

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GERY DE SMET SOLO EXHIBITION

Causality Unintended

Venue: HRD Fine Art (494-1 Kamigoryo-tatemachi, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto)

Date: September 2 – October 2, 2021

Hours: **Thu: 11:00am - 3:00pm**

Fri & Sat: 11:00am - 7:00pm

Closed: Sun-Wed (open by appointment)

Support: The Government of Flanders



HRD Fine Art is delighted to announce the opening of a solo exhibition of Belgian artist Gery De Smet, titled "Causality Unintended," which will go on display from October 7th through November 27th, 2021. This will be the artist's first ever exhibition in Japan who is based in Belgium and active throughout Europe and beyond. This show is also an affiliate program of "KG+ 2021," a satellite event of "Kyotographie International Photography Festival."

Gery De Smet is working around the themes of identity, immigration, nationality, and power. Particularly, his interest lies in "invented tradition." Gery De Smet researches the identity of people and demasks the constructions behind it. At the same time, De Smet's works are quite accessible, leveraging the pure power of images.

In this exhibition, De Smet presents a series of photo-collage, where he cuts out cardboards to show some geometrical patterns, which actually form "Rune" alphabets that date back to ancient Europe. The Nazis used them in early 20th century to claim their authenticity in historical traditions. And now some European extreme rightist groups also use them in an attempt at reviving fascism. Here, however, through the cutout windows you see pornographic images, and if you look closer, you see that these are images of people of different skin colors making love, or images of homosexual situations. So here, two types of images are coming together - one that the extreme rights will love, and one they will abhor. In this way, De Smet questions the power of imagery and symbolism in contemporary society and twists our perception of history and reality.

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This exhibition includes sexually explicit images. Please view responsibly and at your own risk. Minors under the age of 18 are not allowed entry except when permitted and accompanied by their parent or guardian. No photographing is permitted inside the gallery.

The artist will not travel to Kyoto for this exhibition.

[ARTWORKS]



Part 16 of Causality Unintended

collage (printed matter, cardboard), frame 27x21cm 2021



Part 17 of Causality Unintended

collage (printed matter, cardboard), frame 27x21cm 2021



Part 13 of Causality Unintended

collage (printed matter, cardboard), frame 27x21cm 2021



Installation view (file)

[ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY]

Gery De Smet

1961 Born in Antwerp, Belgium
 1984-1988 KASK (The Royal Academy of Fine Arts), Ghent
 1988-1993 HISK (Higher Institute for Fine Arts), Antwerp
 Lives and works in Ghent, Belgium



Selected Solo Exhibitions

1986 *Oorlogsbodems*, Le Beau Bruxel, Brussels
 1987 Stedelijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten, Oostende
 1990 *Studie der ideologieën*, Netwerk Galerij, Aalst
 1991 *Beeldengalerij*, Higher Institute for Fine Arts, Antwerp
 1992 *Schilderijen*, Dorp & Dal, Ghent
 1993 *Kultuurkamer*, Galerie Hugo Minnen, Antwerp
 CIAP, Hasselt
 1994 *Je suys celluy au coeur vestu de noir*, Watertoren CHK, Vlissingen, the Netherlands
 1996 *AVE*, Osterwalder's Art Office, Hamburg, Germany
Signatures, Sint-Lucaspassage, Antwerp
 1997 *Kom, volg mij*, Van Laere Contemporary Art, Antwerp
My point of view, The George Rodger Gallery, Maidstone, UK
 1998 *Ways of living*, Osterwalder's Art Office, Hamburg, Germany
 1999 *Toewijding*, Campo-Santo, Sint-Amandsberg
 2000 *Lichtmis*, Osterwalder's Art Office, Hamburg, Germany
Voor uw eigen goed, RUG - Binnentuin Faculteit van Letteren en Wijsbegeerte, Ghent
 2001 *Wijzen van wonen*, Galerie Mercator, Antwerp
 2003 *Leeuwenhart: de wil van God*, MDL, Museum van Deinze en de Leiestreek, Deinze
 2004 *Kleine landeigendom*, Zwart Huis, Knokke
Mokum en wijde omgeving, Steendrukkerij Amsterdam, Amsterdam
 2007 *Slapende cellen/Sleeping cells*, Steendrukkerij Amsterdam, Amsterdam
 2009 *Today all circuits are closed*, Steendrukkerij Amsterdam, Amsterdam
 2010 *See something? Say something!*, American University Museum at the Katzen Center in Washington DC, US
 2011 *See something? Say something!*, Museum of Modern Art Artetage, Vladivostok, Russia
 2013 *Paardenkracht*, PAK, Gistel
 2015 *De stand der zonnen*, Villa de Olmen, Wieze
 2016 *Finish a start!*, The Black Wall, Brussels
Offerfeest, Emergent, Veurne
 2017 *Avonden in Avondland*, Bruthaus, Waregem

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1997 *Reality revisited - De Herinnering als verlangen*, Sala Montcada, Fundacio la Caixa, Barcelona
Collection II, Osterwalders Art Office, Hamburg, Germany
- 1998 *Vlaanderen - Moskou*, Cultureel Centrum Berchem, Antwerp
- 2000 *Ieder z'n voetbal. Het voetbal in de beeldende kunst 1900-2000*, Kunsthal Rotterdam, Rotterdam, the Netherlands
Devotie, W139, Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Tremendum et fascinosum. Representaties van extreem-rechts (1980-2000), Cultureel Centrum Berchem, Antwerp
- 2001 *Het versluierd beeld*, Begijnhof, Hasselt
Painting - Show, M&M Gallery, Bornem
Belgisch ATELIER Belge, Passage 44, Brussel
- 2002 *Summer in the city*, Osterwalders Art Office, Hamburg, Germany
De hofvijver in poëzie en beeld, Brediushuis, Den Haag, the Netherlands
- 2004 *Tong 2*, Tongerlohuys, Roosendaal, the Netherlands
Memory Sticks, Galerie Reuten, Amsterdam
- 2005 *Emilie Fresco*, Klooster, Mechelen
- 2006 *Spotlights*, Cultureel Centrum Hasselt
In kaart gebracht, Stedelijk Museum, Aalst
Stadsgezichten, Erfgoedcentrum Lamot, Mechelen
- 2007 *Ver van Eden/Loin de l'Eden*, Hondshoote City Hall, France / Vinkem Church, Beauvoorde
By the way, Tongerlohuys, Rosendaal
- 2008 *Onthaasting, About Slow Worlds and Spare Time*, American University Museum at the Katzen Center in Washington DC, US
Poëziezomer, Watou
Vision in Motion/Motion in Vision, Verbeke Foundation, Kemzeke
Over voetbal, Herman Teirlinckhuis, Beerstel
- 2009 *Het zelfde en het Andere - Humanisme stilstaand verbeeld*, Zebrastraat, Ghent
Als stenen spreken, Diamantmuseum, Antwerp
Fading, Museum van Elsene, Brussels
- 2010 *Koers*, Herman Teirlinckhuis, Beersel
- 2011 *Gevaarlijk Jong*, Museum Guislain, Ghent
Flemish Artists, Flanders House, New York Times Building, New York
Nietsvermoedend in het park, Pocketroom, Antwerp
La part des Anges, Villa de Olmen', ruimte voor actuele kunst, Wieze
- 2012 *Verzorgers uit!*, Herman Teirlinckhuis, Beersel
- 2013 *5th Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art Special Project*, State Central Museum of Contemporary History of Russia, Moscow, Russia
350 jaar academie Antwerpen, MAS, Antwerpen
Oorlog & trauma, Museum Guislain, Ghent

- 2014 *Biënnale van Poznan*, Poznan, Poland
Stille kracht, Warande, Cultureel Centrum, Turnhout
- 2015 *Praetoria*, Praetoria, Antwerp
- 2016 *Buiten de context*, Kasteel Cortewalle, Beveren
Land van Belofte, Praetoria, Antwerp
Biënnale van Poznan, Muzeum Narodowe w Poznaniu, Poznan, Poland
- 2017 *Kathmandu Triennale*, Kathmandu, Nepal
Camouflaged Pearls, Bruthaus, Waregem
Between earth and heaven, PAK, Brugge
- 2018 *Verknipt*, Warp, Sint-Niklaas
European Capital of Culture, Saint James Cavalier, Valletta, Malta
Manifesta, Global Garden, Palermo, Italy
- 2019 *Il potere sta nella sua vulnerabilità*, Asilo, MACRO Museum, Rome, Italy
Camouflaged Pearls II, Bruthaus, Waregem
- 2020 *Salon des Editions*, Museum D-Hondt-D-Haenens, Deurle
Privaat, Bruthaus Gallery, Waregem
- 2021 *A Butterfly's Scream*, PAK, Beernem
Life begins at fifty but it ends at forty, Municipal Gallery, Bydgoszcz, Poland

Award

- 1992 *Young Belgian Painting*, 1st prize: Emile Langui Prize

Public Collections

- NATO, Brussels
Museum of Modern Art Artetage, Vladivostok, Russia
MDL Museum of Deinze en de Leiestreek, Deinze
M HKA Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerpen
National Bank of Belgium, Brussels
Flemish Government, Brussels
Flemish Parliament, Brussels
Mu.ZEE, Oostende

[NEW CORONAVIRUS COUNTERMEASURES]

HRD Fine Art implements the following countermeasures to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus as we restart our exhibition program at the gallery.

i. Suspension of opening receptions

Previously, we used to host opening reception parties for our exhibitions held in the gallery to facilitate communication between the artists and the audience. However, to ensure safety of the visitors, we will suspend opening receptions for the time being.

ii. Body temperature measurement, facemasks, and hand disinfection

We kindly ask all visitors to measure their body temperature prior to their visit (on the same day). In some cases we might kindly request to measure the guest's body temperature using non-contact thermometer. Anyone with the body temperature at 37.5°C or higher, or anyone with respiratory symptoms such as coughing, will not be permitted entry to the gallery. All visitors are kindly requested to wear an unwoven mask or equivalent or a higher-level respirator at all time during their visit. Cloth masks, urethane masks, and gauze masks are not permitted, and those with such masks are requested to wear unwoven masks provided by the gallery. Please contact us beforehand if you cannot wear an unwoven mask due to any specific health condition. Visitors shall disinfect their hands before they enter the gallery using alcohol-based hand sanitizer provided by the gallery.

iii. Limited number of people allowed in the gallery at once

In order to avoid congestion, we might ask visitors to wait outside the building until other visitors already in the gallery finish viewing the exhibition and leave.

iv. Possibility of temporary closure of the gallery or shift to appointment-only system

As a result of close monitoring of the pandemic situation and in order to safeguard all people involved in a more secure manner, HRD Fine Art might temporarily close its door and suspend the exhibition program altogether, or introduce an appointment-only system without prior notice or on short notice. We will make sure to notify such changes as swiftly as possible through channels that include our website (www.hrdfineart.com) and social media.

Thank you for your kind understanding and cooperation!

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For further information or for artwork images please contact us:

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