

# 35 works of the Van Abbemuseum exhibited in CAPC, Bordeaux

## *Strange and Close* – a museum as a neighbourhood

6 October 2011 – 12 February 2012

On 6 October 2011, the exhibition *Strange and Close* opens at the CAPC musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux in France. This exhibition features works drawn from recent purchases of the Van Abbemuseum together with a few important guests. *Strange and Close* begins with the encounter between CAPC Bordeaux/FR and Van Abbemuseum Eindhoven/NL, two provincial art institutions with illustrious local histories. CAPC invited Van Abbemuseum as they would usually invite an artist. The Van Abbemuseum responded with a project that becomes an exhibition about the fraught but essential negotiations at the heart of relations between neighbours – the strange and close tension that defines proximity. The show is a new version of the eponymous exhibition that was part of *Play Van Abbe* in the Van Abbemuseum from November 2009 until March 2010.

The exhibition includes works of the Van Abbemuseum collection by Marjetica Potrč, Dan Peterman, Yael Bartana, Artur Żmijewski, Chto Delat?, Daniza Dakic, Harun Farocki, Michal Heiman, Aydan Murtezaoglu, Erzen Shokololi, Akram Zaatari, Nedko Solakov and Hüseyin Alptekin. Works by Absalon from the CAPC collection and new works made for the exhibition by Moroccan artist Ivan Boccara and French artist Laurent Mareschal will complement the exhibition.

The exhibition is organized as part of EVENTO, a festival of arts in the city of Bordeaux curated by the Italian artist Michelangelo Pistoletto. A work of his in the Van Abbemuseum collection will be included in the exhibition. The exhibition is on view until 12 February 2012.

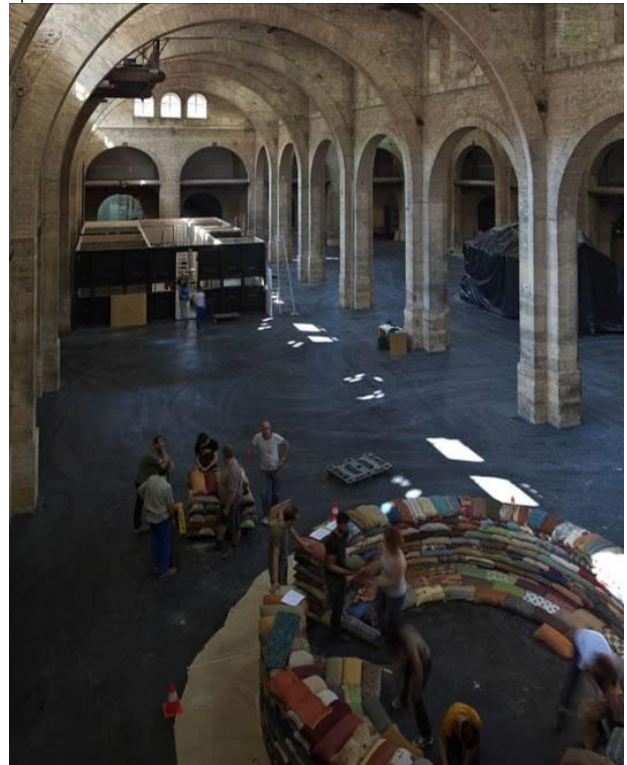
The title of the exhibition comes from a terrible description of a breakdown in society that was delivered by philosopher Homi Bhabha in the Van Abbemuseum in 2007. For him, 'strange and close' is a way to understand the essential aspect of being neighbours. For the exhibition, the title also offers a way to think about the relationships between the viewers and the artworks, as objects of their gaze. *Strange and Close* is an entangled exhibition in which art, archives, histories and futures are mixed and reformed. It asks how relationships across the globe and in the city changed with the processes of globalization that mark our current time. What animosities and competitions emerge? How do artists across the globe react? How do city societies reflect their histories and come to terms with other values and ways of seeing the world?

Could we agree with Bhabha that 'strange and close' describes the nature of the critical relationship that binds us together human beings and goes beyond city, nation or continent? Could it define our contemporary entanglements with others of all kinds – people, images, objects, histories and environments? Is it the experience we might look for when we look at art?

### The works

This exhibition features works drawn from recent purchases of the Van Abbemuseum together with a few important guests. The main Grand Nef of the CAPC is turned into a new neighbourhood of Bordeaux, a place where different institutions, dwellings and individuals

collide. Architectural artworks by Marjetica Potrč, Dan Peterman, Yael Bartana and Artur Żmijewski as well as Absalon from the CAPC collection will define part of the space.



Installation of *Civilian Defense* by Dan Peterman (2007) in CAPC. Photo Perry van Duijnhoven

**Press release**  
**October 2011**

Smaller platforms will invite visitors to stay and watch videos by Chto Delat?, Daniza Dakic, Harun Farocki. Banner-like works by Michal Heiman, Aydan Murtezaoglu and Erzen Shokololi will be hung on the outer ring of the main space to define the edges of the neighbourhood. The mezzanine will be used extensively for more intimate works by Akram Zaatari, Nedko Solakov and Hüseyin Alptekin. New works made for the exhibitions by Moroccan artist Ivan Boccara and French artist Laurent Mareschal.



Installation of *Shotgun House* by Marjetica Potrč (2008) in CAPC. Photo Perry van Duijnhoven

**EVENTO**

The exhibition is organized as part of EVENTO, a festival of arts in the city of Bordeaux curated by the Italian artist Michelangelo Pistoletto. A work of his in the Van Abbemuseum collection will be included in the exhibition.

More information on: [www.evento2011.com](http://www.evento2011.com)

**Curators**

Galit Eilat, Charles Esche.

The Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven is one of the first public museums for contemporary art to be established in Europe. The museum's collection of around 2700 works of art includes key works and archives by Lissitzky, Picasso, Kokoschka, Chagall, Beuys, McCarthy, Daniëls and Körmeling. The museum has an experimental approach towards art's role in society. Openness, hospitality and knowledge exchange are important. We challenge ourselves and our visitors to think about art and its place in the world, covering a range of subjects, including the role of the collection as a cultural 'memory' and the museum as a public site. International collaboration and exchange have made the Van Abbemuseum a place for creative cross-fertilisation and a source of surprise, inspiration and imagination for its visitors and participants.

**Van Abbemuseum**

Bilderdijklaan 10  
Eindhoven, The Netherlands  
[www.vanabbemuseum.nl](http://www.vanabbemuseum.nl)

**Opening hours**

Tuesday to Sunday 11:00 – 17:00  
Every first Thursday of the month the museum is open until 21:00

**Entrance**

Adults: € 9,00  
Groups of 10 persons or more, senior citizens: € 7,00  
Students; holders of the Dutch young people's cultural pass (CJP): € 4

Every first Thursday of the month the museum is open until 21:00, entrance to the museum is free from 17:00

**For the editors:**

For more information and photographs, please visit:  
[www.vanabbemuseum.nl/en/press](http://www.vanabbemuseum.nl/en/press)

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