

MAC VAL

Museum of Contemporary Art
of Val-de-Marne

Place de la Libération
94400 Vitry-sur-Seine
01 43 91 64 20
contact@macval.fr
macval.fr

Opening hours

Museum

Tuesday to Sunday and public holidays, 11 am to 6 pm.
Last tickets sold 30 minutes before closing time.
Closed on 1 January, 1 May, 15 August and 25 December.

Opening hours

Michel Germa garden

Tuesday to Sunday, 9 am to 6 pm.
Free access.



For full details of the exhibitions and programme: macval.fr
Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Linkedin](#), [YouTube](#) et [Vimeo](#)

MAC VAL would like to thank its partners



Programming around the exhibition

Tour of the exhibition Sunday 5 May, 4 pm

Tour of the exhibition with Marianne Derrien, Sarah Ihler-Meyer and Salim Santa Lucia, curators of the exhibition

Free

European Museum Night Saturday 18 May

– 6, 8 and 10 pm ‘Cloches sous pression’ by François Dufeil.
Sound performance by Charles Dubois, percussionist.
– 7 pm Tour of the exhibition with Marianne Derrien,
Sarah Ihler-Meyer and Salim Santa Lucia, curators of the exhibition.
– 9.30 pm ‘Driving Drama’, concert by Elsa Michaud.

Free

Screening Saturday 15 June, 1–6 pm

Screening of a programme of films and videos by artists echoing the exhibition

Free

Gestural tour Sunday 23 June, 4 pm

A gestural tour of the exhibition by Levent Beskardes, an impaired-hearing artist and actor who uses ‘natural gestural communication’.

Visit for the general public, impaired hearing and hearing.
Free with a museum admission ticket.

Tour of the exhibition Sunday 8 September, 4 pm

Tour of the exhibition with Caroline Galliez, director of research at the Université Gustave Eiffel – Laboratoire Ville Mobilité Transport.

Free with a museum admission ticket

European Heritage Days Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September,
2.30 pm and 4 pm

‘Les 6h de Vitry’ by Alain Bublex, a 4 x 1h30 lecture-performance on the history of automotive innovation.

Free

Going further

Documentation centre

A team of librarians will be on hand to help you continue your visit and find out more about reference works.

Free admission Tuesday to Saturday, 2 to 6 pm.
cdm.macval@macval.fr or 01 43 91 14 64
→ doc.macval.fr

Publication

Humain Autonome.

A publication covering 3 aspects of the curators’ project at Frac Normandie, Condition Publique and MAC VAL will be published in July 2024.

On sale at the MAC VAL bookshop and in various bookshops.

Introduction by Nicolas Surlapierre, text by curators Marianne Derrien, Sarah Ihler-Meyer and Salim Santa Lucia. Text by Vincent Pécoil, Ninon Duhamel, Frank Lamy, Fanny Lopez & Caroline Gallez. Graphic design by Cédric Pierre.

Tours

— For adults and young people aged 11 and over
Every Saturday and Sunday, 4pm

— For families and children upwards of 4 years old
Every Sunday, 2.30 pm

Wednesdays during school holidays, 2.30 pm

Free with museum admission Information and booking
reservation@macval.fr or 01 43 91 64 23

MAC VAL

Museum of Contemporary Art
of Val-de-Marne

Humain Autonome : Déroutes

With works by A.K. Burns, Alain Bublex, Alessandro Balteo-Yazbeck & Media Farzin, Alexandra Bircken, Andrea Zittel, Anita Molinero, Antoine Nessi, Atelier Van Lieshout, Bill Owens, Blair Thurman, BP, Cady Noland, Delphine Reist, Diego Bianchi, Ed Ruscha, François Dufeil, Frieda Toranzo Jaeger, Hans Haacke, Hugo Vessiller-Fonfreide, Julie Hascoët, Kristina Solomoukha, Laurent Faulon, Lothar Baumgarten, Lucie Stahl, Malala Andrialavidrazana, Marcel Devillers, Mark Leckey, Mark Lombardi, Martha Rosler, Mathis Altman, Matthew Angelo Harrison, Michael Sailstorfer, Mohamed Bourouissa, Monira Al Qadiri, O. Winston Link, Peter Buggenhout, Piero Gilardi, Randa Maroufi, Sara Sadik, Serge Lhermitte, Sophie Ristelhueber, Stéphanie Cherpin, Suzanne Husky, Tania Mouraud, Taryn Simon, Thomas Bayrle, Thomas Teurlai, Tobias Zielony, Willy Ronis.

English

Exhibition from 26 April to 22 September 2024

General Curator Nicolas Surlapierre
Curated by Marianne Derrien, Sarah Ihler-Meyer and Salim Santa Lucia
Associate curator Frank Lamy

Exploratory and forward-looking, the programme of temporary exhibitions continues to focus on the processes by which contemporary identities and bodies are constructed, in an attempt to reflect on reality and, ultimately, to propose new scenarios and new ways of inhabiting the world. It is in this context that MAC VAL is hosting the fourth episode of the ‘Humain Autonome’ touring project, curated by Marianne Derrien, Sarah Ihler-Meyer and Salim Santa Lucia.

Car, crate, sleeper, tank, jalopy, banger, wheels – the automobile is a paradoxical object. While some adore it, others condemn it. It is, at the very least, an ambiguous symbol, the cause and symptom of many of the crises we are going through (economic, societal, climatic, philosophical). Facilitating the movement of bodies and goods, exploration but also conquest, an instrument both of freedom and control, its use has shaped landscapes, bodies and minds. As the focus of many economic issues, the car is a non-place, half-private and half-public, a fantasy machine and an object of fetishism, sometimes personified. Its production lines, its operating systems, its links with fossil fuels, its myths and its unconscious are all analysed, deconstructed, reassessed and turned upside down by the artists in the exhibition. However, the point is not outright rejection. On the contrary, it’s about raising awareness and pointing out some of the aporias of our contemporary world.

The exhibition brings together some fifty artists from different generations, and is accompanied by a publication tracing the project in its entirety.

In conjunction with this exhibition, ‘Humain Autonome: Accrochage’ presents a selection of works from the MAC VAL collection by Carole Benzaken, Élisabeth Ballet, Éric Dubuc, Éric Hattan, ERRÓ, Étienne Bossut, Jean Dewasne, Michel de Broin, NØNE FUTBOL CLUB, Peter Klasen, Peter Stämpfli, Pierre Ardouvin, Pierre Buraglio, Raymond Hains and Véronique Boudier.

Since 2020, the ‘Humain Autonome’ cycle of exhibitions has given rise to several events combining exhibitions, screenings, workshops and performances at the Frac Normandie in Caen (‘À 2000 tours minutes’ and ‘Joyridin’’) at La Condition Publique in Roubaix (‘Fossiles mécaniques’) as part of the Art et Industrie Triennale in collaboration with the Centre Pompidou and the CNAP-Centre National des Arts Plastiques, and at the Ateliers Le Wonder (‘Prélude’) in Clichy (92) for La Nuit Blanche.

Today, then, ‘Déroutes’ at MAC VAL is the fourth chapter of the ‘Humain Autonome’ project.

The exhibition was supported by
La Condition Publique, Roubaix
Pro Helvetia, Swiss Arts Council
FruidLabor

With the support of the Val-de-Marne Departmental Buildings Department

Text from the curators of the exhibition

Marianne Derrien, Sarah Ihler-Meyer and Salim Santa Lucia

An autonomous subject, freed from its physical limits, driven by inexorable progress, becoming master and possessor of nature: this is the myth of which the car is the symbol. In other words, an epic, individualistic and ‘Petromasculinist’ (according to Cara New Dagget) narrative – one that supports the modes of production, relationships of domination and exploitation that are at the root of the destruction of our ecosystems.

This the modern heritage addressed by ‘Humain Autonome: Déroutes’, an exhibition which juxtaposes the imaginaries and the realities of the civilisation of the car. The car is an object of fetishism, and here it is reinscribed in the systems of energy, the organisation of work, geopolitical issues, the eroticism and the counter-cultures that it implies – those of ‘fossil capital’, according to Andreas Malm, which is constantly renewing itself.

The artists in this exhibition, from different generations and from both the French and international scenes, are concerned with a different conception of human autonomy: understood not as independence from any exteriority, but as the capacity to reflect on our own determinations and interdependencies. An autonomy situated in relation to a social and symbolic order that needs to be deconstructed.

Opening the way to other horizons, other points of escape, their works become tactics of bifurcation and deviation in the effort to overturn and redefine dominant economic logics and value systems: the exploitation of bodies and land, overproduction, extractivism, colonial conquests, speed, power, progress, etc.

Made up of tens of thousands of parts, a car is at once a world in itself, an everyday object and a 20th-century icon of technical progress. While the car owes its development to an initial promise – that of being able to travel faster and further, offering unprecedented individual autonomy – the aim here is to look at the emancipations and enslavements produced by the culture of the motor.

Setting out alternative narratives, the exhibition generates open and sometimes paradoxical proposals.

Previous chapters of ‘Humain Autonome’

2023

‘Humain Autonome : Fossiles Mécaniques’, La Condition Publique, Roubaix. Exhibition from 15 September to 17 December 2023, as part of the Triennale Art & Industrie.

With works by Malala Andrialavidrazana, Alessandro Balteo-Yalzek in collaboration with Media Farzin, Lothar Baumgarten, Alexandra Bircken, Mohammed Bourouissa, Alain Bublex, Peter Buggenhout, Stéphanie Cherpin, François Dufeil, Michel François, Lee Friedlander, Laura Henno, Mark Lombardi, Randa Maroufi, Rita McBride, Anita Molinero, Louise Mutrel, Hugo Niebeling, Antoine Nessi, Bill Owens, Delphine Reist, Sophie Ristelhueber, Michael Sailstorfer, Kristina Solomoukha, Martha Rosler, Lucie Stahl, Peter Stämpfli, Thomas Teurlai, Blair Thurman.

2023

‘Joyridin’ , Frac Normandie, Caen.

Exhibition from 11 February to 12 March 2023.

With works by Alexandra Bircken, Alain Bublex, Peter Buggenhout, Jeremy Deller, Marcel Devillers, Lien Hoàng-Xuân, Rita Mc Bride, Anita Molinero, Bill Owens, Sophie Ristelhueber, Michael Sailstorfer.

2022

‘À 20.000 tours minute’ , Frac Normandie, Caen.

Event on 19 November to coincide with WE Frac 2022.

Workshop by Tony Regazzoni, concert by Elsa Michaud and screening of films by artists Kenneth Anger, Elsa Michaud & Sara Sadik.

2020

‘Chardon roulant vitesse ardente’ , Le Wonder Fortin, Clichy.

Prelude for Humain Autonome.

Screening of films by artists Elisa Pône, François Dufeil & Marie Limoujoux, Camille Varenne, Arnaud Dezoteux, Cécile Paris, SAEIO & Juliette Vilain, Benjamin Collet & Pierre Gaignard, Pablo Réol, Axel Chemin.

Biographies

Marianne Derrien

Marianne Derrien is an independent curator, art critic and teacher, and a member of C-E-A and AICA France. After working as a project manager for exhibitions at the Académie de France in Rome – Villa Medici, she now works as a guest curator with museums and independent venues in France and abroad. Since 2020, she has been in curatorial residence at Wonder, an artist-run space in the Paris region. In 2023, she co-founded the curatorial platform Fluidlabor, an independent production structure.

Sarah Ihler-Meyer

Sarah Ihler-Meyer is an art critic (France Culture), independent curator (Mudam Luxembourg, Ateliers Médicis, Southbank Center, etc.) and lecturer in art theory at the University of Paris 8 Vincennes-Saint-Denis. A member of C-E-A and AICA France, she is a regular contributor to specialist journals and collective works. Her curatorial work focuses on the legacy of Western modernity in contemporary art.

Salim Santa Lucia

Salim Santa Lucia is a photographer and artist. After an initial training as an industrial designer, he went on to work in a variety of fields related to the automotive industry, transport and innovation. His career has included stints as an industrial designer, a driver, a traffic controller and a press writer, all in parallel with his photography. Documenting today’s art and artists, he produces studio reports and portraits, as well as views of exhibitions and performances. A collaborator with Le Wonder collective, since 2018 he has been building up a photographic archive that bears witness to the work and lives of the collective’s artists in a fast-changing Greater Paris.