

## ERROR ONE

een zwervend initiatief voor hedendaagse beeldende kunst, Antwerpen  
a nomadic initiative for contemporary art, Antwerp  
Tulpstraat 79  
BE-2060 Antwerp  
t. +32 (0)472 261970  
[info@errorOne.be](mailto:info@errorOne.be)  
[www.errorOne.be](http://www.errorOne.be)

## ERROR #9 : "Shadow Cabinet"

### (three rendezvous)

25 april – 10 may 2008

ERROR ONE // Guest project in Extra City, Antwerp

Opening : Thursday 24 april: 20:00h

A proposition by Vincent Meessen



© Maria Pask, "Starhawk! The musical, 2004, video installation, courtesy Ellen de Bruijne Projects

*Shadow Cabinet (three rendezvous) gathers documents, art works and films which offer a plural view on borderline practices, where singular political and artistic agendas are inextricably linked. These underlying ideas form the source of weekly platforms designed to generate encounters. Please join us.*

Jacques André (B) // Patrick Bernier & Olive Martin (F) // Matthew Buckingham (US) // Paul Chan (Hkg/US) // Leo Dohmen (B) // Chris Evans (UK) // David Evrard (B) // Kosten Koper (UK) & Catherine Vertige (B) // Labor k3000 (CH) // Mark Lombardi (US) // Maria Pask (UK) // Laurence Rassel (B) & Terre Thaemlitz (US) // Alun Rowlands (UK) // Bruno Serralongue (F) // Sven 't Jolle (B) // Noline van Harskamp (NL) // Tristan Wibault (B)

Rendezvous 1 : Thursday 24 april 20:00h: "Speech as a Political Act", a scripted reading organized by **Noline van Harskamp**

Rendezvous 2 : Saturday 03 may 18:00h : "The Blackmailers", film by **Tristan Wibault**

Rendezvous 3 : Saturday 10 may 18:00h: "X. v. Prefect of..." - Counsel's speech for a legal precedent", performance by **Patrick Bernier, Olive Martin, Sylvia Preuss-Laussinotte & Sébastien Canevet**

After each rendezvous, stay with us for the evening talk and a drink. The Belgrade-based curator **Marko Stamenkovic (Sb)** will contribute to the rendezvous as a shadow spokesperson.

Scenography by Dirk Engelen & Vincent Meessen

Production: ERROR ONE in collaboration with Normal and Extra City

### Adress:

ERROR ONE // project in residence in Extra City  
Tulpstraat 79 BE-2060 Antwerpen

### Open:

Thu 14.00 – 20.00h

We Fr Sa 14.00 – 19.00h

Sunday closed

Entrance: voluntary contribution

### Info & updates:

<http://www.errorOne.be>

<http://www.extracity.org>

Thanks to Air de Paris, B-architecten, Galerie Catherine Bastide, Constant vzw, Ellen de Bruijne Projects, Edwin Delanoeye & Sam Mampaey, ENSAV La Cambre, Murray Guy, HISK, Independent Curators International, KASK Antwerpen, Komplot, Les Laboratoires d'Aubervilliers, Stella Lohaus Gallery, Greene Naftali Gallery, Radio Centraal, Steven Tallon, Ronny Van de Velde, Vox asbl

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### **ERROR #9 : “Shadow Cabinet” (three rendezvous)**

Extra City , Antwerp will play host to the 9th edition of ERROR ONE, who has invited artist Vincent Meessen (Baltimore, 1971) to develop a project for this event.

“*Shadow Cabinet*” (*three rendezvous*) gathers videos, artworks and artist’s documents around a centrally located platform. This project has become a group exhibition activated by three public gatherings, and will take place from April 25 to May 10, 2008. “*Shadow Cabinet*” regroups the work of fifteen international artists, among whom are included Paul Chan (Hong Kong-US), Maria Pask (UK), Mark Lombardi (US), Bruno Serralongue (Fr), Matthew Buckingham (US), but also the Antwerp artist Sven ’t Jolle and Jacques André from Brussels. They are all sympathetic to an artistic practice that treats politics as representation.

The title refers to democracies that have assumed the English parliamentary model. The Shadow Cabinet refers to a form of political opposition where the members of the most significant opposition party organise themselves into a virtual government. The Shadow Cabinet at issue here is of another nature. It brings together the works of artists who—in the shadow of the official (party-)political opposition—produce alternative representations and procedures. As opposed to the ‘cabinet fantôme’ (the French translation of the Shadow Cabinet), we propose here a ‘cabinet des fantômes’: a Ghost Cabinet. It has to do with a space whose function consists in questioning politics. ‘Politics’ here is understood as a representational illusion: more specifically, the tendency of ‘politics’ to use every means at its disposal to disguise the very existence of representations and prefabricated appearances.

Through their practice alone, the artists brought together here deconstruct precisely the pretension of politics (and the media) to name and label ‘the common’ with laws, codes, regulatory discourse as well as standardised and unified images. In contrast, the artists involved here, by means of the plurality of their identities (the artist in the role of citizen, the unemployed, union labourer, activist, archivist, lawyer, cartographer . . .), point out how the singular form and the individual spirit reintroduce a *dissensus* which—rather than a consensus—is at the basis of all politics. The work of art perhaps only becomes truly political when it can (potentially) disintegrate the social. In this way art could be—insofar as the social is concerned—an act of inaction; of not-doing; of undoing. From this perspective, art disbands being-together, expels the ghosts of ‘belonging-to’ that haunt every community.

Thus, on the one hand, we have Jacques André, Matthew Buckingham or Maria Pask, who utilise the icons of nineteen-seventies activism (Jerry Rubin, Starhawk . . .). David Evrard re-examines an alter-worldly demonstration with technological imagery which celebrates mass culture. Laurence Rassel and Terre Thaemlitz see creation in a social field by producing rights which are not just author’s copyright. Kosten Koper and Catherine Vertige draw out the trajectory of a few leading artist collectives in Belgium in existence since the end of the seventies. In a similar way, by means of fiction, Alun Rowlands reexamines the scale of certain utopian models. Nicoline van Harskamp interrogates explicitly the formation of public opinion in a series of readings executed according to a specific scenario, making use of reports on

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already-existing ideologies and creative staging. In the margin of legitimate artistic practices there also arise practices that border on the administrative: Mark Lombardi's diagrams, Jacques André's temples of unemployment, the robot portraits by Paul Chan, Sven 't Jolle's reports on union meetings, Bruno Serralongue's photographic documents or even "Cop Talk" by Chris Evans, which are interventions by the police recruiting corps in art academies.

Shadow Cabinet is a place that is 'activated' on a weekly basis. Everyone is invited to participate—and intervene—in the public gatherings. Our most important, most 'calibrated' connection to the community, to the communal—namely, that of the citizen—will be questioned by artists with an express sensitivity for the phenomenon of undocumented individuals. It concerns people who make themselves as invisible as possible, compelled to do by current legislation. At the same time, they refuse to be treated like ghosts: they want their voices to be heard by everyone, to have the same status as their 'fellow citizens'. Via a staged reading, a film and a performance, we will tackle 'having one's say' respectively: as a political performance (Nicoline van Harskamp, 24 April); hunger-strike as an instrument of the media (Tristan Wibault, 3 May); or again, about the possibility of exposing the weaknesses in the (hostile to immigrants) immigration laws via the issue of copyright laws (Patrick Bernier & Olive Martin, 10 May). Marko Stamenkovic (Sb), a curator from Belgrade, will contribute to these three public discussions.

**Vincent Meessen** (1971, B/US) is artist en studied and cultural policy. Most of his work is collaborative. Meessen usually establishes delegation protocol so that the work is always and already the result of an encounter. Vincent has also curated programs for UTIL (Brussels), e-flux (NYC), BAK, (Utrecht), Argos center for art & Cinema Museum (Brussels). His personal work has been exhibited at various arts centers and festivals.

ERROR ONE in samenwerking met Normal and Extra City

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Extra City

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