

Portfolio 2018

Romain Mader

Biographie

Romain Mader studies fine arts at ZHdK and studied photography at ECAL.

He is a Swiss artist who explores themes of gender-representation, loneliness and human behaviour in a connected world.

His work has been exhibited at Tate Modern, London, Musée d'art de Pully, Images in Vevey, and published in 2016 in a monograph titled « Ekaterina » by Mörel Books in London.

Mader's work was the recipient of the 2017 Paul Huf Award.

Romain Mader's work Ekaterina, appears simply to document tourism in Ukraine, through the artist's construction of a narrative in which he seeks a bride in the imaginary city of Ekaterina. The real issue of this speculative trade in spouses underpins a photographic and filmic project which seems to 'document' its subject, but which also, through the presence of the artist as subject of the work, manages also to expose the performative aspect of investigative projects of this kind. Mader's embodiment of the role of western bachelor searching for a Ukrainian bride engages with a whole series of obvious stereotypes about such potentially exploitative situations. Yet what is most significant about the work, beyond the final balanced performance of its author, is that it is delivered in a photographic language that duplicates perfectly, almost uncannily, the conventions of contemporary documentary practice.

The strong performative aspect, that can be seen in Maders photographic and video works, gets renewed in his most recent works.

Romain Mader, b.a.

*1988, lives and works in Zürich

Studies fine arts in Zürich and studied photography and visual communication in Lausanne and Vienna.

Education

2015-2018 Master of Arts in Fine Arts, ZHDK

2009-2012 Bachelor of Arts, major in photography, Mention very good, Ecal, Lausanne

2011 Exchange semester, „Die Angewandte“, Vienna

2008-2009 Foundation course, Ecal, Renens

2003-2007 CFC in IT, EPFL, Lausanne

Solo Exhibitions

2017 „Paul Huf Award“, FOAM, Amsterdam, NL

2017 „Paris Photo“, Galerie Dix9, Paris Photo, Paris, FR

2016 „El patio del amore“, La Fragua, Belalcazar, ES

2016 „Wannabe“ with Jenny Rova, Coalmine, Winterthur, CH

2015 „Atomik Magik Circus“ with Nadja Kilchhofer & François Burland, Quartier Général, La Chaux-de-Fonds, CH

2014 „Atomik Magik Circus“ with Nadja Kilchhofer & François Burland, Festival Images, Vevey, CH

2014 „Moi avec des filles“, Journées photographiques de Bienne, Bienne, CH

2014 „Valeriya“ with Nadja Kilchhofer, Photobastei, Zürich, CH

2013 „Ekaterina“, Quai 1, Vevey CH

Group Shows (Selection)

2017 „UNTITLED“, Galerie Dix9, UNTITLED art Fair, Miami, USA

2017 „Follow_Me“, OCAT Shanghai, Shanghai, CN

2017 „Inter-Youth“, Art Gallery of China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, CN

2017 „X PERIMENTAL“, Connecting Space Hong Kong, Hong Kong, HK

2016 „Performing for the Camera“, Tate Modern, London, UK

2016 Performance with Veli & Amos, Moscow, RU

2016 Performance with Veli & Amos, Perm, RU

2016 „Romain Mader Real Man“, Performance with Veli & Amos, Nizhny Novgorod, RU

2016 „Inside Out Upside Down“, The Photographers Gallery, London, UK

2016 „No country for old GPS“ with Allbert Algaier, Circulo Católico de Operários do Porto, Porto, PT

2016 „Bregenz Biennale“, Kunstmuseum Bregenz, Bregenz, AT

2015 „COMÈTE SUPRÊME“, Galerie du château, Renens CH

2015 „Circulation(s)“, Espace culturel Maurice-Utrillo, Pierrefitte, FR

2015 „Circulation(s)“, Centquatre-Paris, Paris, FR

2014 „Prix Photoforum & SELECTION | AUSWAHL“, PhotoforumPasquArt, Bienne CH

2014 „Kaunas Foto 2014“, Kaunas, LT

2014 „A better life with Aliona“, Les Cabines, Nyon, CH

2014 „PhotoIreland“, Dublin, IE

2014 „SCHAU Festival“, Dortmund, DE

2014 „Swiss Photo Award“, Photobastei, Zürich, CH

2014 „Do you speak touriste?“, Musée d'art de Pully, CH

2014 „ECAL PHOTOGRAPHY“, 10 Corso Como, Shanghai, CN

2014 „ECAL PHOTOGRAPHY“, Galleria Carla Sozzani, Milan, IT

2013 „ECAL PHOTOGRAPHY“, Galerie Azzedine Alaïa, Paris, FR

2013 „Ekaterina“, Prix Photo 13, Zürich, CH

2013 „The Girlfriend Experience“, Slideshow projection, Nuit des Images, Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne, CH

2013 „The Girlfriend Experience“, Photobook presented in the „6th Fotobookfestival“, Kassel DE / „Le Bal“, Paris FR / „Photolreland Festival“, Dublin IRL / „MIA“, Milan IT
2013 „Ekaterina“, Swiss Design Awards, Basel CH
2013 „PLAT(T)FORM 2013“, Fotomuseum Winterthur, Winterthur CH
2012 „ECAL Diplômes 2012“, «Ekaterina», Ecal, Renens CH
2012 Museumnacht Bern, „Soupe populaire“, Credit Suisse, Bern CH
2011 Planche(s) contact, Deauville FR
2011 Collection Florian Schmied, Espace ABSTRACT, Lausanne CH
2011 „My Dear Cargo“, Kunstmuseum, Bremerhaven DE
2010 „On Tour“, Ecal, Renens CH

Publications (Selection)

„Exploring the dreams of Rotherhithe residents“, Tate Modern & You, Tate Publishing, London, 2017
„Ekaterina“, Mörel Books, 2016
„BT 2016.09 vol.68 NO.1042 #photograph“, Monthly Art Magazine Bijutsu Techo, 2016
„Performing for the Camera“, Exhibition catalogue by Simon Baker & Fiontán Moran, Tate Publishing, London
„Tate Etc.“, issue 36: Spring 2016, Tate Publishing, London
„In Sight“, The Washington Post, Washington
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/in-sight/wp/2016/04/29/meeting-ekaterina-a-photographers-passage-on-looking-for-life-and-love-in-ukraine/>
„GUP Magazine“, Amsterdam
<http://www.gupmagazine.com/portfolios/romain-mader/ekaterina>
„Why I Pretended to Be a Ukrainian Sex Tourist“, Vice
<http://www.vice.com/read/photos-of-a-lonely-sex-tourist-in-the-ukraine-that-are-not-all-they-seem>
„Moi avec des filles“, Self-published, 2015
„De nouveaux amis“, Self-published, 2015
„5x5“, Quai N°1, Festival Images Vevey, 2014
„Atomik Magik Circus“, Fondation Edouard et Maurice Sandoz, 2014
„Tourism“, EXIT MAGAZINE #54 may/june/july, 2014
„Do you speak touriste?“, Musée d'art de Pully, 2014
„ECAL PHOTOGRAPHY“, Hatje Kantz, 2013
„Planche(s) Contact 1-2 2010/2011“, Filigranes Éditions, 2012

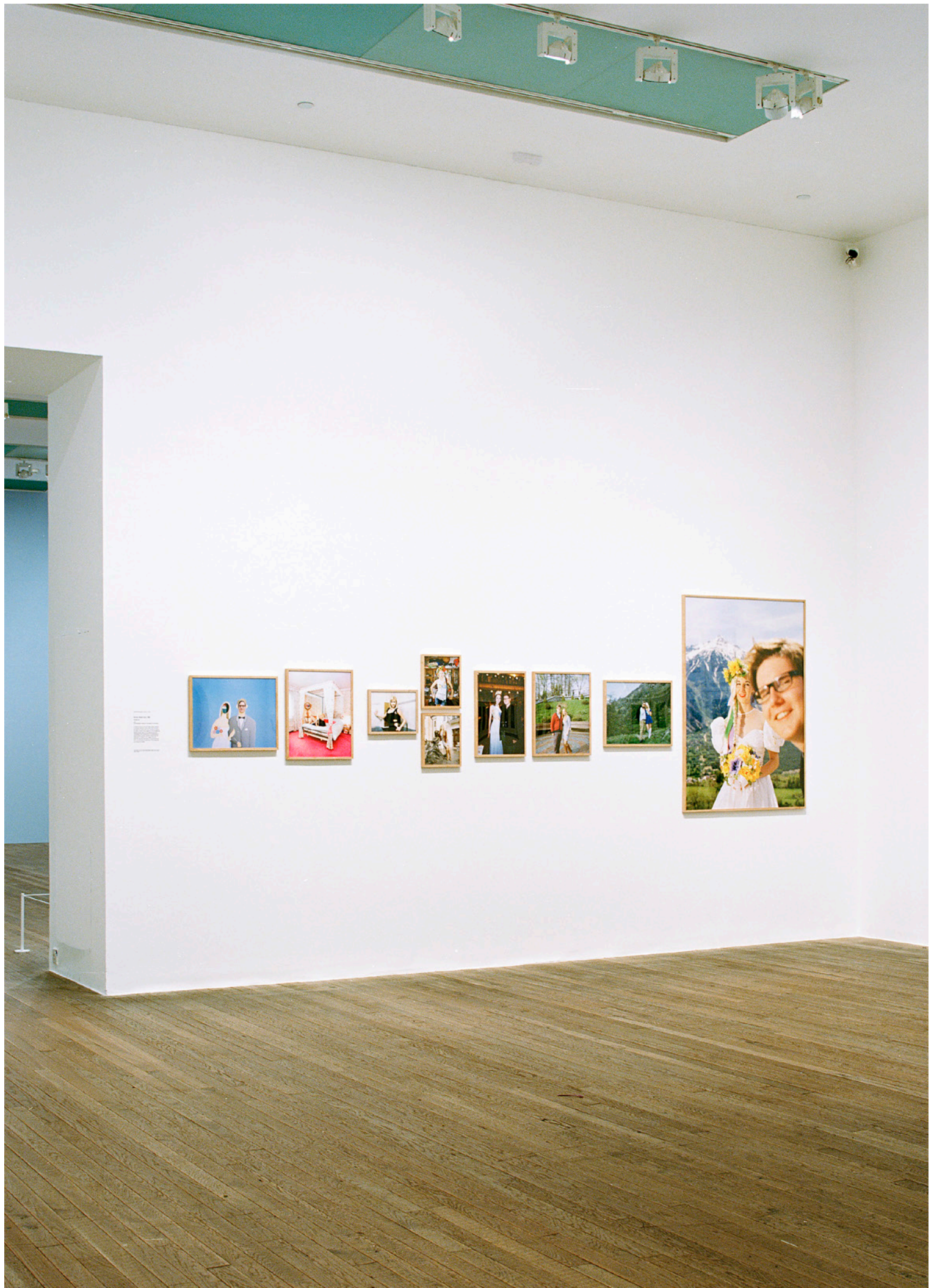
Residencies/Grants (Selection)

2017 Paul Huf Award
2016 Nominated for the Paul Huf Award
2016 Grant and Residency at La Fragua, Belalcazar, Spain
2015 Residency at the Cité internationale des Arts, Atelier vaudois du 700e
2014 Finalist PhotoforumPasquart Prize
2014 Finalist Prix HSBC pour la photographie
2014 Promotion de la relève en Photographie, Pro Helvetia, Fondation Suisse pour la culture
2013 Selected for the Swiss design awards
2013 ewz-PhotoBook-Prize
2013 Globetrotter World Photo
2012 Raiffeisen prize
2011 Residency in Deauville

Talks

2017, SITUATION #86: Romain Mader's Ekaterina – Discussion of an artistic fiction, LISTE Art Fair Basel, CH
2016 Nonante-neuf talks with Yann Gross and Aron Mörel moderated by Sascha Renner, Les Rencontres d'Arles, FR
2016 Extra Fort with Amak Mahmoodian, Recyclart, Bruxelles, BE

Ekaterina, 2012 - 2017



Exhibition view, *Performing for the Camera*, 2016, Tate Modern, London UK

PERFORMING FOR THE CAMERA

18 FEB – 12 JUN





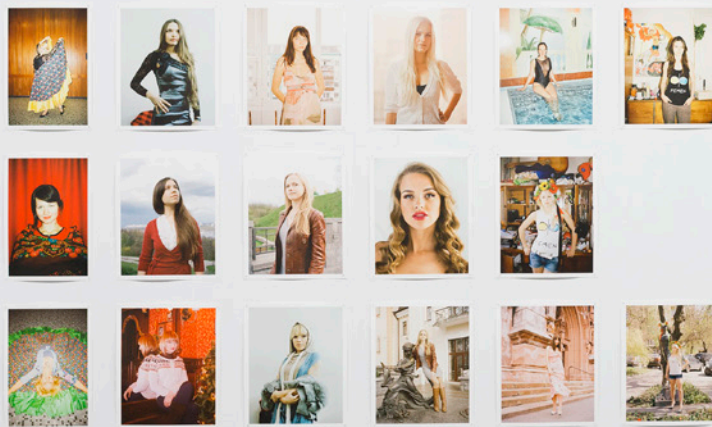
Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



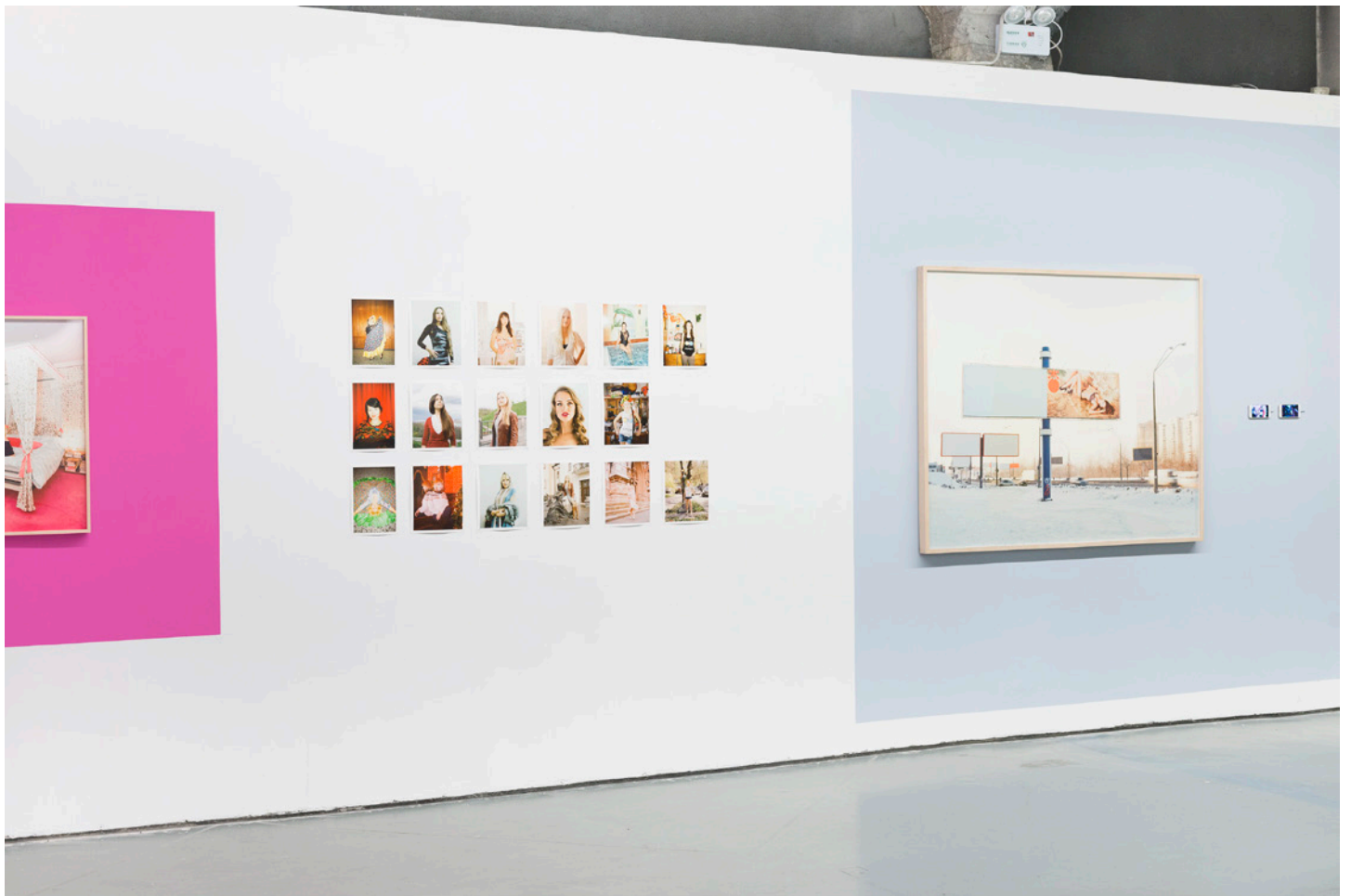
Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Exhibition view, «Follow_ME» OCAT, Shanghai, China 2017



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Statue #1, 2012
Romain Mader
Photographie
40x50cm
Edition: 6 +2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Eglise #2, 2012
Romain Mader
Photographie
40x50cm
Edition: 6 +2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



La ville #1, 2012
Romain Mader
Photographie
40x50cm
Edition: 6 +2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Bâtiments #2, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 +2AP

**Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.**



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Publicité #1, 2012

Romain Mader

Fotografie

123x154cm

Edition: 6 +2AP

C-print, contrecollé sur aluminium, encadré
avec plexiglass anti UV.



Publicité #2, 2012
Romain Mader
Fotografie
123x154cm
Edition: 6 +2AP
C-print, contrecollé sur aluminium, encadré
avec plexiglass anti UV.



Publicité #3, 2012

Romain Mader

Fotografie

123x154cm

Edition: 6 +2AP

C-print, contrecollé sur aluminium, encadré
avec plexiglass anti UV.



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Sélection #2, 2016

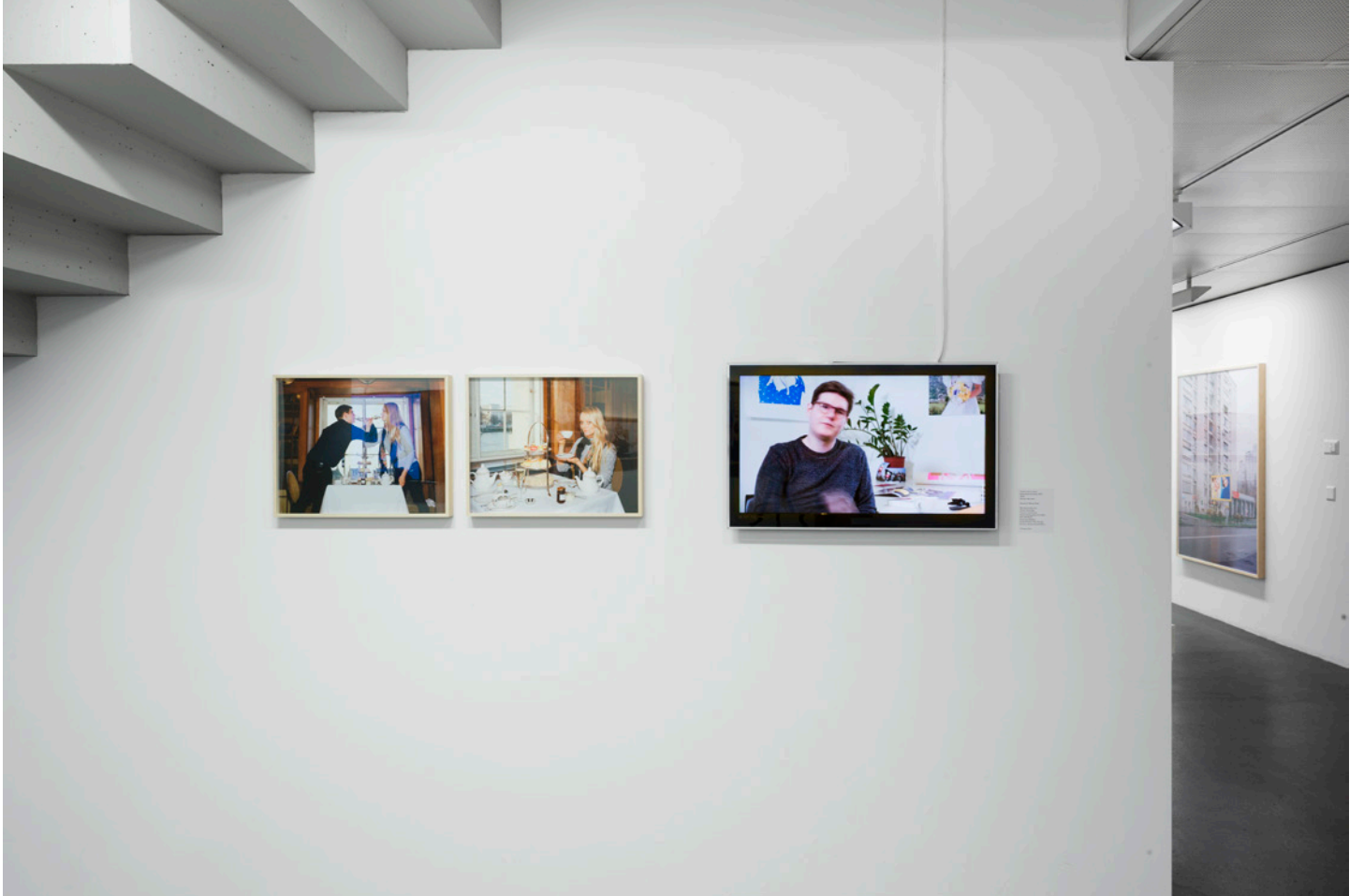
Romain Mader

Photographie

110x138cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Valentine's Day in London #1, 2016

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Valentine's Day in London #2, 2016

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Bientôt, 2012
Romain Mader
Photographie
40x50cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Ekaterina #12, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Ekaterina #92, 2014
Romain Mader
Photographie
40x50cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016

Ekaterina, 2012

6min 55s

Romain Mader

Slideshow

4k video

Edition: 2/5 + 2 AP



Ekaterina #1, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

24x30cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Ekaterina #16, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

24x30cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Moraliste #1, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

24x30cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Moraliste #2, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

24x30cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Moraliste #3, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

24x30cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Ekaterina #16 à #64, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

46,5x70cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Ekaterina #14, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Sélection #1, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Roi #2, 2012
Romain Mader
Photographie
10x15cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, encadré avec passepartout, plexi-
glass anti UV.



Roi #3, 2012
Romain Mader
Photographie
10x15cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, encadré avec passepartout, plexi-
glass anti UV.



Roi #1, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

10x15cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, encadré avec passepartout, plexi-
glass anti UV.



Moi et Ekaterina #1, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

33x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Moi et Ekaterina #2, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Demande en mariage, 2012

Romain Mader

Photographie

40x50cm

Edition: 6 + 2AP

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Mariage à Loèche-les-Bains, 2012
Romain Mader
Photographie
100x140cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.

Honey Moon, 2016-2017

Nadja Kilchhofer & Romain Mader



Honeymoon
2017

A work from Nadja Kilchhofer & Romain Mader

What do we want to show from ourselves in front of a camera? Are we influenced by the voyeuristic audience that will watch it? How strong do we tend to act when we know we are filmed, even though your partner is pointing the camera on you every day? Are we ourselves the voyeurs and the audience is just watching to escape monotony?

Honeymoon doesn't directly include the political situation in Greece, it depicts a couple in their bubble during what seems to be their honeymoon. They want to share like many do, their intimacy, complicity and happiness with their family, friends and acquaintances. Everything seems perfect for the newlyweds, they're having the time of their life. Trying to make the most of it, to have new experiences together.

The video shows love and complicity, just as we are supposed to spend time together in a honeymoon. Often, the visited places are somewhat disappointing compared to the much promising images of the agency brochures. We don't think about the fact that we have to be brought along to those spots, therefore the nice surrounding landscape is ruined by our presence. The good food and the nice atmosphere with the sunset is spoiled by our comments.

Everyone wants to have a memory of those special moments in life that are supposed to be the most impressive ones of all. But the dream is shut when we are faced with the reality. The beaches are not perfectly cleaned and empty, the country is suffering an economic crisis, shops are closed. But the local people didn't seem depressed at those tourist attractions, are they hiding their emotions or did they just get used to the situation? Is the reality far away from those scenic spots? Still, we try to enjoy our time. Despite all, we don't do much to help, are we bad people or is this normal? Is there place for selfishness? Do we help a bit only by spending our savings? Or is it just a thinking to make us feel better? Sure, it doesn't make a big difference in the local economy. Many other tourists cancelled their trip because of the crisis but nothing seems to discourage the young couple to go there, quite the contrary.



View from the exhibition «The Following Is A True Story» at FOAM Amsterdam, 2017

Honeymoon Suite, 2017

Installation with:

Video, 4K, stereo sound, 31 min

4 Inkjet Prints, framed

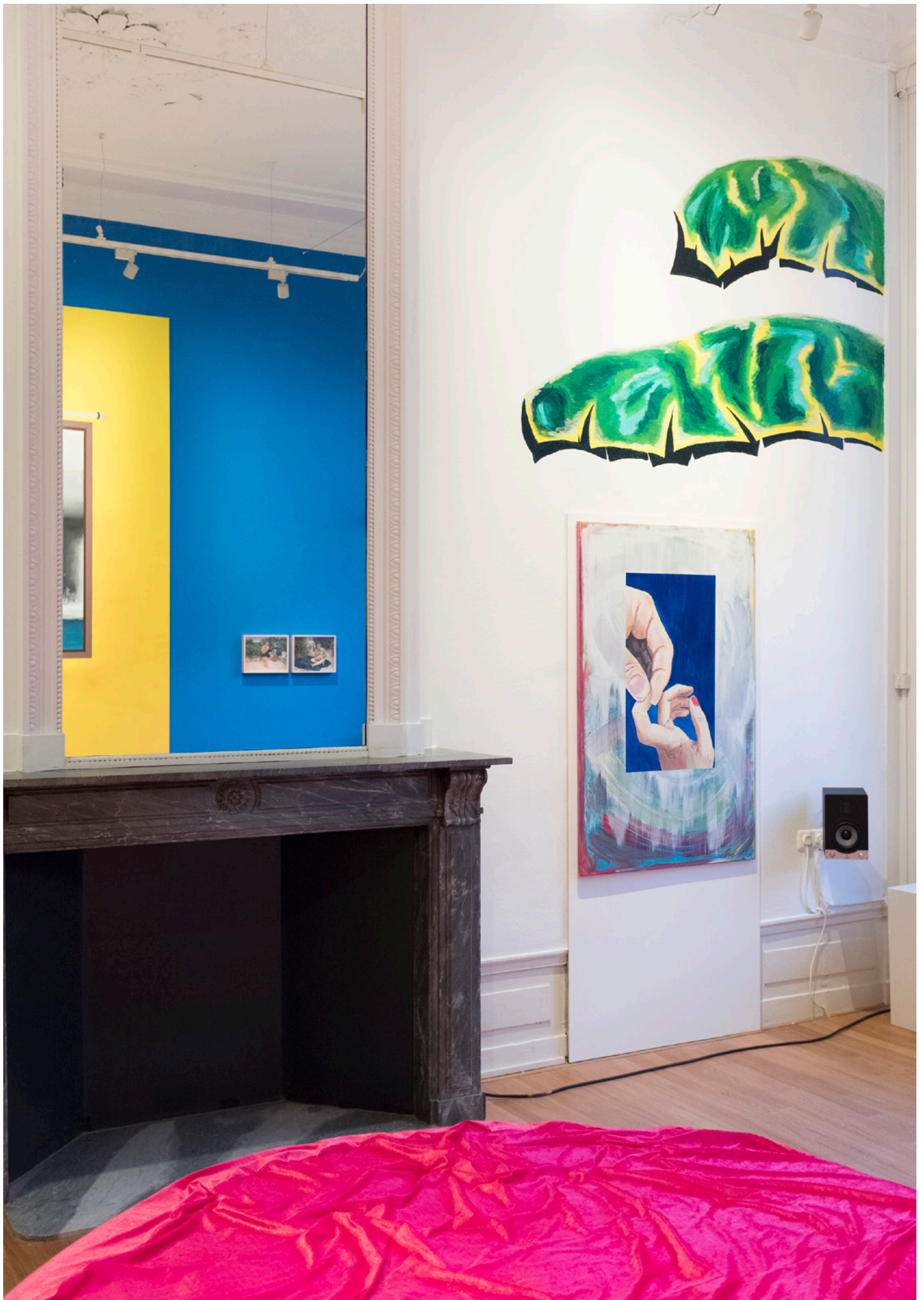
2 Paintings, Acryl on Canvas

Wall painting

Pink velvet bed



View from the exhibition «The Following Is A True Story» at FOAM Amsterdam, 2017



View from the exhibition «The Following Is A True Story» at FOAM Amsterdam, 2017



View from the exhibition «The Following Is A True Story» at FOAM Amsterdam, 2017



View from the exhibition «The Following Is A True Story» at FOAM Amsterdam, 2017



Honeymoon, 2017, Video 4K, 31 min, screenshot



Honeymoon, 2017, Video 4K, 31 min, screenshot



Honeymoon, 2017, Video 4K, 31 min, screenshot



Honeymoon, 2017, Video 4K, 31 min, screenshot



Honeymoon, 2017, Video 4K, 31 min, screenshot



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Honey moon #1, 2015
Nadja Kilchhofer & Romain Mader
Photographie
24x30cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Honey moon #2, 2015
Nadja Kilchhofer & Romain Mader
Photographie
24x30cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Honey moon #3, 2015
Nadja Kilchhofer & Romain Mader
Photographie
24x30cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.



Vue d'exposition, Coalmine, Winterthur, 2016



Honey moon #4, 2015
Nadja Kilchhofer & Romain Mader
Photographie
60x75cm
Edition: 6 + 2AP
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium encadré,
plexiglass anti UV.

Single Images



El patio del amor, 2017
Romain Mader
Photographie et neopastel
70x90cm
Edition: 5 + 2 AP, chaque tirage est unique
Inkjet print, encadré, plexiglass anti UV.



Artist studio #1, 2017



Vue d'exposition, Moist in paradise, ZHDK Zürich



Sans titre, de la série Moi avec des filles, 2009
Romain Mader
Photographie
30x45cm
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium
Edition 6 + 2AP



Sans titre, de la série Moi avec des filles, 2009

Romain Mader

Photographie

30x45cm

Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium

Edition 6 + 2AP



Sans titre, de la série Moi avec des filles, 2009
Romain Mader
Photographie
30x45cm
Inkjet print, contrecollé sur aluminium
Edition 6 + 2AP