



CHÂTEAU LA COSTE

Provence

Commissariat d'exposition : Margaux Plessy

GALERIE RICHARD ROGERS
Château La Coste
14 Septembre - 12 Novembre 2024

Erel Adnan	Adrian Geller
Kenia Almaraz Murillo	Nathanaëlle Herbelin
Marella Barceló	Victoire Inchauspé
Genesis Belanger	Claudia Keep
Bianca Bondi	Constance Lafonta
Louise Bourgeois	Xie Lei
Djabril Boukhenâissi	Inès Longevial
Sophie Calle	Simon Martin
Dorothy Cross	Joshua Raz
Tracey Emin	Christine Safa
Julian Farade	Kiki Smith
Alex Foxton	

14 September – 12 November 2024

Richard Rogers Gallery

Château La Coste is pleased to present 'Une Chambre à Soi', a group exhibition curated by Margaux Plessy bringing together over fifteen emerging international artists in dialogue with four leading female figures in art history to tell the story of one night, from sunset to sunrise. Displayed in the Richard Rogers Drawing Gallery from 14 September - 12 November 2024, visitors will be immersed in an intimate bedroom setting, guided by a rhythm of works that evoke the different phases of a fragmented, near-sleepless night.

An avid reader of literature and poetry, Plessy takes the title of the show from Virginia Woolf's extended essay of the same name 'A Room of One's Own', which spoke to her of themes of intimacy, secrecy and the possibility of imagination. Also inspired by her own personal experiences of insomnia, Plessy invited a group of emerging French and international artists to create new works that express their interpretations of dreams, nightmares and restlessness, and explore sleep, or a lack thereof, as an instigator of creativity. This tightrope walk is accompanied by a story made up entirely of words, extracts and ideas borrowed from some of the greatest authors of French literature, collected and arranged by Plessy.

The exhibition begins with an invitation to close one's eyes and ends with an invitation to reopen them. In the meantime, on a solitary night, visitors will have experienced the transition from dusk until dawn through paintings, sculptures and tapestries. In the middle of the room, **Dorothy Cross's** marble sculpture of two pillows each with an ear lightly resting on top, together with **Kiki Smith's** silver *Crescent Bird* (2015) sets a tone of mystery and intrigue for the night ahead. As the sun sets, **Claudia Keep's** luminous, warm duvets and pillows in oil set a relaxing mood alongside **Tracey Emin's** poetic, reclining figure *Thinking More of You* (2012) and **Nathanaëlle Herbelin's** gauzy *Fenêtre bleue* (2023).

Visitors gently drift away with the dreams of **Alex Foxton**, **Joshua Raz** and **Simon Martin** before awakening into the restless frustration of insomnia. Four of **Louise Bourgeois's** text-based series *What Is the Shape of This Problem?* (1999) reflect the racing thoughts and overthinking spurred by insomnia's well-known trapping state of half-awareness. As the minutes tick by, the dread of the next day intensifies along with feelings of weakness and helplessness that are mirrored in **Victoire Inchauspé's** bronze bouquet of wilted flowers that slump against a wall. **Genesis Belanger's** porcelain sink and bathroom cupboard *Scrub, Spritz, Splash* (2019) offers a light reprieve, and is set alongside **Inès Longevial's** surreal drawing series on bathroom paper depicting hybrid animal, human and plant figures. Another awakening leads the visitor to the kitchen, to **Bianca Bondi's** exquisite dining installation made purely from salt.

Vivid, nightmarish imagery in hues of royal and dark blue engulf visitors as they enter the emotional climax of the show. **Julian Farade's** frightening beast-like character in *Gardien de mes nuits* (2019) triggers the physical reactions one might associate with a night terror, as it chases or threatens the viewer in an immersion of blue, with no apparent means to escape. **Constance Lafonta's** *Sursaut* (2023) encapsulates the sensation of being alarmed, whilst **Marcella Barceló** evokes a more sinister feeling in the painting *The Night Mare* (2024), which depicts a solitary naked figure being watched or followed by a menacing black horse. The blurred boundaries of real versus imaginary and the intense emotions of fear, sadness and panic continue to be explored in new works by **Adrian Geller**, **Djabril Boukenaissi** and **Xie Lei**, created especially for the exhibition.

Finally, waves of relief roll in as the visitor reaches the arrival of dawn, signalled by *La Ciudad de Oro* by Bolivian artist **Kenia Almaraz Murillo**; a glowing halo sitting atop a variety of delicately woven threads in golds, yellows and amber. Colour is also the guiding principle in **Etel Adnan's** practice, whose engravings incite peacefulness and comfort, and sit alongside a new, emotion-filled work by

Christine Safa. Nathanaëlle Herbelin's naked figure *David* (2020) smokes a cigarette in the hazy sunrise glow, processing the previous night's events and calming his anxiety. 'Here lies secrets' says **Sophie Calle's** edition *Ainsi de suite*, on top of a monotone sea, closing the loop of the night that was so ordinary, yet so eventful.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Une Chambre à Soi

Dates: 14 September – 12 November 2024

Address: Château la Coste, 2750 Route de la Cride, 13610 Le Puy-Sainte-Réparate, France

Website: www.chateau-la-coste.com

An accompanying catalogue will be published alongside the exhibition.

PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Etel Adnan, *Collection du Château La Coste*

Kenia Almaraz Murillo, *Custot Gallery*

Marcella Barceló

Genesis Belanger, *Collection Privée de Monsieur Michaël Benabou*

Bianca Bondi, *mor Charpentier*

Djabril Boukhenassi, *Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Galerie Sator*

Louise Bourgeois, *Collection du Château La Coste*

Sophie Calle, *Perrotin*

Dorothy Cross, *Collection du Château La Coste*

Tracey Emin, *Collection du Château La Coste*

Julian Farade, *Galerie Derouillon,*

Alex Foxton, *Galerie Derouillon*

Adrian Geller, *Super Dakota*

Nathanaëlle Herbelin, *Galerie Jousse Entreprise*

Victoire Inchauspé

Constance Lafonta

Inès Longevial, *Ketabi Bourdet*

Claudia Keep, *Galerie Marguo*

Simon Martin, *Galerie Jousse Entreprise*

Joshua Raz

Kiki Smith, *Galerie Lelong & Co.*

Christine Safa, *Galerie Lelong & Co.*

Xie Lei, *Semiose*

ABOUT MARGAUX PLESSY

Margaux Plessy, founder and director of the TALKART agency, initially studied history and international politics in London (King's College) and Paris (Sciences-Po). Two pivotal events then shaped her career, cementing her belief in the inseparable connection between art and politics: discovering Lucio Fontana's work in an empty Beaubourg and a stay in war-torn Palestine. She furthered her education at the École du Louvre, the Courtauld Institute, and Oxford University but always prioritised connecting with artists.

In 2020, she took on the role of curator and producer for the 20th edition of the Parcours Saint-Germain, bravely confronting the pandemic by inviting over fifty artists to take to the streets. This led her to join JR's team, where she managed special projects and trained in production between Paris and New York.

Plessey's primary passion has always been discovering young artists, both French and international, and introducing them to new collections. She founded her consultancy agency, TALKART, forging close a collaboration with Château La Coste and introducing them to curators of emerging art such as Lee Shulman (founder of The Anonymous Project), Domaine ODDO Vallon des Glauges, and more recently, CMS Collection and Art for Action.

Today, TALKART operates in three main areas: exhibition curation, artistic production, and acquisition consulting, providing a lifetime service to artists and art enthusiasts.

ABOUT CHÂTEAU LA COSTE

Situated in one of the oldest winemaking regions of France, between the historic city of Aix-En Provence and the Luberon National Park, Château La Coste is a vineyard where wine, art and architecture co-exist in harmony. Since it opened to the public in 2011, Château La Coste invites visitors to discover over forty major works of contemporary art installed in the open air and five gallery spaces dotted across the 500-acre site.

Each year artists and architects are invited to visit the domain and discover the unique beauty of this Provençal landscape, with its famed cypresses, stone pines, olive trees and ancient oaks. They are given the freedom to create a site-specific work in an area of the site that inspires them, so Château La Coste continues to evolve as new projects and installations are developed. Artists and architects who have created permanent works at Château La Coste include Frank O. Gehry, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Louise Bourgeois, Richard Rogers, Sophie Calle, Prune Nourry, Tracey Emin and Jean Nouvel.

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