

## Marius Ritiu at the Contemporary Art Biennial P(ART)cours/Par(KUNST) in Brussels

Artist Marius Ritiu currently participates in the third edition of the contemporary art biennial P(ART)cours/Par(KUNST), which takes place from April 22, 2018 through July 1, 2018. The sculptures and outdoor installations of over thirty-five international artists will be displayed in the Woluwé-Saint-Pierre, Woluwé-Saint-Lambert and Auderghem parks in Brussels.

The opening takes place on April 22, 2018, showcasing artworks displayed on a 5km trail from Beaulieu Metro Station in Auderghem to the La Médiatine Art Gallery in Woluwé -Saint-Lambert.

Marius Ritiu's work, *Tower of Babel*, brings to the public's attention a geometric sculpture in which copper is combined with wood, using a number of found artifacts as material. As well as revisiting the biblical myth of the Tower of Babel, the work is socially and ecologically conscious, referencing themes such as globalized consumerism, the importance of recycling, and community involvement in environmental protection.

Ritiu's work will be exhibited in the Woluwe Park.

"This first segment of the Tower of Babel was conceived specifically for this exhibition and reflects upon the social and cultural richness of Brussels, with its 180 nationalities, 108 foreign languages, and over 55% of residents not being born Belgian", Marius Ritiu describes the conceptual affinity between his work and the cosmopolitan and multilingual status of Brussels.

Having graduated from the University of Art and Design in Cluj-Napoca and the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Antwerp, Marius Ritiu (born in 1984) lives and works between Antwerp / Brussels and New York. The artist's favorite themes focus on questioning the importance and/or triviality of heritage, borders, and concepts of nation and migration. Marius Ritiu's works are frequently present in solo and group exhibitions organized in galleries and museums across Europe and the United States. Ritiu's most recent solo exhibition, *The Tale of a Found Dimension*, was presented at the Slag Gallery in New York from September through October 2017.

"Since its launch in 2014, the contemporary art biennial P(ART)cours/Par(KUNST) has not ceased to develop. In 2017, it was one of three projects nominated for the Visit Brussels awards in the "major exhibits having contributed the international and cultural aura of Brussels" category. This year, the biennial broadens its international dimension by hosting 35 artists of 10 different nationalities. The organizers welcome Marius Ritiu as the first Romanian artist to partake in the event and are proud to partner with the Romanian Cultural Institute ", according to Guy Malvez, curator of the biennial.

Inaugurated in 2014, the Contemporary Art Biennial P(ART)cours/Par(KUNST) presents the intrinsic link between art, nature and the urban environment in the form of artistic dialog between works and the environment. The 2018 edition of the biennial brings together artists from South Africa, Belgium, France, Germany, India, the Netherlands, Romania, Russia, the United States and Venezuela, and reflects on the temporary, ephemeral and delicate balance between people and the environment.

Other events organized in parallel to the biennial include documentary film screenings, *L'Art comme valeur refuge en temps de crise* (16/05), *Le signe et mémoire* (26/05-16/09), professional meetings on *L'art dans l'espace public* theme (30/05) and guided visits.









