

SVEN AUGUSTIJNEN

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd at 7pm

In conjunction with Belgian artist Sven Augustijnen residency at OCA's International Studio Programme we are happy to, in collaboration with OCA, screen three of his films:

L'École des Pickpockets (2000, 48 min)

The film unfolds as kind of documentary around two professional pick-pockets who give a master-class in their craft.

Le Guide du Parc (2001, 44 min)

A film centred on one individual, a middle-aged businessman who incessantly speaks into the camera in a guided tour through a park located in the centre of Brussels. He brings the viewers' attention to the instruction inscribed on the palace wall that informs in detail of how it is possible to sexually solicit another individual in the park, and the film proceeds according to this narrative.

Une Femme Entreprenante (2005, 72 min)

A film that documents how a museum for contemporary art is literally talked into existence. The film follows the accounts of several people as they meet to speak about plans for the development of a contemporary art centre on the site of a disused and more or less derelict brewery in Brussels. The central figure in the story is a real estate developer who has decided to support the plans for the redevelopment of the brewery into a place for art. A story evolves around the evolving inclusion of other characters: advisers, wealthy patrons and art professionals who convene at the site, standing upon its ruins and projecting its future.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Augustijnen (b.1970 in Mechelen, Belgium, lives and works in Brussels, Belgium) is an artist and film-maker who, according to writer T.J. Demos, has elaborated a 'longstanding deconstruction of documentarism wherein the object is not to record speech as a transparent medium of reality, but instead to investigate how his subjects construct one version of reality, rather than revealing some faithful transcription of a social and political truth'. Augustijnen seeks to enact a paradigm shift in terms of the history of cultural representations of power by exploring the specificity of familiar places usually located in or associated to the history of Brussels. Renowned as a subtle chronicler of the city, Augustijnen recently premiered *Spectres* (2010), his first feature film, which establishes a link between the city of Brussels, its current role as administrative capital of Europe and its country's colonial past. Sven Augustijnen studied at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp, Belgium; the Hoger Sint-Lukas Instituut in Brussels, and at the Jan van Eyck Academy in Maastricht, the Netherlands. His films have been included in exhibitions and festivals in Athens, Greece; Basel and Fribourg, Switzerland; San Sebastián, Spain; Siegen, Germany; Rotterdam, the Netherlands; Tunis, Tunisia; Tel Aviv, Israel; Tokyo, Japan and Vilnius, Lithuania, among others. In 2007 he participated in the documenta 12 magazines project, in collaboration with A Prior, and in 2011 he was awarded the Evens Prize for Visual Arts.

ABOUT OFFICE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART NORWAY:

The Office for Contemporary Art Norway is a foundation created by The Norwegian Ministry of Culture and The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in autumn 2001. The main aim of the Office for Contemporary Art Norway is to develop collaborations in contemporary art between Norway and the international art scene. The Office for Contemporary Art Norway aims to become a key contributor to the discourses of contemporary art.

OCA's International Studio Programme

The International Studio Programme Oslo is available for international artists and curators by invitation for a stay from two weeks up to six months, independently or in connection with research in Norway.

www.oa.no