

rewinding internationalism

Act Up-Barcelona, Christine Baeumler, Nadiyah Bamadhaj, Cecilia Barriga*, Miguel Benlloch, Jean-Claude Boyer, CADA, Tony Cokes, Betsy Damon, Les Diablos Bleus, Eugenio Dittborn, Diamela Eltit, Gorgona Group, Beth Grossman, Dai Guangyu, Félix Guattari, Lubaina Himid et Magda Stawarska*, Li Jixiang, Julije Knifer, Ivan Kožarić, Chengying Liu, Miguel D. Norambuena, Olu Oguibe, Miguel Parra Urrutia, Pejvak*, Didem Pekün*, Wang Peng, susan pui san lok / lok pui san*, Nelly Richard, Sandra Ryvlin Rinaudo, Christian Rodríguez / CEPSS, Lotty Rosenfeld, Allan Sekula, Semsar Siahaan, Lamnu Suri, Norbert van Onna, Xavier Vaugien/Filmotec-Nice, Yin Xiuzhen et Zeng Xun

* New works

Curator: Nick Aikens, with Sebastian Cichocki, Equipo re, Bojana Piškur, Grace Samboh et Rachel Surijata

Scenography: Natascha Leonie Simons



Shokouk, Pejvak (Rouzbeh Akhbari, Felix Kalmenson), 2022
Courtesy: the artists

**villa
arson**

June 18 – August 27 2023
Opening: June 17 2023

Galleries du patio et des cyprès

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Press the rewind button and move forward back in the song or film that is playing. While it is rewinding, the magnetic cassette or video tape is scrambled. The section of the song, played out of sequence, becomes abstracted. In the context of an exhibition dealing with the 1990s, the word “rewind” invites us to revisit and rethink stories and concepts once they are “played” out – in order to open them to new interpretations in the framework of a continuous present.

Rewinding Internationalism is related to a research project conducted by Nick Aikens exploring the construction of internationalism through several artistic scenes in Europe and in the world. Internationalism refers to a form of imagination and of practicing relationships across borders. The exhibition features the production of five new works, as well as loans and archival documents from public and private collections. The project's starting point is the 1990s, a time when internationalism was in full mutation in numerous and various political and cultural contexts. Rather than presenting a history of this decade, the exhibition brings together different ecosystems. The dialogue between Nick Aiken's research and the artworks reveals the implications linking the 90s to our own era, traversed by still deeper and continuous ecological, biological and geopolitical crises – an era when the notion of internationalism is mutating once again. Finally, *Rewinding Internationalism* can be understood as an experiment in mobilizing history, knowledge and subjectivity through the prism of an exhibition.

Nick Aiken's research for the exhibition was conducted notably between November 2020 and 2021, in the context of a program for advanced research at the IdEx UCA JEDI of the Université Côte d'Azur, following a proposal by Sophie Orlando, professor and researcher in the history and theory of art at the Villa Arson, and in dialogue with Christian Rinaudo, researcher at URMIS (Migration and Society Research Unit), UCA.

Research projects: *AIDS Anarchive with Equipo re* (Aimar Arriola, Nancy Garín and Linda Valdés); *Revista de Crítica Cultural, The Three Ecologies and Internationalist Feminisms* with Paulina E. Varas (Red Conceptualismos del Sur); *Keepers of the Waters* (Chengdu and Lhasa, China, 1995-1996) with Sebastian Cichocki; *Contemporary Art of the Non-Aligned Countries. Unity in Diversity in International Art* (Jakarta, 1995) with Bojana Piškur, Grace Samboh and Rachel Suriyat; *ADN (Association pour la Démocratie à Nice), Carnivals Indépendants* and *Les Diables Bleus* (1991-2001).

Exhibition partner: Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven (Netherlands)

This exhibition has received support from the French government, managed by the National Research Agency under the Future Investments UCA^{JEDI} project bearing reference number ANR-15-IDEX-01.

Exhibition curator and researcher at the Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven (Netherlands) since 2012, doctoral candidate at the University of Göteborg since 2018, author and member of the editorial committee of the museum network L'Internationale, Nick Aikens' curatorial and scientific activity is recognized internationally, notably for his work on B/black artists in the United Kingdom including co-editing with Dr. Elizabeth Robles *The Place is Here. The Work of Black Artists in 1980s Britain* (Sternberg Press, 2019).

Texts written by Nick Aikens

Curating

Nick Aikens, with Sebastian Cichocki, Equipo re, Bojana Piškur, Grace Samboh et Rachel Surijata

Scenography

Natascha Simons

Editing

Julie Hiet

Program

June 17 2023

- 5pm Opening

Every day (except on Tuesdays)

- 3pm Students on a mediation course at Villa Arson will create guided tours of the exhibitions, sometimes with performances, evoking their personal interests in relation to the artistic issues of the program. Free admission. No reservation needed.

Press contacts

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villa-arson.fr

Practical information

Exhibitions opened every day (except on Tuesdays) from 2 to 6 pm; and from 2 to 7 pm starting July 1st.

Villa Arson is a public institution of the ministry of Culture and a legal member of Université Côte d'Azur. It is supported by the City of Nice, the Alpes-Maritimes Department, the Region Sud Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur. Villa Arson is a network member of École(s) du Sud, BOTOX(S), Plein Sud, d.c.a, ANdEA and ELIA Art Schools.



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