



Image courtesy Kristof Van Gestel

Saturday 16 January 12:00-16:00  
The Vigeland Museum, Oslo

### *Performing Objects*

with artists Marjolijn Dijkman and Kristof Van Gestel

This workshop will focus on our interaction with objects, explore some of the different visions and narratives particular objects embody and collectively engage in a conversation about their potential forms of agency.

In 2014 the artists Marjolijn Dijkman and Kristof Van Gestel initiated the ongoing research project *Performing Objects* with an extended and growing group of artists.

For their workshop in Oslo they invite 8 artists, curators, art students and others with an interest in 'objects and their possibilities to act' to take part.

Participants are asked to bring an object – in the widest sense of the word – to the workshop that they believe is 'performing' in some way.

The workshop group will actively and informally reflect on topics that spring out of Dijkman's and Van Gestel's research project, and offer a moment to re-visit the Norwegian Sculpture Biennial 2015. The workshop thus represents a dialogue between artists and other practitioners from the field of art that rarely have a position in the public sphere of an exhibition.

**Please sign up by e-mailing Education consultant Elin-Therese Aarseth at The Vigeland Museum: [elin.therese.aarseth@kul.oslo.kommune.no](mailto:elin.therese.aarseth@kul.oslo.kommune.no)**

*Performing Objects* is cultivated by the artist-run initiative Enough Room for Space in Brussels, Belgium. The research group's interest is to investigate in what way artists can anticipate how objects operate as interactive performers towards their users or audiences.

Enough Room for Space (ERforS), founded by Marjolijn Dijkman and Maarten Vanden Eynde in 2005, is an interdependent art organisation initiating experimental research projects and exhibitions. ERforS tries to act as freely as possible, always putting the context and the idea before the medium, challenging the barriers between different disciplines (artistic, scientific or activist). Our aim is to closely relate both to the practices and interests of the artists involved to the different contexts where we exhibit or produce new works. We take time to develop ideas parallel to each other, to experiment and exchange ideas relating to common fields of interests and explore adjacent fields of knowledge. For this reason we mostly work on long-term projects.

Marjolijn Dijkman (\*1978) is based in Brussels (BE) and is a tutor at the MFA AKV/St. Joost in Breda (NL) since January 2009. Solo exhibitions include: *LUNÄ, fig.-2*, ICA, London, UK (2015); *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, West Space, Melbourne, AU (2015); *History Rising*, Wisbech Museum / Norwich Castle Museum and Art Gallery (2013-2014); *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*, IKON Gallery, Birmingham/Spike Island, Bristol, UK (2011); *MATRIX 234* at BAM/ PFA, Berkeley, US (2010). Group exhibitions include: *Global Imaginations*, Museum De Lakenhal, Leiden, NL (2015); *On Geometry and Speculation*, Higher Atlas, 4th Marrakech Biennial, MO (2012); *Screaming and Hearing*, 7th Mercosul Biennial Porto Alegre, BR (2009); *Still life, Art, Ecology and the Politics of Change*, 8th Sharjah Biennial, UAE (2007)

Kristof Van Gestel (\*1976) is a visual artist and a teacher/researcher at KASK/School of Arts of University College Ghent. He lives and works in Antwerp (BE). Education: PhD in the Arts and Post-PhD Research in the Arts, School of Arts/KASK, University College Ghent, Ghent (BE); de ateliers, Amsterdam (NL); Mixed Media, KASK, University College Ghent, Ghent (BE) and Graphic Design, St. Lucas, Ghent (BE). Exhibitions include: Solo shows in Gallery annex14 in Bern (CH), MDD in Deurle (BE), One Twenty Gallery in Ghent (BE). Group shows in STUK in Louvain (BE), Annie Gentils in Antwerp (BE), CC Mechelen/De Garage in Mechelen (BE), SMAK in Ghent (BE), De Appel in Amsterdam (NL).

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*Agreement Conversation Piece/AM*  
by Kristof Van Gestel

In this participatory artwork the audience is invited into a semi-public space where the artist explains the reciprocal and dependent relationship between artist and spectator. Starting from an experience of the artwork *Conversation Piece/AM* participants can enter into a conversation with the artist.

This conversation piece is open for anyone interested (individuals or small groups), no previous knowledge on art required. Individual participation is on a 'first come'-basis. The conversations are private. Welcome!

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Since 1999 Kristof Van Gestel produces sculptures, pictures and projects that focus on questioning and finding a place for art in the everyday. For Van Gestel making art is a method to explore the wide range of different relations into which we as individuals enter in the world. This applies both for the artist as for the viewer. The artist now works on a postdoctoral research project at KASK/School of Arts of University College Ghent in which he focuses on experiential learning. For this reason the platform 'Knowing by Doing' was founded. This platform provides opportunities for participatory and experiential art projects and workshops that Van Gestel sets up for a public starting from his own artistic practice.