



MACS

Musée des Arts Contemporains
Grand-Hornu

Johan Muyle

No Room for Regrets

29.11 2020 > 18.04 2021

PRESS RELEASE



Performance Sculpture Burnout © Johan Muyle. Photo: Pascal Schyns.

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The MACS is organising a retrospective exhibition by Johan Muyle, one of the major Belgian artists of his generation. From his modest assemblages made with the help of artisans from the streets of Kinshasa to his customised motorbikes, as well as his monumental paintings produced by poster artists in Mumbai, Johan Muyle's oeuvre is nurtured by his numerous encounters and collaborations throughout the world. The know-how, beliefs, rituals, imageries and popular stories which he discovers feed his interest in otherness and his faith in a humanism that is nevertheless ill-treated. Through his motorised assemblages, coded aphorisms and performances, Johan Muyle creates enigmatic allegories which make us question the state of the world and its contradictions. Reacting to current events, he seizes on and twists minor news and historic events in order to denounce human vanity, the barbarity of governments and hypocrisy of religions and the media society, but also to demonstrate, as Jean-Luc Godard said, that "civilisation is in people", by celebrating for example the heroes of revolution and resistance, as represented in his view by 'the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo' in Argentina and the 'Moustache Brothers' in Burma. Presenting emblematic sculptures (*L'Impossibilité de régner*, 1991), reworked installations (*Singin' in the Rain*, 2008) or hitherto unseen works in Belgium (*Rien ne s'y oppose*, 2010) along with recent assemblages (*De Spinario - Le Tireur d'épine*, 2017), the exhibition *No Room for Regrets* was devised by the artist himself as an immersive, interactive journey through the principal periods of his work, in dialogue with the museum's architecture.



B. au bord des lèvres, 1992 © Johan Muyle. Photo: M.Lander.
AK, 2009 © Johan Muyle.
Lucy I Have a Dream, 2008 © Johan Muyle. Photo: Christian Mozar.
Sioux in Paradise (detail) © Johan Muyle. Photo: Pascal Schyns.

Practical Information

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