

Jorge Macchi
The Submerged
Cathedral
11.9 – 22.11.2020



LVUSNALS
STRAXAEB SED
LANTONAC EÉSUS
Espace Projet

Jorge Macchi

The Submerged Cathedral

The idea of fiction lies at the heart of the work created by the artist Jorge Macchi (born in 1963; lives and works in Buenos Aires). By placing familiar objects (clocks, instruments, maps, newspapers, etc.) in carefully arranged displays, Macchi lays for us a number of visual traps. Through these he questions our ability to perceive the fragile balance of daily life, which is permanently threatened by incident. The installation he has designed and mounted for the Espace Projet starts with the Museum's wall of plate glass and its seven individual elements. Fascinated since the age of twenty by Claude Debussy's prelude *La Cathédrale engloutie* (*The Submerged Cathedral*), Macchi connects the number of large windows of the exhibition room with the same number of bells hanging in the Cathedral of Lausanne to create a sound piece whose composition is based on chance, that is, visitors' movements around and through the installation. Debussy's *La Cathédrale engloutie* and hence Macchi's installation refer to the legend of the town of Ys, which is supposed to be found somewhere along the Breton coast, although it sank beneath the waves long ago. From time to time, the bells of the Cathedral of Ys can be heard tolling in the deep waters of the sea. Jorge Macchi has set up a remembrance of Ys and the Debussy prelude by heightening the optical and echo effects that are peculiar to underwater sound.

Curated by Laurence Schmidlin, curator of contemporary art

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Musée cantonal
des Beaux-Arts
PLATEFORME 10
Place de la Gare 16
1003 Lausanne

T +41 21 316 34 45
info.beaux-arts@vd.ch
www.mcba.ch
@mcbalausanne
@mcba.lausanne

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Events

Opening

Thursday 10 September 2020
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Speeches at 6:30 p.m.

Guided tour

Tuesday 10 November at 12:30 pm
With Laurence Schmidlin

Information

Access and opening hours

→ mcba.ch

The sound installation was developed by Manuel Eguía / LAPSo (Laboratorio de Acústica y Percepción Sonora), Universidad Nacional de Quilmes, Argentina.

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Jorge Macchi, *Islands*, 2012
Gouache and watercolor on paper,
36 × 48 cm
Private collection
Courtesy the artist and Galerie Peter
Kilchmann, Zurich © Jorge Macchi

