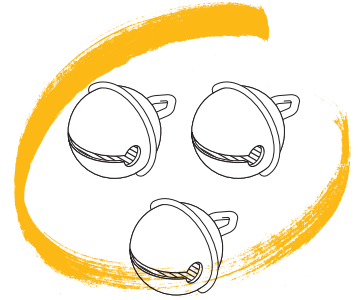
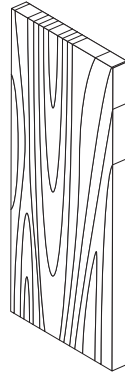
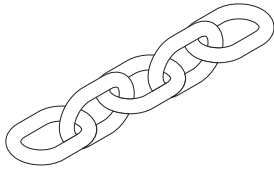
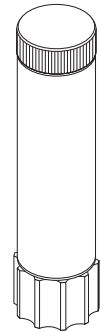
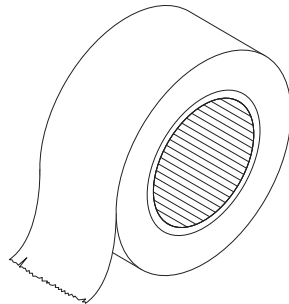


Press release



Alan Schmalz



52 semaines d'oisiveté

Exhibition from

to

12|10|19 **26|01|20**

Opening on

at

11 October 2019 **6.30 pm**

Curated by :

Antoine Marchand

Alan Schmalz (born in 1987 in Geneva; lives and works in Marseille) graduated from the Haute École d'Art et de Design (HEAD) in Geneva in 2014, and has been showing his work regularly since 2012 in venues and institutions such as the Contemporary Art Centre in Geneva, the Art Centre in Neuchâtel, The Box (Los Angeles), Salts, New Jersey (Basel), Forde (Geneva) and La Rada (Locarno). Alan Schmalz recently enjoyed a residency at Astérides in Marseille and at the Cité internationale des arts in Paris. In 2017, he was awarded the Prix Kiefer Hablitzel and in 2019 he won the Prix Hirzel.

He is represented by the Truth & Consequences gallery (Geneva).

Within a context of extreme productivity, in which our relation to work is more complex than ever, and where the fact of being active and “useful” usually qualifies our place in this world, the title of Alan Schmalz’s exhibition seems a tad provocative. *52 Weeks of Idleness* is a project specifically developed for the Le Lait Contemporary Art Centre in Albi, which questions the very notion of work, what the fact of being active – or not – represents nowadays, and the way in which our different activities – paid for or otherwise – structure our daily round. Working against current trends, the artist in fact invites us to slow down the pace, wonder about the frantic rhythms sometimes imposed upon us, and take time off to think about--and let go of--things. A slightly utopian attempt, when all is said and done, to re-think – rather than upset – the established flawed order, but inviting us to adopt a necessary line of thinking based on a flawed model which, today, seems to have run out of steam, and which it would be a good idea to break with. A way, too, of underscoring the unusualness of people who do try to escape from these productivist diktats, by developing alternative models outside the predominant system.

Ahead of the exhibition, a meeting with the artist is scheduled for Wednesday 9 October at 6.15 pm at the Médiathèque Pierre Amalric in Albi.

Duration : 1 hour / Free Entrance

This show is part and parcel of the extension of ways of thinking adopted for some years now by Alan Schmalz, seeking to reveal the incoherences and absurdities of our contemporary societies, be it at the architectural, urbanistic, or environmental level... Combining drawings, collages, sculptures and acoustic material, this project presents an unusual narrative form which spreads through the art centre's different rooms.

Exhibition place

Le Lait centre d'art contemporain
28 rue Rochegude
81000 Albi, FRANCE

Opening

From Wednesday to Sunday
From 1 pm to 6 pm
Free and accessible to all

Visites de groupe sur réservation

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Exhibition partners

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Institutional partners



The art center is a member of the networks d.c.a - French association development of contemporary art centers, LMAC - Laboratory of Mediations in Contemporary Art and Air de Midi - contemporary art network in Occitania