

Opening: Saturday 17th January 2009  
19.00-23.00

Suggestioni dell'anima is an exhibition featuring new work by Rotterdam-based artists Toine Klaassen and Mathijs Lieshout, and London-based artists Andro Semeiko and Yu-Chen Wang.

No specific theme or curatorial concept was set for the group show. Instead, the artists spent six months developing individual work, while exploring the connection between themselves and their practices. The collaboration is based on their own subjective experiences, artistic relationship, support and inspiration they have provided to each other.

The artist Dwight Marica was invited to create the title for the show in response to the artists' work.

Suggestioni dell'anima is a BasementArtProject.com project.

Galerie Onno van Toor  
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Suggestioni dell'anima  
Andro Semeiko. Toine Klaassen.  
Yu-Chen Wang. Mathijs Lieshout.  
17th January – 15th February 2009  
Galerie Onno van Toor



Mathijs Lieshout and Toine Klaassen  
*Study for Suggestioni dell'anima* 2008

The works of Mathijs Lieshout range from large scale site specific installations often filling up entire rooms to tiny adjustments in common objects. His main interest is interior space. How does 'mere empty space' acquire the ability to become a place that provides shelter of an immaterial quality?

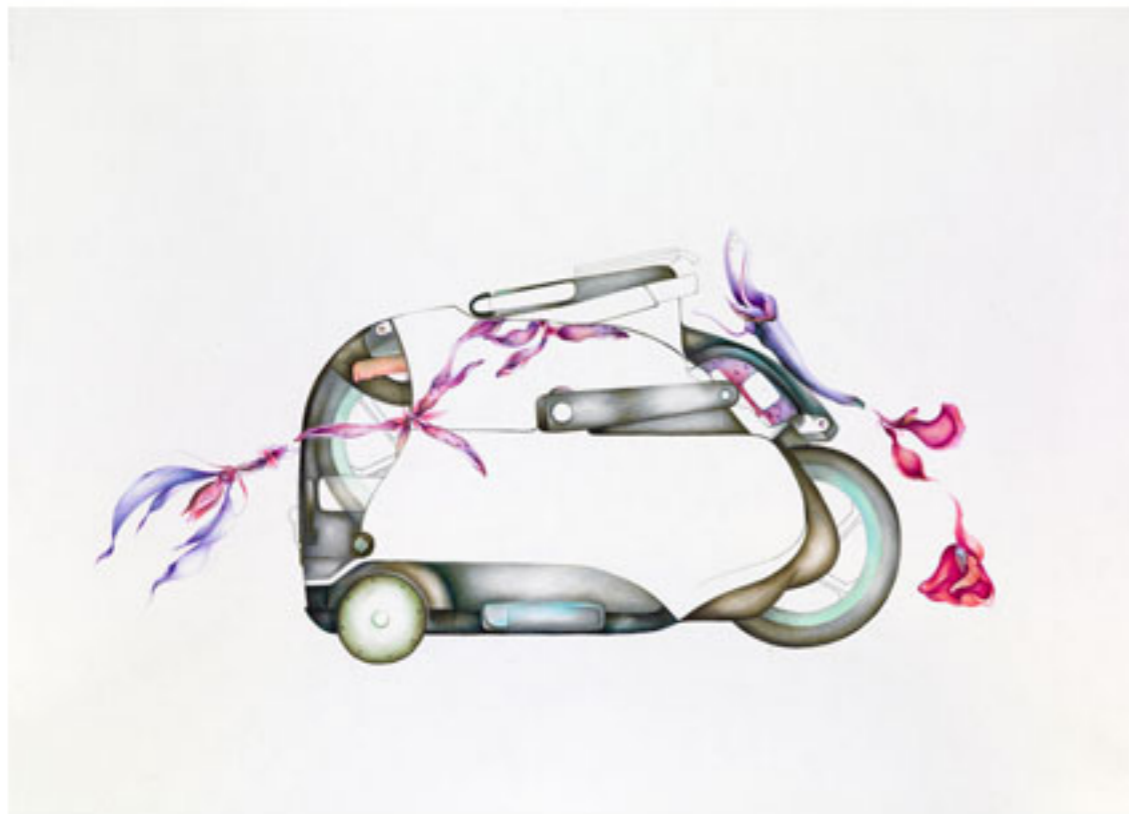
Thinking of art as a methodology of conviction, Toine Klaassen's approach to art-as-research reveals how art may only be that form of activity that doesn't conform to any other discipline of knowledge, or regulation of action. Klaassen's in-residence activity produces a complex mix of taxonomical and empirical research, combining psychological and subjective investigations with a self-ironising mysticism that plays satirically with mainstream culture's obsession with the artist-figure as a sort of 'visionary' primitive. Klaassen is both deadly earnest and impishly deceptive in his manipulation of the contradictory forms of his brand of esoteric rationalism.<sup>1</sup>



Andro Semeiko *Lagoon* 51x56cm oil on canvas 2008

Andro Semeiko's various knights in flying saucers, fetishistic paintings of banal objects, and his solar system of commoditised human body parts, each forming a 'planet', charts a grand satire; the clanking, forlorn knights, in their tragicomic search to find something authentic in this synthetic universe, never perceive that their mistake is to look for authenticity elsewhere, when it can already be found in their own purposeful, yet hopelessly misdirected quest.<sup>2</sup>

Yu-Chen Wang's drawings are beautifully rendered colourful compositions of flowers and machines melding into one another. However, there is a strangeness to the flowers and machines – flowers look genetically modified in their almost saccharine beauty and brightness while machines lack evident purpose or appear to offer a mostly superfluous purpose. Drawings are jewel-like floating on a stark white sterile background devoid of context other than a laboratory.<sup>3</sup>



Yu-Chen Wang *Moving On That Way* 50x70cm colour pencil on paper 2008

1. 2. quote from *New Life and the Dream Garden* 2007 by JJ Charlesworth, reviews editor for Art Review

3. quote from *UltraCreature*, City Inn London 2008