

Alice Mogabgab - Brussels presents the exhibition

PHILIPPE DE GOBERT

Studio journeys

Photographs and model

5 September – 26 October 2019

Philippe De Gobert begins by constructing a model of a place either imagined or inspired by an existing space, often an artist's studio or an emblematic piece of architecture. He tends to choose sober, spartan and luminous interiors.

The model is then placed on a plinth in the studio to be lit in the same way as one would illuminate a cinema set. Following the rules of architecture photography, he produces an image which is then printed in large format, in black and white.



NY 10 Segal (ex. 1/3), 2019, digital print, 138 x 98 cm. © Philippe De Gobert

Philippe De Gobert: studio journeys is the artist's first solo exhibition with Galerie Alice Mogabgab. The exhibition is curated by Michel Baudson and presents two sets of photographs; the first from 2010, inspired by a painting of a Dutch interior from the 17th century, shows a series of doors and almost empty rooms, in which the light magnifies the infinite space; the theme of the second set is New York studios, freely inspired by, for example, Donald Judd's loft or an Edward Hopper painting, so as to accentuate the strange atmosphere or the light of a sunny morning, with the view over the city's rooftops. A model of each space/subject is also presented, to remind us of the scale of the original.

Philippe De Gobert was born in Brussels in 1946 into a family of artists. After studying the classics, although in a somewhat chaotic fashion, he turns his attention to photography, learning the technique in advertising studios. At the same time, starting in 1967, he embarks on a career as a sculptor, showing his work regularly in galleries. In 1978 he begins the series *Artists' Rooms*, the subject of a solo exhibition at the Palais des Beaux-Arts. These sculptures-models are subsequently exhibited in several European cities, in both art galleries and prestigious institutions.

In 1995, the Centre d'art Contemporain in Brussels presents the first photographic prints of De Gobert's studios together with several models.

1998 marks the beginning of the artist's collaboration with the Galerie Aline Vidal, leading to a string of solo exhibitions in the Paris gallery (1998, 2001, 2004, 2008 and 2011), as well as exhibits at international art fairs such as FIAC (1999) and Paris-Photo (2017 et 2019), and contributes to the retrospective exhibition at the Musée des Arts Contemporains du Grand-Hornu in 2017, entitled *De toutes pièces*.



Salle des plâtres (ex. 3/3), 2005, digital print, 148 x 98 cm. © Philippe De Gobert

A booklet with a text by Michel Baudson, published by Galerie Alice Mogabgab in four languages, French, Dutch, English and Arabic, accompanies the exhibition.

Michel Baudson is Honorary Director of the Académie royale des Beaux-Arts de Bruxelles – Ecole supérieure des Arts, Honorary President of the Association belge des critiques d'art, president of the organisation Jeunesse et Arts plastiques, member of the Commission consultative des Arts plastiques de la Communauté française de Belgique, Visiting Professor at the Xi'An Academy of Fine Arts (Shaanxi, China), member of the AICA (International Association of Art Critics) and of the Icom (International Commission of Museums), curator of international exhibitions and the author of numerous publications.

Private view: Thursday 5 September 17.00 - 21.00. **Presentation of the exhibition** by Michel Baudson at 18.00

Exhibition runs until 26 October 2019, from Thursday to Saturday 14.00 – 18.00. **Open** Sunday 29 September 14.00 – 18.00

Brussels Gallery Weekend: 5 - 8 September 11.00 – 19.00

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