

bip 2012

10.03 > 06.05.2012

8... BIENNALE INTERNATIONALE DE LA PHOTOGRAPHIE
ET DES ARTS VISUELS DE LIÈGE

WWW.BIP-LIEGE.ORG



ONLY YOU ONLY ME

IMAGES DE L'AMOUR, AMOUR DE L'IMAGE | IMAGES OF LOVE, LOVE OF THE IMAGE



BIP2010, Mamac > photographies de Martin SCHOELLER

PRESS RELEASE //

La Biennale internationale de la Photographie et des Arts visuels de Liège (BIP) highlights the multiple facets of contemporary photography by comparing them with other aspects of the image today and, in particular, that of video.

Organised by the Centre culturel de Liège "Les Chiroux", the Biennale combines the demands of ambitious artistic programming with the need to make it attractive to the widest possible range of visitors (reasonable ticket prices, working with schools and local associations, full explanatory documentation available for visitors, etc.). Likewise, the event is putting the spotlight on young emerging artists, while, at the same time, inviting internationally-renowned creative personalities to Liège.

At each Biennale, a different country is invited as "guest of honour" to present a selection of its artists, thus providing a unique opportunity of studying in greater depth the work of that country's artists - all brought together in Liège.

BIP2012 - 8TH INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND VISUAL ARTS IN LIEGE

BIP2012 will open from 10 March and run until 6 May 2012. It will explore, through seven exhibitions, two of which will be in the public space, the multi-faceted theme of

ONLY YOU ONLY ME // IMAGES OF LOVE, LOVE OF THE IMAGE

The main exhibition at BIP2012 **"ONLY YOU ONLY ME"** will occupy the whole of **Mamac** – the city's Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art – including the basement areas that were originally intended and used for preserving paintings and sculptures and now totally given over to art-themed installations and videos.

Nan Goldin will have pride of place at Mamac with a monumental projection of her major work, *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, surrounded by Erwin Olaf, Sylvie Blocher, Jason Lazarus, JH Engström, Eric Rondepierre, Elina Brotherus, Thomas Chable and very many others.

Several other exhibitions are on offer, including **"FROM HOLLAND WITH LOVE"** in **Hangar B9 (Institut Saint-Luc)**, featuring a panorama of contemporary photography in the Netherlands (with, amongst others, Useful Photography and Koos Breukel), around the mentoring figure of Ed van der Elsken, being shown for the first time in Belgium. This exhibition, organised under the supervision of Frits Gierstberg, Principal Curator at the Nederlands Fotomuseum in Rotterdam, is the result of the invitation sent out by BIP2012 in the Netherlands, host country of this 8th edition of the Biennale.

Something else to be discovered, at the **MADmusée**, is the **"RUMOURS/RUMEURS"** exhibition, built around the irrepressible works of four very intriguing personalities: Miroslav Tichy, Morton Bartlett, Lee Godie and Loulou.



© Sibylle FENDT, de la série Gärtners Reise, 2008.

Les Brasseurs Art contemporain/L'Annexe is the venue for an exhibition dedicated to close ties, the heart and the skin. **"NEXT OF (S)KIN/A FLEUR DE PEAU"** will be a real opportunity to discover, amongst other things, a panorama of the work of the young photographer, Lara Gasparotto, (just as her first monograph is appearing) as well as a selection of photographs by Hervé Guibert.

The visit to the Exhibition will end with **"AMOUR AU PLURIEL & ADORATION"**, presented by **La Châtaigneraie – the Walloon Centre of Contemporary Art - at Flémalle** where the Out of Focus group will present, on the one hand, a selection of its works on the subject of adoration as well as those produced at several workshops held in parallel between Liège and Haiti, in collaboration with the Fédération des Maisons de Jeunes in French-speaking Belgium, generally known as the FMJBF.

As you make your way from one exhibition to another, you will also be able to see as you walk along the portraits which Liège's own **Georges Thiry** (1904-1994) produced featuring the ladies of the night who were his confidantes and friends. And you will also discover **a selection of the finest photos of love sent into BIP2012** by those great experts on the subject - **the local citizens** themselves!

Something not to be missed is the public dialogue between the French video director Sylvie Blocher and the Swedish photographer JH Engström, organised at **ESAL – the Royal Academy of Fine Arts of Liège**. Over 15 OFF exhibitions will complete the programme.

A very richly illustrated catalogue complete with texts by the curators as well as a brand-new article from Daniel Vander Gucht (Faculty of Sociology at ULB (Université libre de Bruxelles), founder of Les Editions de La Lettre Voilée), will be published for the occasion.

CONTACT NUMBERS AND INFORMATIONS

Our press agency :

CARACAS srl | public relations agency
Hélène van den Wildenberg

M : info@caracascom.com

T/F +32 (0) 4 349 14 41
MOBILE : +32 (0) 495 22 07 92

To access the press area

(to download visuals and press kits),
visit www.bip-liege.org,

"Press" tab, login: presse / password: bip2012

For all other information, contact us on :

buecherl@chiroux.be - +32 (0) 4 222 35 16
massart@chiroux.be - +32 (0) 4 220 88 82
accueil du Centre culturel : +32 (0) 4 223 19 60



© Nicolas PROVOST, *Gravity*, 2007 - Video, 5'40 / Distribution : Argos

THE THEME //

In previous years, the Exhibition has very often been centred around a theme current in the news of the day or a societal issue. BIP1012 will be built around a very theme.

Indeed, it is Love which, for this 8th edition, will channel the inspiration for the event. Under the title « ONLY YOU ONLY ME. Images of Love, Love of the image », BIP2012 will tackle this highly paradoxical and complex feeling, a source of profound joy and infinite grief, passion and solitude, foundation of life and deep well of incomprehension.

Behind this mysterious word can be seen an outline of joy, an impetus which draws us one to the other and which, often, hopes and waits for an echo to bounce back.

Narcissus was attempting to become one with his reflection rather like we might try and reach out to touch the horizon. The «other» is radically different from the «same», the one we had been hoping for. Love never reaches its goal, because it has too many elements within it - frustration, disappointment, absence, division, finiteness, solitude; we never reach that magic destination called love. Only movement counts. Searching for what should overwhelm him, the lover, in all his or her forms, is never really complete – there's always something missing.

Love embraces hearts, minds and bodies. In the great game of seduction, looking plays a central role. Sensual pleasure and the stimulation of looking – rather like a voyeur – have never been very far apart. The eye is the motor of erotic imagination.

This is perhaps why image and love have something to do with each other. The myth of the birth of painting, so very akin to that of photography, bears that out. To keep an image of her beloved on the eve of his departure on a long journey, a young girl in Corinth traced the shape of his face on the wall, helped by the glow of a candle which projected his image onto it. We love the image as we love the lover, tenderly, sensually and as a true friend

If love is blind, then surely the image is the only way of setting us back along the right path?

THE EXHIBITIONS // THE EVENTS

MAMAC ET CABINET DES ESTAMPES

PARC DE LA BOVERIE, 3

B - 4020 LIÈGE



ONLY YOU ONLY ME

The Exhibition bearing the name of BIP2012 will be held in the MAMAC/CDE. It will bring together the work of nearly forty artists not only at ground floor level but also in the basement, which has been cleared of the pictures in the collection and completely dedicated to videos.

For the first time, visitors will thus be able to discover the cellars of the MAMAC converted for BIP2012 into an exhibition area – a unique opportunity to discover this usually inaccessible space, before the Museum closes for renovation work to be carried out.

This double area, covering an area of more than 2,500 m² will feature, among others, Nan Goldin (US) who will present, for the first time in Belgium, her major work, *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, a slide show of over 800 images set to music by the artist.

Also on display will be the photos of Rhona Bitner (USA), Elina Brotherus (FIN), Antonio Caballero (MEX), Patrick Carpentier (B), Thomas Chable (B), Chris Verene (US), JH Engström (SWE), Sibylle Fendt (D), Miyoko Ihara (JPN), Jason Lazarus (USA), Eric Rondepierre (F), Michelle Sank (ZA), Douglas Gordon (UK), Jean-Claude Delalande (F), Daniele Buetti (CH), Willy Del Zoppo (B), Chrystel Mukeba (B), Moira Ricci (IT), Capitaine Lonchamps (B), Roland Fischer (D), Pierre & Gilles (F), Arnis Balcus (LVA), Sarah Mei Herman (NL), Erwin Olaf (NL) as well as videos and installations by Angel Vergara (B), Ian Burns (AUS/US), Sylvie Blocher (F), Marina Abramovic (YUG) and Ulay (D), Nicolas Provost (B), François-Xavier Courrèges (F), Michelle Naismith (SCT/B) and Hubert Marécaille (F/B), Kelly Mark (CAN – tbc), Patty Chang (US), Sam Taylor-Wood (UK).

“Experiencing love - what is it? – how do you say it? – how do you paint it? – how do you represent it? Between the cliché of love with its stereotype images of fluffy pink candy or vivid red passion, and all the other various amorous clichés, there’s a whole jumble of ideas rather like our own lives and personal histories, foreign to everyone except ourselves. What aspects of love do we all share?”



© Chris VERENE, *The pregnancy test*, extrait de la série *Family*, 2010.

The hypothesis at BIP2012 is that we share forms and figures. Short of sharing love itself, it is the image of love which moves us, jolts our memory and inspires us with its warmth as well as causing us grief and pain.

Here, images of love, moving, perplexing, captured in the endless flow of looks and bodies, are what the artist has done, one day, to focus the eye, onto this strange attraction of one person for another, whether by looking straight at it or casting sidelong glances towards it. These looks or glances, taken as a day-to-day occurrence, are found, reworked, invented, placed in a particular setting; they give shape to this agitation, this enthusiasm, this intoxication, this rapture, this melancholy, this abandon, this search ... The struggle against disappearance. Love of the image to keep an image of love, before...” (Anne-Françoise Lesuisse).

Visitors will also be able to enjoy drinks, snacks and light meals at the MADcafé situated in the Rotonde.

Something else to be discovered, in what was once the office of the curator of the Print Room, is the Labo-Album, the studio and exhibition area of the workshops being run by Cathy Alvarez and Ludovic Demarche. These workshops are aimed at local associations and schools in the surrounding region. Echoing the theme running through BIP2012, these two artists will present in the Labo-Album workshops on the art of the photo and a constantly moving exhibition of the results produced by participants. Visitors to BIP2012 will have free access to the Labo-Album while in the MAMAC to discover the dynamic of work and the results of what this work can produce.

HANGAR B9

ECOLE SUPERIEURE DES ARTS ST-LUC

BLD DE LA CONSTITUTION, 41

B - 4020 LIÈGE



FROM HOLLAND WITH LOVE

The country which is the BIP guest of honour is Holland. Hanger B9, which is an old industrial building converted into an exhibition area on the campus of the Institut Supérieur des Arts Saint-Luc, will host the exhibition designed by Frits Gierstberg, who is principal curator of the Nederlands Fotomuseum in Rotterdam, accepted the invitation from BIP2012 to present a panorama of contemporary Dutch visual creation.

Frits Gierstberg designed his exhibition around the heritage left by Ed van der Elsken, a pre-eminent Dutch photographer, who had been active since the end of the 50s and passed away in 1990. His two most notable works published were *Love on the Left Bank* (1956) and *Eye Love You* (1977). It was around this icon of photography in the Netherlands, perfectly in tune with the theme of BIP 2012, that Frits Gierstberg chose the contemporary artists.

"The Dutch presentation, organised by the Nederlands Fotomuseum within the context of BIP2012, is taking the book by Ed Van der Elsken, *Love on the Left Bank*, as its starting point and putting it centre stage in an exhibition on the theme of love. Van der Elsken's work is not only at the centre of Dutch post-war photography, but, because of its quality, its significance and its international reputation, also occupies a major place in the Nederlands Fotomuseum collections. Alongside the images in the book (and Ed van der Elsken's photographs linked with them), contemporary visions of love by today's Dutch image creators will be on display.



© EdVAN DER ELSKEN

This contemporary selection reflects the bravura of Van der Elsken and is to a very large extent based on quality and diversity. It will offer the public an insight into the thinking of current Dutch artists such as Martine Stig, Bertien van Manen, Komen & Murphy, Useful Photography (the magazine published by a group of artists: Erik Kessels, Hans Aarsman, Hans van der Meer, Claudie de Cleen and Julian Germain), Andrea Stultiens, Julika Rudelius, Paul Kooiker and Koos Breukel.

Their creations deal in different ways with the various themes in Van der Elsken's book: love, intimacy, voyeurism, the game of truth and fiction, the photographer as narrator, the Internet, found footage, etc. and finally the love of the image."

(Frits Gierstberg)

LES BRASSEURS / ART CONTEMPORAIN ET L'ANNEXE

EN FÉRONSTRÉE, 105

B - 4000 LIÈGE



NEXT OF (S)KIN - A FLEUR DE PEAU

Les Brasseurs Art contemporain, a vital institution in the cultural landscape of Liège, with the added space of its Annexe, and its document and archive centre - up and running now for close on four years - will be the venue for a comprehensive exhibition designed and conceived by Dominique Mathieu and Emmanuel d'Autreppe. The theme is intimacy and the links engendered by affection whether between just two people or several others. The exhibition will feature among others a selection of forty photos by Hervé Guibert, jointly put together by Emmanuel d'Autreppe and Christine Guibert, and a brand-new collection from the young Liège photographer, Lara Gasparotto.

"It is impossible to see all aspects of a subject as inexhaustible, as immeasurable as love - as the saying goes "Don't bite off more than you can chew. This means it was better to approach this horizon gradually with kid gloves and soft lights. The Exhibition in Les Brasseurs / L'Annexe puts the accent on touch, proximity and intimacy - thus really living up to its very title.

Love, desire, Hervé Guibert (F) has always placed them at the heart of the photographic act, filling in its gaps and possible shortcomings by the written word, shamefully seizing the softness of a light to compensate for the cruelty of a word. Friendliness bathes every single thing - just as with Lara Gasparotto (B), who uses broad "brush" strokes chosen from palettes of deep colours, the pulse of a young, libertarian spirit and an unbridled energy, of a complicity which treats moral judgement with disdain. Anne-Catherine Chevalier (B) scrutinises surfaces (facial features, other physical features, clothes, silent body language), family relationships, the expression of femininity, indeed respect for a social norm.



© Anne-Catherine CHEVALIER, de la série «Mothers & Daughters».

Jean-Claude Loubières (F) reverses the traditional approaches to the family portrait, scoops them out and sends them into wholly new and totally unexplored territory. Patricia Kaiser (B) questions the strange adventure the individual embarks upon when he or she becomes a couple - even if only by way of an image, even if only in the image - and just how strange - almost impossible - no longer to say just I but now we, from the outside and identify them as distinct consciences (necessarily brought to life in a face). Sandra Ancelot (F) salutes the ceremony of marriage, with all its pomp, its etiquette, its social rules, the whole challenge of a new experience, rather like a bird flying off into the unknown. Sabine Koe (AT) is attentive, taking one day at a time, to the fragility of these moments which bind two beings together or else separate them, which soothe them or wound them - the image has its role to play in all of this. All speak to us of the link we shall recognise to the extent that we make this link ours too. The online magazine Purpose, which published in 2010 a special issue on the theme of desire, completes this proposal." (Emmanuel d'Autreppe)

Something worth noting is that, alongside the Exhibition, the first book by the young Liège photographer, Lara Gasparotto, will be published (*Sleepwalk*, Editions Yellow Now, série «Angles Vifs»). Lara will simultaneously present her work at Galerie Stieglitz 19 in Antwerp.

The Annexe will present, jointly with the Livre aux Trésors bookstore, a selection of works on the artists being presented at BIP2012. Les Brasseurs propose «BIP Gourmand» : A daily menu of snacks and light meals, from Wednesday until Friday from 12h to 2pm.

MADMUSÉE

BOULEVARD D'AVROY, S/N
B - 4000 LIÈGE



RUMOURS / RUMEURS

Located in the heart of the Parc d'Avroy, the Exhibition Room in the MADmusée pursues a policy of intelligently and sensitively promoting the works of "outsiders". Recently appointed Director, Pierre Muylle (previously at the SMAK in Ghent) is featuring, at BIP2012, a group of four artists who are very much out of the ordinary.

Interest in the work of Miroslav Tichý (CZ), who died recently, is currently enjoying a revival because of the unique and extraordinary character of a photographer obsessed with the female image. The photographs of Lee Godie (US) and Morton Bartlett (US) are rarities. Godie first became known for her pictorial work and some self-portraits shot in a photo booth will be on display. Bartlett will be represented by the disturbing images of dolls, which were kept secret in his lifetime. Finally, alongside these photographs will be a group of sculptures by Loulou (B). This native of Liège created hundreds of clay figurines which had either been scattered all over the place or simply lost – the team at the MADmusée tracked them down and assembled them for the occasion.

"The artists we have put together for this Exhibition have all had an unusual life. Lee Godie, the self-proclaimed "French Impressionist", lived in the streets of Chicago, whilst the Czech artist Miroslav Tichý, a lonely figure, secretly took photos of women in Prague with a camera he had made with his own hands – rather in the fashion of a traditional craftsman. Morton Bartlett, who had been a professional graphics artist in the 40s, made dolls of little girls before photographing them. And Loulou, who had previously been a nurse, began, in her later years, to sculpt a great many clay statuettes.

Each of them lived a life where the passion for the image took its form in very trying conditions which, in turn, imbued their work with an extremely troubling dimension. Their life story can actually make it hard to interpret their work. However, beyond the realms of legend and even



© Lee GODIE

if the secret intention of these creators lies beyond our grasp, the scope for interpretation remains wide open, allowing each of us to discover in these images a story beyond myth, a story which takes account of the love of the image just as much as the image of love. Even then, travelling along this particular path neither reduces nor excludes other possible interpretations, depending on how each of us reacts individually. That's why "Rumours/Rumeurs", behind the purely anecdotal, invites us, the public, to discover these strong creations less as a collection of stories but far more as a collection of images".
(Pierre Muylle)

During BIP2012, MADmusée will propose, in cooperation with the association *Caméra etc.*, pinhole camera workshops open to everyone each Saturday from 2pm until 5.30 pm. In the manner of Tichý, the idea is to fabricate a photographic camera and to realise a photograph which will be developed, as in the past, by a chemical process (Price and reservation : 04/222.32.95).

Projection of *Tarzan Retired*, a film on Tichý realised by Roman Buxbaum, on March 28, 2012 at 8pm at the University Film Club Nickelodéon (Salle Gothot - Faculté de Philosophie et Lettres, Université de Liège - Place du XX Août, 7 4000 Liège).

LA CHÂTAIGNERAIE
CENTRE WALLON D'ART CONTEMPORAIN
CHAUSSÉE DE RAMIOUL, 19
B - 4400 FLÉMALLE



La Châtaigneraie is putting on a dual exhibition centred around the group of photographers known collectively as OUT OF FOCUS.

The members of OUT OF FOCUS are Pauline Beugnies, Thomas Freteur, Colin Delfosse, Alice Smeets and Thomas Vanden Driessche. Together, with their unique way of looking at things, these photographers document various questions relating to society – culture, poverty, development along with political or environmental conflicts in such a way that they bear constant witness to the cruelty and beauty with which humanity is confronted every day.

AMOUR AU PLURIEL / LOVE IN THE PLURAL

At the invitation and under the coordination of the Fédération des Maisons de Jeunes en Belgique Francophone (FMJBF), a group of around fifteen young Belgians drawn from various different Maisons de Jeunes (MJ) have been working these last few months with the photographers of Out of Focus and their photo coordinators (weekly workshops organised in MJ) on the theme of BIP2012. Working in parallel, Alice Smeets and Thomas Freteur from the Collective, together with the «Eyes on Haiti» team developed a 6-month photo workshop in Port-au-Prince, as part of the photographic programme they have been carrying out over there for several years now.

The Exhibition shows the results of the juxtaposition of these two similar operations organised in radically different environments. If Love is universal ... from one side of the Atlantic to the other, from Liège to Haiti, it certainly comes in many different guises!

The MJ partners are: the Centre de Jeunes et de Quartier La Bicoque, the Maison des Jeunes de Saint Georges and the Maison des Jeunes de Florennes.

An added plus: some parts of this Exhibition are on public display in the centre of Liège.

Visit the Project blog at:

<http://lesjeunesetlamour.blogspot.com>



Tara Levros, « les jumelles » - Haiti © Tara Levros

ADORATION

OUT OF FOCUS members have put together a series of five works based on the theme of the Adoration: a selection of five points of view, rather like a world perspective on religion in the wider sense of the term.



Reproduction de la grotte de Lourdes à Jette en Belgique - copyright: Thomas Vanden Driessche Out Of Focus

Please note that this Exhibition will open on 24 March 2012

Opening times and entry charges:

Open on Tuesdays from 14.00 to 17.00 + Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 14.00 to 18.00
closed on Public Holidays
entry is free



© Georges THIRY, courtesy Guy Jungblut

RUE DE LA JOIE GEORGES THIRY (1904-1994)

Georges Thiry (1904-1994), a native of Liège, was a self-taught photographer, a great friend of the Surrealists and the subject, in 2001, of a retrospective in the Museum of Photography in Charleroi. Georges Thiry took photos of, amongst many others, his confidantes and prostitute girlfriends. These magnificent images in black and white, where humour and tenderness are always present, give the portraits an exceptional dimension of humanity.

A selection of these portraits will be presented throughout the town in the Decaux sites usually reserved for advertisements.

Perfectly in tune with the theme of BIP2012, these images taken in the 50s and 60s show that Thiry's work, representing, as it does, woman not just in terms of her form and shape but in her whole personality, is sober, rather like a documentary, thus reflecting a style which radically breaks away from the codes of today's advertising which is often outrageous, colourful and sometimes obscene.

The use of urban furniture locations and billboards as a vehicle for the spreading of art is not totally new. Among the best-known artists, Felix Gonzales-Torrès, actually designed one of his series of photographs expressly for poster campaigns on panels usually reserved for advertising (Billboards, 1989-1995).

To place, in spaces so closely associated with advertising, images which do not follow conventional advertising codes, is to provoke astonishment, make the passer-by - so used to seeing the same type of message - stop and ponder. The force of the attraction and visibility of these advertising sites is very great and becomes even greater because the spectator is not going to find what he normally expects to find there.

This means of presentation is intended both as a homage to the work of Thiry and to these ladies of the night, aptly called «filles de joie».



IN THE STREET //

LOVE'S IN THE AIR ! A COMPETITION FOR THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PHOTOS OF LOVE, AN EXHIBITION OF LARGE FORMAT PHOTOS IN THE STREETS OF LIÈGE.

«Does love speak to you? Tell us about it with an image! Open up your family albums, pull out the drawers in your cupboards or your sets of photos and send us a photo which, for you personally, best represents love. Whether it's in colour or black and white, very old or brand new, a bit damaged or frayed at the edges, whether it shows your mum, your canary or your other half, it doesn't matter, as long as it's - for you - your very dearest image.»

The principle of the "Love's in the air!" project is to collect, thanks to a huge appeal to the citizens of Liège, amateur photos based on the overall theme of Love. The message that went out was. "Send us an image which, for you, represents Love!"

After being judged by a panel of personalities drawn from the world of the arts and politics, around fifty images will go forward. They will then be printed out and enlarged onto tarpaulin flags which will be hung in several streets in Liège throughout the period of BIP2012. Four prizes will be awarded, including the Public Prize being jointly organised with RTC-Télé Liège who will screen all the images on its website and where the public will be able to vote for its favourite photo.

The awarded pictures will be presented from March 6th until March 16th, 2012 in the Salle 7 at ESAL - Académie Royale des Beaux Arts de Liège (rue des Anglais, 21 B-4000 Liège).



Photographie, © JH ENGSTRÖM, extrait de la série *Trying to dance*, 2004

A VERY SPECIAL MEETING // 10.03 - 1.15PM

DIALOGUE BETWEEN **SYLVIE BLOCHER** AND **JH ENGSTRÖM**

Saturday March 10, on the opening day of BIP2012, will take place a discussion, moderated by Jean-Marie Wynants (cultural journalist at the daily newspaper *Le Soir*), between the French video artist Sylvie Blocher and the Swedish photographer JH Engström, who will talk about the theme of BIP2012: «Images of Love, Love of the Image».

ESAL - ACADEMIE ROYALE DES BEAUX ARTS DE LIÈGE

21, RUE DES ANGLAIS

4000 LIÈGE

WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS //

Today, everybody can see for themselves just to what extent we're surrounded by images – they're everywhere. They come at us like a flood and by force of seeing them endlessly, we forget them more and more quickly. Cathy Alvarez and Ludovic Demarche, specialist performers and artists themselves, have designed work modules which will allow the public at large and students to explore the theme of BIP2012 by means of a guided visit extended by a series of creative exercises around the photograph found.

The aim of the workshops, in addition to putting the thoughts of each participant into a common melting pot, is to rediscover the pleasure of the image and the pleasure of actually "doing" something. That's why the starting point will be photos which have been found somewhere; they can be old or more recent but they will already exist; photos contributed by participants, picked up at car boot sales or found on the Internet. These images will be selected to serve as the basis for work because they contain a souvenir, often sentimental, or because they make us think in some way about love in all its forms.

Participants will be invited to rework these existing images to create new ones through a whole range of physical actions (scraping, collage, cutting, etc.) and commentaries (by drawing, writing, other photographs they'll take, etc.) which will make it possible not only to tackle the theme of love but also how to get used once again to actually touch images.

At the heart of the key exhibition at BIP2012, in the MA-MAC, the Labo-Album, set up in the old office of the Curator of Prints and the central venue of the workshops, is a creative space where the emphasis is on freedom, experimentation, try-outs, attempts and research. It's also an exhibition area since the place will be permanently accessible to Biennale visitors which will discover there a non-stop panoply; of the new work being produced by workshop participants, like some sort of constantly moving panorama.

Labo-Album is an integral part of the Biennale, like an echo chamber resounding to the work of the artists played off against the desires of the participants.



© Daniele BUETTI

BIP.OFF //

The official exhibitions will be complemented by the works submitted by the OFF - Festival which brings together contributions from the network of galleries and local cultural bodies and associations.

These additional exhibitions allow the visitor to discover several other venues in Liège. The way the OFF - Festival is laid out across the city in a series of visuals is easy to identify and actually makes it possible - on an even grander scale, because it covers the whole of Liège - to grasp BIP2012 as a real, living up-to-date experience.

Our selection of the top notch works:

LES SINGULIERS ET LE PLURIEL
Centre culturel - Les Chiroux

MICHEL BEINE
Société Libre d'Emulation

... QUI FONT BATTRE LE COEUR.
Le Comptoir

THIS IS NOT A LOVE STORY
La superette

The whole range presented by the OFF - Festival can be seen at www.bip-liege.org

BOOKSHOP //

OUR PARTNER BOOKSHOP: LIVRE AUX TRÉSORS

The Livre aux Trésors bookshop opened in 2002. Installed just recently in its new premises on the Place Xavier Neujean, a stone's throw from the Carré with its constant hustle and bustle, next door to the Cinéma Sauvenière, this independent and general bookstore fiercely defends its role as a full-time bookseller thanks to its spirit of enthusiasm and personalised, dedicated service which never slips up. As well as being established, it also constantly involves - rather like a project. Because literature, images and ideas must breathe, be alive and actually step out of their books, the bookshop is involved in a cultural and political action in the heart of town. Since first opening, Livre aux Trésors has been organising get-togethers (about a hundred so far) with writers, singers and musicians, illustrators and many others besides.

Visitors to BIP2012 will be able to find on the shelves at Livre au Trésors a selection of works by the artists featured at the Biennale. They can also be perused and bought in L'Annexe.

LIVRE AUX TRÉSORS
PLACE XAVIER-NEUJEAN, 27A
4000 LIÈGE
TÉL./FAX : + 32 04 250 38 46



© François-Xavier COURREGES, *another paradise*, vidéo

CONTACTS //

Press Agency :

CARACAS scrl | public relations agency

Hélène van den Wildenberg

Email : info@caracascom.com

T/F +32 (0) 4 349 14 41

GSM +32 (0) 495 22 07 92

The BIP2012 team :

Présidence : Pierre Stassart

Director General / **Lucien Barel**

+32 (0) 4 220 88 80 – barel@chiroux.be

Artistic Director / **Anne-Françoise Lesuisse**

+32 (0) 4 220 88 81 – lesuisse@chiroux.be

General coordination :

Anja Buecherl

+32 (0) 4 250 94 24 – buecherl@chiroux.be

Marc Wendelski

+32 (0) 4 250 94 36 – wendelski@chiroux.be

Eveline Massart

+32 (0) 4 220 88 82 – massart@chiroux.be

Postal address :

BIP2012

Centre culturel de Liège – «Les Chiroux»

Place des Carmes, 8

B-4000 Liège

WWW.BIP-LIEGE.ORG

PARTNERS //

Le Service des Arts plastiques et le Service des Centres culturels de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles ; le Ministère de la Culture de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles ; la Ville de Liège ; Liège-Province-Culture ; la Commission des Arts de la Région wallonne ; la Loterie nationale ; La Première et PURE-FM (radios RTBF) ; RTC-TéléLiège (télévision locale) ; Levis ; Art on the Move (transport d'oeuvre d'art) ; Hôtel HUSA La Couronne ; Ambassade des Pays-Bas ; Goethe-Institut Riga ; Ambassade d'Autriche ; JAM - finartprints (Berlin) ; Nederlands Fotomuseum (Rotterdam).