

# Marres Current #1

## Wild Horses & Trojan Horses

*Wild Horses & Trojan Dreams* is the first edition of a new, annual exhibition series titled *Marres Currents*. With this series, Marres presents recent graduates from art academies in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany. While offering emerging artists a platform outside the educational context, *Marres Currents* also aims to build an international infrastructure

**18.12.2013—5.1.2014**

for art academies and institutions. For *Wild Horses & Trojan Dreams*, curators Laura Herman and Pieter Vermeulen selected artists that offer new perspectives on current forms of authorship, subjectivity, knowledge and artistic research.

## An interview with Pieter Vermeulen and Laura Herman

*So what is this all about?*

The show is a kind of balancing act, you could say. Assembling twenty graduates from different art schools across the borders drawn by nation or language, the project is supposed to measure the current condition of emergent artistic practices around the Euregion. However, we deliberately tried to avoid the format of a talent show or a 'best of'. *Wild Horses & Trojan Dreams* is the mere outcome of various encounters, with people, thoughts and things. These encounters take on concrete physical shape in the exhibition, by blending all these elements together and hoping something enjoyable comes out. It is more like being on the playground, really. Without a distinct conceptual framework, the group show brings divergent artistic positions under one umbrella.

*And the umbrella is not a concept?*

Well, it depends on how you want to look at it. The umbrella can be used as a protective device, a canopy to shelter under, but also a plaything, a weapon or an accessory.

*Is there a main thread running through the exhibition?*

In Greek mythology, Ariadne's red thread is what allowed for Theseus to find his way out of the Minotaur's labyrinth. We suggest to let go of the thread, and get lost a little more.

*Okay, could you tell us at least what the title refers to? Is it a metaphor of some sort?*

Perhaps it is. We don't know, we were listening to this song by The Rolling Stones – you know like, *wild horses / couldn't drag me away...* and suddenly had this daydream about untamed horses as emblems of performativity, virility and power. There is definitely something appealing about that idea, and its possible relation to the position of young artists today. Working with (former) art students, it seemed to us that they have been trained to embody the interesting promise we want them to be. But what about the eventual fulfillment of this promise? The question is, are we still willing to inscribe ourselves in the high-performance culture we live in? How do we defy the constant 'pressure to perform', as critic Jan Verwoert said it? Most young artists today are the product of a higher education industry that is increasingly being put under pressure. So instead of emphasizing on clear artist statements, research and so forth, how can we think of weakness, failure or disappointment as critical tools?

And speaking about horses, it is actually the Trojan version we are most interested in, based on the emblem of the legendary city of Troy. The Trojan horse is a fake, a copy, a guileful ruse in the shape of a giant wooden sculpture that is in fact an instrument of military operation. It is a subtle form of infiltrating the bastion of power, of defeating the enemy by giving him a present.

## Fabian Altenried



Nobody goes there, not even by chance.



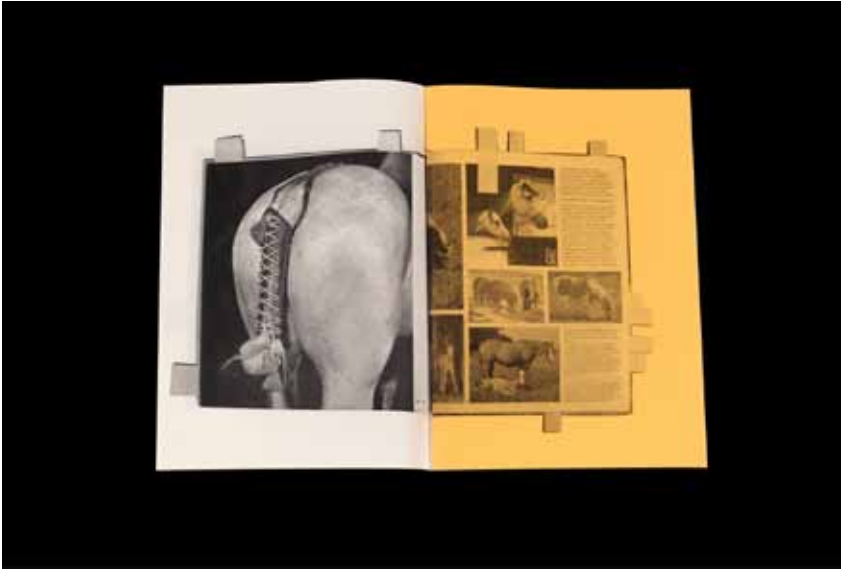
Happier birds...

Lou Benesch



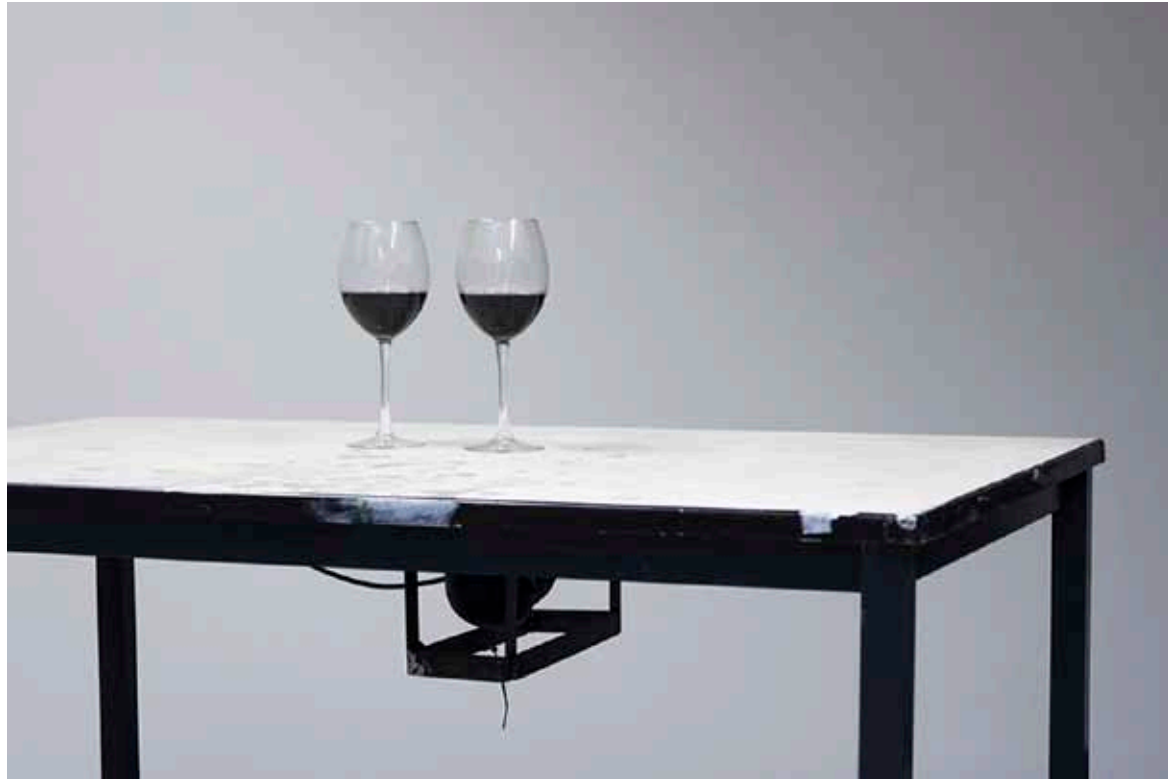
Nima Bahremand

II



III





John Bijmens  
IV



Christophe Clarijs





Rens Cools

VI



Lisa Decavel

VII



Sven Dehens

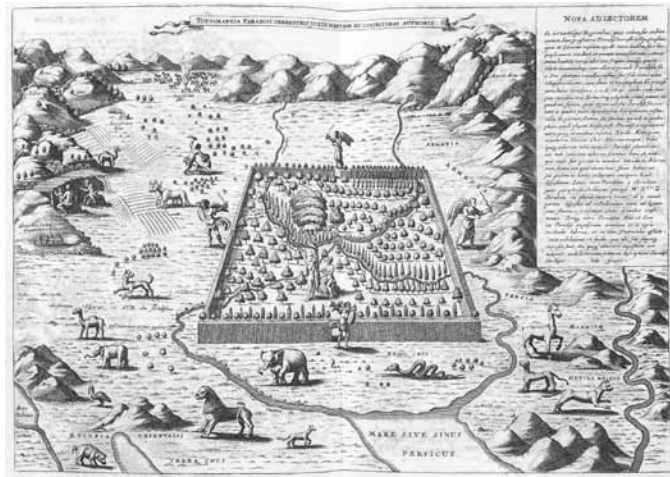
VIII

Kipras Dubauskas



IX

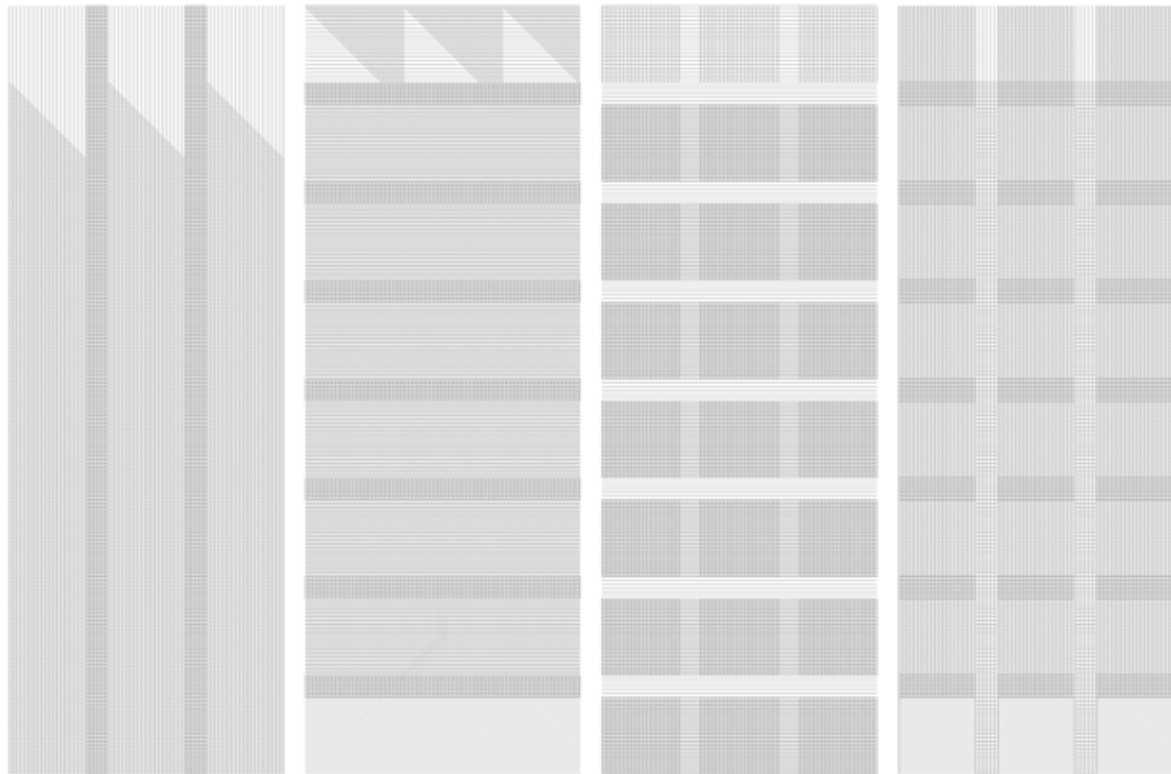




Sibe Duijsters

Daan Gielis

X



OBJECTHOOD



XI

Laetitia Jeurissen





Jóhanna Kristbjörg



Saori Kuno





Astrid Mingels

XVI



XVII

Juan Pablo Plazas



Sanne Vaassen



Jelena Vanoverbeek







Charles-Henry Sommelette

XX

**I. Fabian Altenried**  
Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, DE  
*The Salpa-Tales: Oilfields Mines*  
*Hurricanes*, video installation,  
audio: Icelandic, German and English  
(subtitled English), 2013

**II. Nima Bahremand**  
KASK, Hogeschool Gent School of Arts, BE  
*Me&Jack, #1, Always Loser*,  
video (ca. 10 min), 2013

**III. Lou Benesch**  
ENSAV, La Cambre Brussels, BE  
*Compendium "a book about*  
*books about horses"*, laser print  
artist book, 2012

**IV. John Bijmens**  
PXL/MAD Faculty Hasselt, BE  
*Château La commanderie*,  
video loop, 16:9 (32'43"),  
with audio fragments, 2011–13

**V. Christophe Clarijs**  
Sint-Lucas Antwerpen, BE  
*Wild Horses & Trojan Dreams.*  
*A Compendium for Emerging Artists*,  
publication, 2013

**VI. Rens Cools**  
Sint-Lucas Antwerpen, BE  
*Doing nothing for 8 hours straight*  
*/Waiting for something to happen*,  
HDV video (480'07"), 2012  
  
*Clapping*, HDV video loop (00'01"), 2013

**VII. Lisa Decavel**  
LUCA, Sint-Lucas Gent, BE  
*A temporary Eternal*, wool, alpaca,  
polyamide, acryl, 2013

**VIII. Sven Dehens**  
LUCA, Sint-Lucas Gent, BE  
*Blue Cowboy*, video installation, 2013

**IX. Kipras Dubauskas**  
KASK, Hogeschool Gent School of Arts, BE  
*Suspension of Disbelief*,  
video loop (14'21"), 2013

**X. Sibe Duijsters**  
Universiteit Hasselt, BE  
*Obstacle as architecture*,  
publication and 2 prints, 2012–13

**XI. Daan Gielis**  
AKV/Sint-Joost Breda, BE  
*How did you get inside my house?*  
mixed media installation, 2013

**XII. Laetitia Jeurissen**  
LUCA, Sint-Lukas Brussels, BE  
*Little Black Dress Supplied*,  
framed inkjet prints,  
20 x 30 cm, 2012

**XIII. Ekaterina Kaplunova**  
ENSAV, La Cambre Brussels, BE  
*Frontal image Frontal image #1 (black)*,  
Оле, Алёше и Паше на память От Лены Щ,  
silkscreen print, 2012

**XIV. Jóhanna Kristbjörg**  
KASK, Hogeschool Gent School of Arts, BE  
*[Neo] Constructiv-Emotionalism*,  
mixed media, 2013

**XV. Saori Kuno**  
KASK, AP Hogeschool Antwerpen, BE  
*Stain on the table*, site-specific  
mixed media installation, 2013

**XVI. Astrid Mingels**  
LUCA, Sint-Lukas Brussels, BE  
*Time Future Contained in Time Past*,  
mixed media, 2013

**XVII. Juan Pablo Plazas**  
ABKM, Maastricht Academy  
of Fine Arts and Design, NL  
*Girls, signs and evidences*,  
mixed media, 2013

**XVIII. Sanne Vaassen**  
ABKM, Maastricht Academy  
of Fine Arts and Design, NL  
*De wereld pellen*,  
object & video (109'44"), 2013

**XIX. Jelena Vanoverbeek**  
KASK, Hogeschool Gent School of Arts, BE  
*Her red lips and her*,  
mixed media, 2013

**XX. Charles-Henry Sommelette**  
Académie Royale des Beaux-Arts de Liège, BE  
*ST*, charcoal drawings,  
± 230 x 170cm, 2013

