

# TIM VAN LAERE GALLERY

## PETER ROGIERS

### TVLG\_Yard

26 October – 2 December 2017

TVLG\_Yard presents *Wilson*, a new sculpture by Belgian artist Peter Rogiers (°1967).

The title of the sculpture is a reference to the movie *Cast Away* in which Tom Hanks develops a close relationship with a painted volleyball from sports equipment manufacturer Wilson. With this reference, Rogiers links his work to anthropomorphism, a phenomenon that attributes human characteristics or behaviour to animals or inanimate objects for companionship or to fill a certain void. Instead of providing the image with a literal interpretation, the title acts as an alibi for the abstract shapes that seem to undergo a visual transformation from each viewpoint.

The use of different materials brings a certain balance to the sculpture: the classical bronze, often associated with romantic connotations, is contrasted with the artificial qualities of the aluminum that appears to make an abstract, undulating motion around the bronze figure. Rogiers also brings the bronze and aluminium object in dialogue with the industrial aspect of the plint in stainless steel. These big contrasts create a certain tension, challenging the viewer to interact with the movement of the sculpture.

The work of Peter Rogiers is characterized by numerous contradictions, hovering between abstraction and figuration with an overwhelming spatial impact. With his distinctive sense of humor, a large portion of irony and exceptional artisan qualities, Rogiers challenges the conventions of traditional art history by taking them out of their typical context and introducing them in a new imagery. The psychology of the form is at the heart of his practice.

The works of Peter Rogiers are included in various public collections such as S.M.A.K. (Museum of Contemporary Art, Ghent), Middelheimmuseum (Antwerp), M HKA (Museum of Contemporary Art Antwerp), Mu.ZEE (Kunstmuseum aan Zee, Oostende), Fondation Louis Vuitton (Paris) and LACMA (Los Angeles County Museum of Art). He exhibited in several leading museums and art galleries, including solo shows in Berlin, Paris, Brussels, Antwerp, New York and Los Angeles.