

Exhibition: *Pierre Huyghe*

On View: November 23, 2014–February 22, 2015

Location: Resnick Pavilion



(Image caption on page 4)

(Los Angeles—November 12, 2014) The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) presents *Pierre Huyghe*, the artist's first retrospective in the United States, bringing together approximately 60 works from the past 25 years. Huyghe's diverse practice includes live situations, exhibitions, films, objects, and drawings. Huyghe often collaborates with specialists in other fields such as science, literature, film, music, and architecture.

In search of what the artist has termed a “non-knowledge zone,” Huyghe approaches an existing system—such as an institution, a situation, or an area of knowledge—and creates a speculative proposition: a “what could be.” Influences and role-playing are the materials with which Huyghe works.

Taking the exhibition and its rituals as an object in itself, Huyghe explores the possibilities of this dynamic experience and the *mise-en-scène* of its boundaries. To that end, he has constructed time-based situations, where live events unfold according to a program or score. Most recently, his projects take the form of a self-generating network in which emergences and rhythms are indeterminate and exist beyond our presence.

Jarrett Gregory, Associate Curator of Contemporary Art at LACMA, says, “Through his events and encounters, Huyghe upends the expectation that art is a discrete work exhibited for a specific time. His practice embraces temporality; contingent objects, animals, machines and humans become understood as durational, rather than static entities. The resulting exhibition forms a network that, while populated by Huyghe's objects and ideas, lives on beyond his supervision.”

"Pierre Huyghe's work is by turns surprising and captivating," says Michael Govan, LACMA CEO and Wallis Annenberg Director. "He is one of the most significant artists currently working on an international stage, and we are thrilled to be the only U.S. venue for this imaginative retrospective."

Exhibition Overview

The exhibition emphasizes the living dimension of Huyghe's propositions, which envision the space as a world, evolving according to its own rhythms. Rather than displaying a selection of objects, the exhibition explores the porosities and the intensities that arise between elements.

The encounters that occur in *Pierre Huyghe* are not choreographed but unplanned; in what he refers to as an "auto-generative system," the artist constructs a set of conditions and allows events to unfold following their own course. Exemplifying Huyghe's unique methodology, multiple elements from his 2012 installation at dOCUMENTA (13) will have their U.S. debut in this exhibition, including *Human*, a white Ibizan hound, and the film *A Way in Untilled*, which was filmed on site in Kassel, Germany. In addition, the exhibition will include the world premiere of a new aquarium and the U.S. premiere of the film *Untitled (Human Mask)*.

The exhibition is accompanied by an illustrated catalogue, edited by Emma Lavigne, with essays by Amelia Barikin, Tristan Garcia, Emma Lavigne, and Vincent Normand.

About Pierre Huyghe

Pierre Huyghe (b. 1962, Paris) was educated at the École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs in Paris. He has had numerous international solo exhibitions at venues such as Museum Ludwig, Cologne; (2014); Centre Pompidou, Paris (2013); Museo Tamayo Arte Contemporáneo, Mexico City (2012); Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid; the Art Institute of Chicago (2010); Tate Modern, London (2006); Moderna Museet, Stockholm; the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin (2005); Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Dia Center for the Arts, New York (2003); Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (2001); Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago (2000); and Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris (1998). In 2001 he represented France at the 49th Venice Biennale with his exhibition *Le Château de Turing* and won the Special Jury Prize. Huyghe has also participated in a number of international art shows, including dOCUMENTA (13) (2012); Documenta (11) (2002); the Istanbul Biennial (1999); the Carnegie International, Pittsburgh (1999); Manifesta 2, Luxembourg (1998); and the second Johannesburg Biennial (1997). He was the recipient of the Roswitha Haftmann

Award (2013), the Smithsonian American Museum's Contemporary Artist Award (2010), the Hugo Boss Prize (2002), and was a DAAD Artist-in-Residence in Berlin (1999–2000).

Public Programs

Pierre Huyghe in Conversation with Emma Lavigne, curator of contemporary art at the Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris
Introduction by curator Jarrett Gregory
Sunday, November 23 | 1 pm
LACMA, Bing Theater
Free, no reservations required

Cycle of Lectures on Marcel Duchamp by Carlos Basualdo, Keith L. and Katherine Sachs Curator of Contemporary Art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art
LACMA, Brown Auditorium
Free, no reservations required

The four lectures will provide a general introduction to the work of Marcel Duchamp, examining the relationship between the artist's life and his oeuvre as understood through the lens of selected recent works by four contemporary artists: Jasper Johns, Bruce Nauman, Philippe Parreno, and Pierre Huyghe.

January 26 | 7:30 pm: Session I
January 27 | 7:30 pm: Session II
January 28 | 5:00 pm: Session III
January 28 | 7:30 pm: Session IV

Curator Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev on the work of Pierre Huyghe
February 17 | 7:30 pm
Bing Auditorium
Free, no reservations required

Credit

This exhibition is organized by the Centre Pompidou, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Paris, in association with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Museum Ludwig, Köln.

The exhibition is supported by the LUMA Foundation; Marian Goodman Gallery, New York; Esther Schipper, Berlin; and Hauser & Wirth, London. Additional support is provided in part by the Institut Français.

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Image Caption

Pierre Huyghe, film still from *Untitled (Human Mask)*, 2014, courtesy the artist; Marian Goodman Gallery, New York; Hauser & Wirth, London; Esther Schipper, Berlin; and Anna Lena Films, Paris.
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About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography, in addition to representing Los Angeles's uniquely diverse population. Today LACMA is the largest art museum in the western United States, with a collection that includes over 120,000 objects dating from antiquity to the present, encompassing the geographic world and nearly the entire history of art. Among the museum's strengths are its holdings of Asian art, Latin American art, ranging from pre-Columbian masterpieces to works by leading modern and contemporary artists; and Islamic art, of which LACMA hosts one of the most significant collections in the world. A museum of international stature as well as a vital part of Southern California, LACMA shares its vast collections through exhibitions, public programs, and research facilities that attract over a million visitors annually, in addition to serving millions through digital initiatives, such as online collections, scholarly catalogues, and interactive engagement at lacma.org. Situated in Hancock Park on over 20 acres in the heart of Los Angeles, LACMA is located between the ocean and downtown.

Location: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA, 90036. lacma.org

Press Contact: press@lacma.org, 323 857-6522

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