



ELIEN RONSE

In fact, we are a team!?! Yeah, yeah!

21.04 - 20:30 & 22.04 - 19:00 - workspacebrussels (Atelier / 2nd floor)

lecture / performance
40 min.

NL – In de loop van een aantal jaren documenteerde beeldend kunstenaar Elien Ronse momenten met vrienden. Samen verhuizen, het verwerken van teleurstellingen of het vieren van een 33 jaar oude vriendschap. Relaties met vrienden hebben geen draaiboek: ze kennen minder patronen en ceremonies dan romantische relaties. Toch zijn er ook in vriendschappen talrijke kleine gewoonten en gedragingen die blijk geven van mentale, financiële en andere vormen van zorg. Dit zijn grote en bescheiden manieren om kracht te vinden in het verzet tegen een kapitalistische normatieve logica en het ingaan tegen fantasieën over het kerngezin. Tijdens haar presentatie deelt Elien twintig verhalen, acties en gebeurtenissen die verband houden met de warmte en moeilijkheden binnen haar vriendschappen.

FR – Plusieurs années durant, l'artiste plasticienne Elien Ronse a documenté des moments entre amis. Déménager ensemble, surmonter des déceptions ou célébrer une amitié vieille de 33 ans. Les relations entre amis n'ont pas de scénario social : elles ont moins de schémas et de cérémonies que les relations amoureuses. Pourtant, même dans les relations d'amitié, il existe de multiples habitudes et comportements qui témoignent d'une attention mentale, financière et d'autres formes de prendre soin. Il s'agit là de moyens à la fois considérables et modestes pour trouver la force de résister à la logique capitaliste normative et pour contrer les fantasmes autour de la famille nucléaire. Au cours de sa présentation, Elien Ronse partage vingt histoires, actions et événements liés à la chaleur humaine et aux difficultés rencontrées dans ses amitiés.

EN – Over the course of several years, visual artist Elien Ronse documented moments with friends. Moving house together, dealing with disappointments or celebrating a 33-year-old friendship. Relationships with friends have no social script: they have fewer patterns and ceremonies than romantic relationships. Yet in friendships there are numerous little habits and behaviours that demonstrate care: mental, financial, or other forms. These are great and humble ways of finding strength to resist capitalist normative logic and to counter nuclear family fantasies. During her presentation, Elien shares twenty stories, actions and happenings related to the warmth and difficulties within her friendships.

Elien Ronse is a visual artist working at the intersection of contemporary art, community work, political activism and theoretical research, a.o. Her work questions problematic relational mechanisms in late-capitalist society. Through collaborations she aims to shift normative social structures.

Elien is often travelling for work. She has been supported by residency spaces such as Das Weisse Haus (Vienna), Pier-2 Art centre (Kaohsiung) and Zarya (Vladivostok). She participated in events and exhibitions at Silent Green (Berlin), Pleasure Zone (Basel) or Hotwheels (Athens). Within Belgium she developed work in the context of De Koer, Kunsthal Gent, workspacebrussels and Plan B.

Elien is also engaged in collaborative practices such as 'Cultural Center Truck Stop' on a highway parking, the open studio 'Manoeuvre' and the collective 'Para-instituut voor KUNST en precariteit', where they try to transform relational mechanisms in the art context.

She holds an MA in Arts from the Dutch Art Institute and a degree in Social Work. In collaboration with Manoeuvre, she also graduated from the Advanced Master program in Sint Lucas Antwerp.

By Elien Ronse

Supported by workspacebrussels, Kunsthal Gent

Make sure to also check out:

Elien Ronse

De staminee in Sint Alexius in 28 hoofdstukken

21 > 23.04.2023 - Kaaistudio's
video / ongoing

From October to December, Elien Ronse was artist-in-residence at the psychosocial centre St. Alexius in Brussels. She spent most of her time in the living room or 'staminee', where people ask each other how they are doing and conversations range from small talk to very intimate subjects. In this intimate and humorous video work, Elien looks at forms of care that occur in everyday relationships.

The Open Studios programme is curated by workspacebrussels in dialogue with associated artists caterina daniela mora jara and the collective Dancing at the Crossroads (As We Walk). A big thank you goes to the team of Kaaitheater, and especially to Christian, Eva, Frank, Geertje, Geni, Godfried, Helena, Jan, Jonas, Lieselot and William for making this happen.

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