



Marres

I spy,*I spy a little lie*

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Press Release

Marres Currents #5:
I spy, I spy a little lie
13.12.17—04.02.18

*We see, we hear, we read, we exchange,
and we get lost.*

Participating artists; Henry Andersen, Felix Breidenbach, Alejandro Céron, Nicholas Hoffman, Aurélie d'Incau, Jesus, Tim Löhde, José Montealegre, Ektor Ntourakos, Johanna Odersky, OJAI (Gary Farrelly & Chris Dreier), Nadia Perlov, Maria Gil Ulldemolins, Remko Van der Auwera, Parasite 2.0 en Roxanne Maillet.

Curatoren:

Evelyn Simons & Isabel Van Bos

Marres Currents

Marres Currents #5 is the fifth edition of Marres Currents, an annual exhibition in which young curators are invited to curate an exhibition of recently graduated artists from art academies in the Southern Netherlands, Belgium, and Germany. In doing so, Marres provides a platform for young artists and curators, and contributes to an international infrastructure for talent development.

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With exhibitions, lectures, research, performances and publications, Marres, House for Contemporary Culture explores the visual arts in the widest possible sense. Visitors are invited to wander through the spaces of the intimate house, experience the beautiful city garden or enjoy a coffee or meal at Marres Kitchen.

Marres receives structural support from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the municipality of Maastricht and the province of Limburg Netherlands.



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Exhibition Outline

*We see, we hear, we read, we exchange,
and we get lost.*

I Spy, I Spy a little lie arose in response to growing frustrations regarding access to information and the valuation of knowledge. Recent events such as the Brexit referendum, undemocratic constitutional referendums in Poland and Turkey, and the presidential election of Donald Trump (which sparked the widespread usage of the term “fake news”), as well as the chaotic reception of the Catalan independence movement, created political turmoil and left the Western world perplexed and polarised. We ask: is it still possible to protect the truth in our contemporary democratic society? And, for that matter, has it ever been possible?

By re-examining the tools we use to communicate with one another, the works in this exhibition address how information and knowledge are shared today. In this era of digitalisation, virtualisation, and hyper-information, reality exists on levels which seem to surpass our immediate perception. In extent, cyberspace or what we might call the “virtual world” is characterised by a continuous flux of information, facilitating the transfer of our ideas as well as the production of knowledge. In this context, online communities not only access and create content but also assess and regulate its quality.

Are we able to protect ourselves from echo chambers, filter bubbles, covert political propaganda, and fake news within this self-evaluating system?

I spy, I spy a little lie includes several graduate artists from Germany, The Netherlands, and Belgium, namely **Henry Andersen** (KASK Ghent), **Felix Breidenbach** (Kunstakademie Düsseldorf), **Alejandro Céron** (Dutch Art Institute Arnhem), **Nicholas Hoffman** (Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste Städelschule Frankfurt am Main), **Aurélie d’Incau** (MAFAD Maastricht), **Jesus** (AKV | St. Joost Den Bosch), **Tim Löhde** (Kunstakademie Düsseldorf), **José Montealegre** (Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste Städelschule Frankfurt am Main), **Ektor Ntourakos** (AKV | St. Joost Den Bosch), **Johanna Odersky** (Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste Städelschule Frankfurt am Main), **OJAI** (Gary Farrelly (Sint-Lukas Brussels) & Chris Dreier), **Nadia Perlov** (Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste Städelschule Frankfurt am Main), **Maria Gil Ulldemolins** (PXL MAD School of Arts Hasselt) and **Remko Van der Auwera** (Sint-Lukas Brussels).



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An allusion made to 'I spy' (a game in which children are given clues of colour or shape in order to guess objects and thus develop their ability to categorise information) introduces the concept of play to the exhibition. What might seem like an innocent title at first glance, *I spy, I spy a little lie* evokes the idea that mere recognition of a dominant discourse does not grant access to truth, since such information is manipulated according to political policies, racial biases and consumerist agendas. Both individual and collective agency must be encouraged in order to refuse a passive citizenship where we would be reduced to the role of apathetic spectators.

For this project, the notion of play is activated through a *scenographic* intervention by the Italian collective *Parasite 2.0*, the *graphic design* by *Roxanne Maillet* (ERG Brussels), and further mediated in an *educational program* by *Aurélie d'Incau*.

I invite **you** with great pleasure

to **MARRES CURRENTS #5**

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It will take place at **MARRES***

13 December 2017 - 04 February 2018

* HOUSE FOR
CONTEMPORARY CULTURE
MAASTRICHT MARRES.ORG



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Presspreview - Save the Date

Press Preview and opening of the exhibition will take place on

Wednesday December 13th from 3 pm onwards

Capucijnenstraat 98, Maastricht (Netherlands)

In the presence of the participating artists, Director Marres and curators. A drink is foreseen.

Sign in presspreview
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Curatoren

Marres invited Isabel Van Bos (BE) and Evelyn Simons (BE) as curators of Marres Currents #5, devoted to works by graduates from art academies in the South of the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.



Van Bos and Simons previously collaborated on the exhibition *Onder ons* (CIAP Hasselt, Belgium, 2017) and the exhibition *AudioGuide*.

Isabel Van Bos

Isabel Van Bos is currently coordinator of STRT kit in Antwerp, which offers an international development platform to young artists in collaboration with Studio Start, AIR Antwerpen, H ART and Kunsthall Extra City Antwerp. As a curator she was involved in the group exhibitions *The Studio Interrupted* (AIR Antwerpen, 2016), *Spatial Sublation* (WIELS Project Room, 2016) and *AudioGuide* (Kunsthall Extra City Antwerp, 2016). Van Bos has been invited by Katerina Gregos and the schwarz foundation for a curatorial fellowship at Art Space Pythagorion, Samos, Greece, in the summer of 2017.

Evelyn Simons

Evelyn Simons is project coordinator of CAB, a private and non-profit center for contemporary art in Brussels. In addition she recently worked on *Independent Film Screening* (Independent HQ and Cinema Galeries Brussels, 2017), a three-day art film festival in collaboration with galleries partaking in *Independent Brussels 2017*, as well as on the exhibition and publication *The Language We Use* (Artenova, Mechelen, Belgium, 2016). In 2016 Simons joined the Beirut Art Residency and in 2014 she received the Curate Award of the Fondazione Prada & Qatar Museums Authority, for which she is currently preparing the exhibition *Driftwood. Or how we surfaced through currents* (June – July 2017) in Athens.

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