

Vincent Meessen

ARTIST BIO & CV (SELECTION, 2018)

Vincent Meessen was born in Baltimore, USA, in 1971, and lives and works in Brussels. His artistic work is woven from a constellation of actors, gestures, and signs that maintain a polemical and sensible relation to the writing of history and the westernization of imaginaries. He decenters and multiplies gazes and perspectives to explore the variety of ways in which colonial modernity has impacted the fabric of contemporary subjectivities. Both in his work as an artist and in his paracuratorial activities, he likes to use procedures of collaboration that undermine the authority of the author and emphasize the intelligence of collectives.

With *Personne et les autres*, a collective exhibition at the Belgian Pavilion of the 56th Venice Biennale, Vincent Meessen has represented Belgium with ten invited artists from four continents. He recently presented solo exhibitions at Printemps de Septembre, Toulouse (2018); Centre Pompidou, Musée national d'art moderne, Paris (2018); BOZAR, Brussels (2017); WIELS, Brussels (2016); Kunsthalle Basel (2015); KIOSK, Ghent (2013); and MUAC, Mexico City (2013-14). Recent group presentations include *50 Years after 50 Years of the Bauhaus 1968*, Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart (2018); and *Gestures and Archives of the Present, Genealogies of the Future*, Taipei Biennale (2016). His films have been shown at numerous museums and art centers among which Kiasma (Helsinki), MUMOK (Vienna), Museo Reina Sofia (Madrid), Lincoln Center (NYC) and in film festivals including IFFR (Rotterdam), IDFA (Amsterdam), Image Forum Festival (Japan), and FESPACO (Ouagadougou).

Vincent Meessen is a member of Jubilee, a mutual research and production platform. Meessen is engaged in education at La Cambre, Brussels, and works in many art schools both in Belgium and abroad. He completed his postgraduate studies in 2005 at the HISK (Higher Institute for Fine Arts) in Antwerp.

FILMOGRAPHY (Single-channel videos unless otherwise mentioned)

/IN DEVELOPMENT

Une Association Libre d'Individus Libres

/2018

Ultramarine

Juste un mouvement

/2016

Wild Architect

/2015

One.Two.Three (installation & single channel)

/2013

Clinamen Cinema

/2012

Boucles à revers (installation/exhibition)

/2009

Vita Nova

Dear Adviser

Story Number 50739 (installation/exhibition)

Location photographs (carousel) (installation/exhibition)

/2008

The Crying of Potential Estate (collective)

/2007

A Broken Rule (Une Règle)

/2006

The Residents (in collaboration with Adam Leech)

Made in Belgium

Le Parlement des Invisibles

Les Sociétaires / De Vennoten

/2005

N12°13.062/W001°32.619 Extended

L'empiètement du coton graine (The Intruder)

EDITED BOOKS

/2018

The Other Country / L'autre pays, Sternberg Press

/2017

Patterns for (Re)cognition publication, BOZAR & Snoeck

/2015

Personne et les autres, Mousse publishing

Third Form, Mousse publishing

/2013

Mi última vida, MUAC & UNAM

/2005

Qui-vive, La Lettre volée

SOLO PRESENTATIONS

/2019

Blues Klair, The Power Plant, Toronto (CA)

/2018

Omar en mai, Centre Pompidou, Paris (FR)

Ultramarine, Le Printemps de septembre, Toulouse (FR)

Blues Klair, Leonard & Bina Ellen Gallery, Montreal (CA)

/2017

Vincent Meessen & Tshela Tendu, *Patterns for (Re)cognition*, Bozar, Brussels (BE)

/2016

OK/KO, Le printemps de Septembre, Toulouse (FR)

Sire, je suis de l'ôtre pays, WIELS, Brussels (BE)

/2015

My last Life, FRAC Aquitaine, Bordeaux (FR)

Mi última Vida/My Last Life, Kukuruchos, Guadalajara (MX)

/2014

Mi última Vida/My Last Life, MUAC, Mexico City (MX)

Patterns for (Re)cognition, Kunsthalle Basel (CH)

/2013

Patterns for (Re)cognition, KIOSK, Ghent (BE)

/2012

My Last Life, Netwerk centrum voor hedendaagse kunst, Aalst (BE)

/2011

My Last Life, Espace Khasma, Les Lilas (FR)

Cher Conseiller, Cité Radieuse / La première Rue, Briey-en-Forêt (FR)

/2010

Clinamen Cinema, Artist in focus / *Open Archive #2*, Argos, Brussels (BE)

Vita Nova, ABP Autograph, London (UK)

/2009

Dear Adviser, Argos, Black Box, Brussels (BE)

Dear adviser, Stedelijk Museum Bureau Amsterdam (with Susanne Kriemann) (NL)

/2008

Foreign Affairs (public commission), Egmont Palace, Brussels (BE)

/2007

Video works, Beursschouwburg, Brussels (BE)

Walker-on, HISK/Art Brussels (BE)

/2006

Unincorporated, STUK, Leuven (BE)

GROUP PRESENTATIONS AND FILM FESTIVALS

/2018

50 Years after 50 Years of the Bauhaus 1968, Württembergischer Kunstverein Stuttgart (DE)

/2017

COM nu TIES seuils/drempels/thresholds, Argos, Brussels (BE)

A Song for Rio (part 2), Galeria Fortes Vilaça, Rio de Janeiro (BR)

/2016

12th Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival, Berwick-upon-Tweed (UK)

Hantises, Biennale Koltès, Metz (FR)
Art of the Real, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul (MMCA), (KR)
Gestures and archives of the present, genealogies of the future, Taipei Biennial (TW)
Image Forum Festival (JP)
Art of the Real, Film Society of the Lincoln Center, New York (US)
The Family of the Invisible, Seoul Museum of Art (SeMA), Seoul (KR)
IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam (NL)

/2015

Personne et les autres, Vincent Meessen & guests, Belgian Pavilion at the 56th Venice Biennial (IT)
Atopolis, Manège de Sury, Mons, European Cultural Capital (BE)

/2014

Specters. A Cinema of Haunting, Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid (ES)
Theory of Color, MUAC, Mexico City (MX)
The Allegory of the Cave Painting, Extra City, Antwerp (BE)
All Tomorrow's Past, Kunsthaus, Hamburg (DE)
Belgorama, Cinematek, Brussels (BE)
Collecting Geographies, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam (NL)

/2013

Speculating on Change, XXth Jornadas de estudio de las Imagen, CA2M, Madrid (co-directing) (ES)
Let's Swarm, Stroom, The Hague (with Potential Estate) (NL)
When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes, MOCAD, Detroit (US)

/2012

MUMOK, Vienna (AT)
When Attitudes Become Forms Become Attitudes, CCA Wattis, San Francisco (US)
Bewitched System, XIX Jornadas de Estudio de las Imagen, CA2M, Madrid (co-directing) (ES)
Un-scene II, Wiels, Brussels (BE)
A Blind Spot, HKW/Berlin Documentary Forum, Berlin (DE)
Live Rightly, Die, Die..., Cinémathèque Québécoise, Montreal (CA)
Atlas critique, Parc Saint-Léger, Pougues-les-Eaux (FR)

/2011

Routes, voyages et traductions, Contrechamp/Le Cinématographe, Nantes (FR)
Hantologie des Colonies, Paris & Seine St-Denis (F) (guest curator) (FR)
Community without Propinquity, Milton Keynes Art Gallery, Milton Keynes (UK)
The Eye is a Lonely Hunter: Images of Humankind, 4.Foto-festival Mannheim (DE)
Never written stories, CA2M, Madrid (ES)
Rencontres Paris-Berlin-Madrid, HKW, Berlin (DE)
Le Rayon vert, Palais de Tokyo, Paris (FR)
ARS 11, Kiasma Museum, Helsinki (FI)
Rencontres Paris-Berlin-Madrid, Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid (ES)
Distant Montage, ERBA, (guest curator) Valence (FR)
FESPACO, official selection, Ouagadougou (BF)
Expanding documentary, De Brakke Grond, Amsterdam (NL)
Manifesta 9/Coffee Break, Genk (BE)

/2010

Walking the Hinterland, Open Archive #2, Argos center for art & media, Brussels (BE)
Cabinet Bald Eagle/Potential Estate, Argos center for art & media, Brussels (BE)

Stardust in a Nutshell, Savvy Contemporary, Berlin (DE)
transmediale.10, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin (DE)
IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam (NL)
IDFA, International Documentary Festival Amsterdam (NL)

/2009

Africa Reflected, Stedelijk Museum Bureau /Montevideo, Amsterdam (NL)
Back Sourcing, CEAC, Xiamen, China (guest curator) (CN)
Contour, Biennale for Moving Images, Mechelen (BE)
Cabinet Jurino/ Potential Estate, MuHKA extra muros, Antwerp (BE)
Unknown territory, Museum De Paviljoens, Almere (NL)
Argos Open Lounge, Villa Merkel, Esslingen (DE)
Cinema du Réel, Centre Pompidou/MK2 Beaubourg, Paris (FR)
KunstFilmBiennale, Cologne (DE)
Cinémathèque Française, Paris (FR)

/2008

Cabinet Anciaux / Potential Estate, Brussels Biennale (BE)
IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam (NL)
Shadow Cabinet (three rendezvous), Extra City/Error one, Antwerp (guest curator) (BE)
Cabinet Hope/Potential Estate, Koraalberg, Antwerp (BE)

/2007

Cine y casi Cine, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid (ES)
Rencontres Paris-Berlin-Madrid, Musée du Jeu de Paume, Paris (FR)
International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (NL)
Open Archive #01, (guest curator) Argos center for art & media, Brussels (BE)
Cabinet Reclus /Potential Estate, Netwerk, Aalst (BE)
Film without picture, Swiss Institute, New York (BE)
transmediale.07, Berlin (DE)
IFFR, International Film Festival Rotterdam (NL)
Weak Foundations, Momenta Art, New York (US)
e-flux video rental, New York & touring worldwide (US)

/2006

Concerning "Knowledge Production", BAK, Utrecht (NL)
Archéologie d'un territoire, Cinémathèque Française, Paris (FR)
Cabinet Jacotot /Potential Estate, STUK, Leuven (BE)
Breughel Revisited, Botanical Gardens, Meise (BE)
52nd International Shortfilm Festival Oberhausen (DE)
Entrevues Festival, Belfort (FR)
Argos Festival, Brussels (BE)

AWARDS

Prix meilleur court-métrage documentaire, Entrevues Festival, Belfort (F), 2006
Grand Prize International Competition, Oberhausen film festival (DE), 2005
Best Belgian Short, Courtisane Film Festival, Gent (B), 2005