

⊙ CENTRE
▣ PHOTOGRAPHIQUE
+ MARSEILLE

THOMAS MAILLAENDER LUMIÈRE PASSION

27 MAY - 24 SEPTEMBER 2022



PRESS RELEASE

© Thomas Mailaender, 2022.

PRC
le réseau
le festival
le lieu

GRAND ARLES
EXPRESS 2022
LES RENCONTRES
DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE

 La
Chambre


Mund Art

● LA RESERVE DES ARTS
POUR UNE CRÉATION CIRCULAIRE ET SOLIDAIRE

LUMIÈRE PASSION THOMAS MAILAENDER

An oscillating, protean, carnivalesque exhibition on the border between a performed installation and an installed performance.

As part of **the Printemps de l'Art Contemporain 2022**, the Centre Photographique Marseille is presenting an exhibition of Thomas Mailaender's work that will be the artist's first major solo show in his native city.

Vernissage

Thursday 26 May 2022 starting at 7 pm

Exhibition

27 May to 24 September 2022

Wednesday to Saturday

2 pm - 7 pm

This exhibition is part of the satellite programme of the **Rencontres d'Arles photography** festival within the framework of the Grand Arles Express initiative.

In partnership with **La Chambre**, Strasbourg, **La Réserve des Arts**, and **Mund Art**, Marseille.

LUMIÈRE PASSION

Thomas Mailaender has been known as an exhibition maverick, a technical swashbuckler, a collector of curios, in short, something of an outlaw of art; now, he is presenting himself wearing two new hats: an industrious artist and a worksite foreman. He intends to plunge, mix, coat, light, expose, print, bind, project, recycle, destroy, and, while doing this, place all of these actions and gestures on display. A factory, therefore, in the middle of the Centre Photographique Marseille, a factory that runs full time and full throttle. While in museums, artworks are given at least one day's rest to let them breathe, Mailaender will be working non-stop, 24/7, and with him a few extra hands and heads to help out.

Contrary to the standard model for encountering a work of art – a product of the artist's genius, delivered as it emanated from their unique subjective perspective – here, rather than its finality alone, it is the entire creative process that is put into play before our eyes. In the tradition of Duchamp, who spoke of a "chain of reactions" to describe the work of the artist, Mailaender suggests his work is situated between the performed installation and the installed performance. It is, in essence, an artistic production unit that will be shown, within which art, in *statu nascendi*, does round-the-clock shifts to give birth to results that have been subjected to the sequence of decisions, renunciations, failures and successes, the will of the materials, and the time spent in the break room over beers and pizza.

Let's enter the joyful chaos that the artist has organised and named after one of the iconic photography shops from France's "Trente Glorieuses" boom period: Lumière Passion. If anything, it should feel like a street carnival, the hazardous room of a budding chemist, or the teeming garage of an amateur inventor. One will see the happy stigmata of ceremonial work that is based on varying protocols that will have made it possible to produce books, monumental cyanotype prints that hang on the walls, a film, and other objects that will be sold just like everything else that comes out of a factory.

Guillaume Blanc

THOMAS MAILAENDER

Known for his use of a wide range of mediums including ceramic, cyanotype, photography, and collage, Thomas Mailaender (b. Marseille, 1979, lives and works in Paris) often incorporates found imagery and objects into his works, updating obsolete photo processes as a kind of Jack of all trades, and archaeologist of present times.

Through his collecting and curatorial practice, he has gathered an important collection, *The Fun Archaeology*, whose documents highlight the very absurdity conveyed by its subjects, the vernacular richness of their language, and their accidental poetry.

Thomas Mailaender's recent solo exhibitions include his first retrospective in a European museum, *The Fun Archive* at the NRW Forum in Düsseldorf (2017), and his work has been exhibited in group and solo shows in notable art institutions, fairs, and festivals internationally, such as at the San Francisco MOMA (*Don't! Photography* and *the Art of Mistakes* curated by Clément Chéroux in 2019), the Saatchi Gallery in London (*Iconoclast*), Tate Modern in London (*Performing For The Camera*), Palais de Tokyo in Paris (*Do Disturb*), and the Rencontres d'Arles (*From Here On*). Numerous artist books have been published about Mailaender's work and his *Illustrated People* (published by AMC / RVB books) was awarded PhotoBook of the Year in the 2015 edition of the Aperture Foundation PhotoBook Awards. In 2016 he was a resident at the LVMH Métiers d'Art Residency at the Tanneries Roux for his project *Skin Memories*. His curatorial work includes *Hara Kiri* (Rencontres d'Arles 2016), *Night Climbers of Cambridge* (Festival Images, Vevey 2015) and *Photo Pleasure Palace* together with Erik Kessels (Unseen, Amsterdam, 2017), with whom he regularly collaborates on projects concerning the re-appropriation of the image.

Thomas Mailaender is represented by Michael Hoppen Gallery (London).

RIGHT-FREE VISUAL



View of the exhibition *Lumière Passion*, Thomas Mailaender, presented at the Centre Photographique Marseille © Thomas Mailaender, 2022.

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CENTRE PHOTOGRAPHIQUE MARSEILLE

Everyone is a photographer

The Centre Photographique Marseille (CPM) is dedicated to photography in all of its manifestations: exhibitions, amateur workshops, visual literacy training for young people, digital installations, video, documentary, participative works, transmedia storytelling, graphic design... This open and artistic space seeks to showcase, experiment, cross-pollinate, share, discover, educate, train, and entertain, while also accompanying the general public in their discovery of photography, supporting the professionalisation of artists, and developing new initiatives around photography.

co-construction and attempt to foster networks and partnerships.

The CPM is a founding member of the Réseau Diagonal, which was created in 2009 by the director of the CPM, and is the only network in France bringing together production and distribution structures dedicated to photography.

The programme is centred on contemporary photographic works and images, and it takes into account recent changes and innovations as well as the links between photography and other artistic practices. This centre's scope of activity is underpinned by ambitions for the photographic image that are both original and innovative: original because they focus as much on artistic forms as on social practices; innovative because they are based on a principle of active





USEFUL INFORMATION

From Wednesday to Saturday
2 pm - 7 pm
Closed on Monday, Tuesday, and Sunday

74 rue de la Joliette, 13002 Marseille
M° line 2 : Joliette Station
Tram line 2 & 3 / Bus 55 & 82

Free Entrance
Group visit upon reservation

Our administrative offices are open from
Monday to Thursday from 08.30 am to 12.30 pm

The Centre Photographique Marseille is
accessible to people with reduced mobility.

CONTACTS

Tèl. : +33 (0)4 91 90 46 76

Erick Gudimard
Director

Camille Varlet
Coordination officer
coordination@centrephotomarseille.fr

Clara Nebinger
Mediation Officer
mediation@centrephotomarseille.fr

For any communication request, please
contact :
communication@centrephotomarseille.fr

For any group reservation request, please
contact :
mediation@centrephotomarseille.fr

www.centrephotomarseille.fr



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