

CODE ART FAIR 2018
August 30 – September 2
LEHMANN + SILVA
Booth E Syd-076 | Contact at the fair: +351 913 487 784

SOLO PROJECT BY JOSEP MAYNOU (BARCELONA, 1981)

Josep Maynou's multidisciplinary approach comes together as a form of contemporary storytelling that situates itself beyond the traditional art formats, often leading to installations in contexts such as TV repair shops, private apartments, abandoned spaces, laundromats or second-hand stores.

Maynou's works are developed in the field of functionality, stretching their limits to humour. The tapestries, like the posters, lamps or a shoe cleaner's box, are inevitably transfigured when they enter the space of contemporary art, but once again they become everyday objects as props of a performance – another of his most common practices – in a dynamic that also embodies the tradition of orality and the transmission of stories in the domestic environment.

Over the past few years, Maynou has been traveling back and forth between Berlin and Morocco collecting fabrics and old clothes from the markets, streets and friends to take to the small mountain villages outside of Marrakech. There, he was able use the Boucherouite (Rag Rugs) technique to produce his works by learning from and working alongside the women weavers in their homes.

From this self-awareness of a position of inherent privilege, Maynou works with artisanal processes of production in the rural Moroccan desert where he is no longer the ethnographer, the exporter of authenticity, or the agent of the exotizing gaze. While in Morocco, Maynou lives with the community whose tradition his tapestries are made of.

These co-produced pieces imply a deep knowledge of the context and the creation of personal relationships with a community over time – a community that integrates the artist's proposals in the work not without scepticism and a critical distance, which involves negotiation the topics and a constant questioning of the conventions of representation on both sides, ending at a mid-point of agreement.

In these particular conditions of production, in the round trip, in the clash of contexts, there's a constant tension, which shows that all materials and all objects incorporate their own stories and are a testimony of a system: they always imply a series of responsibilities in the chains of contemporary production – of relations of power and structural inequality, of environmental consequences, of perpetuation of the socio-economic polarization that globalization entails –.

Mixing graphics and references of international pop-culture with the cultural exchange of social practice, Maynou bridges the international lived experience between urban and rural communities. The growing ubiquities of graphic icons such as happy faces, thumbs-up signs, graffiti, and English lettering, have become accepted baselines for cross-cultural platforms of communication across the language divide. A smiley face icon used on the cell phone of a Berber Shepard in the mountains of Morocco or a Start-Up Engineer in Berlin carry the same significance. For Maynou, these connecting points become the starting point for storytelling of the cross-cultural mash up of both real and imagined experiences.

Code Art Fair

Bella Center
Center Boulevard 5
2300 Copenhagen S

Opening Hours:

Thursday, August 30 | Public Vernissage 5pm – 8pm
Friday, August 31 | 11am – 8pm
Saturday, September 1 | 11am – 8pm
Sunday, September 2 | 11am – 6pm

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JOSEP MAYNOU

Barcelona, 1981.
Lives and works in Berlin (Germany).

EDUCATION

2000- 04
Fine Arts, Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona.
2002
Erasmus, Middlesex University, London.
2003/04
Erasmus, Faculdade de Belas Artes da Universidade do Porto, Porto.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018
Voyage. La Place, Barcelona.
2017
Thing 1 Thing 2. Broken Dimanche Press, Berlin.
Things: To Do. Beverly's, New York.
Whattodo. GSL Projekt, Berlin.
Leisure. Bombon Projects, Barcelona.
2015
The Ninja from Marrakech. Suvi Lehtinen Gallery, Berlin.
2014
It's OK. 48hours Neukolln, Berlin.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018
Black garden. L21 gallery, Palma de Mallorca.
A hush of hell. Abandoned TV Studio, Melbourne.
My body doesn't like summer. Haverkamp Gallery, Berlin.
Expo Recoverso. Foundation Louis Vuitton, Paris.
If I do nothing, nothing does. The Scan project room, London.
ARCOLisboa 2018, Lisbon.
Supersimetrica. Matadero, Madrid.
2017
Alpina Huus II. House of Deep Transformation in 12 acts. Le Commun, Geneva.
How to do things... Lehmann+Silva, Porto.
Lazy River. Little Sister Gallery, Toronto.
3am. Kunstfabrik, Berlin.
Someday's. Kinderhook and Caracas, Berlin.
A Weekend Fix. Tropez, Berlin.
Viajes Paraiso. Video collaboration for the exhibition by Sol Calero, Kunstpalais Erlangen.
WHATTODO. GSL Projekt, Berlin.
LOOP - Video Art Festival, Barcelona.
Pane per Poveri. LATRAAC, Documenta 14, Athens.
Making public program. Live performance, Fundació Tàpies, Barcelona.
2016
3am. Kunstfabrik Performance Festival, Berlin.
Twang of Ten. Group Live performance, Kismet, Munich.
Beverly's x Artsy. Acud Macht Neu, Berlin.
A Lovers Discord. Moca, London.

Smiley. Echo Buecher, Berlin.
Material Art Fair, Mexico City.

2015

Warped Miami. GSL Projekt, Miami Basel.
Swab Art Fair, Barcelona.
Even Potential. Harbor Gallery, New York.
Tough Guys Soft Ice. Sound performance, Terrace Gallery, Istanbul.
Yes & Know. Beverly's, New York.
Pane Per Poveri. 72 hours in the 56th Venice Biennale, Venice.
The inclination of the angle. Junefirst Gallery, Berlin.

2014

CPH Show. The Pocket Project, Copenhagen.
REGENERATE14. Generator Hostel, Berlin.

2013

DIN A33. Louis 21, Palma de Mallorca.

2012

Draw the line. Liebkranz Galerie, Berlin.

2011

For the Time Being. Performance Festival, Berlin.
Remix Cinema Workshop. Oxford University, UK.
Transmediale. Das Weekend, Berlin.

2010

Das Hotel Fresh, hosted by Ulf Saupe, Berlin.
Fenster Front Festival, Berlin.

Serendypia. Galeria Arsenal, Poznan.

Strange Action. PS122, New York.

Offensichtlich offentlich. Galeria Eva Bracke, Berlin.

2009

Das Hotel Fresh, hosted by Ulf Saupe, Berlin.
48stunden, Neukolln, Berlin.

2007

GlogAIR, Berlin.

2005

Art Comestible. Palau Ferial, Girona.

2004

Istambul dan Sevglier. Yedi Sanat, Istanbul.
Maus Hábitos, Porto.

Certmen de Pintura de Pequeno Formato, Sala Gallarta, Bizkaia.

2003

Sala Parés, Barcelona.
STRIPART, Centre Civic Horta, Barcelona.
GETXOARTE03, Salón de las Artes Emergentes, Bilbao.

RESIDENCIES

2018

La Place, Barcelona.

2017

Beverly's, New York.

2007

GlogauAIR artists in residence, Berlin.

2004

OFFICE. Istiklal, Istanbul.

MAIN COLLECTIONS

Universidad de Barcelona.