

CLAUDE CLOSKY ANIMATIONS

LE **QU** CENTRE
D'ART **ART** CONTEMPORAIN
DE QUIMPER
IER

GUIDE #85
JUNE 30 - NOVEMBRE 18, 2012

CLAUDE CLOSKY ANIMATIONS

There's no past, just «comebacks», «revivals» and «vintage»; no future, just projection, speculation and simulation. Claude Closky

Animations is a trip through Le Quartier's exhibition spaces, in three parts and several stages. Animations is a journey through the present, an alternation of the close-up and the out-of-frame, of movements and waitings. In this place of transitions, the visitor tests out his subjectivity and freedom to act. The deliberately ambivalent title questions an art centre's ability to «animate» viewers' bodies and thinking, at the same time as it criticises the systematic equation of leisure with free time – a dogma the artist disarms wittily and tirelessly.

Claude Closky became known in the mid-1980s as one of the «Frères Ripoulin», a collective of figurative painters working in a similar vein to France's Figuration Libre movement and Street Art's Keith Haring, Kenny Sharf and Jean-Michel Basquiat. At the time the latter were being promoted by Tony Shafrazi, who presented the Ripoulin's second exhibition in his New York Gallery in 1985. Closky went on to work with the media signage that saturates our everyday existence: advertising slogans, cuttings from fashion and economics magazines, logos, brand names and statistics. As art historian Michel Gauthier explains, the strange fate of Closky's art emerged from the encounter between a Conceptualism in pause mode and media hyperactivity. The tweakings we find in his works distance us from the stream of standard

signs and messages that forcibly shape our representations of the world. At Le Quartier the visitor traverses three works involving three distinct imaginative domains: *Animations* homes in on the abstract graphics of the first video arcade games and gives them new meaning; *Illumination* references the headlines of «major revelation» dailies; and *No Choice* associates and contrasts hundreds of photographs lifted from the «world wide (spider) web».

Waiting for a point to collide with a line on a digital screen may seem absurd, but *Animations* functions, in fact, more like a vanitas, abandoning the playful aspect of its images in favour of perpetual, pointless motion. This existential dimension recurs in the light bulbs switching on successively and drawing the visitor in their wake. The bulb set up high and briefly illuminating word-fragments cut from newspapers mocks belief in revelations and the authority of the cognitive process. Meanwhile our physical Le quartier press release june/november 2012 relationship with the works highlights our connection with time via representations ranging from extreme slow motion to dramatic acceleration. *No Choice* is a video installation comprising two synchronised slide projections. Facing each other, the projections whip by at a speed that makes it (almost) impossible to catch them simultaneously. Commenting on this piece, exhibition curator Ali Akay points out that the non-choice of the title also references the decision-making process in democracies, the

ultimate choice in any election being a binary opposition. Here the viewer is submerged by the sheer profusion of Internet images, but quantity is not diversity: on the contrary, it tends to make us forget otherness.

The layout of the Claude Closky exhibition at Le Quartier contains no message apart from its opposition to discourse that tends to obscure ideological issues. Closky's work is always in a minimal vein: he holds back calculatedly, establishing the point of balance that will enable the viewer to take a stand. Play! Learn! Choose! Amid the dominant languages of our time, his works take shape like minor ones, languages calling on us to look and act differently. They explore other temporalities, make play with the elasticity of time and activate our subjectivity as a motor for perceiving it.

Keren Detton
Translated by John Tittensor

WORKS SHOWN IN THE EXHIBITION

ROOM 1: ANIMATIONS (2012)

1. *Buildings*, 2012

Video installation, 7 in. tablet computer , stereo sound, unlimited duration
Occurrence everyday at 2 h 30 pm

2. *Déjeuner*, 2012

Video installation, 7 in. tablet computer , stereo sound, unlimited duration
Occurrence everyday at 1 h 30 pm

3. *Convoi*, 2012

Video installation, 7 in. tablet computer , stereo sound, unlimited duration
Occurrence everyday at 3 h 30 pm

4. *Traversée*, 2012

Video installation, 7 in. tablet computer , stereo sound, unlimited duration
Occurrence everyday at 11 h 30 am

5. *Contact*, 2012

Video installation, 7 in. tablet computer , stereo sound, unlimited duration
Occurrence everyday at 5 h 30 pm

6. *Alien*, 2012

Video installation, 7 in. tablet computer , stereo sound, unlimited duration
Occurrence everyday at 10h30 am

7. *Voyelle*, 2012

Video installation, 7 in. tablet computer , stereo sound, unlimited duration
Occurrence everyday at 4 h 30 pm

Credits : programming Jean-Noël Lafargue,
images Elsa Werth, production Le Quartier,
Quimper

ROOMS 2 AND 3 : ILLUMINATION (2008)

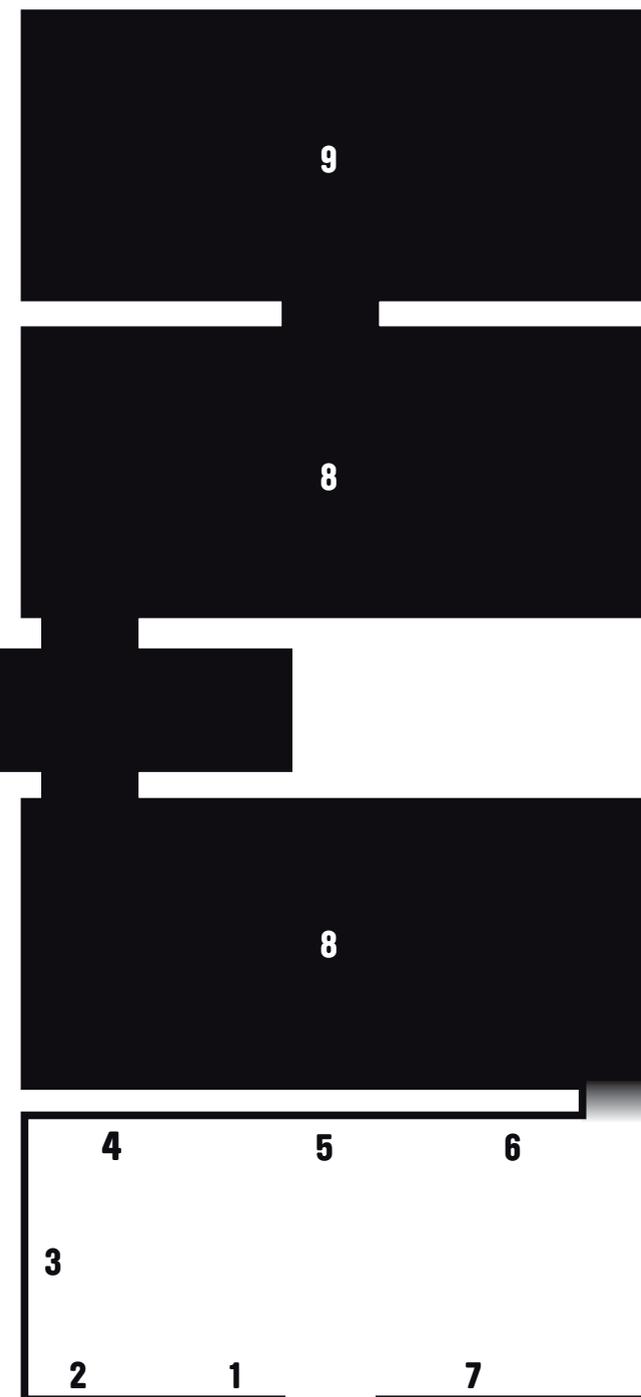
8. *Illumination*, 2008

20 framed collages(30 x 21 cm), light bulbs,
electric system, variable dimensions
Production Le Creux de l'Enfer, Thiers
Courtesy galerie Laurent Godin, Paris

ROOM 4 : NO CHOICE (2009)

9. *No Choice*, 2009

Two projections facing each other, computer,
unlimited duration
Production Akbank Art Center, Istanbul
Courtesy galerie Laurent Godin, Paris



PROJECT ROOM

**PASSION FOR ART IN FINISTÈRE,
COLLECTION #3: A SELECTION OF WORKS
FROM THE COLLECTION OF ISABELLE AND
PHILIPPE POITEVIN
FROM JUNE 30 UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2, 2012**

Collection #3 is part of the exhibition cycle A Passion for Art in Finistère, which features the approaches of different collectors of contemporary art. Presented at varying intervals in Le Quartier's Project Room, the collections displayed reflect a passionate commitment both to shaping a living environment and to supporting artists. At the same time they make it clear that collecting is more a matter of choice than price.

This selection of works from the Isabelle and Philippe Poitevin Collection combines the works of leading artists with a personal view of the history of contemporary art. Representing some thirty years of encounters, interchange and friendship with artists, critics and exhibition curators, the collection has steadily grown into an overview of the period's trends and seminal moments in the making of art.

The exhibition covers trends including the New Realism, Fluxus, conceptual art and the group practices of the 1990s: all examples of movements that went on to become historic. These unique works, accompanied by correspondence with their creators, material relating to their production context, multiples and rare publications, are proof that collecting is more than just a passion for art objects: it is, too, a creative involvement in which the forms of art and life come together.

TALK

Sunday 2 September at 4:00 pm
With Isabelle and Philippe Poitevin, art collectors

COMING SOON

INGO VETTER & DETROIT TREE OF HEAVEN WOODSHOP: «MOTOR SHOW»

From September 8 until October 7, 2012
Opening: Friday 7 September at 6:30 pm
In partnership with Passerelle art center, Brest, and Ateliers de Rennes, Biennial of Contemporary Art.

MÉMOIRE DE VERRE

From October 11 until November 7, 2012
In partnership with the European Superior School of Art in Brittany – Site of Quimper

ENCOUNTERS

TALK

Sunday 2 September at 4:00 pm
With Isabelle and Philippe Poitevin
Free admission

OPENING

Friday 7 September at 6:30 pm
Exhibition « Ingo Vetter »
Free admission

EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September
Exhibition tours from 2:00 pm until 6:00 pm
Free admission

HANDS-ON TOUR

Saturday 6 October at 2:30 pm (1 h 30)
A tour of the current exhibition for the 5–10 year-olds, followed by a hands-on materials and techniques workshop.
Guide : Yann Le Bail
Admission 5 €

TEA AND TALES

Sunday 14 October at 4:00 pm (1 h 30)
Afternoon tea and the chance to discover art books in the company of storyteller Laurence Durand : pleasure for the taste buds and the imagination.
For all the family.
Admission 6 € (tea included)

TOURS

EXHIBITION TOURS

Thursday 12 and 26 July at 2:30 pm (1 h)
Thursday 9 et 23 August at 2:30 pm (1 h)
Saturday 13 October at 2:30 pm (1 h)
Admission 2 €

FAMILY TOUR

Sunday 30 September at 4:00 pm (30 mn)
A chance for families to enjoy an exhibition as they track down clues hidden in the works.
Free admission

BRETON LANGUAGE TOUR

Saturday 13 October at 4:00 pm (40 mn)
Guide : Annaïck Loisel
Admission 3,50 € / reduced 2 €

BOOKSHOP-CAFÉ

The bookshop is the perfect place for enjoying a coffee and consulting a range of books relating to the exhibitions and the current art scene in Brittany. There are also monthly presentations of artists' multiples and art books for children, as well as regular writing workshops.
The café offers hot and cold drinks, together with free WiFi access.

LE QUARTIER, CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER OF QUIMPER

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www.le-quartier.net

HOW TO FIND US

Follow the signs «Centre ville» –
the entrance is opposite the Théâtre
de Cornouaille
Accessible to people with mobility
impairments

NEW OPENING HOURS

Up to Sept. 30 :

Tuesday–Saturday, 10 – 12 am, 1 – 6 pm.
Sundays and public holidays, 2 – 6 pm.

From Oct. 1st :

Tuesday–Saturday, 1 – 6 pm.
Sundays and public holidays, 2 – 6 pm.
Closed on Nov. 1st and Nov. 11th.

ADMISSION

2 € (Free admission for all on Sundays)

Free admission : students (under 26),
Art Passport holders, jobseekers, people
over 65, Le Quartier subscribers

EXHIBITION GUIDE #85

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PARTNERS

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VILLE
DE QUIMPER

