

Ellen de Bruijne PROJECTS

Lara Almarcegui

Gravel

10/11/2018 - 22/12/2018



Ellen de Bruijne Projects warmly invite you to the opening of Lara Almarcegui's third solo exhibition in the gallery: *Gravel*.

Every day, 250 tons of gravel was piled up on the square in front of the Art Basel buildings. The day-to-day loads, created growing heaps of gravel that was excavated of one of the Basel gravel pits. The immense growing mountains were mirroring the average volume of gravel extracted from this quarry, and as an obstacle, became an invitation to reflect on the consequences of the extractions in relation to the land and the remaining landscape. Beside these active gravel pits, there are many abandoned ones around the city of Basel. They look deserted now, and creating landmarks that are reflecting the direct consequences of the disturbing excavations in terms of the landscape. But in many cases, as Lara Almarcegui delicately observes, nature takes back on the abandoned industrial sites, also on the gravel pits, and the public can enjoy the different terrains which awaits new functions.

Gravel became a large scale video installation, which is on view at the gallery. It is the second directed and mounted film after *Buried House, Dallas* from 2013.

In the galleries cabinet will be on view the preliminary work to *Gravel*. In drawings Almarcegui shows the second stage of *Mineral Rights*, that started in 2015 when the artist became holder on the mineral rights to an iron ore deposit near Oslo. This was the first step in Almarcegui's oeuvre to focus on 'what is happening with the soil deep under our feet'. Owning the rights on these iron deposits, was for the artist a way to get to the heart of the matter: who owns the earth? And drag attention to the origin of components needed for construction materials in buildings and other structures, that originates from the soil below our feet. Also in this case landscapes are disrupted, communities wiped out for the sake of exploitation. In several drawings the artist shows sections of the iron deposits she owns near Oslo and Graz. The drawings are made from the data after taking measurements of the iron magnetism with a geological magnetometer

Next to the main exhibition we will show a selection of previous works by Lara Almarcegui in our office space.

Gravel was made on the occasion of the exhibition *Basilea* by *Creative Time*, commissioned by *Art Basel for Messeplatz 2018*.

Camara: Cesar Martinez | Editor: Pablo Ruiz

LARA ALMARCEGUI

GRAVEL

10/11 - 22/12/2018

Opening

10/11 17-19

At our new space location: Singel 372, Amsterdam