

Mathieu Mercier

Lamps, furniture, bicycles, typography, museum plinths: Mathieu Mercier's artistic creation moves masterfully between the categories of art and everyday culture, reflecting the concepts of twentieth-century Western culture, particularly those of the modern age, in the area of conflict between architecture, design and art. The exhibition in St.Gallen's Lokremise is Mercier's first in a Swiss museum and primarily presents the artist's latest works.



Casquette et marteau, 2002
Hammer, baseball cap, variable dimensions; photo: Sully Balamssière

Again and again, he reaches back to the artistic avant-garde – to heroes like Marcel Duchamp and Piet Mondrian – and combines their gestures and pictorial inventions by means of the targeted displacement of everyday objects from the present. In a permanent exchange between high and low, Mercier enigmatically queries the status of things between functionality and artistic purposelessness by, for instance, creating benches from pipes used in construction or transforming sports equipment into monstrous lights.

In St.Gallen too, the artist will give expression to the pleasure he takes in transforming materials and objects and using them in novel ways through new, spectacular works. From time to time, Mercier recreates otherwise so impressive natural spectacles in a museum environment – there's plenty to be excited about! The artist, who was born in 1970 in Conflans-Sainte-Honorine and who lives in Paris, was awarded the renowned Prix Marcel Duchamp in 2003. Since then, his creations have been showcased in numerous institutions, including the Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris in 2007 and the Kunsthalle Nürnberg in 2008.

The exhibition is being staged in cooperation with Villa Merkel, Esslingen, and the Fondation d'entreprise Ricard for contemporary art.

Curator: Konrad Bitterli

Press information

Exhibition period
23 August–9 November 2014

Press conference
Friday, 22 August 2014
11:00 a.m.
Lokremise
The artist will be present!

Exhibition opening
Saturday, 23 August 2014
4:00 p.m.
Lokremise

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Factsheet

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Exhibition period	23 August–9 November 2014
Exhibition venue	Lokremise St.Gallen
Press conference	22 August 2014 11:00 a.m. Lokremise St.Gallen The artist will be present!
Exhibition opening	23 August 2014 4:00 p.m. Lokremise St.Gallen
Curator	Konrad Bitterli
Opening hours	Mon-Sat 1:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m., Sun 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Entry	CHF 6 Combined ticket for Lokremise and art museum CHF 16 Free entry for members of the Kunstverein St.Gallen
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