## LIGHTED 30

*Delighted* Exhibition with Céline Butaye & Victor Duchêne

from April 26th to May 24th, 2014 at Plagiarama

Light allows us to perceive any work of art as a concomitant medium, revealing to us color, texture, depth. By putting the light in the very heart of their works, Céline Butaye and Victor Duchêne are looking back to the roots of human perception.

Both artists are creating objects that "catch" light : prisms that interact with their environment, using, reflecting, decomposing, diffusing the light through the room ; machinery that creates diffracted lights projected through water and reacting to musical vibrations ; in other words, works linked to time and space.

These artists observe and analyze the light's behavior and the relationships with objects are part of their work. They're presenting pieces with continuously changing forms, which are subject to so many natural factors. Even when this change is very subtle, the shape is moving on every single second as if art should exist to never be the same.

Yuna Mathieu-Chovet Curator

Edited by  $PLAGI \gg R \forall M \ll$ 

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## **Céline Butaye**











Light box study, 2014 Céline Butaye 5 colored shapes, variable materials, dimensions of the gallery

## **Réflexions, special relativity; chasing a beam of light**, 2013 Céline Butaye

2 of a serie of 102 handmade prisms, polyester, pigment, variable dimensions

I borrowed the subtitle from Albert Einstein, who recalled that he had imagined chasing after a beam of light and that this thought experiment had played a memorable role in his development of his theory of special relativity.\*

\* VALLENTIN Antonia, Le drame d'Albert Einstein, 1954, Librairie Plon, Paris

date:

28 March 2014 11h - 16.30h, Plagiarama, Brussels dialogue: Céline Butaye, Yuna Mathieu-Chovet

context:

Delighted, 2014

subject:

light, time, wind, prisms, raindrop, installation, refraction, pigment, language, movement, ballet, environment, present, change, lost space, Einstein, Calder, painting, coincidence, mistake, Lausanne, reflection, snapshot, architecture, gallery, aquarium, light box, daylight, spotlight, neon tube, Brussels, Seurat, colour, moment

circumstances:

partly cloudy & sunshine

note:

"I didn't want to change the time; I wanted to express the time. That was my whole project."\*

\* Mies van der Rohe, 1960; Conversations with Mies van der Rohe, editor Moisés Puente, 2008 (Princeton Architectural Press, New York)

Céline Butaye April 12th, 2014. Céline Butaye does not only work on light, she works with light, as an independent, moving and unpredictable actor, almost aware of the possibilities of her installations.

An approach enhanced by reflections about time cycles and by the numerous different conditions that visitors could use to observe her works.

For Plagiarama's *Delighted*, she reflects on the specific architecture and the lighting of the gallery space and creates a 'light box study'.

The two prisms near the window deal with the external light conditions, they try to catch some rays of sunlight. One prism shows the absorption of a beam of light, the other one represents the angle of a water drop and works with the refraction of the incoming light.

Céline Butaye is born in 1980, in Mouscron, Belgium.

She studied experimental (typo-)graphics and painting in LUCA School of Arts in Ghent, Belgium (1997-2003) and is laureate of HISK (Higher Institute of Fine Arts, Ghent) where she conducted her post-academic research program (2010- 2011). She received the Emil & Stephy Langui Price (painters award) in the Young Belgian Art Prize 2013. She lives and works in Belgium.



Victor Duchêne is born in 1991 in Vadans, Jura, in the east of France. He studied clarinet for 9 years in a classical music academy and learned by himself guitar and harmonica.

He started in 2008 to transform old tube radios into valve amplifiers. In 2010, he built his first machine which translates music into pictures and started the band called "Turquoise Bears" with a friend. The same year, he began to study photography at the National High School of Visual Arts (La Cambre). Since 2013, he continues in the same school in the print making section to focus on the physical aspect of photography.

## **Victor Duchêne**



T I



The Temples - "Prisms" - 2:57 - 18/04/2014 - 16h34

Le Musichromographe, 2014 Victor Duchêne Musichromographe machine 145x139cm

Musichromographies, 2014 Victor Duchêne Polaroid prints stapled on paper variable dimensions

Water oscillations, 2014 Victor Duchêne Two Four-color Copper etching prints of the water oscillations 35x50cm each

The Musichromographe is a machine that translates music into images through different types of analog translations.

Water in a recipient is fixed on a speaker. The sound coming from the speaker produces oscillations and movements in the water. This machine uses the decomposition of the white light leading to the projection of colors in the water. Then, the frequencies mix them and send the result on a screen. By using an exposure time as long as the song with an analog camera, I

obtained a print with abstract forms and colors, corresponding to the song I played.

All those experimentations are part of an empirical research about what the emotional aspect of music becomes when it's translated into pictures. The Musichromographe generates many transformations through two writingsmusical composition and light caption - which are at the very heart of my work.

> Victor Duchêne April 12th, 2014.





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