

Rhé

Abraham Cruzvillegas, Jean-Luc Moulène, Melik Ohanian

Rhé —from the Greek word *Panta Rei*— means that all is fluid.

The *Rhé* project is an art initiative led by a number of fellow galleries worldwide whose purpose is to come together and share their vision on issues surrounding the theme of Water, its disappearance, outbursts and cultural value.

From January 23rd to February 27th, 2021, eight works will articulate their own narratives and interpretations, highlighting the forcefulness of this irreplaceable substance.

Under the title: *Ichárhuta atonal en cientotreyntaidosavos de tono (para Luis González y González)*, Abraham Cruzvillegas has suspended a traditional canoe used on the lake of Patzcuaro – Michuacan, (in the West of Mexico), above the ground, at a distance that represents the water shortage level, in terms of lowering, indexed according to the past fifty years.

On the wall, we are struck by a large print on canvas, pinned by knives – a reproduction of a vintage postcard representing the lake of Pátzcuaro at a time when tourism, local craftsmanship and fishing were in abundance.

The gracious, now useless nylon fishing net further raises the issues of fishing and nourishing, and their shrinking boundaries.

A fifty pesos banknote (facsimile) displaying a fisherman in his canoe, over the lake's water, underlines the once national importance of fishing and its present loss.

“Bridging formal and social concerns¹”, Jean-Luc Moulène's works *04 11 11 1,5L eau - Documents: Produits de Palestine* and *Régulier* display the ephemeral materiality of objects and the dialogue they maintain with life and nature, when it comes to primary goods and trading. The trace of a human activity is directly linked to water and its extraction. In these photographs, water is portrayed as an object. The object being the core pattern in Moulène's work.

A large color photograph, *Vanité - Saïda* speaks of the doomed fate. It is a reflection on the awareness of humankind and its excesses.

Lastly, Melik Ohanian's *Shell. The Cowry*. It was introduced in the 8th century to the African continent by the Arab trade caravans, as an exchange and trade value, and progressively expressed fertility and wealth throughout the continent until the end of the 19th century.

The Cowries grow on loose rocks and dead corals. Water was their original environment, yet civilization has impacted their habitat and value.

Rhé is the first chapter of a series of exhibitions and special projects in response to the global crisis our world is facing, beyond the consumable.

10% will be donated to an NGO whose actions focuses on providing access to drinking water in regions exposed to draught.

¹ Excerpt from the article by Caroline Hancock, “Jean-Luc Moulène : A Plasticien”, *Afterall* n°28, 2011, p. 25-33.

EXHIBITION

FROM JANUARY 23 TO FEBRUARY 27, 2021
FROM 11 AM TO 7 PM

10 RUE CHARLOT, PARIS
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GALLERIES CURATE: RHE

In the first days of the Covid-19 pandemic, an informal group of contemporary galleries from around the world came together to discuss how to navigate through the new challenges of the global crisis as it affected our artists, staff and businesses. The relationships among us over weeks of exchange became close and essential and we discovered that while the pandemic had broken many things apart, it had also brought us together. A supportive sense of community ignited positivity and cooperative interactions, and the initial group of twelve grew to twenty-one. As an expression of this unity we initiated GALLERIES CURATE, a collaborative exhibition designed to express the dynamic dialogue between our individual programmes.

GALLERIES CURATE: RHE is the first chapter of this collaboration, an exhibition and website themed around a universal and, we hope, unifying subject: water. Like culture, water is never static but always in flux. Following the inaugural exhibition *RHE*, GALLERIES CURATE plan to invite new participants and add further curated chapters to a global conversation of thematic relationships between galleries, artists, and their audiences.

RHE

RHE (from Greek for that which flows) is a platform for exhibitions, performances, and public interventions that loosely address the theme of water—geographically, politically, economically or metaphorically. Involving projects with twenty-one galleries, both online and on-site, *RHE* was conceived to span regions, markets, cultures, and audiences around the world, circulating both within and outside of traditional white-box exhibition spaces.

RHE's first project will launch on January 4th, 2021, with an online presentation of works by Francis Alÿs, Giovanni Anselmo, and Latifa Echakhch, extending the exhibition *A buoy if not a beacon*, currently on view at Jan Mot in Brussels. Conceived during the spring lockdown, *RHE*'s inaugural project explores the politics and poetics of water in relation to the perception of time. Continuing in stages through May 2021, additional projects will be added by participating galleries each month.

Participating artists (list in formation)

água de beber, Michele Abeles, Francis Alÿs, Giovanni Anselmo, Alvaro Barrington, Lothar Baumgarten, Pavel Büchler, Monster Chetwynd, Lai Chih Sheng, Petah Coyne, Abraham Cruzvillegas, Jan Dibbets, Jason Dodge, Latifa Echakhch, Ficre Ghebreyesus, Andy Goldsworthy, Sky Hopinka, Alfredo Jaar, Gabriel Kuri, Sean Landers, Oliver Laric, Charles Lim, Robert Longo, Robert Mapplethorpe, Arjan Martin, Adam McEwen, Cildo Meireles, Helen Mirra, Sarah Morris, Melvin Moti, Jean-Luc Moulène, Sahil Naik, Melik Ohanian, Pat O'Neill, Pratchaya Phinthong, Jaume Plensa, Pope.L, Aki Sasamoto, Jacolby Satterwhite, Carolee Schneemann, Kate Shepherd, Kwan Sheung Chi, Ko Sin Tung, Simon Starling, Fiona Tan, Michelle Stuart, Cosima Von Bonin, Wang Wei, Richard Wentworth.

Participating Galleries

A Gentil Carioca (Rio de Janeiro)
Blum & Poe (Los Angeles, Tokyo, New York)
Sadie Coles HQ (London)
Chantal Crousel (Paris)
GB Agency (Paris) in collaboration with Experimenter (Kolkata)
Peter Freeman, Inc. (New York, Paris)

Goodman Gallery (Johannesburg, Cape Town, London)
Galerie Lelong & Co (New York)
kurimanzutto (Mexico City, New York)
Take Ninagawa (Tokyo)
Tanya Leighton (Berlin)
Edouard Malingue (Hong Kong, Shanghai)
Marfa' (Beirut)
Meyer Riegger (Berlin, Karlsruhe)
Mitchell-Innes & Nash (New York)
Jan Mot (Brussels)
Galleria Franco Noero (Turin)
Petzel (New York)
ROH Projects (Jakarta)
Stevenson (Cape Town, Johannesburg, Amsterdam)
STPI (Singapore)

Why *RHE*?

RHE is evocative of unity and impermanence, both central concepts in Heraclitean philosophy, expressed most famously by his saying, *panta rhei* [everything flows]. Through water, we are all connected, physically as well as metaphorically.

galleriescurate.com

In addition to hosting online exhibitions, *RHE*'s digital platform will be a living archive of materials related to the works on view, offering a growing variety of texts and reference materials for each of the projects. As new materials are added, past and present projects will intermix—informing, counterbalancing, and recontextualizing each other and making a virtue of the broad dimension of the GALLERIES CURATE collaboration.

RHE is coordinated by Clément Delépine, independent curator, writer, and co-director of Paris Internationale. For more information on the initiative and upcoming projects, please contact clement@rhe.online.

This email was sent to you because you agreed to receive occasional updates from our gallery. If you don't want to receive any communication from *RHE*, please kindly let us know.