



MEP

MAISON
EUROPÉENNE
DE LA
PHOTOGRAPHIE

**Press
release**



Women Artists from the MEP STUDIO at KYOTOGRAPHIE

New perspectives in film and photography
from France

18.09.2021 - 17.10.2021

President : Jean-François Dubos

Director : Simon Baker

Institutional Partner



Patrons and Partners



BETC ETOILE ROUGE



The MEP would like to thank the Collector's Circle of the MEP and the Friend's Association of the MEP for their continued support.

Exhibition's partners



This exhibition benefits from the support of *Women In Motion*, a Kering program that shines a light on the talent of women in the fields of arts and culture.

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□ The exhibition

The MEP STUDIO comes to Kyoto.

The MEP - Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris, presents the group show *Women Artists from the MEP STUDIO* at the 9th edition of KYOTOGRAPHIE International Festival, from September 18th to October 17th 2021. This is the second project in a long-term partnership between MEP and KYOTOGRAPHIE.

The exhibition which takes place at the dedicated gallery space of Hosoo in Kyoto has been specially designed for Kyotographie, as part of its "ECHO" season, with the support of *Women in Motion*, a Kering program that shines a light on the talent of women in the fields of arts and culture. *Women Artists from the MEP STUDIO* brings together the works of five young French women artists, selected by the MEP in order to reveal the current richness, diversity and originality of emerging french photography and lens-based practices, showing the very best new work exhibited in Paris at the crossroads of genres and disciplines. Marguerite Bornhauser, the duo Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta, Adèle Gratacos de Volder and Manon Lanjouère embody a vibrant artistic scene in France whose practices and aesthetics are characterized by hybridity of the images and a new confidence about approaches to the photographic and filmic image. Using still and moving image, text and installation, these multi-faceted talents have in common a keen sense of narrative and a taste for blurring the lines between fictions and the realities from which they are drawn.

Supporting emerging talents is a vital part of the MEP's mission. In 2018, it created the STUDIO, a new space dedicated to first solo shows of young artists. The MEP is also committed to improving the visibility of women photographers in the artistic scene.

The 9th edition of the KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival will be held from September 18th – October 17th 2021, presenting over 14 exhibitions centered around the theme "ECHO", shown in iconic Kyoto venues with original scenography.

Cover image

Marguerite Bornhauser, *Sans titre*,
from the series "Moisson Rouge"
© Marguerite Bornhauser

The KYOTOGRAPHIE International Photography Festival is held annually over four weeks in a style that is unique in Asia. Exhibitions are spread across the city, staged creatively in various traditional and contemporary settings. The festival creates opportunities, bringing people together of all ages, cultures and backgrounds. Now recognized as one of the world's leading photography events, KYOTOGRAPHIE has attracted some 1,000,000 visitors from within Japan and overseas since 2013.

□ Marguerite Bornhauser

Marguerite Bornhauser presents here a selection of works from three different photographic series; *Plastic Colours*, *Red Harvest*, *When Black is Burned*: titles which tell us immediately what animates her practice from start to finish. Colour, for Bornhauser, is not just the subject and focus of her work, but more often a way of perceiving and picturing the world. And hers is a world that, at first glance, perhaps looks little different to our own: fragments of daily life, details and faces.

If in some series, Bornhauser brings us up tight and close to the surfaces of things in a way that emphasises and heightens a powerful spectrum of tones and hues, in other series, colours and tones are more subtle and organic. The photographer's attention to the potential of juxtaposing one image with another brings a new sophistication to the apparent simplicity of individual compositions. A compelling visual game is set up, which relies at once on the similarities and differences between moments of colour, light and shadow from a diverse range of sources. Colour as subject-matter, or rather, colour as a medium, becomes a kind of psychological projection into, or onto, the everyday.

Marguerite Bornhauser (b.1989) lives and works in Paris. After studying literature and journalism, she joined the National School of Photography in Arles and graduated in 2015. Her work has been shown in several art institutions, galleries and art festivals in many different countries. Marguerite Bornhauser adds editorial work to her photographic research and has published several books: *Plastic Colors* (Editions du Lic, 2017), *8* and *Red Harvest* (Editions Poursuite, 2018 and 2019). Her fourth book has just been published by La Martinière in 2021. She also collaborates with French and international magazines and newspapers as a photo journalist, portrait photographer and fashion photographer.



STUDIOME P

Marguerite Bornhauser
Moisson rouge, 2019
© Marguerite Bornhauser

□ Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta

Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta presents their project *ELLES*,... Conceived as a plural work, it is both a research project and a space for aesthetic experimentation. Initiated in 2018, this series of short films explores different facets of eroticism by situating each film in a different city and associating it with its own texture and sound. The artists question the complex notion of intimate desire and confront it with contemporary issues such as the place of the women in public space.

Their first short film *ELLES, Tanger*, was shot during the Youmeïn festival in 2019 and was screened at the MEP STUDIO the same year. It takes us through its narrow streets, envelops us in its fabrics, its drapes which hide and discover the bodies, between modesty and transgression. The new short film *ELLES, Rome*, made in 2020 in the Italian capital, holds us in its historical heritage and its sculptural beauty. The abstract and mysterious forms invite contemplation and lead us into a sensual and unknown universe beyond our real world. It is shown for the first time to the public in KYOTOGRAPHIE.

Collaborating since 2018, **Nina Cholet** (b.1991) and **Clothilde Matta** (b.1991) have formed a multidisciplinary duo – one is a visual artist and an actress, the other is a film-maker and a dancer. Blurring the line between fiction and reality, their practice mixes photography, video, performance and installation. Their artistic research focuses on a sensory and intuitive approach to depicting intimacy. Using sensual and poetical images, Nina Cholet and Clothilde Matta deal with the representation of the female body. In parallel with their collaboration, they continue to develop their respective practices.

Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta
ELLES, Tanger, 2019
© Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta



□ Adèle Gratacos de Volder



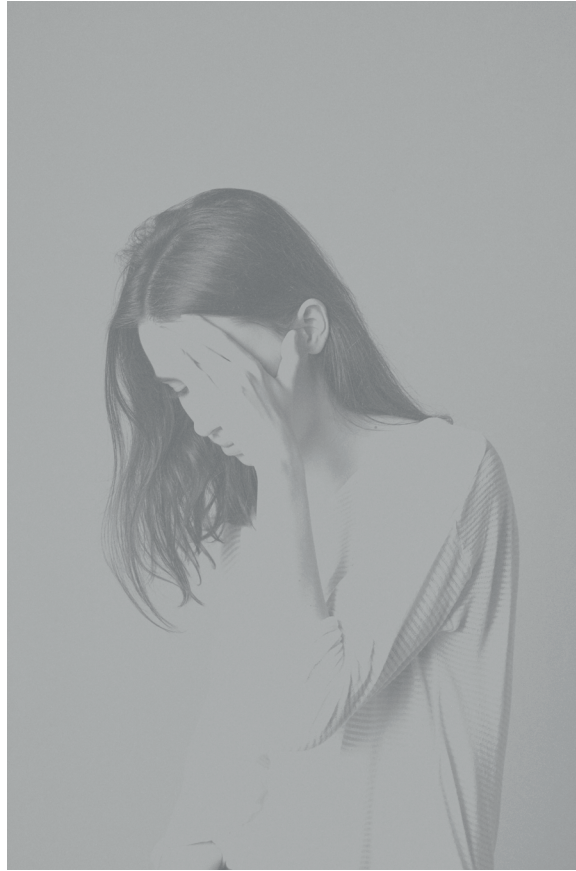
Adèle Gratacos de Volder
Still from *Jamais indemne*, 2019
© Adèle Gratacos de Volder

Adèle Gratacos de Volder has developed a multidisciplinary practice and a unique use of images, sounds and texts to explore the fragility of intimacy. She presents in KYOTOGRAPHIE her film *Jamais indemne ! Un cœur à corps* in a confidential space where the walls are covered by her writings. This immersive installation, inspired by her exhibition at MEP in 2019, shows the artist's constant questions and describes a mental landscape made up of haunting images, random note-taking and persistent memories.

Gratacos de Volder gives us an overview of her complex practice that includes videos and writings but also contact sheets and editorial projects. All her works reveal her intense quest for meaning through a visual language, as frenzied as it is powerful. Mixing her own works with multiple literary, musical, photographic and cinematographic references, the artist constantly exposes and recomposes the world in order to understand it. Fascinated by Robert Frank's films and Stéphane Mandelbaum's drawings, Adèle Gratacos de Volder has placed editing at the heart of her artistic approach. The principles of collection and assemblage are then used in her practice to transform this research into the artwork.

Adèle Gratacos de Volder (b.1993) lives and works in Brussels. A graduate in sculpture, video and installation from La Cambre National School of Visual Arts in Belgium, she adds editorial work to her photographic and filmic research. She has published with Silence Editions *Est-ce si épuisant de scruter l'invisible ?* (Cartographie plurielle d'un visage) in 2019 et *Tous ces tremblements qui nous exposent* (Too close is not enough) in 2018. Gratacos de Volder won the Vocation Price for Visual Art in 2021 (Belgium) for her latest work in progress "Hôtel Minotaure". Her newest investigations opens up her artistic practices into unexpected fields such as lectures and architectures.

□ Manon Lanjouère



Manon Lanjouère
Éclipse, Demande à la poussière, 2017
© Manon Lanjouère

Manon Lanjouère presents *Demande à la poussière* (Ask the dust), which won the FIDAL Youth Photography Award in 2017, was nominated for the HSBC Prize in 2019 and was exhibited at MEP in 2019. The artist also presents *The Unpredictability of the Lightning*, the first part of a project conceived as a story in several chapters.

Like the opera of the American composer John Adams *I was looking at the ceiling and then i saw the sky*, Manon Lanjouère takes as her starting point the story of a natural disaster; in this case a fictional storm, rich in symbolism. Lightning has struck a roof, tearing a hole that shows both the violence of the strike, and the immensity of the sky: an imaginary event that permits the artist to explore both meaning and memory.

The work of Manon Lanjouère, which is fundamentally multi-disciplinary, involves the collection and accumulation of documents: literary texts, vernacular photos and scientific documents, which are combined with imaginary archival material and her own studio portraits. Inspired by the world of theatre, she is interested in fiction and documentary.

Manon Lanjouère (b.1993) lives and works in Paris. After an undergraduation in Art's History at the Sorbonne University in Paris, she joined Gobelins school of image which she graduated in 2017. Her work has been exhibited in several festivals in France and Europe and feature in the collections of several important European museums including the Musée de l'Elysée in Lausanne (Switzerland). Manon Lanjouère is currently working on her new project *Mémoire d'un future* which won the commission "Image 3.0" of the CNAP (National Center of Arts, France) in partnership with the Jeu de Paume in Paris.

□ Press images

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STUDIOMEPO1

Marguerite Bornhauser
Moisson rouge, 2019
© Marguerite Bornhauser



STUDIOMEPO2

Marguerite Bornhauser
Moisson rouge, 2019
© Marguerite Bornhauser



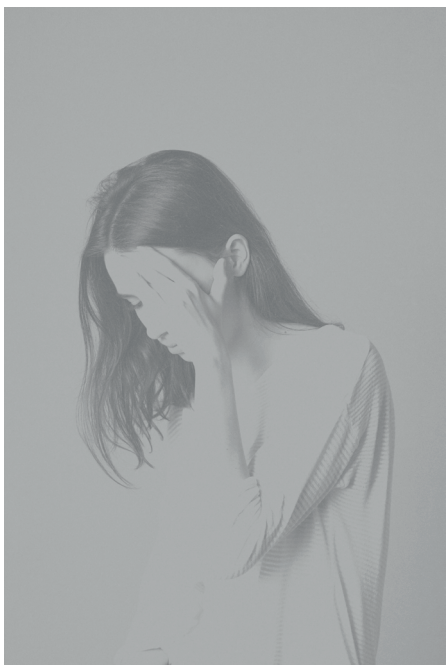
STUDIOMEPO3

Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta
ELLES, Tanger, 2019
© Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta



STUDIOMEPO4

Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta
ELLES, Tanger, 2019
© Nina Cholet & Clothilde Matta



STUDIOME05
 Manon Lanjouère
Lumineuse Pétrification, 2017
 © Manon Lanjouère



STUDIOME06
 Manon Lanjouère
Au sud de nulle part, Demande à la poussière, 2017
 © Manon Lanjouère



STUDIOME07
 Adèle Gratacos de Volder
 Still from *Jamais indemne*, 2019
 © Adèle Gratacos de Volder



STUDIOME08
 Adèle Gratacos de Volder
 Still from *Jamais indemne*, 2019
 © Adèle Gratacos de Volder

Useful Information

☐ MEP

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Opening hours

From Wednesday to Friday
from 11am to 8pm
The week-end from 10am to 8pm
Ticket office open till 7:30pm
Closed on Monday and Tuesday

Admission fee

Full price: €10
Reduced price: €6
Annual membership: €33
Reduced price: €27
Duo card: €52

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