

9 October 2021 to 9 January 2022

The penultimate version of reality

BROGNON ROLLIN

The BPS22 Museum of Art in Charleroi, Hainaut Province, is getting ready to welcome the second event in the first monographic museum exhibition of the Brognon Rollin artistic duo. Co-produced with the MAC VAL in Vitry-sur-Seine, France, this exhibition represents a perspective of their work from the past 15 years. It includes exclusive new creations such as *Yamina*, the longest neon lifeline they have ever produced. This perspective underlines the uniqueness of their definitive world and their consistent approach.

Born respectively in 1978 and 1980 in Messancy (Belgium) and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, David Brognon and Stéphanie Rollin have spent almost 15 years creating multifaceted work, guided by great conceptual and ethical demands. This is reflected in their first large-scale museum exhibition, shown internationally in two events: the first at the MAC VAL in France in 2020, and now in Belgium.

Under the title *The penultimate version of reality*, borrowed from the writer Luis Borges, they develop a recurring question: does reality exist outside of its representations? And more specifically, what does this mean about its time and perception? Its relativity? Its spatial dimensions? How can we shape the experience of time passing? Or that of anticipation or suspense?

As the curators of the first showing at the MAC VAL, Frank Lamy and Julien Blanpied, observed, 'between Philip K. Dick, Stefan Zweig and Jorge Luis Borges, David Brognon and Stéphanie Rollin explore the cracks in time. The exhibition's works endeavour to experiment with so many fault lines in space-time and reflect on how all things are destined to disappear.'

In a selection of approximately 40 works, including several new productions at each event (such as *Yamina*, at 27 metres the longest neon lifeline the two artists have ever created and produced especially for the BPS22), the exhibition traces the main phases of the pair's artistic journey. Consequently a thread of recurring issues weaves its way between the different works, giving the exhibition its overwhelming consistency.

This is further emphasised by the use of ambitious staging: greyish, inconclusive hues envelope the walls and floor, while perfectly adjusted circles of light pick out the works and frames within a hushed atmosphere, conducive to meditation and reflection. With this powerful staging, the artists have imagined the exhibition as a global installation, inviting visitors to perceive it as a whole.

Focus on the performance piece that will be activated during the press conference: *UNTIL THEN (BPS22)*

Performance, varying duration

Line sitter: Elvin Williams (Same Old Line Dudes company)

In collaboration with Yves De Locht, general practitioner (Brussels)

In 2012, the *Same Old Line Dudes* invented a new profession: the *Line sitter*. They would wait on New York sidewalks on behalf of impatient consumers intent on getting the new iPhone or a front-row seat at a play, but without the chore of having to wait in line.

On 7 October 2021, *Line sitter* Elvin Williams will settle into *The penultimate version of reality* exhibition at the BPS22. He will sit on a waiting chair (*Until Then Armchair*, 2019) designed by Brognon Rollin in collaboration with designer François Bauchet. With its straight back, metal armrests, and padded structure, it offers the comfort needed for long sitting while imposing a vigilant posture.

In spring 2021 in Belgium, a person notified doctors several times of their desire to cease living in order to put an end to their suffering by euthanasia. In autumn 2021, at the exact time of this person's death, Elvin Williams will leave the BPS22 after an indeterminate number of days and hours of waiting.

The performance *Until Then* has already taken place three times: at the Biennale de Melle (26 days and 12 hours of waiting, from 30 June to 25 July 2018), at the Galerie untilthen (19 days, 10 hours and 30 minutes of waiting, from 5 to 24 September 2019) and at the MAC VAL (10 days and 12 hours of waiting, from 5 to 16 March 2020).

BPS22

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Museum open Tuesday - Sunday, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm. Closed on Mondays, on 24/12, 25/12, 31/12, 1/01.

EXHIBITIONS: 09.10.2021 > 09.01.2022

Press conference: Thursday 7 October, 11:00 a.m.

With the curators of the exhibition and artists David Brognon and Stéphanie Rollin.

Registration: CARACAScom, 0495.22.07.92, info@caracascom.com

Press visits: Friday 8 October, with an appointment

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