

June 1<sup>st</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup> 2005

The Gallery Martine Aboucaya is pleased to announce a joint exhibition of Sharon Lockhart and Berdaguer & Péjus that will take place at the gallery from June 1<sup>st</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup>.

sharon  
lockhart



NŌ

Sharon Lockhart will present NŌ, her latest film to date, and a series of photographs, both inspired by the Japanese avant-garde practice of flower arranging of NŌ-no Ikebana. For this series, Lockhart has photographed one arrangement of Brussels sprouts several times a day on each of the 31 days of December 2002. She subsequently selected and carefully arranged the photographs into four groupings recording the slow process of wilting and decay, and producing a quasi-cinematographic "nature morte", where nature actually dies.

The film NŌ is presented on 16mm and depicts a husband and wife team of farmers at the close of the harvest season in Japan. Tidy piles of mulch, arranged one next to the other with minimalist precision, are dispersed by the pair, an action through which the physiognomy of the field is progressively dramatically transformed. By articulating different representational genres together – the ones of NŌ-no Ikebana, landscape painting and choreography – Lockhart poetically describes the end of one cycle of production and the start of another. With these two works, as in her previous projects, Lockhart invites spectators in a space for self-reflection on the way they manage their attention as they encounter works of art, specifically when confronted to still and/or moving images.

berdaguer  
péjus



In their exhibition Christophe Berdaguer & Marie Péjus will present two projects:

*Mi(e)sconception*, a new work, and *The Epileptic Forest*, a video shot during an ephemeral installation that the artists had conceived a few years back in the Pastré forest in Marseille. For this installation, the artists used a device containing about thirty high-power strobe lights which frequencies could potentially provoke photosensitive epileptic fits. If, for the original installation, the strobe lights were spread out over a forest space large enough for strollers to get lost in, the projection of the video in the gallery manages to reproduce the experience where the retinal impressions, subjected to a luminous stream, lead to a heavy change in the perception of space and bodies' behaviors.

With *Mi(e)sconception*, Berdaguer and Péjus touch on the equivocal history of the legendary Farnsworth House or "Glass House" designed by Mies Van Der Rohe in a forest on the outskirts of Chicago and completed in 1950. Celebrated as one of the masterpieces of post-war modernist architecture, the house was severely criticised by its commissioner, Edith Farnsworth, for whom the architecture of glass and steel conceived by Mies was sadly non-functional, close to uninhabitability. In *Mi(e)sconception*, Berdaguer & Péjus recall the polemics surrounding the "Glass House" and propose, through a film and a model, an innovative architectural solution to the blind spots of Mies' original design, as an endogenic architecture which is inserted and developed inside the house.

With this joint exhibition, Sharon Lockhart and Berdaguer & Péjus propose a range of approaches and reflections on the duration of looking and the lasting impression the art works make when condensed in the mind and the emotions.

Sharon Lockhart was born in 1964 and lives and works in Los Angeles. Selected one-person exhibitions include: Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam; Kunsthalle Zurich; Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, among others. Lockhart has forthcoming exhibitions at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2006) and the Fogg Art Museum, Cambridge, MA (2006). She recently took part to the collective exhibitions « An Aside » (Camden Art Center, Londres, 2005); « Universal Experience: Art, Life and the Tourist's Eye » (Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, 2005) and the last edition of the Whitney Biennial (2004).

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Christophe Berdaguer and Marie Péjus were born in 1968 and 1969 and live and work in Marseille. Selected monographic exhibitions include: Centre d'arts plastiques, Saint-Fons; Le Parvis, Tarbes; FRI-ART, Fribourg; the FRAC Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and the Villa Arson in Nice. Berdaguer et Péjus have recently taken part to the collective exhibitions « Communautés » (Institut d'Art Contemporain, Villeurbanne, 2004); « Unheimlich » (La Synagogue de Delme, 2003) and « Citizengame » (Le Quartier, Quimper, 2003). They were awarded the Altadis prize 2004-2005.