

Limmatstrasse 214  
8005 Zürich  
Switzerland  
T +41(0)44 273 00 10  
F +41(0)44 273 00 12  
**BolteLang**  
info@boltelang.com  
www.boltelang.com

*Tell me what I see, when I look into your eyes*  
Curated by Nicola Ruffo & Caroline Lommaert  
11<sup>th</sup> April – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
Opening reception 10<sup>th</sup> April, 6 – 8 pm

In an increasingly virtual society, the creation of a persona or mask has become the norm. We carefully choose how to portray ourselves and ‘hide’ behind what we find to be the ideal. A physical disguise may be used, but more often than not, the masks we wear are invisible to our onlooker, thereby subconsciously signalling how they should see us. Hiding, deceiving, misleading, joking – wearing a mask can serve many purposes. With *Tell me what I see, when I look into your eyes*, we are questioning the ‘masking’ that artists engage in, the artwork being the obvious artists’ mask. As Walter Benjamin wrote in his 1929 essay *Some Remarks On Folk Art*, “Disguise seeks the arsenal of masks within us”, we try to uncover this multitude of personas.

For the first time BolteLang will show such an extensive and varied group of artists. *Tell me what I see, when I look into your eyes*, will include photography, painting, video, sculptures and installations – thereby creating an environment for discovery. The exhibition display will reflect the arsenal of masks present within each artist, allowing the visitor to reflect upon the myth behind them. The lines between what is real and portrayed are blurred.

The idea of the mask has fascinated artists throughout history. For instance the modernists were drawn to tribal masks because of their unconventional, non-western facial representations. Furthermore, when Surrealist André Breton first saw an indigenous mask, he called it “more surreal than the Surrealists.” This exhibition, however, focuses on contemporary interpretations by Switzerland-based artists. It reunites a number of young positions of the French and German speaking part.

With a mural by Stéphane Devidal as the unifying backdrop, the works will all be presented in the main room of the gallery – a cabinet of curiosities for the visitor to be submerged in, where works of different origin and destination are presented together. *Tell me what I see, when I look into your eyes*, will show an overview of works, each a reference to the masks we wear.

BolteLang has invited curators to the gallery twice before, Studio Voltaire in 2009 and FormContent 2011. While those previous exhibitions were conceived by the people behind project spaces in the UK, the two curators of *Tell me what I see, when I look into your eyes* are both Switzerland-based. Caroline Lommaert and Nicola Ruffo received their MA in Curating from the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK) in 2011. Caroline Lommaert has since worked for BolteLang and Nicola Ruffo ran different independent art projects and works as a journalist. Recently, he has co-curated the exhibitions *Learning from Warsaw* at the Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle (2013, Warsaw) and *Go! You Sure? Yeah!*, 2014 at Pool Project, in collaboration with the LUMA Foundation and Ringier collection.

Artists: Livio Baumgartner, Nino Baumgartner, Nicolas Berset, Arianne & Pascale Birchler, Beni Bischof, Stéphane Devidal, Dagmar Heppner, Guillaume Pilet, Elodie Pong, Ana Roldan, Vanessa Savavi, U5, Costa Vece, Pedro Wirz

For further information and images, please contact:  
t +41 (0) 44 273 00 10  
Caroline Lommaert: caroline@boltelang.com

With the kind technical support of ZHdK.

## Tell me what I see. when I look into your eyes

1



**STEPHANE DEVIDAL**

**Masque rose : ohhhhehhhh**, 2014

Plaster, acrylic

42 x 39 x 12 cm ( 16 1/2 x 15 3/8 x 4 3/4 inch )

DEVID36207

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2



**NINO BAUMGARTNER**

**Pont Neuf**, 2013

Kupfer

50 x 25 x 3 cm ( 19 5/8 x 9 7/8 x 1 1/8 inch )

BAUMG36198

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3



**GUILLAUME PILET**

**Learning to Love**, 2014

Silver gelatin print

Ed. 1/3 + 2AP

24 x 18 cm ( 9 1/2 x 7 1/8 inch )

PILET36212

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4



**GUILLAUME PILET**

**Learning to Love**, 2014

Silver gelatin print

Ed. 1/3 + 2 AP

24 x 18 cm ( 9 1/2 x 7 1/8 inch )

PILET36213

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5



**BENI BISCHOF**

**Grace-Jones - Living my Life**, 2013

LP, plasticine

31 x 31 cm ( 12 1/4 x 12 1/4 inch )

BISCH36199

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6



**U5**

**EXP. 2000**, 2013

Mixed media

207 x 85 x 50 cm ( 81 1/2 x 33 1/2 x 19 5/8 inch )

U536214

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7



**BENI BISCHOF**

**Mami hat Akne – Das Leben ist viel zu kurz, um eine Diät zu machen., 2012**

Oil on canvas

50 x 40 cm ( 19 5/8 x 15 3/4 inch )

BISCH36200

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8



**STEPHANE DEVIDAL**

**Masque bleu : haaaaaha, 2014**

Plaster, acrylic

62 x 38 x 8 cm ( 24 3/8 x 15 x 3 1/8 inch )

DEVID36205

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9



**LIVIO BAUMGARTNER**

**All the Things You Are, 2012**

80 Dias

Ed. 1/3 + 1 AP

BAUMG36220

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10



**GUILLAUME PILET**

**Cage Painting, 2014**

Acrylic on canvas

40 x 30 cm ( 15 3/4 x 11 3/4 inch )

PILET36210

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11



**VANESSA SAFAVI**

**Untitled (la danse), 2014**

Taxidermy bird, framed

25,5 x 23 x 10,5 cm ( 10 x 9 x 4 1/8 inch )

SAFAV36203

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12



**ARIENNE UND PASCALE BIRCHLER**

**Ohne Titel, 2012**

Collage

33 x 25 cm ( 13 x 9 7/8 inch )

BIRCH36221

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13



**COSTA VECE**

**Untitled, 2014**

PVC foil, inkjet print, black gloss paint, cardboard, framed  
21 x 15 cm ( 8 1/4 x 5 7/8 inch )  
VECE36217

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14



**COSTA VECE**

**Untitled, 2014**

PVC foil, inkjet print, black gloss paint, cardboard, framed  
21 x 15 cm ( 8 1/4 x 5 7/8 inch )  
VECE36216

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15



**COSTA VECE**

**Untitled, 2014**

PVC foil, inkjet print, black gloss paint, cardboard, framed  
21 x 15 cm ( 8 1/4 x 5 7/8 inch )  
VECE36218

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16



**ANA ROLDAN**

**Displacements, 2012**

Pigment print, framed  
27 x 27 cm ( 10 5/8 x 10 5/8 inch )  
ROLDA36222

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17



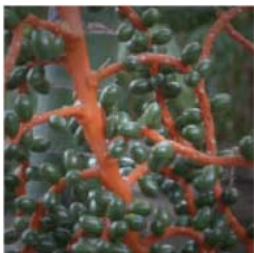
**ANA ROLDAN**

**Primeval forms, 2012**

Pigment print, framed  
27 x 27 cm ( 10 5/8 x 10 5/8 inch )  
ROLDA36226

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18



**ANA ROLDAN**

**Primeval forms, 2012**

Pigment print, framed  
27 x 27 cm ( 10 5/8 x 10 5/8 inch )  
ROLDA36225

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19



**ANA ROLDAN**  
**Displacements**, 2012  
Pigment print, framed  
27 x 27 cm ( 10 5/8 x 10 5/8 inch )  
ROLDA36224

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20



**ANA ROLDAN**  
**Displacements**, 2012  
Pigment print, framed  
27 x 27 cm ( 10 5/8 x 10 5/8 inch )  
ROLDA36223

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21



**ANA ROLDAN**  
**Primeval forms**, 2012  
Pigment print, framed  
27 x 27 cm ( 10 5/8 x 10 5/8 inch )  
ROLDA36227

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22



**GUILLAUME PILET**  
**Learning to Love**, 2013  
Silver gelatin print  
Ed. 1/3 + 2 AP  
24 x 18 cm ( 9 1/2 x 7 1/8 inch )  
PILET36211

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23



**STEPHANE DEVIDAL**  
**Masque bleu vert : ouhhouuu**, 2014  
Plaster, acrylic  
75 x 36 x 13,5 cm ( 29 1/2 x 14 1/8 x 5 3/8 inch )  
DEVID36206

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24



**NICOLAS BERSET**  
**Trinitron**, 2014  
3 videos  
Ed. of 5 + 2 AP  
Each video between 15–18 min.  
BERSE36228

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25



**PEDRO WIRZ**  
**New York Masks (after Josephine Smith), 2014**  
Silicone  
Ed. 1/3 + AP  
37 x 32 x 1 cm ( 14 5/8 x 12 5/8 x 3/8 inch )  
WIRZ36202

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26



**U5**  
**PROBLEM NO #14, 2013**  
Video  
Unique  
40.26 min.  
U536215

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27



**DAGMAR HEPPNER**  
**Kreise I, 2014**  
Canvas  
60 x 20 cm ( 23 5/8 x 7 7/8 inch )  
HEPPN36231

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28



**LIVIO BAUMGARTNER**  
**Traces III, 2011**  
Inkjet print on mirrored Dibond  
160 x 115 cm ( 63 x 45 1/4 inch )  
BAUMG36219

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29



**BENI BISCHOF**  
**The Grillman's Grillblech, 2014**  
Tin container  
32 x 19 x 12 cm ( 12 5/8 x 7 1/2 x 4 3/4 inch )  
BISCH36201

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30



**STEPHANE DEVIDAL**  
**Masque taupe : heuuuu, 2014**  
Plaster, acrylic  
40 x 81 x 10 cm ( 15 3/4 x 31 7/8 x 3 7/8 inch )  
DEVID36204

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31



**ELODIE PONG**  
**Sculptures**, 2011  
Video  
Ed. 1/5 + 2 AP  
HD video loop 21 min. 46 sec.  
PONG36229

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32



**DAGMAR HEPNER**  
**Kreise II**, 2014  
Muslin  
60 x 20 cm ( 23 5/8 x 7 7/8 inch )  
HEPPN36230

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33



**STEPHANE DEVIDAL**  
**Masque jaune : HUUUUU**, 2014  
Plaster, acrylic  
71 x 52 x 11,5 cm ( 28 x 20 1/2 x 4 1/2 inch )  
DEVID36208

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34



**STEPHANE DEVIDAL**  
**Oiseaux**, 2014  
Charcoal  
Variable  
DEVID36209

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