (2005), *Fragmented Book* (2006), ed. Nero; *Invisible Miracles* (2007), *Public Improvisations* (2008), *A camel is a horse designed by a committee (attempts at rewriting the world)* (2009), *Give and take* (2010), *Wolves & Peasants 38% Notes 38% No title 19% Dreamers 4%* (2012), *The Choice Is Yours* (2012), ed. Mousse Publishing; Susan Hiller, *The Dream and the World* (2012), ed. Black Dog Publishing. The books on Walid Raad (2009), Hans Haacke (2010) and Liliana Moro (2012) are forthcoming.