

Press Release

Exhibition

The Live Creature

Artists: Anna Craycroft (USA), Esther Ferrer (ESP), Adelita Husni-Bey (IT), Allan Kaprow (USA), Teresa Lanceta (ESP), Nicolas Malevé (BE), Aimée Zito Lema (NL)

Curator: Soledad Gutiérrez

February 15th – April 29th 2018

Press conference: Wednesday, February 14th at 5 pm at La Kunsthalle

Opening Reception: Wednesday, February 14th at 6.30 pm

The Live Creature takes its title from the first chapter of John Dewey's book "Art as Experience", published in 1934. Even though at the time, it was received with mixed feelings, time and renewed approaches to its reading have placed it as a central contribution to art education and the connection of art and everyday life. For Dewey the autonomy of the artistic experience is grounded on the social function of art, promoting a practice that increases our capacity of doing and understanding the agency of the relations we establish within the conditions of production.

Dewey's theory could be seen as an attempt to shift the understanding of what is important and characteristic about the art practice from its physical manifestations in the "expressive object" to the process in its entirety, a process whose fundamental element is no longer the material "work of art" but rather the development of an "experience".

Stemming from this conceptual frame, the exhibition includes projects that explore the connections between art education and art practice, craftsmanship as a way of relating to the world, the body as a subject of transmission and the relevance of the urban processes that surround us. All these are the starting point for the processes of artistic research and production included in the exhibition, which become tools for generating a better understanding of the way we live.

Soledad Gutiérrez (Torrelavega, 1976) is an Independent curator and Researcher. She worked as Exhibitions Curator at the Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA) up until 2014. Before that, she managed the Exhibitions Program at Hauser & Wirth Gallery, and was Exhibitions Organiser at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, both in London. From 2014 to 2017 she has collaborated as Curator with *MANUFACTORIES OF CARING SPACE- TIME*, a European project of the Tàpies Foundation in Barcelona; the Museum voor Schone Kunsten (MSK), Gent (Belgium) and the FRAC Lorraine (France) that explored the potentialities of the collective and immaterial practices in Contemporary Art. She has also published several articles in catalogues and magazines.

The exhibition is supported by Acción Cultural Española, AC/E.

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The Live Creature is part of *Oh ! Pays-Bas*, Dutch cultural season in France 2017-2018.

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La Kunsthalle is supported by Prevel Signalisation.

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Opening hours

Open Wednesday to Friday, noon to 6 pm

Saturday and Sunday, 2 pm to 6 pm

Late-night opening Thursdays until 8 pm

Closed Mondays, Tuesdays and March 30th and April 1st 2018

Free admission

La Kunsthalle Mulhouse - Centre d'art contemporain

La Fonderie

16 rue de la Fonderie - 68093 Mulhouse Cedex

tél : + 33 (0)3 69 77 66 47

kunsthalle@mulhouse.fr / www.kunsthallemulhouse.com

Enquiries/Press office: Clarisse SCHWARB

Tél. +33 (0)3 69 77 66 28

clarisse.schwarb@mulhouse.fr

La Kunsthalle is a City of Mulhouse cultural establishment.

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