

Vorm – Fellows – Attitude

Press view: 17 May, 10.00hrs in the presence of the artists
Opening: 18 May
Exhibition dates: 19 May – 12 August 2018

Welcome to Gelatin and have a nice day

This summer, the **Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen's Bodon Galleries** (1500m²) will be taken over by Vienna-based **Gelatin** as they present a major body of new work entitled **Vorm – Fellows – Attitude**.



Photo: Jason Schmidt

Demanding curiosity, an open mind and active participation from the viewer, Gelatin's humorous, infectiously enthusiastic, non-hierarchical and subversive works have an absurdity and directness that provoke and confront as they highlight and break down social conformity and taboo.

Gelatin operates on the borders of painting, sculpture and rock music; of architecture and sport, performance and fashion; between staged event and spontaneous discussion, the collective constantly evades categorisation.

Exhibition curator Francesco Stocchi compares Gelatin to a bar of soap: "As soon as you think you have a grip on them, they slip away from you, leaving their essence in your hands". The new sculptures – especially composed for Rotterdam – continue a long line of works and sculptural concepts that Gelatin has been playing with for more than two decades.

This exhibition follows a now-established tradition within the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen of giving the stage – and total artistic freedom – to internationally-reputed

Note for editors

For more information please contact the international Press Contact

Rhiannon Pickles at Pickles PR: tel +31 (0)6 158 21202 or email: rhiannon@picklespr.com.

artists as they exhibit within a major Dutch institution for the first time. Previously, the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen has shown Urs Fischer (2006), Erik van Lieshout (2006), Andreas Slominski (2007), Pipilotti Rist (2009), Carsten Höller (2010), Ugo Rondinone (2016) and Tal R (2017).

Sjarel Ex, Director of Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen notes: “Gelatin demand free thinking. They are exciting, deeply challenging and always make us feel uncomfortable. And yet their work – the emotion from their work – this remains with you far beyond its physical existence. Each year we give the floor to a major artist of international standing: this freedom of approach is in Boijmans’ DNA, and who we are.”

Other Gelatin projects have included *Human Elevator*, 1999: a lift employing human muscle power in Los Angeles; *The B Thing* staged in New York in 2000, when Gelatin installed a temporary balcony on the ninety-first floor of the World Trade Centre; *Nellanutella*, 2001 where they plunged into Venice’s canals for the Biennale; *True Love IV*, 2002, a wooden rocket in South Korea; *Gelatin at the Shore of Lake Pipi Kacka*, 2003: a human birthday cake in London; and *Otto Volante*, 2004, a self-made functioning rollercoaster in Galleria Massimo De Carlo in Milan.

More recently Gelatin has created a gigantic human objectcopier (*Tantamounter 24/7*, 2005); an enormous-giraffe-long pink rabbit in the Italian mountains (*Hase / Rabbit / Coniglio*, 2005); a sculpture of frozen urine for the 1st Moscow Biennial (*Zapf de Pipi*, 2005); a lake with rowing boats on a terrace of the Hayward Gallery, London (*Normally, Proceeding and Unrestricted with Without Title*, 2008); a sculpture of a gigantic nose by the Danube near Sankt Lorenz in Austria (*The Wachauer Nase*, 2014) and a hundred illuminated balloons in a cave in Puerto Rico (*Cave Show*, 2014).

Having already exhibited and performed at Sonsbeek 9 and the Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Gelatin’s rebellious, playful and welcoming approach is already known in The Netherlands. This will be Gelatin’s first solo exhibition within a Dutch institution.

Full details of this Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen exhibition will be released soon.

Editors’ Notes

Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen

A visit to Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen is a journey through the history of art. Museum guests are invited to discover the extraordinary museum collection with its masterpieces spanning the centuries from Bosch, Bruegel, Van Eyck and Rembrandt to Salvador Dalí, Kees van Dongen, Edvard Munch and Charley Toorop.

Boijmans exhibits prominent installations of contemporary artists, among them Yayoi Kusama’s *Infinity Mirror Room*, Olaf Nicolai’s *Apollo*, Richard Serra’s *Waxing Arcs* and Wieki Somers’ *Merry-Go-Round Coat Rack*.

The collection with its world-class works of art is always on view, and there are always spectacular and thought-provoking exhibitions to enjoy.

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Francesco Stocchi

Francesco Stocchi (born 1975, Rome) is curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen in Rotterdam.

Gelatin

Gelatin comprises four artists (Wolfgang Gantner, Ali Janka, Florian Reither and Tobias Urban), who first met during a summer camp in 1978. Since 1993, they have been working together and participating at international institutions, private galleries, festivals, independent organisations and public spaces.

In 2001, Gelatin represented Austria at the 49th Venice Biennale, and subsequently took part in the 2007 and 2009 editions, and in 2011 exhibited artwork *Some Like It Hot* at the Gelatin Pavilion during the 54th Venice Biennale, curated by Bice Curiger. Gelatin have also been included in various biennials and international shows such as the Aichi Triennale at the Nagoya City Art Museum in Japan (2010), the Anzengruber Biennale in Vienna, Austria (2009), the Moscow Biennial of Contemporary Art in Russia (2005), the Yugoslav Biennial of Young Artists in Serbia (2004), the Gwangju Biennale in Korea (2002), the Shanghai Biennale in China (2002), the Liverpool Biennial in the UK (2002, 1999) and the In Between EXPO 2000 in Hannover, Germany (2000).

Among their most recent exhibitions and performances are New York Golem at Greene Naftali in New York, *Gelitin Gelitin Gelitin* at Galerie Perrotin in Hong Kong, *The Guild of Giving* for Manifesta 11 at Cabaret Voltaire in Zurich and *Prosospoioiea* at Galleria Massimo De Carlo Gallery in London.

They were recently included in collective shows *How To Live Together*, curated by Nicolaus Schafhausen at Kunsthalle Wien in Vienna, Franz West - Artistclub at 21er Haus - Museum of Contemporary Art in Vienna, *Home Improvements*, curated by John Waters at Fraenkel Gallery in San Francisco, *The Avant-Garde Won't Give Up: Cobra and Its Legacy*, curated by Alison M. Gingeras at Blum & Poe in Los Angeles, *Punk. Its Traces In Contemporary Art* at CA2M - Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo in Madrid and Tribute to Flux Labyrinth (1976/2015) for Frieze Projects New York, on the occasion of Frieze Art Fair in New York.

www.gelitin.net

International Press Contact

Rhiannon Pickles at Pickles PR: tel +31 (0)6 158 21202 or email: rhiannon@picklespr.com.

National Press Contact

Sharon Cohen, press officer at the Marketing and Communications Department at Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen: tel +31 (0)10 44.19.561 or : +31 (0)6 118 86879 or email: pressoffice@boijmans.nl.

www.boijmans.nl

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