

9. | Feast tribute to William Burroughs



2002, France, 7 min 53, SD, 4/3, color, stereo.
 Courtesy of the artist and Ceysson & Bénétière, Paris.
 Ed. of 5 + 2 A.P.

This work was part of 1ère Triennale de Luanda, Angola, 2007.

Comment sortir du piège ? Comment combattre ce monstre du besoin qui nous fait perdre toute forme humaine, ce singe qui nous ronge la nuque, et qui nous rend dépendants, prisonniers de la consommation, esclaves d'un paradis artificiel ?

Autant de questions qu'on peut extraire de l'œuvre de William Burroughs, toxicomane jusqu'à ses quarante-cinq ans, âge où il parvient enfin à s'extraire de l'enfer de la drogue. Dans sa préface du "Festin nu", Gérard-Georges Lemaire écrit à son propos : "...Passionné par les méthodes de contrôle dans le sens le plus large du terme, des codex mayas qu'il découvre au début de son séjour mexicain jusqu'aux manipulations opérées par les grands médias, la C.I.A., ou encore les sectes les plus diverses, aux Etats-Unis, Burroughs se fait le défenseur inconditionnel du libre-arbitre et de l'infrangibilité de l'être humain, qui est soumis à des systèmes coercitifs en tous genres, certains de caractère totalitaire, d'autres, plus insidieux, plus sophistiqués aussi, qui prennent possession de l'individu par des modes pernicieux et intimes - le désir, par exemple."

mounir fatmi, Mai 2002.

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How can you get out of the trap ? How can you fight that monster of need, that makes you lose all human form, that monkey that eats out the back of your neck and makes you dependent, a prisoner of consumption, a slave of the artificial paradise?

All those questions can be extracted from the works of William Burroughs, who was a drug addict until age forty-five, when he finally escaped from the horrors of addiction. In his foreword to "Naked Lunch", Gérard-Georges Lemaire writes of him : "...he was wildly interested in techniques of control in the broadest sense, from the Mayan codex, that he discovered when he arrived in Mexico, down to the manipulations operated by the mass media, the CIA or various American sects. William Burroughs is the indefatigable champion of free will and of the "infrailty" of the human being, who is submitted to coercive systems of all kinds, some totalitarian, others more subtle, more sophisticated too, which take possession of the human being through pernicious and intimate ways – desire, for instance.

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exhibitions:

2018

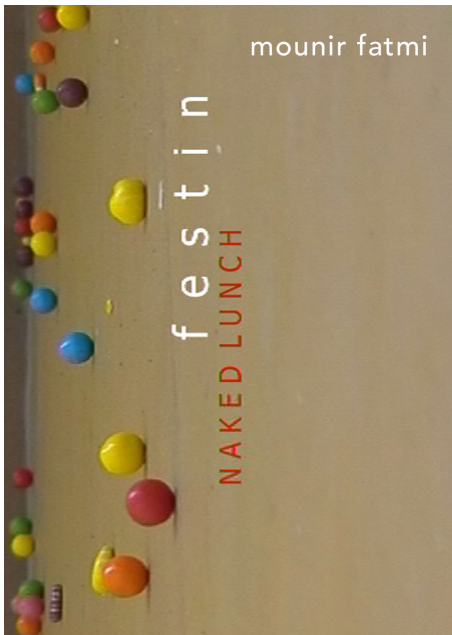
This is My Body - Art Bärtschi & Cie - Solo show

2011

Fluxus-African Contemporary Art - Chiesa dei Santi Carlo e Agata - Expo collective

2009

TransArabe in Casa Arabe - Casa Arabe - Expo collective



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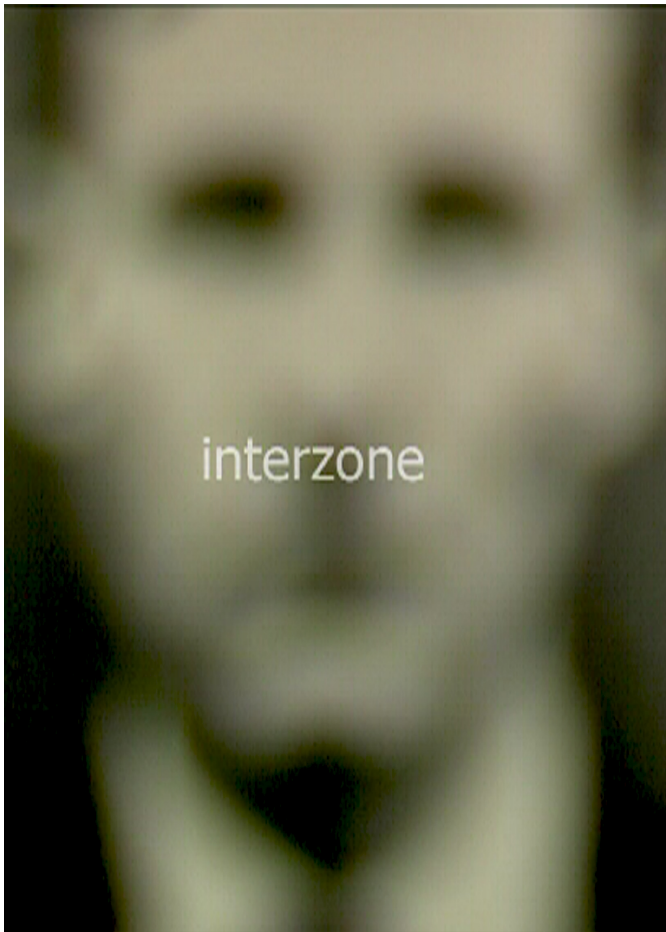
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