maurizio nannucci - «listen to your eyes»
Collections of the Centre national des arts plastiques

inauguration 7th september, 7.15 pm



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night wanderers, listen to your eyes!



Maurizio Nannucci, Listen to your eyes, installed at the CCC op, Tours, 2018 \odot E. Decouard - CCC op, Tours



Maurizio Nannucci, *Listen to your eyes*, installed at the CCC OD, Tours, 2018 © E. Decouard - CCC OD. Tours

Listen to Your Eyes, crowning the façade of the CCC OD, is reminiscent of an advertising sign. This paradoxical instruction is unsettling and questions. The viewer/reader faces a word association that is seemingly impossible to resolve in the first instance. Through such linguistic feats, matching the scale of the architecture and the urban landscape, the artist Maurizio Nannucci succeeds in creating new mental spaces and a fresh perception of the surroundings of the spectators.

In Tours, the message acts as an invitation to passers-by to enter the Olivier Debré Contemporary Art Centre to stimulate the senses and remain sensitive to what there is to see or hear. In a broader sense, the Listen to Your Eyes message presides over Tours city centre and the bustling main road, Rue Nationale. Located at the entrance to the city, it encourages people walking about to keep a close watch on the surrounding world.

This work was completed in the scope of an exhibition at the Fonds Régional d'art contemporain (Frac) Lorraine in Metz in 2010. It went on to be exhibited between 2011 and 2014 on the façade of the LaM (Lille Métropole Museum of Modern, Contemporary and Outsider Art) in Villeneuve-d'Ascq, as well as at the Grand Palais during the exhibition Carambolages curated by Jean-Hubert Martin in 2016.

maurizio nannucci, painter and poet



Maurizio Nannucci © Zona Archive

Maurizio Nannucci was born in 1939 in Florence, Italy. From the beginning of his career, his work has examined the relationships between language, writing and image, as well as colour. He interprets the perception of space on a physical, as well as mental level. Maurizio Nannucci claims no affiliation to any school yet his work could be compared to that of conceptual artists such as Bruce Nauman, Lawrence Weiner and the Fluxus movement. The focus of the visual and verbal research in the 1960s was experimenting with concrete poetry and electronic music. His research then led him to explore various materials and production methods and to develop a certain poeticism regarding objects. He expresses himself though photography, video and sound installations as well as print editions. This multi-faceted artist and theorist creates a transdisciplinary dialogue between his work, architecture and the urban landscape.

Since 1967, Maurizio Nannuci has produced neon texts for internal as well as external spaces. The artist works with writing, colour and space. He also uses light that lends his pieces an intangible nature. His works are imbued with a relentless simplicity of form. Maurizio Nannucci's hallmark, economy in terms of aesthetics, brings to the fore the primary material of his art: language.

light, color, words, space : M. Nannucci's artistic language



Something happened, 2009 Villa Medicea La Magia, Quarrata (Pistoia), Italie photo : Carlo Cantini / © Zona Archives



Going from nowhere ... , 2009 Espace EDF-Bazacle, Toulouse, France

photo : Damien Aspe / © LE PRINTEMPS DE SEPTEMBRE

Maurizio Nannucci's preferred medium is neon glass tubing. This artist was one of the first to use it for scriptural purposes. In 1967 he produced his first work with fluorescent tubes, Alfabetofonetico (a phonetic alphabet written in blue neon). Since then, his luminous works often take the shape of maxims or word games conducive to reflecting on our methods of communications and tend to open up our imaginations in order to create new mental spaces. He almost solely uses primary colours (red, blue, yellow) for his neon creations. By literally lighting up words Nannucci calls upon viewers who read it and begin to wonder.

Symbolising modern cities, illuminated signs have had a profound impact on and transformed the urban landscape and the experience of night wanderers. They appeared at the end of the 19th century in tandem with the development of electricity and gave rise to the expression 'city of light'. Nocturnal illuminations have always been directly related to the economic sphere; invitations to increasingly consume more are displayed, sometimes integrally, with unrivalled visual efficiency on façades and architecture.

Contemporary artists make widespread use of these 'micro writing devices' in public spaces. They substitute mainstream marketing messages with other artistic, poetic or political proposals aiming to engage the thinking, perception and imagination of passers-by.



There is another way of looking, 2009 Musée de Saint-Etienne ©Zona Archives



All art has been contemporary, 2000 Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg photo: Roman Mensing / ©Roman Mensing artdoc.de



Changing place, 2003 Museo Guggenheim, Venezia photo : Matteo Nannucci / ©Zona Archives

à propos du centre national des arts plastiques



Le Centre national des arts plastiques (Cnap) est un établissement public du ministère de la Culture.

Le Cnap concourt à la vitalité de la scène artistique française dans le champ des arts visuels. Il assure la gestion du patrimoine contemporain national, veille à sa présentation publique, et encourage et soutient la création dans ses différentes formes d'expression (peinture, performance, sculpture, photographie, installations, vidéo, multimédia, arts graphiques, métiers d'art, design, design graphique).

« Collectionneur public » héritier de la politique de soutien aux artistes vivants instaurée par l'État depuis 1791, le Cnap participe activement de l'économie artistique. Il enrichit et valorise la collection contemporaine de l'État français - le Fonds national d'art contemporain - par des acquisitions et des commandes d'œuvres. Il en assume l'inventaire, la conservation et la restauration, et organise la diffusion des œuvres en France et à l'étranger. Enfin, conservateurs et responsables des différents secteurs de collection conduisent un programme de recherche scientifique sur les œuvres, avec l'enseignement supérieur notamment.

Le Cnap apporte son soutien aux artistes et aux professionnels, contribue au développement de leur activité, et développe des actions d'information et de sensibilisation du public.

En prise avec l'ensemble des acteurs, il adapte continuellement son intervention aux évolutions des politiques publiques et du secteur. Ainsi, il porte un regard prospectif sur la création, apporte son expertise et son soutien à l'émergence de nouvelles formes d'expression, et accompagne les artistes et les professionnels. Il répond à chacune de ses missions en veillant à faire partager « au plus grand nombre » les œuvres majeures de notre temps.

Plus d'informations sur cnap.fr

partenaires et mécènes du ccc op

partenaires culturels et éducatifs





























les mécènes en 2018:

















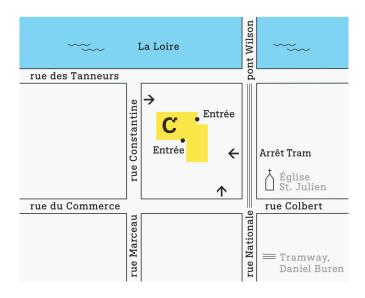








practical informations



free access

restaurant «le café contemporain»

Julie and Thomas welcome you throughout the day to enjoy their cuisine which is healthy and tasty. come and discover our simple, creative menu taking its inspiration from the CCC OD's spirit.

the bookshop

A space devoted to contemporary art, architecture and photography, also offering a large selection of goodies, postacards, art posters and art games for young people.

getting here

Jardin François 1er 37000 Tours T +33 (0)2 47 66 50 00 F +33(0)2 47 61 60 24 contact@cccod.fr

train station 70 minutes from Paris by TGV train by motorway A10, exit Tours Centre

facilities

bike park

car parking spaces Porte de Loire, place de la Résistance and rue du Commerce on-site amenities available: lifts, magnetic induction loop, disabled toilets, pushchair parking, baby change area

opening hours

winter season

wednesday - sunday from 11am to 6 pm late night thursday until 8pm saturday until 7pm

summer season (20thmay-16thsept) tuesday- sunday from 11am to 7pm late night thursday until 9pm

entry fees

€4 (reduced price) €7 (full price) €9 (with multimedia guide) free access under 18

CCC OD LEPASS

unlimited access to exhibitions and events valid for 1 year

€ 27 single pass € 45 duo pass € 12 for students

The CCC OD is a cultural equipment of Tours Métropole Val de Loire. His achievement was made possible thanks to the State and territorial collectivities support.











