

On My Own Ignorance and That of Many Others

An exhibition of new works by **Koenraad Dedobbeleer** April 24 – May 31, 2019

Nothing is quite as it seems. The sturdiness of the structures we stand on cannot be taken for granted; we cannot be made cozy by a belief in constancy, an easy knowledge things will stay as they are. No. Self-reliance is key: tap the rock to see if it's hollow, heat your home with your bare hands, make up your own damn mind. Notice your reflection and question everything.

On My Own Ignorance and That of Many Others is Brussels-based artist Koenraad Dedobbeleer's first exhibition in CLEARING's Brussels location. Like the Francesco Petrarca invective from 1367 AD his title borrows from, the exhibition is an embrace of humility over pretension, of criticality over hero worship. Through sculptures, photographs, and silk screen prints, we witness incredulity of common systems and acts of self-reliance with a characteristically calm, round-edged sense of humour.

As is common in Dedobbeleer's practice, webs of material and art historical references have been subtly subverted and intervened upon so as to eschew their easy analysis, to disallow any certainty we might have in their use or existence. The names of popular typefaces – Trump Medieval, Avant-Garde Gothic, Avenir, Futura, Utopia – present themselves in their own typographic bodies, and in doing so invite a second reading. The paravants – that gird and obscure the exhibition – frame architecture and objects alike, lending to a healthy distrust in them. Why peer through the hole provided to us when we can simply walk around the other side and see what lies behind them?

Take a position.

Koenraad Dedobbeleer (born 1975 in Halle, Belgium) lives and works in Brussels.

Solo exhibitions of his work have been held at WIELS, Brussels; GAK, Bremen; Extra City, Antwerp; Culturgest, Lisbon; Le Crédac, Ivry-sur-Seine; De Vleeshal, Middelburg; Kunstmuseum, St. Gallen.

His work has been featured in numerous group exhibitions, including MMOMA, Moscow; Van Eyck Academie, Maastricht; Liverpool Biennale; Fondazione Giuliani, Rome; Redcat, Los Angeles; Kunsthalle Wien, Vienna; S.M.A.K., Ghent.

His current solo exhibition at Kunstmuseum Winterthur will travel to Kunstverein Hannover.

Koenraad Dedobbeleer's work is part of the collections of Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid; Kuntsmuseum St. Gallen; Kunstmuseum Winterthur; Lafayette Anticipation / Fonds de dotation Famille Moulin, Paris; Fonds national d'art contemporain, Paris; Centre National des Arts Plastics, Paris; FRAC (Ile de France / Bourgogne / Pays de la Loire / Basse-Normandie); Crédac, Ivry; S.M.A.K., Ghent; MHKA, Antwerpen; Mu.ZEE, Ostend; Extra City Kunsthal, Antwerpen; V-A-C Foundation, Moscow.