

## Waiting for the Accident to Happen

*The question of the archive is not a question of the past. It is not the question of a concept dealing with the past that might already be at our disposal. An archivable concept of the archive. It is a question of the future, the question of the future itself, the question of a response, of a promise, and of a responsibility for tomorrow. The archive, if we want to know what that will have meant, we will only know in times to come; not tomorrow, but in times to come. Later on, or perhaps never.*

Jacques Derrida, 'Archive Fever', 1995

Jacques Derrida analyses the validity of the archive in a series of lectures held in London between 1994-1995. Denying the existence of sources actually definable as primary sources, Derrida reminds us that History is based on stories told by men. An archive should therefore be constantly rearranged and expanded: it has to select and exclude at the same time: it shouldn't have a start or an end, but it is eternally subjected to interpretation.

*Waiting for the Accident to Happen* is a group show including works by nine artists, sourced from the Careof Video Archive and beyond, which dwell on the fragmentary nature of the archive. Starting from the validity of an archive, allegedly created as a rational, objective and thorough ensemble of primary sources, yet subjective due to the selection made by individuals, the exhibited works question and play with the shifting borders between documentation, reality and fiction.

Francis Alÿs (*If you are a typical spectator what you are really doing is waiting for the accident to happen*, 1997) films an insignificant event, springing into a sudden accident; Brice Dellsperger presents remakes of cult movies whose special effects, technically prosaic, plays with identity and clichés (*Body Double 2*, 1995). Alice Cattaneo (*1 minute 42 seconds*, 2007), Clorinde Durand (*Naufrage*, 2008) and Ivan Argote (*Sans Titre (Paris)*, 2010) shoot unforeseen situations and incidents, pointing out the ambiguous nature of the artistic artefact. Ră di Martino (*August 2008*, 2009) and Chiara Fumai (*The Girl with the Blanket*, 2008) play on historical documentation. Interviewing water diviners represents, for Meris Angioletti (*Rabdomante*, 2006), cause for reflection on probability: that thin line between science, belief and reality; while the tales of Adrian Paci's daughter are based on a fictitious memory (*Albanian Stories*, 1997).

*Waiting for the Accident to Happen* forms part of an exchange between Careof (Milan) and Screen Space. In 2014, Screen Space co-directors Simone Hine and Kyle Weise presented the curated exhibition *Moving Pictures/Expanding Space* at Careof, and participated in the FDV residency program. *Waiting for the Accident to Happen* is a return exhibition presented at Screen Space in October-November 2015 and curated by Antonella Croci. Both exhibitions explore interpretations and legacies of the 'Archive', taking inspiration from Careof Video Archive hosted at DOCVA: Documentation Centre for Visual Arts, which is co-organised by Careof and Via Farini.

Antonella Croci

This catalogue was printed in conjunction with the exhibition

Waiting for the Accident to Happen

5 - 21 November 2015

Screen Space

All images of works courtesy of the artists and galerie perrotin (paris/hong kong/new york), air de paris (paris), a palazzo gallery (brescia), waterside contemporary (london).

Cover Image: Thomas Baile

ISBN: 978-0-9925546-5-1

Published by  
Screen Space

[www.screenspace.com](http://www.screenspace.com)

[info@screenspace.com](mailto:info@screenspace.com)

30 Guildford Lane Melbourne Australia 3000

SCREEN SPACE

C/O careof

CREATIVE VICTORIA



Residenza del curatore Antonella Croci con il sostegno del progetto DEMO/MOVIN'UP 1 sessione 2015

Residency of the curator Antonella Croci with the support of the project DEMO/MOVIN'UP 1 session 2015

MOVIN'UP 1 sessione 2015 A CURA DI MINISTERO DEI BENI E DELLE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI E DEL TURISMO  
Direzione Generale Arte e Architettura Contemporanea e Periferie Urbane  
Direzione Generale Spettacolo e GAI - Associazione per il Circuito dei Giovani Artisti Italiani

MOVIN'UP 1 session 2015 promoted by Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and Tourism  
General Directorate for Contemporary Art and Architecture and Urban Suburbs

Waiting for the Accident to Happen

Francis Alÿs | Meris Angioletti | Ivan Argote | Alice Cattaneo  
Brice Dellsperger | Clorinde Durand | Chiara Fumai  
Ră di Martino | Adrian Paci

Curated by Antonella Croci



Francis Alÿs, *If you are a Typical Spectator, What you are Really Doing is Waiting for the Accident to Happen Zócalo, Mexico City*, 1996 video, 10'



Meris Angioletti, *Il Raddomante*, 2006 video, 14'13"



Clorinde Durand, *Naufrage*, 2008 video, 7'



Adrian Paci, *Albanian Stories*, 1997 video, 7'



Alice Cattaneo, *1 minute 42 seconds*, 2007 video, 1'42"



Rä di Martino, *August 2008*, 2009 video, 5'



Brice Dellsperger, *Body Double 2 - After 'Body Double' (Brian de Palma)*, 1995 film Hi8 transferred to DVD, colour, sound, 30"



CH5/OOST 310808 +19:38:54:12

Chiara Fumai, *The girl with the blanket*, 2008 video, 4'04"



Ivan Argote, *Sans titre (Paris)*, 2010, video, 4'59"