

Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen

Island for Art and Heritage

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Millennial nostalgia and isometric painting perspective in summery Kunstfort

On Sunday June 18th two extraordinary new exhibitions will commence at Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen. In the concrete fort an overview of the Dutch-Belgian artist Raymond Barion will open. And in the monumental Genieloods one can see the work of young artist Joeri Woudstra. The celebrated Barion shows his sublime landscapes, built from isometric perspectives, while allrounder Woudstra focuses on the feelings of nostalgia with his on his peers.

Isometric landscapes

Raymond Barion studied in Belgium and has lived there for most of his life. He is an intellectual and theorist who takes his time – sometimes even decades – to finish his works. Barion commuted between his home in Antwerp to the St. Joost Academy in Breda for years, to teach generations of now established artists. His own work has been discovered only recently, and is since appreciated internationally.

Barion's pieces are a recent discovery. In 2014 Extra City Kunsthal gave Barion a platform, Metropolis M wrote about him and Upstream Gallery took him in. Recently he has been included in a sizeable exhibition about Memphis in KAI 10 | Arthena Foundation in Düsseldorf. Het Kunstfort wants to keep up the modest yet steady internationalization by showing an overview of Barion's work during the summer of 2017. Besides paintings het Kunstfort shows drawings and objects from 1980 – now. Rich with abandoned machinery, mythical decor and alternative regard of the future, they seem a mirror image of today's unrest.



© Raymond Barion - Oase (Luna) 1981

Commercialized nostalgia

Joeri Woudstra might be the characteristic “millennial”: an energetic allrounder, both creatively and technically skilled, never found in one place at a time, and proficient with both music and image. The artist has graduated in 2016 from the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague, specialised in Graphic Design, but shows a project that is in between image and graphic design: with car parts, light, smoke and records he brings the phenomenon of ‘car tuning’ and ‘clubbing’ together. He works for works for Metahaven, and Today's Art, plays in De School in Amsterdam and makes a presentation with his friends for Art Rotterdam.

In his first solo, In the metal “Genieloods” shed of Kunstfort bij Vijfhuizen, he explores the influence of technological developments and contemporary advertising culture on feelings of nostalgia with his peers born in the 80's and 90's. Because technological development quickly changes to the next, and its products are immediately normalized or capitalized, it changes our

perception of time: everything is history and nostalgia has become a general emotion. Advertisement, fashion and popculture play a part in this.

The past year he worked mostly in the fields of music, collectives, and events. A year after his graduation the object, or better: the product, is the starting point – rounded screens, light objects, soundsystems and other strange gadgets. The decor and artificial environment of the Kunstfort is a fitting scene; the metal, 19th century warehouse in which real and fake, image and nature, past and future, come together in a fascinating symbiosis.

On Tuesday July 11th the Kunstfort organises an in depth evening about this so-called millennial nostalgia. With: Kevin Bray, Shane Burmania, Olga Kortz, Kareem Lofty, Alma Matthijssen, Tycho Posthumus, Joeri Woudstra and Zippora Elders.



© Joeri Woudstra videostill - Glijbaan 2017

Public programme: conflictzones, millennials and a peace treaty

The public programme of the Kunstfort reflects on the allround theme of science fiction. On Tuesday May 30th Fadwa Naamna (Palestine, 1985) will lecture about the influence of border politics on the (cultural) landscape in conflict zones. On Friday June 2nd artist Niek Verschoor initiates a spectacular performance in which the art world and army, represented by Ann Demeester (director of Frans Hals Museum | De Hallen) and Kees Matthijssen (general airborne operations), will make a peace treaty on Fort Vijfhuizen. And on Wednesday July 11th the Kunstfort organises an in depth evening focussing on Joeri Woudstra – Millennial Gravestone Quotes about –commercialized – nostalgia with artists, thinkers and writers of his generation (including artistic director of the Kunstfort)

All openings and events are open to public. More information : www.kunstfort.nl



© Fadwa Naamna – Borders

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