

## **BROGNON ROLLIN. L'avant-dernière version de la réalité**

[The penultimate version of reality]

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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 *L'avant-dernière version de la réalité*, 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.

BPS22 website : <https://www.bps22.be/en/exhibitions/brognon-rollin-1>

Download artwork :

<https://caracascom.com/en/exposition-automne-hiver-brognon-rollin-l-avant-derniere-version-de-la-realite/1172.html>

## MERCI FACTEUR! Mail Art #4. Stephan Barbery & Guy Stuckens

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Presented alongside the Brognon Rollin solo show, a new exhibition in the francophone Belgian Mail Art cycle brings together Stephan Barbery and Guy Stuckens. Two artists fascinated by sonic research whose work bears witness to the diverse approaches that exist within Mail Art.

Guy Stuckens (Brussels, 1955), musician, poet and trained painter, is one of the foremost proponents of Mail Art in Belgium, supporting the movement's development with his theoretical contribution and organising exhibitions and events. He played an active part in enlivening the Belgian sections at the international *Decentralised Mail Art Congresses* in the 1980s. A presenter for several free radio stations, particularly through the MAM association which promotes encounters between artists from diverse cultural spheres, he extended his Mail Art into *radio art* through the exchange of sound sequences between free radio stations all over the world. This practice sometimes allowed him to dabble in field recording (sonic landscapes featuring sounds recorded outside the studio) such as experimental sound poetry, putting together a collection of sounds and occasionally including the political concerns characteristic of the times.

A multi-disciplinary artist, or more accurately a rejecter of disciplines, Stephan Barbery (Brussels, 1961) subscribed to the DIY spirit of punk, of which he was one of Belgium's first practitioners, especially with his group *Digital Dance*. He is also the creator of numerous vinyl record covers (*The Legendary Pink Dots*, *Parade Ground* or *The Neon Judgement*), as well as producing the graphics for the PIAS (Play It Again Sam) label. He similarly edited several fanzines that featured the contributions of international correspondents, while taking part in Mail Art projects around the world. In addition to his careers as a musician, which he currently pursues with the bands *INK* and *Babils*, and graphic artist, producing the poster and visitor guide for this cycle of exhibitions, he produces an unusual body of painted work, dominated by processes that decompose and recompose the image.

Curator: Pierre-Olivier ROLLIN, BPS22

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## WATCH THIS SPACE #11. Alexis Deconinck

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Project under Construction

To find out more about Alexis Deconinck : <http://alexisdeconinck.com/>

Project forms part of Watch This Space #11 – a programme dedicated to emergent creations coordinated by 50° north cross-border network of contemporary art.

Curator: Dorothée Duvivier, BPS22

## 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](mailto:info@caracascom.com)

## Press visits: Friday 8 October, with an appointment

Registration: CARACAScom, 0495.22.07.92, [info@caracascom.com](mailto:info@caracascom.com)

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## BPS22

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Exhibitions at the BPS22.be: <https://www.bps22.be/en/exhibitions>

Download artwork: <https://caracascom.com/en/exposition-automne-hiver-brognon-rollin-l-avant-derniere-version-de-la-realite/1172.html>

Tuesday to Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Closed on Mondays and 24, 25 and 31 December and 1 January.

Closed when exhibitions are being set up or taken down.

INDIVIDUAL ENTRANCE FEES: Adults: €6/senior citizens: €4/Students and job seekers: €3/under 12 years: free.

GROUP ENTRANCE FEES: On request in consideration of the health conditions in force.