EN CONSTRUCCIÓ

RECEPTES DES DE LA CARÈNCIA, LA UBIQÜITAT I L’EXCÉS

10.10.08 | 11.01.09
SANTIAGO CIRUGEDA
JORDI MITJÀ
MICHELLE TERAN
DERIVART

INAUGURACIÓ 09.10.08 | 19.30H.
SALA DE LA RAMBLAI/NIU/DADESPAI/CAPELLA DE SANT NICOLAU

BÒLIT
CENTRE D’ART CONTEMPORANI
GIRONA
IN CONSTRUCTION
RECIPES FROM
SCARCITY, UBIQUITY AND EXCESS
10.10.08|11.01.09
OPENING 09.10.08|07.30PM
SANTIAGO CIRUGEDA
JORDI MITJÀ
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SALA DE LA RAMBLA | NIU | DADES PAI | CAPELLA DE SANT NICOLAU
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A new cultural facility with the aim of developing research, production and exhibition programs for contemporary artistic projects. Due to the presence of creators and professionals from other fields of knowledge, as much local as national and international level, Bòlit will be deeply involved within its context. This highly dynamic and active art centre will present a full programme of exhibitions and other integrated or related activities, such as workshops, lecture cycles, urban interventions, projection cycles, specific proposals and works in process. Initial priority will be given to the content of the art centre, before the building itself is even finished, and the initiative will seek participation and involvement by civil society right from the very start.

While the new art centre building is under construction on the site of the former barracks near Parc del Migdia, several city spaces have been made available for holding exhibitions and activities. These include La Rambla Exhibition Hall, Sant Nicolau Chapel and Santa Llúcia Chapel, as well as other areas around the city where one-off events or ongoing activities can take place. On the other hand, the two new city art spaces, Dadespai and El Niu, will provide Bòlit with the temporary infrastructure needed to develop research and production projects.

As regards territorial scope, Bòlit will draw together and catalyse initiatives and programmes carried out in Girona province, and encourage collaboration and exchange relationships between the various projects. Links will also be established between the centre’s creative production and other research and creation spheres and contexts at an international level.

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SALA DE LA RAMBLA  RAMBLA DE LA LLIBERTAT,1
CAPELLA DE SANT NICOLAU  PLAÇA DE SANTA LLÚCIA,1
Beyond the construction of a building, the creation of a contemporary art centre involves first and foremost the construction of a discourse, relationships and dialogue. This is why the first exhibition at the new centre focuses on processes that explore new methodologies to articulate narratives with the context as a starting point.

From ubiquity, recipes for making and re-making narratives out of everyday experience.
The aim here is to discover an infinite number of overlooked scenes which, once intercepted and recombined, offer uncountable narrative possibilities out of situations that occur in spaces bordering the private and public spheres, which Michelle Teran derives onto the urban space as she strolls through it. In *Life: A User's Manual*, she applies potential literature methodologies and uses video scanners to pick up images recorded on wireless security cameras. Scenes thus recorded in 17 cities around the world will be shown in Girona by means of a synchronised 3-channel video projection. In *A20 Recall*, she presents an online map of situations arising in response to the fortification of Quebec City during the FTAA Summit of the Americas, through texts and images collected and retransmitted by the citizens themselves. In *Exploration#5*, users are introduced to the private imaginations of company workers as they walk around their offices. A journey into the territory of the unknown, with tastes of scenes ranging from domestic life to collective experiences, in an infinite, collaborative hypertext. Technology is used as a tool to discover the significance of the trivial and to re-endow hidden stories with meaning, while fostering a critical spirit among citizens from their immediate surroundings. This is active, collective voyeurism used to combat indifference and oblivion.

From scarcity, recipes for an improvable present.
The aim is to promote negotiation and dialogue with the institutions and the citizens, by activating the recycling of ideas and mechanisms in order to confront unresolved issues through creativity and working together. Architect and artist Santiago Cirugeda attempts to indicate ways of solving the issue of housing and public space management with myriad actions in many different places. In each case, he works together with the interested parties (administrations and social entities) and acts as catalyst between the powers that be and the ordinary service users. Cirugeda’s work is carried out in various ways: in *Prótesis Institucional Castelló*, an independent structure was attached to the Contemporary Art Centre in Castellón (EACC) and used as a connecting space for the social communities in the city; in *Situaciones Urbanas*, subversive interventions in the urban public space denounce the inadequate management of public space in relation to the real needs of the citizens of Seville (tree-lined avenues, children’s playgrounds and community art spaces); in *Azoteas de alquiler*, a new slant on housing contracts points the way towards consensual, sustainable use of under-utilised spaces among groups of residents in the city.

From excess, recipes for an architecture of accumulative thought.
From images recorded by amateur film-makers in the 1970s on super-8 and other film materials, Jordi Mitjà has created a singular portrait of Empordà County, simply by editing the material found without making any substantial changes, and allowing the framings and shots taken by scores of amateur film-makers recording family scenes to speak for themselves. When linked together, the images
of Concèntric. Poble Petit. Infern Gegant come together into a documentary film whose subject remains open to as many interpretations and structures as can be derived from material accumulated in the raw state. Appropriation without moderation is the method used by Mitjà who submerges himself once more in the creative process with Espai Diògenes. From fragments that recreate and devour themselves, leftovers and findings, come the foundations of argumental architectures that welcome and rebuff those who, trapped perhaps between illness and therapy, dare to enter. An invitation to prove for oneself that “history does not exist even by crossing all the histories”, a conviction and challenge that Mitjà throws down to whomsoever wishes to enter into a never-ending game of codifications and de-codifications, without protocol or rules to constrict the reading.

**DADESPAI**

Dataspace. A new information space set up in la Rambla Exhibition Hall, providing free access to Bòlit documentary fonds, to which the donation of a major bibliographical collection from MACBA constitutes the basis of the future Documentation Centre. Users will have access to printed documents (books and magazines) as well as audio and video documents, some of which will have been selected by the artists taking part in the current exhibition. Free Internet connection will enable users to consult the art centre website and work on laptop computers. Visitors will also be able to access short video interviews with artists currently working on exhibitions or other activities in the centre, and thus gain an introduction to their work process. Visitors to Dadespai will be able to see creative works by artists, designers, illustrators, etc. who use information (software codes, archives, documents, etc.) as the raw material for their projects, linked to exhibitions currently being held in Bòlit.

Within the framework of In construction. Recipes from Scarcity, Ubiquity and Excess, the artists invited to intervene in Dadespai are the members of the Derivart group: finance sociologist Daniel Beunza, computer videogame engineer Mar Canet and visual artist Jesús Rodríguez. Derivart has been in active existence since 2004 and operates from the intersection between art, finance and technology. On this occasion, they will present their Bubblemetre installation, an interactive visualisation of the price of housing focusing on the current debate on the “housing bubble”. Are we living in a bubble? Are we living in a bubble economy? What causes this situation? How can we face up to it? Derivart will also be presenting their online casastristes.org with the aim of providing an overview of the housing issue in Spain. The idea is to set up an exchange platform for information and resources based on the Web 2.0 philosophy, by creating a reliable public data base of unoccupied houses in Spain. By means of a series of data visualizations and blog publications, the project hopes to offer useful resources to clarify ambiguous concepts and provide back-up for the network of citizens, associations and other groups that are concerned about the housing issue and need support to communicate, become visible and put forward proposals.

**NIU**

Site-specific project devised and carried out by architect Santiago Cirugeda and his Recetas Urbanas studio, consisting of an ephemeral architectural intervention set up on the flat roof of La Rambla Exhibition Hall. This construction will provide Bòlit with the temporary infrastructure needed to carry out research and artistic intervention activities by the national and international guest artists who will be working for and from Girona. El Niu was specifically created for the art centre, and is one of the projects presented by architect Santiago Cirugeda for this year’s Venice Biennale Out There: Architecture Beyond Building at the Experimental Architecture exhibition in the Italian Pavilion.
Contemporary art centres: practices and discourses
18 October, 7 pm
Venue: L’Hospici. Carrer Hospici, 8. Olot
Giroscoli Cultural
The subject under debate will be the generation of
discourse through the programming and management
of a contemporary art centre. What factors must be taken
into account when setting up an art centre? What are the
aims? Under which parameters must we set up an art
centre in the 21st century?

Speakers
NEKANE ARAMBURU
Art historian with a Master’s degree in Museum Studies.
Co-founder and director of Trasforma Espacio (1992-
2003). Founder of Red Arte. Espacios y Colectivos
Españoles (1994-1997). She has curated exhibitions, given
courses and lectures in private centres, national and
international universities and forums, and collaborates
on art and contemporary culture catalogues and
publications. Head of several publications linked to
contemporary creation, such as Seminario Internacional
de Arquitectura Industrial (1998, 1999, 2000). She has
recently published a book entitled ¿Un lugar bajo el sol?
Los espacios para las prácticas creativas actuales. Revisión
y análisis, in which she approaches the architectural
shape of 21st century cultural centres from different
points of view, as well as the need, or lack of need, for a
real physical space in the age of proliferation of nomadic
and virtual artistic practices.

YOLANDA ROMERO
Graduate in Art History (University of Granada). From
1988 to 1998 she worked as advisor on Exhibitions and
Artistic Heritage for Granada Provincial Council, while
undertaking responsibility for organising the exhibition
calendar for the Palacio de los Condes de Gabia and
supervising the acquisition of new works for their
collection. Director from 1999 of the Centro José Guerrero
in Granada, where she was in charge of the museum
project; supervised the adaptation of Patria building as
Head Office, the management of the founding legacy and
the exhibitions and activities calendar from the
inauguration to the present day. Since 2001, member of
the annual Art and Thought project management team
in the International University of Andalusia (UNIA). Since
2005, chairperson of the Association of Directors of
Contemporary Art in Spain (ADACE). Curator of exhibitions
by José Guerrero, Soledad Sevilla, Helen Levitt, Francesc
Torres, Narelle Jubelin, Richard Avedon, Judith Barry,
Muntadas, and Desacuerdos exhibition, among others.

Chaired by: Eudald Camps (editor of Adeumateria
magazine, independent curator and art critic) and Rosa
Pera (director of Bòlit, Girona Contemporary Art Centre.)
RESEARCH PROJECT

Sad Houses, Girona
Within the framework of their Sad Houses project in Dadespai and during the exhibition In construction, Recipes from Scarcity, Ubiquity and Excess, Derivart group plans to carry out a series of "house-to-house searches" and create an online map of the unoccupied houses in the city, entitled Sad Houses (Girona). The map will be posted on Bòlit website.

FILMS

Diogenes Cinema (498 min)
A film cycle proposed by Jordi Mitjà in relation to his Diogenes Space installation specially created for the exhibition In construction. Recipes from Scarcity, Ubiquity and Excess
Venue: Cinema Truffaut | Portal Nou 7, Girona
2, 9, 16 and 23 December, 8 pm

This cycle on the theme of immoderation includes four documentary films, in which the directors use both interviews and retrieved archive material. With no apparent unifying thread, these films relate stories on accumulation, personality disorders, isolation and the art-versus-life dichotomy. We see an obsessive director's 2-year attempt to create a faithful portrait of the city of Amsterdam; two youths who lock themselves up in a basement for three years where they generate a parallel world that in time turns into a puppet show; an extraordinary character who from an early age records his own life on cassette tapes and super 8, before becoming a world-famous cult musician; and a deaf woman with Down's Syndrome who, after thirty-six years locked up in an institution, emerges as a sculptress.

Tuesday 9 December, 8 pm
THE DEVIL AND DANIEL JOHNSTON|2005
110 min. USA. Genre: Documentary
Director and scriptwriter: Jeff Feuerzeig
Website: http://www.sonyclassics.com/devilanddaniel/aboutthefilm.html

Synopsis: The fascinating and terrible story of manic-depressive American singer-songwriter Daniel Johnston is revealed in this documentary portrait of an artist genius whom drugs and mental illness brought to imagine meetings with the devil. From a very young age, Daniel showed signs of his artistic genius and creativity in his comics and recordings on super 8. The film, backed up by Daniel Johnston’s own recordings, follows his development and transformation into a cult figure.

Tuesday 16 December, 8 pm
HERMANOS OLIGOR (THE OLIGOR BROTHERS) 2007
85 min. Spain. Genre: Documentary. Director: Joan López Lloret
Web: http://karmafilms.es/hermanosoligor/default.html

Synopsis: The Oligor brothers are two young men who lock themselves into a basement for three years where they create a world of puppets and mechanical gadgets, all made from recycled materials. With no prior experience, they enter into the process of creation of a small, fragile love story in which the lines of reality and fiction become blurred. Their piece is entitled The Trials and Tribulations of Virginia and the director follows the brothers to Barcelona, Valencia and Berlin, gathering the opinions of viewers and recording their reactions during the performances. This documentary bears witness to their process of creation: constructing gadgets to tell a story, and to tell their own story. The performance brought forth by the Oligor Brothers is something more than a game, it is a play of mirrors that brings life to these objects, it is a stringing together of stories.

Tuesday 23 December, 8 pm
AMSTERDAM GLOBAL VILLAGE|1996
229 min. Netherlands. Genre: Documentary
Director: Johan van der Keuken

Synopsis: In this nearly 4-hour epic, Holland’s most famous documentary film-maker portrays his home town of Amsterdam and the people who live there. On this labyrinthine journey, the camera glides along the city’s canals, down its streets and through its parks. On this "voyage around the world through his home town", he encounters people of all ages from all corners of the world. We follow the main character of the film, Khalid, a young courier who rides around the city delivering his precious cargo of films and photographs. Johan van der Keuken takes some of his encounters back to their remote origins: he accompanies Chechen businessman Borz-Ali back to war-stricken Grozny; he returns with Roberto to his native village in Bolivia to visit his mother, who believed him dead. The camera follows a Jewish woman and her son as they go back to the house where, after three years of sorrowful separation, they were
reunited at the end of the war. The film is also a journey to the heart of music: from DJ 100% Isis and her House music, to a Ghana funeral, to orchestra conductor Riccardo Chailly in the Concertgebouw. Johan van der Keuken has created a thrilling patchwork of major late 20th century issues.

**WORKSHOP AND URBAN INTERVENTION**

**Project for a City. Girona. Michelle Teran**

**Workshop:** 10-15 October and 18-22 November. El Niu

**Urban intervention:** 22 November, 8 pm. Banks of the River Onyar. In collaboration with Eudald Camps and Jordi Dorca

**Project for a City. Girona**

“I imagine a Parisian apartment building whose façade has been removed - a sort of equivalent to the roof that is lifted off in *Le Diable boîteux*, or to the scene with the game of Go in *The Tale of Genji* - making all the rooms in the front, from the ground floor up to the attics, instantly and simultaneously visible. The mere inventory - and it could never be exhaustive - of the items of furniture and the actions represented has something truly vertiginous about it.”

Georges Perec, *Species of Spaces and Other Pieces*

In 1978, Georges Perec published his work *Life A User’s Manual*. In his 600+ page novel, he describes the rooms of an apartment building and the activities unfolding inside them, as if the façade had suddenly become unveiled allowing us to look inside. In his depictions of people and place, objects have presence, rooms tell stories and daily actions become like performances.

Within the history of pre-cinema, as new means were given to view the world, different experiences for exploring and representing it were created. In 1290, Arnaud de Villeneuve, or ‘Arnold of Villanova’, used the camera obscura to present “moving shows” or “cinema” by placing his audiences inside a darkened room and having the actors perform outside. The image of the performance would be cast onto the inside wall. To this day, an ongoing interest in representation of the everyday continues through portrayals of the self on Flickr, YouTube, Facebook and other online ways of linking private space with urban space.

**Project for a City** is a proposal to illuminate the interiors and daily activities of everyday Girona. Michelle Teran proposes to activate the city for one evening, on 22 November, in collaboration with Bòlit, Girona Contemporary Art Centre, the Cinema Museum and the citizens of Girona. Coinciding with the Actors Club Day, a two-hour outdoor intervention will include a video archive of Girona interiors created by the city’s inhabitants being projected onto the façades of the buildings overlooking the River Onyar. Girona will thus provide both subject matter and backdrop for an open-air cinema. As if part of the façades were suddenly removed, we will witness the interior spaces and daily activities happening within. The overlaying of interior spaces onto exterior surfaces proposes a new regard on the city that borders on the imaginary.

In preparation for the event, Michelle Teran and Bòlit, Girona Contemporary Art Centre invite you to take part in a workshop to produce the video material for the November projection. Any film-making technique may be used: camera phones, digital photo cameras, hand-held video camera, pre-existing footage, surveillance camera, etc. Interested participants will be given an introduction to the project and some guidelines for filming, as well as guided tours of both the Cinema Museum and the exhibition *In construction*. Recipes from Scarcity, Ubiquity and Excess, in which Michelle Teran’s work is featured. The workshop programme also includes a showing of historical and contemporary films depicting everyday life. The rest of the time will be used to produce the video material. Videos generated for the 22 November open-air cinema projection will be put up on YouTube and connected to Google Earth. The online environments and video documentation from the November event will be exhibited in Sant Nicolau Chapel.

**Workshop places are limited so enrolment is required.** Applicants are requested to send in a letter outlining motivation and expectations, and a brief personal profile.

**Workshop fee:** 15 €. Please bring your own recording equipment and computer if possible.

**Information and enrolment:**

Bòlit, Girona Contemporary Art Centre

**Offices:** Pujada de la Mercè, 12, 2n. Girona.

Tel. +34 972 223305 **Email:** info@bolit.cat.

**Website enrolment:** www.bolit.cat
**RELATED ACTIVITIES**

**GIROSCOPI CULTURE FAIR. Olot**

18 - 19 October, 11 am - 8 pm

Bòlit, Girona Contemporary Art Centre stand
Organised by: Casa de Cultura de la Diputació de Girona

Giroscopi Culture Fair is a showcase of cultural initiatives in Girona province, organized by the Casa de Cultura in Girona. The event is billed as a large shop window for the Girona cultural sector; a space in which to make oneself known, to establish links for future collaborations and to further one’s knowledge; a space where synergies can happen between cultural agents (public institutions, non-profit making organizations and private enterprise), whether they are present as stand-holders, activity programmers or visitors; a space that sets itself out to be an observatory of the cultural sector. Members of the public can visit the fair to see for themselves what is being done in the field of culture and to enjoy a place of entertainment and knowledge.

**TEMPORADA ALTA**

**Festival de tardor de Catalunya. Girona / Salt**

La Marea, a play performed in the street
Carrer Nou, Girona. 7, 8 and 9 November, 9 pm
Organised by: El Canal. Girona/Salt Scenic Arts Centre
Author and director: Mariano Pensotti
Dramaturgy (translation and adaptation): Carles Mallol
Production: EL CANAL. Girona/Salt Scenic Arts Centre

As if swept along by a tide that seeps into all the different stories co-existing cheek by jowl on a street in the city, Argentinean director Mariano Pensotti sets up nine situations along Carrer Nou in Girona, some of which happen outside on the street while others take place in interiors visible from outside: a couple having supper, a man waiting for somebody, a motorbike accident, a bar, a couple’s first kiss, a party ... everyday moments trapped before the public eye. A subtitle system gives the audience access to these people’s thoughts, to their personal stories and their past lives, and even to what the future holds in store for them. The nine situations are acted out simultaneously on either side of the street, and spectators can cross over from one side to the other, in whichever order they want, following the flow of the stories. This is open-air theatre, open to all comers. We would recommend you to wrap up warmly and be there at 9 pm sharp.

**PUBLICATION**

In construction. Recipes from Scarcity, Ubiquity and Excess will be followed by the publication of a book containing texts, documents and images related to the themes and subjects developed during the exhibition and integrated activities.