

LAURENCE AËGERTER

Laurence Aëgterter (Marseille, 1972) is a multi-disciplinary artist who lives and works in Amsterdam and Marseille. Photography, installation and artist's books are her main media. Her work addresses the permanent transformation that lies in the essence of things. She examines the archive that shapes our collective memory. Displacement and translation play an important part in her work.

Cathédrales Hermétiques

Cathédrales Hermétiques is the follow up of *Cathédrales*. In these series Aëgterter silkscreened photos of several churches with a thermal ink layer. The church interiors are revealed when exposed to sunlight, like photography in a dark room. This process takes about 30 minutes and just as long to return back to dark. With this work Aëgterter seeks for a meditative, and perhaps a spiritual, experience for the viewer.

Cathédrales hermétiques is the follow up to *Cathédrales*, and consists of a series that was born from the same starting point: a book published in the 1950s by the ministry of tourism to promote spiritual architecture in France. Moving away from the facades, Aëgterter selected three interiors over the scope of ten centuries to explore the different architectural modes of provoking a spiritual experience.

In this body of work, Aëgterter silkscreened three photographs of a Romanesque church (Saint-Benoit-sur-Loire, 10th century), a Gothic church (Coutances, 12th century) and a modern church (Sainte-Jeanne-d'Arc, Nice, 20th century) with a thermal ink layer: a black layer of ink reactive to the heat of the sun. In contrast to *Cathédrales*, these church interiors begin in darkness and are slowly revealed when exposed to sunlight, like photography in a darkroom; a cycle that takes about an hour. With this work, Aëgterter seeks for a meditative, spiritual experience for the viewer.

Over the past years Laurence Aëgterter has exhibited in several international solo and group shows. Solo exhibitions include: Fries Museum, Leeuwarden; *Le Louvre*, Paris; MAMAC (Museum for Modern and Contemporary Art), Nice; *Seek and Hide*, Museum van Loon, Amsterdam; *The Modernists and More*, Hermitage Museum, Amsterdam. Recent group shows include: Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem; *Elasticity of Presence*, From Here On, Arts Santa Monica Museum, Barcelona; FoMu, Antwerp; *Les rencontres de la photographie*, Arles; 5e LagosPhoto Festival Nigeria; *Conceptual photography*, Art Affairs Gallery, Amsterdam.

Aëgterter realized site specific installations and art in community projects in assignment for a.o. ; SKOR, Foundation for Art and Public Domain (NL); Conseil Général des Bouches-du-Rhône (FR); Musée Borély des Arts décoratifs de la Faïence et de la Mode, Marseille (FR); Museum van Loon, Amsterdam; the City of Amsterdam; the City of Leeuwarden (NL) and the City of Arles (FR).

Her works are included in collections of o.a.: Paul Getty Center, Los Angeles; MoMA, New York; Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; MAMAC, Nice; Fries Museum, Leeuwarden and Caldic Collection, Rotterdam.