

PRESS RELEASE

EXHIBITION

**OCTOBER 2ND -
DECEMBER 30TH 2016**

OPENING ON
SATURDAY 1ST AT 6 PM



RUN, RUN, RUN, an exhibition about the concept of *artist-run space*, designed by twenty European structures and more than forty artists, transforming the Villa Arson in vast project of creation and experimentation. Project upon the 20th anniversary of La Station (Nice).

Based in Nice, La Station is an artist-run space-- a production and exhibition space run by the artists themselves (<http://www.artist-run-spaces.org/>). In most cases, these places include artist studios and exhibition spaces, as well as art mediation activities for all kinds of audiences. They are strongly rooted in the local territory, but also develop programmes with international ambitions. They have an aesthetic as well as a social agenda.

Today, La Station is 20. It has seen forty resident artists pass through its doors—currently twelve—who do their best to make this place viable on a daily basis, manage its administration, propose artistic projects, welcome different audiences, set up and take down the exhibitions, and so much more. They have all contributed in their own way and capacity to making this association evolve. They all have their own vision and interpretation of their time spent in this organisation. La Station is at present the product of these individual but shared experiences. As most artist-run spaces, it is a flexible structure that is deformable and modular, sometimes anarchic, but always lively, wilful, and ready to resist.

For its twentieth birthday, La Station has been invited to organise an exhibition at the Villa Arson, where most of its residents studied. A return to its roots, but also a recognition from the institution of its actions over all these years. In response to the symbolic significance of this invitation, it wanted to remain faithful to its founding principles. It has therefore asked some of its current and past residents to invite other artist-run spaces to participate in this adventure. More than a simple invitation, the artists have been asked to work together, to invent original forms of collaboration and modes of production. Some twenty organisations and over forty artists will be involved in this innovative collaborative project.

Most of the works will be produced for the exhibition. At the end of the summer of 2016, the Villa Arson will host the artists in residencies during which they can all work together to produce their artistic creations. They will enjoy private studio space as well as technical workshops, which will transform this institution into a vast work in progress.

PRATICALS INFORMATIONS

Horaires

Open every day except Tuesday
from 2 PM to 6 PM.
Free admission.

VILLA ARSON

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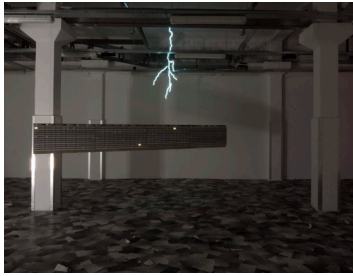
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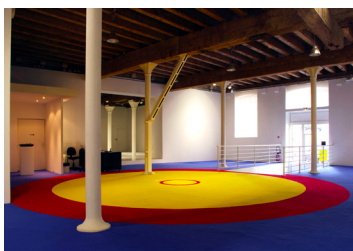
View of the exhibition "La nuit nous verrons clair" white card to Extenso (Clermont-Ferrand) at La Station, Nice, 2013



Kristof Kintera, *My Light Is Your Light*.
View of the exhibition "Analysis Results", Kristof Kintera, La Station, Nice, 2012



View of the exhibition "Flux Tendu", Laurent Faulon and Delphine Reist, La Station, Nice, 2016



Jean-Baptiste Gane, *Who's Afraid*, wrestling mat

The artists invited will exhibit their works in the labyrinth-like part of this art centre, a large maze in which each project will be able to find its place via the propositions for collaboration and exchange. The essential aim is to create links between the works, and give a dynamic and flexible meaning to the mechanisms underlying the collective work. All of the artists will also be invited to participate in the creation of a large joint production, a meta-work, with no signature, completed in the art centre's square gallery. This piece will start on the floor in the form of a large rug depicting Greco-Roman wrestling-- a surface of tensions and convergences-- , and will develop into the gallery space via the additions of each artist.

The mediation of the exhibition will be conceived largely in function of the works displayed, but also by taking account of the fundamental narratives of its spaces, these little moments of its history which have progressively enabled each organisation invited to become more solidly rooted here. In addition, during the entire month of September 2016, **Les Droguistes** (<http://www.droguistes.fr/>) and ***DUUU Radio** will be present to report on how the exhibition is installed, as well as to document and show on various media the life and operations of artist-run spaces.

RUN, RUN, RUN, an evocative title that embodies the spirit of endurance as well as Velvet Underground (the eponymous song written by Lou Reed in 1967)-- will be constructed as an open and multi-faceted exhibition, thought up and conceived by the artists themselves, complex and experimental, but no matter what, deliberately resolved to reflect the generous and interdisciplinary spirit of artist-run spaces. The plurality and diversity of artistic practices will not in any case prevent the artists from "creating together", sharing the work and production. This is neither a subjective vision of art, nor an alternative position, but truly a pragmatic vision of the world, at least of what it should be.

Provisional list of organisations invited:

CAN (Neuchâtel),
LIEU COMMUN (Toulouse),
IPN (Toulouse),
ENTREPRISE CULTURELLE (Paris),
ATELIER EXPÉRIMENTAL (Clans),
MACUMBA NIGHT CLUB ÉDITIONS (Paris),
SNAP (Lyon),
D.A.C (Dolceacqua),
BF15 (Lyon),
LE BON ACCUEIL (Rennes),
IN EXTENSO (Clermont-Ferrand),
WONDER (Paris),
ZEBRA3 / BUY-SELF (Bordeaux),
13 (Bruxelles),
TANK ART SPACE (Marseille),
RED DISTRICT (Marseille),
LE PALAIS DES PARIS (Tokyo), ...

La Villa Arson is a public administrative establishment under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture and Communication.

It is supported by the Région Provence-Alpes Côte d'Azur, the Conseil départemental des Alpes-Maritimes and the City of Nice.

La Villa Arson is a member of UCA - Université Côte d'Azur and part of BOTOX[S].