



To the press

**«Ambarabà Ciccì Coccò»
Alfredo Aceto and Denis Savary**

15 May – 22 August 2021

Press preview: Friday, 14 May 2021, 11 a.m.

Opening Day: Saturday, 15 May 2021, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The artistic practices of Alfredo Aceto and Denis Savary – both of whom live in the Romandie and maintain friendly relations – are as close as they are different. What they have in common is that they twist existing forms or imagine new ones across different media and charge them with unexpected meanings. In their first joint exhibition «Ambarabà Ciccì Coccò», the two artists create a fragmentary installation in which different layers of cultural signs are brought together. The title of the exhibition, borrowed from an Italian counting-out rhyme, is a linguistic expression of what permeates the spaces: An arrangement of myriad signs that evoke associations and condense into narratives. The works slipperily elude clear designation and – like the fantasised words 'Ambarabà Ciccì Coccò' – feed on their multiple levels of meaning. Forms and functions are inspired by a wide variety of sources, including art historical myths about Kurt Schwitters or the mythical creature Gargoyle, airports or bathrooms. This detachment from and oscillation between fixed meanings allows for a certain freedom in relating to the works and in the connections that can be established between them.

New and existing works by both artists, as well as works produced together, are combined and activated in an installative way. In the process, unexpected connections emerge and their artistic modes of production are rethought as collaborations and as possible interventions in each other's production. Functions and associations overlap: works become supports for sculptures, artistic interventions transfer memories of the everyday into a narrative dimension. In the process, Aceto and Savary show that furniture are both objects of daily use and socially constructive factors. Beds thus read as settings for recreation and as signs of inner states of mind.

Despite its absence, the body plays an essential role in the exhibition. It appears implicitly in various forms and manifestations – for example linguistically as a sound poem (Savary) or as a logopaedic tool used for practicing articulation (Aceto). Thus, the body cannot be read in isolation but in connection with its environment, especially since it appears as a converging field of and possible scope for action. It is through the body that the forces acting on it are revealed and vice versa. In «Ambarabà Ciccì Coccò», Aceto and Savary create a visible result of such forces to enable a new perspective on both their work and the world that surrounds them.

Alfredo Aceto (*1991, Turin/IT) lives and works in Lausanne/CH. He studied at École Cantonal d'art de Lausanne (ECAL), Lausanne/CH and at The Mountain School of Art, Los Angeles/US. Solo- and double exhibitions (selection): Hit, Geneva/CH (2021); Kunst Raum Riehen, Riehen/CH (2020); Laurence & Friends, Geneva/CH (2020); Galerie Lange + Pult, Zurich/CH (2019); Istituto Svizzero, Milan/IT (2019); Dittrich & Schleichtriem, Berlin/DE (2018); Lateral Art Space, Cluj-Napoca/ROU (2018); Andersen's Contemporary, Copenhagen/DNK (2017); Associazione Barriera, Turin/IT (2016); Centre d'Art Contemporain, Geneva/CH (2015). Group exhibitions (selection): Häusler Contemporary, Zurich/CH (2019); Galerie Sébastien Bertrand, Geneva/CH (2019); Galleria Gio Marconi, Milan/IT (2016); Artissima, Turin/IT (2016); Kunsthaus Glarus, Glarus/CH (2015); LISTE, Bugada & Cargnel, Basel/CH (2015).

Denis Savary (*1981, Granges-près-Marnand/CH) lives and works in Geneva/CH. He studied at École Cantonal d'art de Lausanne (ECAL), Lausanne/CH. Solo exhibitions (selection): Galerie Maria Bernheim, Zurich/CH (2021); Musée des Beaux-Arts, La Chaux-de-Fonds/CH (2019); Galerie Xippas, Geneva/CH (2017); Centre culturel suisse, Paris/FR (2016); Mamco, Geneva/CH (2015); Kunsthalle Bern, Berne/CH (2012); Kunsthaus Pasquart, Biel/CH (2011). Group exhibitions (selection): Art en plein air, Môtiers 2020, Môtiers/CH (2020); Istituto Svizzero, Rome/IT (2019); Leopold Museum, Vienna/AT (2019); Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich/CH (2018); Centre d'Art Contemporain - La Synagogue de Delme, Delme/FR (2018); Kunsthaus Glarus, Glarus/CH (2017); Museo Pietro Canonica in villa Borghese, Rome/IT (2017); Kunstmuseum Bern, Berne/CH (2017); Swiss Institute, New York/US (2015), Centre Culturel Suisse, Paris/CH (2014).

Events and Educational Programme:

Opening Day

Saturday, 15 May 2021, 11 a.m. – 17 p.m.

Guided Tour on Tuesday

Tuesday, 18 May 2021, 6 p.m.
(afterwards **Introduction for Teachers**)

Guided Tour on Sunday

Sunday, 22 August 2021, 3 p.m.

Workshops for School Classes

From 19 May 2021 on we offer workshops in the exhibition.
See www.k9000.ch (Art Education/Workshops for School Classes)

High-resolution images can be found in the press kit on our website under Information/Press. For further questions please contact Giovanni Carmine (carmine@k9000.ch) or Céline Matter (matter@k9000.ch).

The exhibition by Alfredo Aceto and Denis Savary is supported by Pro Helvetia, Schweizer Kulturstiftung, Kanton Genf and Kanton Waadt.

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Opening times:
Tues to Fri 12 – 6 p.m.
Sat & Sun 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.