

% at the 3bisF

From 09/02/2011 to 21/02/2011

Annie Vigier and Franck Apertet (les gens d'Uterpan), choreographers + Sophie Demeyer, dancer
Marie Voignier, video artist

% is a mechanism that uses research and creation as the result of the confrontation between artists from different fields. The mechanism creates a link between two distinct vectors, that of the choreographers, a vector of research, directing the work of another artist or group of artists. The notion of composition is not the objective of the mechanism, on the contrary it is about a cohabitation during a 10 day residency that is open to the public according to terms redefined each time. By committing the artist to exhibit, without any time limit, his or her applications and content, % formulates new occurrences for creation.

% at the 3bisF

Statement of intent by Marie Voignier

I received an invitation from Annie Vigier and Franck Apertet to spend several days together in a particular context, that of 3bisF and the Montpaerrin psychiatric hospital. My artistic work deals mainly with video, but for this project, I wasn't invited to make a film. The proposed situation of working within a hospital made us want to approach the people who live and work there, to go as far as possible with them, among them, testing the boundary between patient/non-patient. It's the journey from outside the hospital to inside the patient that interests me. Of course I am aware that within the framework of this project I can never be completely with the patients, like the patients, totally immersed in the treatment structure. It is necessary that a certain number of obstacles - administrative, judicial, medical - exist, in the interest of the patient, to prevent total porosity that would put into question the effectiveness of treatment. It isn't about me pretending to be one of them but to make the journey and face the obstacles. I don't intend to analyse or judge these obstacles. I'm not qualified nor do I want to make a film on psychiatry. I'll start simply from the place given to me as an artist in the hospital, with Annie, Franck and Sophie. Starting with this place, the time we have, and spending it together, the project will come together, based on the fact of being there and sharing the place with a few patients and the medical staff.

Statement of Intent by Annie Vigier and Franck Apertet (les gens d'Uterpan)

The ten days consist of immersing ourselves into the hospital routine (organisation and patients) in order to sound out the political, sanitary and cultural mindset at work in the Montperrin psychiatric hospital. It involves observing and questioning an institution made up of doctors, administrators, people who perform the everyday tasks and maintenance, patients and formulating in real time, or not, contextual, artistic answers. The experience will gradually provide a body of video, texts, performances and first-hand accounts accessible to the public in one of the spaces of 3bisF. Preliminary meetings were arranged with the 3bisF staff in order to obtain certain authorisations, and to respect the patients and the work of the hospital staff. The authorisations and the degree of intimacy with the hospital as a whole that is granted to us will explicitly define the project.

Programme

Marie Voignier

My time spent in residency consisted not in elaborating a project, but in organising a jaunt on the site of the hospital, punctuated with filmed interviews of the orderlies, doctors, chief physicians, delivery boys, patients, laundry personnel, chaplain, to whom I asked a question concerning the presence of art and artists in the hospital. The question quickly turned into a question about the restricted presence of images in psychiatry: which images enter (those brought in by patients, artists, and orderlies) and which images go out (those made by patients on site, artists, cinema crews), which images are beneficial, which images are a part of treatment.

The interviews fostered a reflection even though the film that might result from our stay will probably be centered around the furtive encounters that took place on the site.

Programme

Annie Vigier and Franck Apertet + Sophie Demeyer

After a preliminary period of observation and making various requests, the orientation of % at the 3bisF set out to highlight the type of relations that the hospital maintains with art. The point being to question the actual validity of a contemporary art centre - 3bisF - on the site of Montperrin psychiatric hospital. Over a 10 day period, using various methods (phone calls, meetings, tracts, appointments, door to door encounters, Intranet) we made contact with the 170 people present in the hospital (personnel, orderlies, doctors, administrators, patients) in order to ask them to take our place and perform an action of their own choosing. A simple action that involved entering a place or sector of the hospital that had nothing to do with their position or function. And meeting someone in that place and initiating a new relationship. Day after day, the names of people met were noted down on the wall of our room in residency. This chart recorded over time the network of encounters made and the recommendations received. On our last day of residency we held an open house for visitors including everyone from the hospital in order to have a debate on the process engaged and enacted. A ten-day period following our departure was given for those people who wanted to perform an action and send us their account of it.

Thais Guimaraes
Psychology intern at the 3bisf

Location: Montperrin Hospital, Aix en Provence
Date: 15.02.2011

Action: Starting at the main entrance to the hospital, I walked backwards inside with the intention of going to the in-patient desk. In the end, without a rear view mirror, I ended up at the pharmacy.

**I wondered how to enter the hospital while leaving it?
Or to leave it while entering?**

SENT BY E-MAIL

Laurianne d'Eaubonne
3bisf
15/02/2011

I, Laurianne d'Eaubonne, cultural mediator at the 3bisf, chose to greet and shake hands with every person I came across on Tuesday February 15th 2011 between the Administrative building and the entrance of the Montperrin hospital between 4:15 and 4:30 pm

SENT BY E-MAIL

Magalie BRETAUD
Socio-therapeutic nurse
15/02/2011

Hello, this was my "performance":
Everyday I pass in front of a shelter (next to the garbage closet) where there's a bench but I never stop there. The shelter is always deserted when I pass by. However plastic cups and empty cigarette packs lie about, proving that someone has been there (that people have met there). What's surprising is that the shelter (right across from the Delay pavilions) smells horrible (from the garbage cans next door) and yet there are still signs of life. So I took the initiative, February 15th 2011 at 4:30 pm, to leave there a small notebook, attached to a pencil, with a title written on it "olfactive grievances from the shelter". This tool was meant to capture a written, or drawn, exchange and allow for indirect contact among the passers-by and those using the shelter. The idea was to take a photo of the notebook wherever it was everyday, to read and answer any eventual texts in order to create a dialogue. Wednesday February 16th at 9:28 am, the notebook was gone.

SENT BY E-MAIL



Christian GARCIN
Operator's station
15/02/2011

4:15 pm: I spent a quarter of an hour in the head office dropping off keys that I wasn't supposed to drop off.

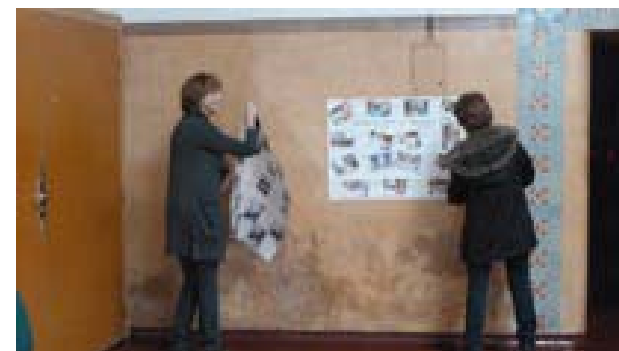
4:30 pm: I went to the 3bisF to introduce myself and meet the team. Everyone came around me. I was well-received.

ORAL ACCOUNT

Catherine Coste
IFSI Trainer
16/02/2011

1:45 pm: Mrs. Coste and Mrs. Dauge went to the 3bisF office with 3 pieces of art taken from the IFSI students' art class. They asked where they might hang the artwork and contacted Catherine Jouve and Joss Rodriguez. Once the spot was chosen and the artwork in place, they took the time to explain their function in the hospital.

ORAL ACCOUNT



Claude OZEE
Barber
16/02/2011

3:45 pm: Mr Claude Ozee went to the nutrition office and physically replaced Mrs. Chantal Grajon at her desk. He sat at Chantal's desk for 3 minutes.

ORAL ACCOUNT



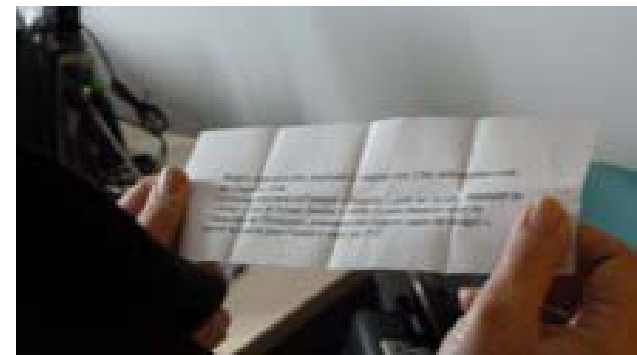
Elisabeth DEGREMONT
Health executive, Socio-therapy
17/02/2011
9:00 am

Accompanied by Sophie, I head off to find the accounting department, with which I am unfamiliar, despite its importance. The idea of my "action" is to give something to each member of the department personnel - a well-turned phrase, a definition, a travel tip, a kiss on the cheek - just to get the day off on the right foot... At this time of financial crisis, with budget restrictions, which make them refuse the demands we make for our wards!

I met with 7 people, secretaries, office heads (except the director, Mr. Pouilly, unfortunately!). Once I had briefly described my "action" as being a part of the projects of the dancers and choreographers from the troupe "les gens d'Uterpan", I held out a hat to each person in the department. Little pieces of paper folded up are picked up randomly, on which I have written a short phrase which they must read out loud to the others.

Amused, they play the game, think it's nice, and we leave hearing their thanks "it was a delightful moment""tonight I'll read it to my husband", we leave, delighted as well. At the cafeteria at lunchtime, I see them again, they thank me and tell me they've all put their phrases on the wall, and the one whom I kissed on the cheek says "I'm keeping that kiss for myself".

SENT BY E-MAIL



Nicole UREA-ODIN
Patient
17/02/2011, 11:30 am

Nicole Urea-Odin wrote a letter demanding that her invalid pension be raised (as promised by the government) addressed to Mrs. THALLMAN, head of Montperrin hospital. She then went and dropped it off right in the woman's office.

ORAL ACCOUNT



Jean Dominique BERTHIAUD
Patient
17/02/2011, 9:00 am

I, Jean Dominique Berthiaud, placed an anonymous and friendly letter on the desk of Cathy at the 3bisF so that she would know that she helped me a lot during all my years in psycho-analysis.

WRITTEN ACCOUNT

Justine CERF and Victoria NAPOLITANO
Students IFSI
17/02/2011
7:50 am

This morning we arrived earlier and we didn't go in front of the the garage but behind it. We went in front of the laundry room and we came upon a patient from the hospital with whom we sort of played chicken then at 7:55 we went in the IFSI.

SENT BY SMS

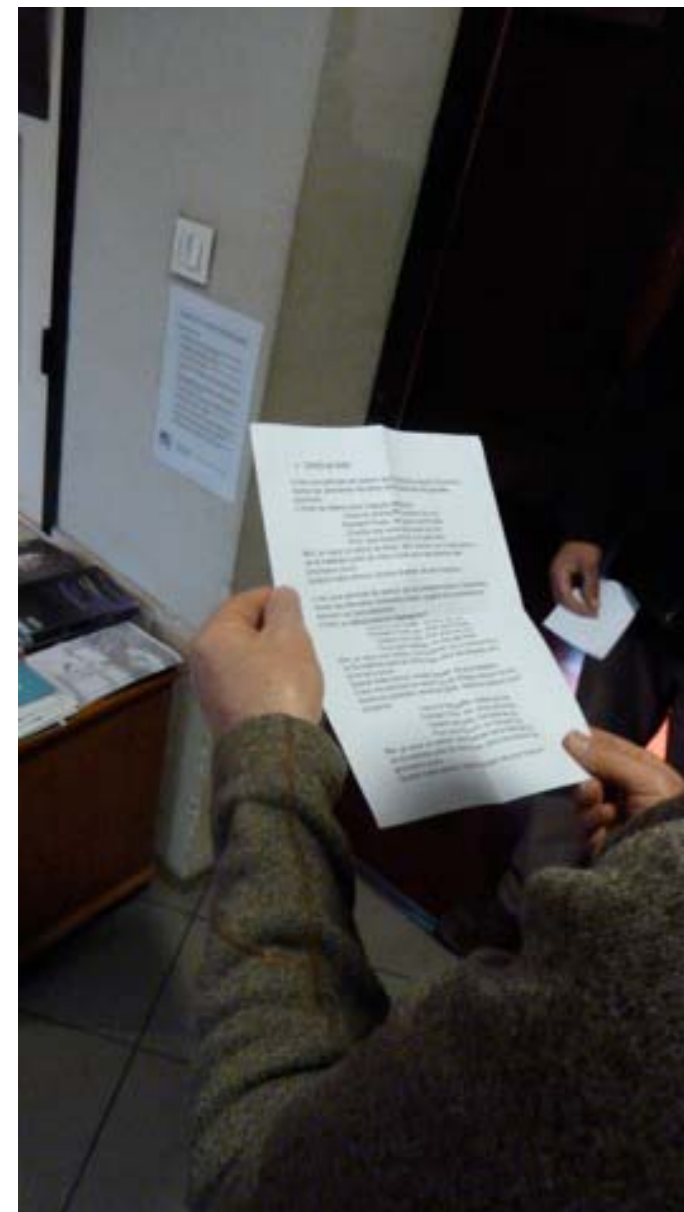
Laurence DUPREZ
Directrice Blanchisserie
17/02/2011
3:00 pm



Mr Fabrice PELAGE
Patient,
17/02/2011
4:10 pm

Mr PELAGE went to the 3bisF with a proposition, the text of which he had written beforehand. He asked first Jean-Luc Pruvost then Catherine Jouve to read the text out loud. They did. Mr. PELAGE then asked what they thought of the text.

Oral Account



Mr Gabriel PAYET
Kitchen
18/02/2011
9:30 am

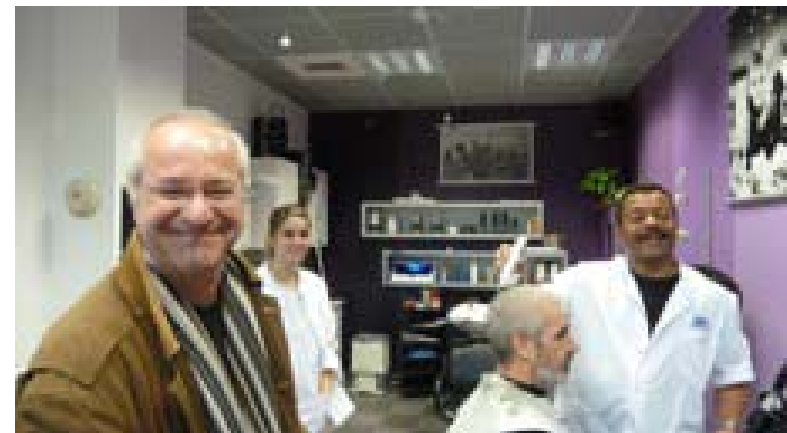
Mr. Payet went to 3bF to introduce himself and visit the place. He was wearing his regular kitchen uniform.

ORAL ACCOUNT

Mr RAYMOND Richard
Printer
18/02/2011
11:00 am

Mr. RAYMOND went to Mr Claude OZEE's hair salon where he dropped off an invitation to a party to celebrate a colleague's retirement. The colleague is also named Claude.

ORAL ACCOUNT



Mr Robert MAURIN
Garage MANAGER
21/02/2011
9:30 am

Confessions of a garage manager on a visit to the operator's station

9:30 Accompanied by two angels with enchanting smiles (the choreographers from the Uterpan workshop) I entered the holiest of holy places.

The atmosphere is calm, there's the smell of incense, Sister Sylvie greets us with her legendary amiability. Putting aside her work, she takes the time to instruct me with a suave voice full of devotion regarding the basics of her noble profession.

9:37 Red alert: the telephone rings, and, for me, a humble novice, it's like the fires of hell unleashed!

Apprehension, I hesitate; am I going to answer the call? With a look full of indulgence and compassion, Sister Sylvie puts an end to my torment.

Let's see if I remember my catechism. The mouse, click left, arrow on extension 1.

Ok, the screen is blinking. In a religious silence I answer: "The bishop's secretary speaking..." At the other end, I can feel a big question mark forming. My caller hesitates: " Give me the operator, I want to speak to Doctor X..."

"Sorry but this is the bishop's secretary and even if I put you through to the operator, you will never be able to reach Doctor X..."

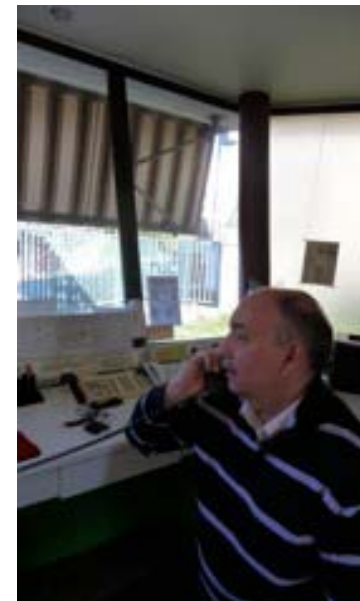
9:38 The line goes dead.

I'm halfway between a laughing fit and the feeling of having steered someone wrong; I confess my feelings to the venerable assembly. I'm off the hook with 3 Ave Marias and 2 prayers.

9:39 The telephone rings again. Sylvie answers very professionally.

Whoever said the VOICES of God were impenetrable?! Sometimes it only takes a phone call to reach paradise.

WRITTEN ACCOUNT



Mr Max OLIVA
Head Chef
21/02/2011
10:00 am

Mr Oliva went to the operator's station. He was taught quickly by Mrs. Sylvie Delepierre, and answered three calls.



Mrs. Sylvie DELEPIERRE
Operator's station
21/02/2011
12:45 pm



Mrs. Marie Pierre BOSCARIOL
Socio-therapy
21/02/2011
10:00 am

My action was to go to the operator's station in order to finally see the faces of the voices I hear on the phone when I need a non-local number. And when I talked with Sophie (when they presented their artistic action) I realised I'd been working at Montperrin for 14 years and had never been to the operator's station. And it's difficult to miss the station... In the morning when you arrive, in the evening on the way out... A "bubble" with tinted windows where you imagine someone is watching but you can't see anything! So this confirms the choice of my action, the goal of which (according to the artists) is to create a link, to communicate within the institution. And what better way to create a link than to bake and offer a cake. So that's what I do, and on the big day there I am walking into the unknown with my cake. Sophie is already there, with Mr Oliva (the head chef) who also chose to perform his action in the station... I am greeted by "the lady of the house" = Sylvie. What a surprise it was to learn that the operators often work alone... in front of a computer screen that replaced a long time ago the operator's board with all the plugs!!! So there's a small moment of frustration for me as I was expecting a lot more faces. But that's the way it goes, it's up to me to renew my incursions in order to meet everybody. And maybe that will mean that the personnel from the operator's station will come visit us in socio-therapy.

WRITTEN ACCOUNT



**Mrs. Jeanette BOUCHAFI, Agnès CAMUS, Marie Josée DIFFON,
Catherine GIRAUD HERIAUD, Aurore Fantauzzo**
Socio-therapy
1:30 pm

"Socio-therapy is relocating" (in the administration hallway) by linking the two structures with red ribbon and presenting certain activities.

- Qi Gong (pronounced tchi kong)
 - Coffee shop (offering coffee to the personnel present, who seem enchanted by the visit)
 - knitting links by the workshop
- A warm and curious welcome by residents and visitors...**

WRITTEN ACCOUNT



Mrs Chantal GRAJON

Dietician

21/02/2011

2:30 pm

The 21st of February, I went into the 3bisF with a sign - " I am an artist but I'm getting treatment".

I got the impression the personnel at the 3bisF didn't appreciate the "getting treatment" part (I used the expression because it is an art in the hospital).

During my visit I met a patient who told me that one must always be a little bit mad and live every day like it was the last.

I agree with him completely.

As I left, I received thanks for my initiative.

WRITTEN ACCOUNT



Mrs. Monique DAMORE
Doctor
21/02/2011

When I met you at the cafeteria you talked about creating an action in the hospital in a place that is unfamiliar to us. The idea of the laundry immediately came to mind. Today I went there. It's my day off, I didn't have time beforehand, but I wanted to accomplish this action given the pertinence of your question regarding the hospital. I often walk by the place on my way to the wards and I see "contemporary" images, the laundry turning, the whiteness. I knocked on the door and received a warm welcome, I heard once again about the 7 tons of laundry washed every day, the people that work there (36 altogether), their positions, the clean and dirty circuits (2 different worlds), how the patients' laundry is dealt with (the patients' dry cleaning, in the past). Many maneuvers have been taken over by machines, it's not like the family launderette where you can daydream, it's modern. I chose the place for its esthetic quality, its fundamental action for hospital hygiene, its openness because " they do wash dirty laundry in public", the originality of the object and its function. It may also be my artistic fiber that drove me there, as the person in charge there told me it was a hangout for the artists of the 3bisF. Dr D'Amore

SENT BY E-MAIL



Mrs. Hélène CASINI
Administrative Manager
23/02/2011

**"At the LA PLUME D'OR
you are transported into a world of smells and light at the
heart of an entrance to a cathedral. A warm, serene,
competent, welcome that transports one into the magic of
words. Visit the 23/02/2011. Mrs. Casini went to the library."**

SENT BY E-MAIL



Mrs. Brigitte LESNE
Health executive Reybaud Ouest
25/02/2011
10:00 am

My action in communication started when I met the hair stylist (25/02/2011) to make an appointment for next Wednesday to get a wash and a blow-dry. We had already started communicating, he told me about his unusual career as a hairstylist in Montperrin, we also evoked various professions which have disappeared, cobbler among others... Many conversations to come...

ORAL ACCOUNT BY TELEPHONE

Marie Louise BOTELLA
3bisF
25/02/2011
1:00 pm

Test of the best places to have a nap in the Montperrin hospital.

Inventory of the best places (calm, sunny, pleasant...) in order to have a 20 min. nap.

The best-of list will follow, as well as suggestions (like in certain guide books)

Naps during working hours

First session
25 February 2011
1:00

The first spot of choice: under an olive tree planted on a man-made hill, facing the old Grands Bains Généraux (bathing houses), now a center for documentation.

A path of stones about two meters long leads to the olive tree, like a destination.

It seemed to me that the place, even though it was in the middle of the hospital grounds with a lot of passers-by, had been conceived as a haven of peace.

The nap was a success and was talked about by the passers-by.

SENT BY E-MAIL

