

# CHÂTEAU SHATTO

GUY DE COINTET, JEF GEYS, DOROTHY IANNONE, and guest RAUL GUERRERO  
*Le destin des châteaux croisés*

Presented with Air de Paris at Château Shatto, Los Angeles

JANUARY 26 – MARCH 10, 2018  
Opening reception Friday, January 26 6-9pm

In Italo Calvino's *Castle of Crossed Destinies*, knights meet at a table d'hôtes, but when they attempt to tell tales of their adventures, words mysteriously fail them. They then resort to a game of tarot. As each card is drawn, the knights give them meaning and reveal their stories. Forgive us, as it is the simple pleasure of the reference and the beauty of the title which makes us gather these four artists under the famous oulipian (inverted) banner.

Opening performance at 8pm: Jane Zingale will read from Guy de Cointet's publication, *Espahor Ledet Ko Uluner !*, 1973.

GUY DE COINTET  
b. Paris 1934 – Los Angeles, 1983

From the late 60's until his untimely death in 1983, Guy de Cointet was an active member of the Los Angeles art scene whose encrypted works on paper and theatrical productions using readymade language – taken from both the high literature of his native France and the soap operas or advertisements of his adopted land – were often as enigmatic as the man himself.

On the occasion of this exhibition, we are delighted to present the portfolio CIZEGHOH TUR NDJMB (1973) and video recording of *The brilliant artist Huzo Lumnst presents her new work CIZEGHOH TUR NDJMB*. This short play was initially performed by Chantal Darget in 1973 at Galerie Sonnabend in Paris, then re-enacted by Sarah Vermande at Air de Paris in 2012.

*Guy de Cointet's oeuvre has been the subject of numerous institutional exhibitions, with recent examples at Culturgest, Lisboa and M-Museum, Leuven. His works are part of worldwide museum collections, including LACMA, MoCA and The Getty Museum in Los Angeles, MoMA, New York, Tate Modern, London, Reina Sofia, Madrid and Centre Pompidou, Paris. Théâtre Complet, a new catalogue focusing on Guy de Cointet's theatrical work is available with contributions by Hugues De Cointet, François Piron and Marilou Thiébault, edited by PARAGUAY, Paris. Air de Paris founded the Guy de Cointet Society in close cooperation with the Estate of Guy de Cointet.*

JEF GEYS  
b. 1934 Leopoldsburg, lives in Balen, Belgium

Considered one of the most important Belgian artists of his generation, Jef Geys has devoted over fifty years to a singular, complex oeuvre conceived as one vast, constantly evolving project. His work combines a challenge to art's sovereign practices with a demolition of the barriers between the intimate and the collective. He has achieved this by following three basic lines of exploration: his private life, his immediate surroundings and his relationship with the outside world.

From the early 1960s until 1989, Geys worked at the art school in Balen, honing a specific approach to teaching; he focused on shaping a laboratory for learning and transmission. As an heir to both the Bauhaus school and Conceptualism, he embarks upon experiments and local projects with universal reach. These projects include helping to run a cabaret, taking part in strikes, exploring vernacular speech and – as in the Belgian pavilion at the 2009 Venice Biennale – sowing seeds as part of a plan to help the homeless.

This meticulous archivist of his own life and practice has also marked each of his exhibitions since 1971 with the publication of the *Kempens Informatieblad*, a compilation of ideas, conversations and photographs systematically related to his current subject matter. Distributed for free in his various exhibition venues, the periodical rejects the retrospective and often elitist tone of the standard catalogue, serving rather as a vector for sociability and direct contact with the public.

New works by Jef Geys include three resin wall sculptures from his *C series*, painted in *Red (Toyota 3E5)*, *Yellow (BMW M4)* and *Blue (Chevrolet Bel Air 1987)* and a continuation of the *Name series*, here dedicated to Chris Kraus.

*Jef Geys remains an elusive figure, despite a prestigious international career; he has exhibited at institutions and events such as the São Paulo Biennial (1991), Documenta XI in Kassel (2002), the Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven (2004) and the 2009 Venice Biennale, at which he represented Belgium.*

# CHATEAUSHATTO

DOROTHY IANNONE

b. 1933 Boston, lives in Berlin

“..For many years now, Dorothy Iannone has been investigating through her visual work, her books and her records, the world of love and loving-styles. In her original (re)-search, she skillfully blends imagery and text, beauty and truth. She is a freedom fighter, and a forceful and dedicated artist. Her aim is no less than human liberation.”

- Robert Filliou, 1975

An exhilarating ode to unbridled sexuality and the celebration of ecstatic coupling and unconditional love, Dorothy Iannone's oeuvre has recurrently faced censorship. Perhaps most famously, there is the case of the exhibition *Friends*, organized by Harald Szeemann at the Bern Kunsthalle in 1969. Iannone recreates the event in full in her bookwork, *The Story of Bern (Or) Showing Colors*, 1970. The book will be presented as a slide-show, together with a facsimile of the *(Ta)Rot Pack* which was censored in Bern. In addition, the artist proposed a series of works that will be exhibited here for the first time: psychedelic *Chair Drawings*.

*Born in Boston in 1933, Dorothy Iannone lives and works in Berlin. Air de Paris organized her first solo exhibition, She Is A Freedom Fighter, in 2007, and the New Museum presented Lioness, her first solo show in the United States in 2009. Her mixed media work, I Was Thinking Of You, was included in the 2006 Whitney Biennial. She has recently had major retrospectives, notably at the Camden Arts Centre in London (2013), the Berlinische Galerie in Berlin (2014) and the Migros Museum in Zurich (2014). A large mural was recently commissioned by High Line Art and will be unveiled in New York in Spring 2018. Many monographs have been devoted to her work, among them the recent You Who Read Me With Passion Now Must Forever Be My Friend (published by Siglio Press, Los Angeles), which focuses in particular on the textual aspect of her oeuvre.*

GUEST: RAUL GUERRERO

b. 1945, lives in San Diego

We are pleased to present a portrait of Guy de Cointet by San Diego based Raul Guerrero.

*Raul Guerrero has had solo exhibitions at the San Francisco Art Institute (1976), the Long Beach Museum of Art (1977) and the Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (2007 & 2013). His 1985 Oaxaca paintings were the subject of an exhibition guest curated by Allan Ruppberg at the CUE Art Foundation, New York in 2010. His 1989 retrospective exhibition was presented at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego. Guerrero has been the recipient of an NEA Photography Fellowship (1979) and the San Diego Art Prize (2006).*