

Resilience

Work by Chen Zhen, Meschac Gaba, Kendell Geers, Gu Dexin, Mona Hatoum, Kan Xuan, Liu Jianhua, Moataz Nasr, Pascale Marthine Tayou, Marcella Vanzo, Sophie Whettnall, Zheng Guogu

28 June – 5 October 2008

Private view: Saturday 28 June, Le Moulin

- From 6pm to midnight:
 - o 6pm: tour of the exhibition and cocktails
 - o 9pm–midnight: rustic banquet and DJ Set on the river bank

The first theme-based exhibition at Le Moulin, *Resilience* will be running through the summer and features the heterogeneous works of internationally prominent artists such as Chen Zhen (China, 1955 – Paris, 2000), Meschac Gaba (Benin, 1961), Kendell Geers (South Africa, 1968), Gu Dexin (China, 1962), Mona Hatoum (Lebanon, 1952), Kan Xuan (China, 1972), Liu Jianhua (China, 1962), Moataz Nasr (Egypt, 1961), Pascale Marthine Tayou (Cameroon, 1967), Marcella Vanzo (Italy, 1973), Sophie Whettnall (Belgium, 1973), Zheng Guogu (China, 1970), who dwell on the theme of universal “resilience”.

Resilience is a term borrowed from physics, which denotes the capacity of a material to recoil or spring back into shape after bending, stretching or compression. Subsequently it was used in psychology to refer to an individual’s ability to overcome traumas. This concept was introduced in France by Boris Cyrulnik and Michel Manciaux. In psychoanalysis, it relates not only to the capacity to resist the impact of a trauma but also to rebuild after it has occurred, in other words the ability to transform the wound into a new point of departure. The scientific use of the term appeared in the United States in the 1950s and soon became very widespread, if not popularized and something of a media catch phrase.

The works selected for exposition at Moulin also echo the notion of resilience in the current context of globalization. This vital, life-bearing impulse symbolizes the faculty of the human being and of the artist to persist, to persevere, to be tenacious and resistant. It also represents dynamic flair, intellectual and sensitive drive, the cement between art and life that binds together reflection and experience, the creative process and personal development.

Lying at the centre of the works is danger, crisis and tragedy. But it is precisely here that the miracle of art kicks in, a miracle that exists despite disaster. The works appear to be tools for surviving dramas real or imaginary, big or small, personal or collective, not to mention domestic, social or geopolitical.

Resilience, from 28 June to 5 October at Le Moulin.

Le Moulin is open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 12 midday to 7pm.

GALLERIACONTINUA / Le Moulin 46 rue de la Ferté Gaucher 77169 Boissy-le-Châtel (France)

The journey from Paris, by car or train, takes about an hour.

- Saturday 28 June, free bus transport leaves Paris at 5pm from in front of the Théâtre de la Ville in Place du Châtelet. Subway: Châtelet and Hôtel de Ville, lines 1, 4, 7, 11, 14. Return to Paris at midnight. By prior booking only: lemoulin@galleriacontinua.com
- By car: A4 motorway eastwards in the direction of Metz/Nancy. Exit at junction 16 (Coulommiers), and take the N34. Drive through Coulommiers, and continue on towards Boissy-le-Châtel on the D222. Turn right onto the D66, and drive on until you get to Moulin de Boissy.
- Public transport: train service from Gare de l’Est to Coulommiers. From there, catch a bus for La Ferté Gaucher in front of the station, getting off at Moulin de Boissy / Chailly Boissy-le-Châtel.

To visit Le Moulin outside normal opening hours, write to: lemoulin@galleriacontinua.com

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